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6	Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services, Inc., and Coach IP Holdings LLC		
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8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
9	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA		
10	TAPESTRY, INC., a Maryland) CAS	SE NO.: 2:24-cv-02697
11	Corporation; COACH SERVICES, INC, a Maryland Corporation; and COACH IP)	MPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND
12	HOLDINGS LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company,		JITABLE RELIEF:
13	Plaintiff,) 1.	FEDERAL TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT
14 15	v.) } 2.	FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN AND FALSE ADVERTISING
16	THE CAR INC a Delaware Corneration	} } 3.	TRADEMARK
17	THE GAP, INC., a Delaware Corporation; and DOES 1-10, inclusive,) 3. }	INFRINGEMENT UNDER CALIFORNIA COMMON LAW
18 19	Defendants.	4.	UNFAIR COMPETITION CALIFORNIA UNFAIR
20)	BUSINESS PRACTICES ACT, CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE, § 17200, ET SEQ.
21)) 5.	UNFAIR COMPETITION
22)	UNDER CALIFORNIA COMMON LAW
23)) [JU]	RY TRIAL DEMANDED]
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Plaintiffs Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services, Inc., and Coach IP Holdings LLC (collectively, "Plaintiffs" or "Coach") through their undersigned counsel, for their claims against Defendant The Gap, Inc. ("Gap") and DOES 1-10 (collectively "Defendants") alleges as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This is an action for trademark counterfeiting, trademark infringement and unfair competition under the Lanham Trademark Act of 1946, 15 U.S.C. §1051 et seq. (the "Lanham Act"), and for related claims of trademark infringement and unfair competition under the statutory and common law of the state of California.
- 2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the federal claims asserted in this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1121, 1331 and 1338(a) and supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff's state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) because they are so related to the federal claims that they form part of the same case or controversy.
- 3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants conduct continuous and systematic business in this district, placed infringing products in the stream of commerce directed to residents of this district, derived commercial benefits from the sale of infringing products and caused injuries to Plaintiff within the Central District of California.
- 4. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)-(c) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims alleged occurred in this judicial district, and 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b) because Defendants committed acts of infringement in this judicial district.

THE PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Tapestry, Inc. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the state of Maryland, with its principal place of business in New York, New York.
- 6. Plaintiff Coach Services, Inc. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the state of Maryland with its principal place of business in

Jacksonville, Florida. Coach Services, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tapestry, Inc.

- 7. Plaintiff Coach IP Holdings LLC is a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware with its principal place of business in New York, New York. Coach IP Holdings LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tapestry, Inc.
- 8. Upon information and belief, The Defendant Gap, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware with an office and principal place of business located at 2 Folsom Street, San Francisco, California, 94105.
- 9. Plaintiffs Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services, Inc., and Coach IP Holdings LLC are unaware of the names and true capacities of Defendants, whether individual, corporate and/or partnership entities, named herein as DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, and therefore sue them by their fictitious names. Plaintiffs will seek leave to amend this complaint when their true names and capacities are ascertained. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that said Defendant and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, are in some manner responsible for the wrongs alleged herein, and that at all times referenced each was the agent and servant of the other Defendants and was acting within the course and scope of said agency and employment.
- 10. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that at all relevant times herein, Gap and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, knew or reasonably should have known of the acts and behavior alleged herein and the damages caused thereby, and by their inaction ratified and encouraged such acts and behavior. Plaintiffs further allege that Gap and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, have a non-delegable duty to prevent and/or remedy such acts and the behavior described herein, which duty Gap and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, failed and/or refused to perform

ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION

- A. The World-Famous Coach Brand and Products
- 11. Coach was founded in 1941 as a family-run workshop in Manhattan, New

- York. Since then, Coach has been engaged in the manufacture, marketing and sale of fine leather and mixed material products, including, but not limited to, clothing, footwear, headgear, outerwear, handbags, and wallets (collectively, the "Coach Products"). Coach Products are sold throughout the United States, including in California, through Coach retail and outlet stores, through various department stores, and online at www.coach.com and www.coachoutlet.com.
- 12. Coach Products have become enormously popular and even iconic, driven by the brand's arduous quality standards and innovative designs. Among the purchasing public, genuine Coach Products are instantly recognizable as such.
- 13. Both in the United States and internationally, the Coach brand symbolizes high quality, and Coach Products are among the most recognizable handbags, accessories, and apparel in the world. Genuine Coach Products are greatly coveted as premier fashion accessories of the highest quality.
- 14. The unique mix of function, workmanship, fashion, and style that goes into each and every genuine Coach Product, as well as the brand's exclusive cache, results in Coach Products commanding a relatively high price at retail. The brand's loyal customer base willingly pays more for genuine Coach Products than they would pay for lesser products because Coach Products are of higher quality and durability than competitors' products and because of the prestige associated with genuine Coach Products.

B. The Coach Trademarks

- 15. Since 1941, high quality leather goods have been sold under the COACH trademark (the "Coach Mark"). Over time, the types of goods sold under the Coach Mark have expanded extensively to include all Coach Products, and Coach Products have long been among the most popular luxury lifestyle items. The Coach Mark itself is iconic, symbolizing a unique blend of fashion, craftsmanship, style, and function, whether associated with handbags or other Coach Products.
 - 16. Coach owns the trademark and trade name COACH for Coach Products,

as well as numerous other highly distinctive marks, including, but not limited to, those pictured here:

ROPRY





Coach (Stylized Form)

Coach Mark

The "Horse and Carriage Logo"

- 17. Coach incorporates a variety of distinctive marks in the design of its various apparel, handbags, wallets, and other Coach Products. Coach Products typically include at least one federally registered trademark, although often several registered trademarks appear on a single Coach Product. These trademarks are also used in connection with the marketing of Coach Products. Coach has an annual sales volume of more than four billion dollars on products bearing Coach's trademarks. As such, Coach's trademarks, and the goodwill associated therewith, are among some of its most valuable assets.
- 18. Coach and its predecessors have registered many of its trademarks, including, *inter alia*, the following marks attached hereto and incorporated as **Exhibit A**, which are collectively referred to as the "Coach Trademarks".
- 19. The registrations for the Coach Trademarks are valid, subsisting, in full force and effect and a majority have become incontestable pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1065. All registrations originally held in the name of Coach's predecessors, Sara Lee Corporation, Saramar Corporation, and Coach Services, Inc. have been assigned in full to Coach IP Holdings LLC.
- 20. The Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form) at issue in this case, have been continuously used and have never been abandoned.
 - 21. The registration of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and

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the Coach (Stylized Form) constitutes *prima facie* evidence of their validity and conclusive evidence of Coach's exclusive right to use the Coach Trademarks in connection with the goods identified therein and on other commercial goods.

- 22. The registrations of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form) also provide sufficient notice to Defendants of Coach's ownership of and exclusive rights in the Coach Trademarks.
- 23. Coach has expended substantial time, money, and other resources in developing, advertising, and otherwise promoting the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form). As a result, products bearing the Coach Trademarks are widely recognized as being high quality products and are exclusively associated by consumers, the public, and the trade with the Coach brand owned by Coach. The Coach Trademarks have therefore acquired strong secondary meaning and signal to consumers that Coach is the exclusive source of Coach Products bearing the Coach Trademarks.
- 24. The Coach Trademarks qualify as famous marks, as that term is used in 15 U.S.C. § 1125(c)(1).

C. Defendant's Acts of Infringement and Unfair Competition

- 25. Upon information and belief, Gap is a global omni-channel retailer offering apparel, accessories, and personal care products for men, women, and children under the Gap®, Banana Republic®, Old Navy®, and Athleta® brands. Gap offers products under each of these brands via company operated online and brick-and-mortar stores nationwide, including within this judicial district.
- 26. The lawsuit arises from Defendants' design, manufacture, importation, distribution, advertisement, marketing, offering for sale, and sale of products which infringe upon Plaintiff's rights to the Coach Trademarks, including, but not limited to, the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form) (hereinafter referred to as the "Accused Products").
 - Upon information and belief, Defendants designed, manufactured, 27.

imported into the U.S., advertised, marketed, offered for sale, and/or sold at least Accused Products under the Old Navy® brand —exemplars are shown in the photographs below:







- 28. Upon information and belief, the Accused Products were advertised, displayed, offered for sale, and/or sold to consumers nationwide via Old Navy's website www.oldnavy.com, as well as Old Navy® retail stores within this judicial district.
- 29. Upon information and belief, Gap is a competitor of Plaintiffs, and Defendants introduced the Accused Products into the stream of commerce in an effort to exploit Plaintiff's goodwill and the reputation of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form).
- 30. Plaintiffs have not granted Defendants a license to practice nor given Defendants any form of permission to use any of the Coach Trademarks in connection with the designing, manufacturing, advertising, promoting, distributing, selling, and/or offering for sale of the Accused Products.

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Plaintiffs will seek leave to amend as additional information becomes available through discovery.

32. Defendants' activities, as described above, are likely to create a false impression and deceive consumers, the public, and the trade into believing that there is

products that infringe upon Plaintiffs' trademarks and intellectual property rights.

Upon information and belief, Defendants may have sold additional

33. Upon information and belief, Defendants intend to continue to design, manufacture, advertise, promote, import, distribute, sell, and/or offer for sale the Accused Products.

a connection or association between the Defendants, the Accused Products, and Coach.

34. As a result of Defendant's activities Plaintiffs have suffered substantial damages and have suffered and continue to suffer irreparable injury without an adequate remedy at law.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Trademark Infringement and Counterfeiting–15 U.S.C. § 1114)

- 35. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 36. Defendants without authorization from Coach, have used and continue to use in commerce counterfeit imitations of the federally registered Coach Trademarks in connection with the sale, offering for sale, distribution, and/or advertising of infringing goods; and/or spurious designations that are confusingly similar to the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form).
- 37. The foregoing acts of Defendants are intended to cause, have caused, and are likely to continue to cause confusion, mistake, and deception among consumers, the public, and the trade as to whether Defendants' Accused Products originate from, or are affiliated with, sponsored by, or endorsed by Coach.
- 38. Upon information and belief, Defendants have acted with knowledge of Plaintiffs' ownership of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the

- Coach (Stylized Form), and with deliberate intention or willful blindness to unfairly benefit from the incalculable goodwill symbolized thereby.
- 39. Defendants' acts constitute trademark infringement and counterfeiting in violation of Section 32 of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1114).
- 40. Upon information and belief, Defendants have made and will continue to make substantial profits and/or gains to which it is not in law or equity entitled.
- 41. Upon information and belief, Defendants intend to continue their infringing acts, unless restrained by this Court.
- 42. Defendants' acts have damaged and will continue to damage Coach, and Coach has no adequate remedy at law.
- 43. In light of the foregoing, Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting Defendants from using the Coach Trademarks or any other marks identical and/or confusingly similar thereto for any purpose, and to recover from Defendants all damages, including attorneys' fees, that Plaintiffs have sustained and will sustain as a result of such infringing acts, and all gains, profits and advantages obtained by Defendants as a result thereof, in an amount not yet known, as well as the costs of this action pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a), attorneys' fees and treble damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117(b), and/or statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117(c).

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(False Designation of Origin and False Advertising – 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a))

- 44. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 45. Defendants' promotion, advertising, distribution, sale, and/or offering for sale of the Accused Products is likely to confuse, mislead, or deceive consumers, the public, and the trade as to the origin, source, sponsorship, or affiliation of the Accused Products, and is intended and likely to cause such parties to believe, in error, that the Accused Products have been authorized, sponsored, approved, endorsed or licensed by Plaintiffs, or that Defendants are in some way affiliated with Coach.

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- 46. The foregoing acts of Defendants constitute a false designation of origin, and false and misleading descriptions and representations of fact, all in violation of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)).
- 47. Upon information and belief, Defendants have made and will continue to make substantial profits and/or gains to which it is not in law or equity entitled.
- 48. Upon information and belief, Defendants intend to continue its infringing acts, unless restrained by this Court.
- 49. Defendants' acts have damaged and will continue to damage Coach, and Coach has no adequate remedy at law.
- 50. In light of the foregoing, Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting Defendants from using any of the Coach Trademarks and/or any marks identical and/or confusingly similar thereto, and to recover from Defendants all damages, including attorney's fees, that Plaintiffs have sustained and will sustain as a result of such infringing acts, and all gains, profits and advantages obtained by Defendants as a result thereof, in an amount not yet known, as well as the costs of this action pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a).

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Trademark Infringement under California Common Law)

- 51. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 52. Plaintiffs own all rights, title, and interest in and to the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form), including all common law rights in said marks.
- 53. Defendants, without authorization from Plaintiffs, used and continue to use spurious designations that are identical to, substantially indistinguishable from, or confusingly similar to the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form).
 - 54. The foregoing acts of Defendants are intended to cause, have caused, and

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27 28 are likely to continue to cause confusion, mistake, and deception among consumers, the public, and the trade as to whether Defendants' Accused Products originate from, or are affiliated with, sponsored by, or endorsed by Coach.

- Upon information and belief, Defendants acted with knowledge of Plaintiffs' ownership of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form), and with deliberate intention or willful blindness to unfairly benefit from the incalculable goodwill symbolized thereby.
- 56. Defendants' acts constitute trademark infringement in violation of the common law of the state of California.
- 57. Upon information and belief, Defendants made and will continue to make substantial profits and/or gains to which it is not in law or equity entitled.
- 58. Upon information and belief, Defendants intend to continue its infringing acts, unless restrained by this Court.
- 59. Defendants' acts have damaged and will continue to damage Coach, and Coach has no adequate remedy at law.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Unfair Competition Under California Unfair Business Practices Act, Cal. Bus. & **Prof. Code, § 17200 et seq.)**

- 60. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 61. Defendants' appropriation, adoption and use of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form)in connection with the sale and offering for sale of goods is likely to confuse or mislead consumers into believing that Defendants' goods are authorized, licensed, affiliated, sponsored, and/or approved by Plaintiffs, thus constituting a violation of the California Unfair Business Practices Act, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code, § 17200, et. seq. ("UCL").
- Upon information and belief, Defendants' deceptive, unfair, and 62. fraudulent business practices were willfully undertaken with full knowledge of

- 63. Defendants' conduct is unfair within the meaning of the UCL because it allows Defendants to benefit unjustly by virtue of the goodwill and positive reputation that members of the general public associate with Coach and its products. As described herein, and on information and belief, Defendants have intentionally violated, and continues to violate, Plaintiffs' rights in the Coach Trademarks to enjoy the commercial benefits derived therefrom.
- 64. Defendants' conduct is fraudulent in violation of the UCL because Defendants are willfully and deliberately misleading the public by using in commerce reproductions, counterfeits, copies, and/or colorable imitations of authentic Coach products.
- 65. This conduct is likely to confuse the public as to whether Defendants' products are somehow associated, affiliated, or connected with Coach, or vice versa.
- and will continue to suffer significant injuries in an amount to be determined at trial. Coach is entitled to all available relief provided for under the UCL, including an accounting and disgorgement of all illicit profits that Defendants made on account of its deceptive, unfair, and fraudulent business practices. Furthermore, because Coach has no adequate remedy at law for Defendants' ongoing unlawful conduct, Coach is entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting Defendants from unfair competition.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Unfair Competition Under California Common Law)

- 67. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 68. Coach owns and enjoys common law trademark rights to the Coach Trademarks in California and throughout the United States.
 - 69. Defendants' unlawful acts in appropriating rights in the Coach Trademarks

- was intended to capitalize on Coach's goodwill for Defendants' own pecuniary gains.

 Coach has expended substantial time, resources and effort to obtain an excellent
- 3 reputation for itself and the Coach Trademarks. As a result of Coach's efforts,
- 4 Defendants are now unjustly enriched and benefiting from property rights that rightfully belong to Plaintiffs.

- 70. Defendants' unauthorized use of the Coach Trademarks, including the Coach Mark and the Coach (Stylized Form) has caused and is likely to cause confusion as to the source of Defendants' products, all to the detriment of Plaintiffs.
- 71. Defendants' acts are willful, deliberate, and intended to confuse the public and to injure Plaintiffs.
- 72. Defendants' acts constitute unfair competition in violation of the common law of the state of California.
- 73. Plaintiffs have been irreparably harmed and will continue to be irreparably harmed as a result of Defendants' unlawful acts unless Defendants are permanently enjoined from its unlawful conduct.
- 74. The conduct herein complained of was extreme, outrageous, fraudulent, and was inflicted on Plaintiffs in reckless disregard of Plaintiffs' rights in the Coach Trademarks. Said conduct was despicable and harmful to Plaintiffs and as such supports an award of exemplary and punitive damages in an amount sufficient to punish and make an example of the Defendants and to deter Defendants from similar such conduct in the future.
 - 75. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.
- 76. In light of the foregoing, Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting Defendants from using the Coach Trademarks or marks identical and/or confusingly similar thereto, and to recover all damages, including attorneys' fees, that Plaintiffs have sustained and will sustain, and all gains, profits and advantages obtained by Defendants as a result of its infringing acts alleged above in an amount not yet known, and the costs of this action.

1 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 2 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services, Inc., and Coach IP 3 Holdings LLC respectfully request that this Court enter judgment in their favor and 4 against Defendant The Gap, Inc. as follows: 5 A judgment that Defendants violated Section 32 of the Lanham Act a. (15 U.S.C. § 1114) and Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)); 6 7 Defendants have engaged in trademark infringement and unfair b. 8 competition under the common law of the state of California; 9 Defendants have engaged in unfair competition in violation of the c. 10 California Unfair Business Practices Act, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code, § 17200, et. seq.; 11 and: 12 d. An order granting temporary, preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief restraining and enjoining Defendants, their agents, servants, 13 14 employees, officers, associates, attorneys, and all persons acting by, through, or in concert with any of them from using the Coach Trademarks, including, but not limited 15 16 to: 17 i. Manufacturing, designing, importing, advertising, marketing, promoting, supplying, distributing, offering for sale, or selling any 18 19 products that bear the Coach Trademarks or any other marks 20 substantially indistinguishable from or confusingly similar thereto, 21 including, without limitation, the Accused Products, and engaging in any other activity constituting an infringement of any of Coach's 22 23 rights in the Coach Trademarks; or 24 ii. Engaging in any other activity constituting unfair competition with Plaintiffs, or acts and practices that deceive consumers, the public, 25 26 and/or trade, including without limitation, the use of designations or designs associated with the Coach brand; and 27

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iii. Ordering Defendants to recall from any distributors and retailers

fees; Awarding Plaintiffs punitive damages in connection with their m. claims under California law; and Awarding Plaintiffs such additional and further relief as the Court n. deems just and proper. Dated: April 2, 2024 **BLAKELY LAW GROUP** /s/ Jamie Fountain Brent H. Blakely Jamie Fountain By: Attorneys for Plaintiffs
Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services,
Inc., and Coach IP Holdings LLC

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services, Inc., and Coach IP Holdings LLC hereby demand a trial by jury as to all claims in this Civil Action. **BLAKELY LAW GROUP** April 2, 2024 Dated: By: /s/ Jamie Fountain Brent H. Blakely Jamie Fountain Attorneys for Plaintiffs
Tapestry, Inc., Coach Services,
Inc., and Coach IP Holdings LLC