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THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

13  
14 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
15 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
16 **SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

17 THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA, a California  
18 Corporation,  
19 Plaintiff,  
20 v.  
21 ST. JUDE MEDICAL, INC., a Minnesota  
Corporation,  
22 Defendant.  
23

Case No. 3:16-cv-6210

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT  
INFRINGEMENT**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

24  
25 Plaintiff The Regents of the University of California (“The Regents” or “Plaintiff”), by  
26 and through its undersigned counsel, complains and alleges against St. Jude Medical, Inc., a for-  
27 profit medical device company (“SJM” or “Defendant”), as follows:  
28

**BACKGROUND AND NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1  
2 1. This is a civil action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the  
3 United States, 35 U.S.C. §§ 1, *et seq.*, and specifically § 271, for Defendant’s infringement of  
4 The Regents’ patents covering the now-standard and universally utilized method of treating  
5 atrial fibrillation.

6 2. Atrial fibrillation (also referred to as “AFib” or “AF”) is the most common type  
7 of abnormal heart rhythm. AFib can be an extremely serious condition that severely limits  
8 physical activities and significantly increases the risk of other serious heart diseases, stroke, and  
9 death. It is estimated that five million people in the United States suffer from AFib currently,  
10 and that this number will reach up to 12 million people by 2050. Approximately 450,000 new  
11 cases of AFib are diagnosed in the U.S. alone each year. These figures are expected to increase  
12 as the population ages.

13 3. Atrial fibrillation is caused by irregular electrical activity that is triggered  
14 typically from locations in the pulmonary veins, or near the entrance of the pulmonary veins in  
15 the left atrium of the heart. Absent appropriate treatment, the erratic electrical pulses travel  
16 from the pulmonary vein into the left atrium, wherein they trigger the onset of AFib, which  
17 causes erratic heart muscle contractions and decreases the effectiveness of the heart’s ability to  
18 pump blood through the patient’s body.

19 4. Medical researchers spent decades attempting to develop safe and effective non-  
20 pharmacologic treatment methods. Michael D. Lesh MD, a professor of medicine and a cardiac  
21 electrophysiologist at the University of California, San Francisco (or “UCSF”), finally solved  
22 the problem by inventing the first safe and reliable minimally invasive method of treating AFib.

23 5. The treatment method invented by Dr. Lesh (the “Patented Method”) involves  
24 the formation of a circumferential conduction block at a location where a pulmonary vein  
25 extends from the heart’s left atrium. The resulting conduction block is intended to block  
26 electric pulses originating within or near the pulmonary vein(s) and to prevent them from  
27 entering the left atrium and triggering atrial fibrillation. Dr. Lesh filed several related patent  
28 applications, prosecuted by and on behalf of The Regents, directed to the Patented Method,

1 including the two patents asserted in this action. All of these patents are duly assigned to The  
2 Regents (collectively, “The Regents’ Patents”).

3 6. SJM and the relevant medical community have, at all relevant times, consistently  
4 referred to the Patented Method as “pulmonary vein isolation,” “PVI,” “circumferential PVI,”  
5 circumferential conduction block, and/or electrical isolation of the pulmonary veins.

6 7. The Patented Method has proven highly successful in treating atrial fibrillation.  
7 During the early 2000’s, relevant medical professionals, such as doctors, cardiologists, cardiac  
8 electrophysiologists, and thoracic and cardiac surgeons, universally adopted the Patented  
9 Method as the accepted non-pharmacologic method of treating AFib, either alone, or in  
10 combination with other therapy.

11 8. Defendant SJM has, at all relevant times, been one of the major manufacturers of  
12 medical devices and related equipment used to treat AFib. SJM manufactures, markets, and  
13 sells a wide range of medical devices and related equipment (collectively, “SJM Devices”) that  
14 are used to perform the Patented Method to treat AFib.

15 9. SJM has, at all relevant times, been aware of The Regents’ Patents, including the  
16 two patents asserted in this action, and is well aware of the widespread use of SJM Devices to  
17 perform the Patented Method. Moreover, SJM has actively induced, and continues to induce,  
18 medical professionals to use SJM Devices specifically to practice the Patented Method.

### 19 **THE PARTIES**

20 10. Plaintiff The Regents is a California corporation, with a principal place of  
21 business in Oakland, California. The Regents make up the governing board of the University of  
22 California. The Regents maintains a principal, and world-renowned, medical research facility,  
23 the University of California, San Francisco, in the City and County of San Francisco. All  
24 actions are done in The Regents’ name, including owning property such as patents and other  
25 intellectual property, and entering into contracts.

26 11. Defendant SJM is a for-profit Minnesota Corporation, with corporate  
27 headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, and with numerous manufacturing facilities and  
28 management offices located in California, including in this District.

1 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2 12. This Court has original and exclusive subject matter jurisdiction over this  
3 controversy pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

4 13. This Court has personal jurisdiction over SJM because SJM’s contacts with the  
5 State of California are significant and pervasive, and because SJM’s contacts with California, as  
6 described in this Complaint, directly give rise to this dispute. SJM has multiple manufacturing  
7 facilities and offices in California, including at least one within this District, located in Sunnyvale,  
8 Santa Clara County.

9 14. SJM has conducted substantial business with individuals, hospitals, and other  
10 medical institutions and facilities throughout the State of California, including in this District, and  
11 it actively promotes and sells its medical devices and equipment, including the SJM Devices that  
12 are the subject of this action, throughout California. In doing so, SJM regularly transacts business  
13 throughout the state, and in this District, in violation of the Asserted Patents, as alleged in this  
14 Complaint. Accordingly, this Court may properly exercise personal jurisdiction over SJM.

15 15. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and (c) and/or  
16 1400(b) at least because SJM resides in this District, has a regular and established place of  
17 business in this District, and has committed acts of infringement in this District.

18 **INTRA-DISTRICT ASSIGNMENT**

19 16. This is an intellectual property action to be assigned on a district-wide basis  
20 pursuant to Civil Local Rule 3-2(c).

21 **THE ASSERTED PATENTS**

22 17. On December 26, 2000, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”)  
23 duly issued United States Patent No. 6,164,283 (“the ’283 Patent”), entitled “DEVICE AND  
24 METHOD FOR FORMING A CIRCUMFERENTIAL BLOCK IN A PULMONARY VEIN.”  
25 The Regents owns by assignment all rights, title, and interest in the ’283 Patent. A true and  
26 correct copy of the ’283 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

27 18. On January 7, 2003, the USPTO duly issued United States Patent No. 6,502,576  
28 (“the ’576 Patent”), entitled “DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FORMING A

1 CIRCUMFERENTIAL BLOCK IN A PULMONARY VEIN.” The Regents owns by assignment  
2 all rights, title and interest in the ’576 Patent. A true and correct copy of the ’576 Patent is  
3 attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

4 19. The ’283 and ’576 Patents are referred to collectively as the “Asserted Patents.”

#### 5 **BACKGROUND OF ATRIAL FIBRILLATION**

6 20. Atrial fibrillation is a type of cardiac arrhythmia that causes an abnormally fast and  
7 irregular heart rate. In patients with normal sinus rhythm, the heart is electrically excited to beat  
8 in a synchronous, patterned fashion. In patients with a cardiac arrhythmia, however, abnormal  
9 regions of cardiac tissue emit erratic electric signals, disrupting the synchronous beating cycle  
10 associated with normally conductive tissue in healthy patients.

11 21. Atrial fibrillation occurs in the upper chambers of the heart (*i.e.*, atria). In healthy  
12 individuals, the heart’s atrial and ventricular chambers (*i.e.*, the lower chambers of the heart)  
13 contract in a coordinated fashion, with a normal sinus heart rate between 60 and 100 beats per  
14 minute.

15 22. In patients with AFib, however, the atrial chambers receive such fast and erratic  
16 electrical stimulation that they can only quiver and are unable to actively pump blood from the  
17 atria to the ventricles. During AFib, the two atria of the heart “beat” between 350 and 600 times  
18 per minute. When this occurs, the atrioventricular node, a part of the electrical pathway between  
19 the atria and the ventricles, becomes overloaded with electrical impulses trying to get to the  
20 ventricles. As a result, the normal coordination between the atria and ventricles is lost, ventricles  
21 develop an irregular heart rhythm, and pumping efficacy is decreased.

22 23. As a result of blood not being pumped effectively to the ventricles, blood can pool  
23 in the atria, posing a serious health risk. The pooling of blood can lead to coagulation and  
24 clotting. Strokes occur when a blood clot travels from the atrium, through the arterial system, to  
25 the brain. People with AFib are five times more likely to suffer a stroke than patients without  
26 AFib, and more than 15% of all strokes occur in patients with AFib. Once AFib is diagnosed,  
27 however, treatment can reduce the risk of stroke.

28 24. In some patients, the risk of stroke may be reduced with blood thinners to prevent

1 the blood from clotting, and with anti-arrhythmic drugs to restore normal sinus rhythm. These  
2 drugs often have serious side effects, such as severe bleeding, dizziness, nausea, bruising, fatigue,  
3 lung disease, and ventricular arrhythmias. Further, these drugs often do not prevent further  
4 episodes of AFib. If drugs are not effective or well tolerated by a patient, the treatment options  
5 include highly invasive open heart surgery or a cardiac ablation procedure, the evolution of which  
6 is described more fully below.

7  
8 **DR. MICHAEL LESH INVENTS THE PATENTED METHOD**  
**TO TREAT ATRIAL FIBRILLATION**

9 25. Early non-pharmacologic approaches to treat atrial fibrillation were surgical, and  
10 involved a complex pattern of surgical incisions in both the left and right atria. The resulting  
11 scarred tissue was non-conductive and hence had the potential to block the erratic electrical  
12 pulses thought to cause AFib.

13 26. The early surgical efforts were reported as having some success in treating patients,  
14 but these open heart surgeries were highly invasive with the heart stopped, the chest opened, and  
15 the patient placed on a heart-lung machine. They also required a long recovery period, tended to  
16 render the left atrium non-functional, and had a high risk of death.

17 27. In parallel with the developments of the surgical procedures described above,  
18 doctors began to use catheters to ablate cardiac tissue to treat a variety of other cardiac  
19 arrhythmias. Catheter ablation is a much less invasive procedure than surgery and is performed  
20 by cardiac electrophysiologists (“EPs”) in a catheterization lab. EPs are board-certified  
21 cardiologists with additional training in treating cardiac arrhythmias. In a catheter ablation  
22 procedure, the EP inserts multiple specialized catheters into the patient’s veins and arteries. The  
23 EP generally guides the catheters into the right atrium of the patient’s heart. For procedures  
24 involving the left atrium, the EP uses a special catheter to puncture the intra-atrial septum (*i.e.*,  
25 the wall separating the left and the right atria) to access the patient’s left atrium, where the desired  
26 tissue can be ablated.

27 28. In the early 1990s, EPs began using catheter ablation in an attempt to treat AFib by  
28 mimicking the surgical procedures described above. These catheter procedures typically involved

1 the creation of linear patterns of non-conductive tissue from the inside wall of the heart with a  
2 goal to create lesions that were transmural (*i.e.*, through the wall from inside to out). In addition,  
3 the lesions needed to be continuous (or nearly so) with no gaps. Because they took many hours to  
4 complete, these procedures were very stressful for patients and resulted in safety complications  
5 such as perforations of the atrium and excessive radiation exposure.

6 29. In the mid-1990s, research established that approximately 90% of the erratic  
7 electrical pulses triggering AFib originated somewhere in the pulmonary veins. Thereafter,  
8 treating EPs attempted to cure AFib by locating and ablating the point or points (focus or foci) of  
9 origination of the erratic electrical signals within the pulmonary veins.

10 30. These procedures were of limited success because the exact locations of the  
11 originating foci are difficult to identify. In addition, there are often multiple originating foci  
12 within each pulmonary vein, causing this methodology to be extremely time-consuming. The  
13 procedure also posed safety concerns, the most serious of which was stenosis of the pulmonary  
14 veins due to excessive scarring. This stenosis blocked oxygen transmission in the blood, and  
15 could lead to serious lung problems and even death.

16 31. Dr. Lesh invented the solution to this life threatening problem. The Patented  
17 Method is directed to forming a circumferential conduction block at a location where a  
18 pulmonary vein extends from a patient's left atrium. The resulting circumferential conduction  
19 block prevents electric pulses originating from within or near the pulmonary vein from entering  
20 the left atrium and causing AFib. This allows treatment of AFib without having to identify,  
21 locate, or ablate the triggering foci within each pulmonary vein. At the same time, it reduces the  
22 risk of complication posed by previously-employed methods of treatment.

23 32. Beginning in July 1997, Dr. Lesh filed several related patent applications  
24 disclosing and covering the Patented Method. The first of these patents was filed on July 3, 1997,  
25 and issued on January 11, 2000, as U.S. Patent No. 6,012,457 ("the '457 Patent") entitled  
26 "DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FORMING A CIRCUMFERENTIAL BLOCK IN A  
27 PULMONARY VEIN." The Regents owns by assignment all rights, title and interest in the '457  
28 Patent. A true and correct copy of the '457 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

1 33. The Asserted Patents claim direct priority from the '457 Patent. More specifically,  
2 the '576 Patent is a continuation and the '283 Patent is a continuation-in-part of the '457 Patent.

3 34. The Asserted Patents disclose and claim the Patented Method, as demonstrated in  
4 representative claim 1 of the '283 Patent:

5 A method for treating atrial arrhythmia in a patient, comprising:

6 forming a circumferential conduction block in a circumferential  
7 region of tissue at a location where a pulmonary vein extends from  
8 an atrium in the patient,

9 wherein the circumferential conduction block formed is continuous  
10 along the circumferential region of tissue, and

11 wherein the circumferential conduction block is formed without  
12 contacting the tissue with an ablative fluid medium.

13 35. The Patented Method can be performed using a variety of devices and in either a  
14 surgical or a less-invasive catheterization procedure. The Patented Method has been adopted by  
15 surgeons and surgical device companies, as well as by EPs and electrophysiology device  
16 companies.

17 **SJM'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE PATENTED METHOD AND ASSERTED PATENTS**

18 36. By the early 2000s, the Patented Method claimed in the Asserted Patents had  
19 become recognized as the most effective means of treating atrial fibrillation and had become the  
20 essential element of all ablation procedures to treat AFib. In fact, all doctors in the United States  
21 that perform catheter ablation procedures to treat AFib perform the Patented Method and infringe  
22 the Asserted Patents, including representative claim 1 of the '283 Patent.

23 37. SJM was one of the largest manufacturers and distributors of cardiology-related  
24 devices by the early 2000s and had performed extensive market research on the procedures and  
25 equipment used to treat AFib. SJM was aware of the Asserted Patents and knew that the Patented  
26 Method was the universally-adopted procedure for treating AFib. Indeed, by no later than 2006,  
27 SJM was sponsoring medical symposia at which leading cardiologists taught the use of SJM  
28 Devices to perform the Patented Method. And, in 2008, SJM conducted a clinical study outside  
of the United States called "STAR-AF: Substrate Versus Trigger Ablation for Reduction of Atrial



1 Fibrillation Trial.” This study recognized, evaluated, and confirmed the effectiveness of the  
2 Patented Method.

3 38. The Regents’ Patents, and in particular the Asserted Patents, are widely cited in  
4 patent applications filed by SJM and numerous other medical device companies. According to  
5 the USPTO’s database, the ’457 Patent has been cited as relevant prior art in more than 460  
6 patents and patent applications published before 2013. The asserted ’283 Patent is cited in more  
7 than 350 published U.S. patents, and the asserted ’576 Patent is cited in more than 100 published  
8 U.S. patents.

9 39. According to the USPTO’s database, SJM itself cited the ’457 Patent in more than  
10 40 applications that resulted in issued patents, and SJM applied for and prosecuted at least 31 U.S.  
11 patent applications that cite one or both of the Asserted Patents as prior art. Thus, SJM maintains  
12 a thorough knowledge of all relevant facts, technologies, inventions, published research, and  
13 other developments relating to the Patented Method.

14 40. SJM also specifically discussed the Patented Method in its patent applications.  
15 For example, as set forth in the below reproduced excerpt from SJM’s own U.S. Patent No.  
16 6,984,232, SJM discussed the proposed efficacy of one of its claimed catheter inventions in  
17 performing the “advantageous” Patented Method of forming a circumferential block by forming a  
18 “circumferential lesion” either “at the ostium of one or more of the pulmonary veins or within one  
19 or more of the pulmonary veins,” blocking the electric signals originating from the pulmonary  
20 veins from entering the left atrium:

21 [I]t may be advantageous to produce a **circumferential**  
22 **lesion at the ostium of one or more of the pulmonary**  
23 **veins or within one or more of the pulmonary veins.**  
24 Desirably, such a **circumferential lesion would**  
25 **electrically isolate a pulmonary vein from the left**  
26 **atrium completely blocking stray signals from traveling**  
27 **down the pulmonary vein and into the left atrium.**  
28 (4:61-67 (emphasis added)).

During use, the active region [of the claimed catheter] is directed into contact with, for example, the wall of a pulmonary vein. Upon energization, the virtual electrode

1 creates a **continuous lesion on an inner wall of the**  
2 **pulmonary vein, thereby electrically isolating the**  
3 **pulmonary vein from the left atrium.**  
(Abstract (emphasis added)).

4 41. The Regents also provided SJM additional notice of the Asserted Patents. On  
5 February 1, 2016, The Regents advised SJM in writing regarding the concern that SJM Devices  
6 are being marketed and sold to doctors for use in practicing the Patented Method as claimed in the  
7 Asserted Patents. The Regents' letter (attached hereto as Exhibit 4) specifically identified the  
8 Asserted Patents, and explained that they cover the Patented Method, which "involve[s] the use of  
9 various energy sources . . . to ablate heart tissue in a circumferential pattern around the pulmonary  
10 vein, disrupting the erratic electric pulses that cause atrial fibrillation."

11 42. Accordingly, SJM had actual knowledge of the Asserted Patents and that the  
12 Asserted Patents cover the Patented Method at all relevant times.

13 **SJM MAKES, PROMOTES AND SELLS A WIDE RANGE OF CATHETERS AND**  
14 **OTHER MEDICAL DEVICES THAT DOCTORS USE**  
15 **TO PERFORM THE PATENTED METHOD**

16 43. During the relevant time period, SJM has marketed and sold multiple SJM Devices  
17 used by at least interventional cardiologists, EPs, and cardiothoracic surgeons, (collectively,  
18 "Doctors"), to perform the Patented Method in violation of the Asserted Patents. At all relevant  
19 times, SJM was aware that Doctors used SJM Devices to treat AFib and to perform the Patented  
20 Method.

21 44. SJM operates primarily in the United States, Europe and Asia Pacific. Upon  
22 information and belief, SJM employed approximately 16,000 people as of January 2015. SJM  
23 divides its business into several categories: Atrial Fibrillation; Heart Failure; Neuromodulation;  
24 Traditional Cardiac Rhythm Management; and Cardiovascular.

25 45. SJM's "Atrial Fibrillation" Division encompasses a wide range of products that  
26 SJM designs, promotes, and sells to treat AFib. SJM's total worldwide sales of AFib treatment  
27 devices and equipment have ranged from \$710 million to \$1.1 billion in each of the years 2010  
28 through 2016. SJM has reported U.S. annual sales of its atrial fibrillation products as ranging  
from \$411 million to \$600 million annually over the same period.

1           46.     When promoting SJM Devices for treatment of AFib, SJM understands, and the  
2 relevant medical community understands, that it is promoting the SJM Devices to be used  
3 specifically to perform the Patented Method. During the relevant time period, SJM has marketed  
4 and sold a number of ablation catheters specifically for use by Doctors to perform the Patented  
5 Method. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 6           •     TactiCath Quartz Contact Force Ablation Catheter
- 7           •     Cool Path Duo Ablation Catheters
- 8           •     FlexAbility Ablation Catheter
- 9           •     Safire BLU Duo Irrigated Ablation Catheters
- 10          •     Therapy Ablation Catheters (various sizes)
- 11          •     Therapy Bi-directional Ablation Catheters
- 12          •     Therapy Cool Path Ablation Catheter (various sizes)
- 13          •     Therapy Dual-8 Ablation Catheter

14           47.     SJM has also marketed, advertised, and sold other types of SJM Devices to  
15 perform the Patented Method, including: navigational and mapping catheters, such as SJM's  
16 Reflexion High Density Mapping Catheter, Reflexion Spiral EP, and Inquiry AFocus II Double  
17 Loop catheters; related cardiac mapping and diagnostic equipment such as SJM's EnSite  
18 Mapping System, EnSite Velocity, NavX, Array, Derexi Integration Module, Ensite Contact  
19 Display, and MediGuide Integration; equipment such as radio frequency (RF) and other power  
20 generators that are coupled with the ablation catheters and supply the heat (or other energy)  
21 needed to ablate targeted cardiac tissue.

22           48.     Additional SJM Devices used to perform the Patented Method include, but are not  
23 limited to, guiding catheters, catheter sheaths, access devices, and other complementary devices  
24 used by Doctors to perform the Patented Method.

25           49.     Numerous SJM Devices, including many listed above, are specifically designed  
26 for and used by Doctors only in and as a material part of performing the Patented Method. With  
27 knowledge of the Asserted Patents, SJM has knowingly promoted such SJM Devices as  
28 specifically designed for the purpose of being used by Doctors in performing the Patented

1 Method. These particular SJM Devices, which have no substantial non-infringing uses, include  
2 but are not limited to:

- 3 • Mapping Catheters, including the Reflexion Spiral EP Catheters, the Reflexion  
4 Spiral Variable Radius Loop Bi-Directional Catheters, the Reflexion HD High  
5 Density Loop Bi-Directional Catheters, the Inquiry AFocus Catheters, the Inquiry  
6 AFocus II Catheters, the Inquiry AFocus II Double Loop Catheters, the Inquiry  
7 AFocus II EB Catheters, and the Inquiry Optima Catheters.
- 8 • Introducers, including the Agilis NxT Steerable Introducers, the Fast-Cath Guiding  
9 Introducer Swartz Reduced Radius SRR Series, and the Fast-Cath Guiding  
10 Introducers Swartz SR Series, the Swartz Braided Transseptal Guiding Introducers  
11 SL Series, and the Swartz Braided Transseptal Guiding Introducers LAMP Series.

12 50. In a 2010 shareholder presentation, Jane J. Song, then president of SJM's Atrial  
13 Fibrillation Division, explained that “[w]e have the broadest AF product portfolio in the  
14 industry,” and that “[o]ur AF business includes all devices used in catheter procedures performed  
15 in the EP cath[eter] lab.” The presentation included a “Key Product Overview” identifying the  
16 following SJM Devices, which were promoted by SJM to perform the Patented Method:

- 17 • Cardiographic Mapping Systems, including the EnSite Mapping System, the  
18 EnSite Velocity, the NavX, the Array, the Derexi Integration Module, the Ensite  
19 Contact Display, and the MediGuide Integration.
- 20 • Mapping Catheters, including the Reflexion HD, the Reflexion Spiral EP Catheters,  
21 and the Inquiry AFocus II Double Loop.
- 22 • Ablation Catheters, including the Safire BLU and Cool Path, the Safire BLU Duo  
23 and Cool Path Duo, the Cool Flex, and the Livewire.
- 24 • Access and guidance devices, including: Agilis NxT Steerable Introducer, Swartz  
25 Braided Left Atrial Multipurpose Transseptal Guiding Introducers.
- 26 • Complementary technologies, including SJM's Confirm Implantable Cardiac  
27 Monitor, the EP-WorkMate Recording System, and the EnSite Contact. Notably,  
28 one of the touted benefits of this device was its “[s]ignificant increase of first pass

1 pulmonary vein isolation.”

2 51. Since 2010, SJM has updated and expanded its pre-existing lines of SJM Devices  
3 and has continued to develop, promote, market, and sell additional products for use in performing  
4 the Patented Method. These include:

- 5 • Additional cardio mapping systems, including the EnSite Precision mapping  
6 module.
- 7 • Additional diagnostic and mapping catheters, including the Inquiry Optima, the  
8 Reflexion Spiral Variable Radius, the Reflexion HD High Density, the ViewFlex,  
9 and the ViewMate.
- 10 • Ablation Catheters, including the TactiCath Quartz Contact Force; the FlexAbility.
- 11 • Access and Guidance devices, including the Fast-Cath Hemostasis Introducer.

12 52. At all relevant times, Doctors have used SJM Devices to perform the Patented  
13 Method in the United States in violation of the Asserted Patents. SJM has at all relevant times  
14 promoted, marketed, and advertised the SJM Devices to be used by Doctors to perform the  
15 Patented Method. SJM was aware of and intended Doctors to use the SJM Devices to specifically  
16 perform the Patented Method in violation of the Asserted Patents.

#### 17 **SJM’S INFRINGEMENT OF THE ASSERTED PATENTS**

18 53. At all relevant times, SJM has induced and contributed to the infringement of the  
19 Asserted Patents. With actual knowledge of the Asserted Patents, SJM actively encouraged  
20 Doctors to use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method with specific intent to infringe the  
21 Asserted Patents. With actual knowledge of the Asserted Patents, SJM sold SJM Devices that  
22 have no substantial non-infringing uses, contributing to the infringement of the Asserted Patents  
23 by Doctors.

24 54. SJM’s intent to market and promote the SJM Devices to perform the Patented  
25 Method, and thus induce and contribute to the infringement of the Asserted Patents by Doctors, is  
26 highlighted by its 2010 statement to investors, explaining that “[a]fter heart failure, atrial  
27 fibrillation represents the largest unmet clinical need in cardiovascular medicine today.

28 Significant opportunities exist . . . . We have the Broadest Product Portfolio in the industry and

1 are the best positioned company to address AFib market requirements.” *See* Exhibit 5, relevant  
2 excerpts of SJM’s 2010 Investor Presentation, at 119 (emphasis added).

3 ***Seminars and Tradeshows Using SJM Devices to Perform the Patented Method***

4 55. Since as early as 2005, SJM has sponsored courses that teach the Patented Method.  
5 For example, SJM sponsors a course taught by Dr. Carlo Pappone, the Founder and Director of  
6 the Arrhythmology Academy at the San Raffaele University-Hospital in Milan, Italy (the  
7 “Academy”). The Academy is recognized for promoting and teaching advances in cardiac  
8 electrophysiology techniques through interactive discussions with the attending physicians,  
9 during meetings, lectures, and live procedure demonstrations performed by Dr. Pappone. The  
10 Academy’s training programs are attended annually by medical professionals from around the  
11 world, including U.S.-based Doctors.

12 56. SJM sponsored its conferences at the Academy with the knowledge and intent that  
13 Dr. Pappone would teach doctors, during live procedure demonstrations, how to use SJM Devices  
14 to perform the Patented Method to treat patients with AFib. SJM intends its promotion of SJM  
15 Devices at these conferences to induce U.S. Doctors to use SJM Devices to practice the Patented  
16 Method in the United States.

17 57. SJM has frequently invited and sponsored U.S.-based Doctors to attend these  
18 seminars. In addition to maintaining its website, the Academy publishes a series of YouTube  
19 videos demonstrating how to use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method. Upon  
20 information and belief, the production of these YouTube videos was paid for by SJM. A  
21 downloaded version of one such video is attached hereto on a DVD as Exhibit 6.

22 58. SJM has additionally sponsored a wide variety of medical professional trade shows,  
23 such as cardiology and electrophysiology conferences, to promote the use of SJM Devices to  
24 perform the Patented Method to Doctors.

25 59. SJM’s sponsorship includes: paying lecture fees to encourage prominent speakers  
26 to teach Doctors how SJM Devices can be used to perform the Patented Method; renting booths  
27 and convention hall demonstration areas where SJM sales representatives network with Doctors  
28 and provide marketing materials that teach and promote the use of SJM Devices to perform the

1 Patented Method; and hosting invitation-only events or lectures extoling the use and benefits of  
2 SJM Devices for performing the Patented Method.

3 60. SJM sponsors and exhibits its SJM Devices at major U.S.-based conferences  
4 including the annual meetings of the American Heart Association, the Heart Rhythm Society, and  
5 the American College of Cardiology, as well as the Annual International Atrial Fibrillation  
6 Symposium. Several thousand Doctors attend these conferences, where they are introduced to  
7 SJM Devices and receive demonstrations, instructions, and promotional materials regarding the  
8 use of SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method.

9 61. SJM engages in the same promotion and teaching of the use of SJM Devices for  
10 performing the Patented Method at major cardiology conferences overseas, including annual  
11 meetings of the European Society of Cardiology and the CardioStim Conference held once every  
12 two years in either Nice, France or other cities. SJM is well aware that many U.S.-based Doctors  
13 attend these overseas conferences, and SJM intends its promotion of SJM Devices at these events  
14 to induce U.S. Doctors to use SJM Devices to practice the Patented Method in the United States.  
15 A downloaded version of one such video showing the promotion of SJM Devices to perform the  
16 Patented Method is attached hereto on a DVD as Exhibit 7.

17 62. Starting no later than 2010, SJM additionally offered and provided in-person  
18 training classes teaching Doctors to use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method. Upon  
19 information and belief, SJM paid AFib experts to teach these training classes. One example of  
20 such class, paid for and promoted by SJM, was called “CAB Physician Training Seminar for  
21 Electrophysiologists.” The specific purpose of this class was to teach advanced techniques that  
22 improve ablation procedure speed, proficiency, and clinical results.

23 63. By no later than 2013, SJM also opened the first of three U.S. teaching facilities to  
24 instruct Doctors how to use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method. SJM opened one of  
25 these facilities in Sylmar, California. At these centers, SJM provides a “Virtual Reality  
26 Simulation” to teach Doctors how to perform “supraventricular ablation and transseptal  
27 procedures.” SJM knows that the Patented Method is the primary known and commonly utilized  
28 “supraventricular ablation and transseptal procedure.”



1           64.     SJM also employs an extensive network of sales representatives who are trained to  
2 market SJM Devices to Doctors. Upon information and belief, SJM's sales representatives are  
3 taught about the Patented Method and are trained to demonstrate and otherwise promote SJM  
4 Devices as effective tools for performing the Patented Method through, for example, inviting  
5 Doctors to SJM-sponsored training programs, and the distribution of printed publications or other  
6 marketing materials.

7                                   ***SJM's Use of Medicare Reimbursement Guides to Promote the Use of***  
8                                   ***SJM Devices to Perform the Patented Method***

9           65.     While SJM's customers such as Doctors, hospitals, or other individuals and  
10 entities purchase SJM Devices, they generally seek reimbursement from the patients' insurers or  
11 Medicare for the charged expense of performing the Patented Method to treat AFib. The  
12 reimbursed medical service fee includes charges for the SJM Devices used in the procedure,  
13 many of which are one-time use catheters costing in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).

14           66.     In addition to its other promotional activities, SJM has provided its customers with  
15 reimbursement support for SJM Devices beginning as early as 2010. In particular, SJM has  
16 provided its customers a Medicare reimbursement guide for cardiac electrophysiology services,  
17 including for treatment of AFib. SJM's reimbursement billing guide provides Doctors with  
18 information on how to get reimbursed for performing the Patented Method under the Medicare  
19 billing code for "Comprehensive electrophysiologic evaluation . . . including treatment of atrial  
20 fibrillation by ablation by pulmonary vein isolation (PVI)." A copy of SJM's 2013 Hospital  
21 Reimbursement Guide is attached hereto as Exhibit 8.

22           67.     In providing this reimbursement support, SJM specifically intends to and actively  
23 induces Doctors to use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method in violation of the Asserted  
24 Patents.

25                                   ***SJM's Use of Literature and Brochures to Promote SJM Devices to***  
26                                   ***Perform the Patented Method***

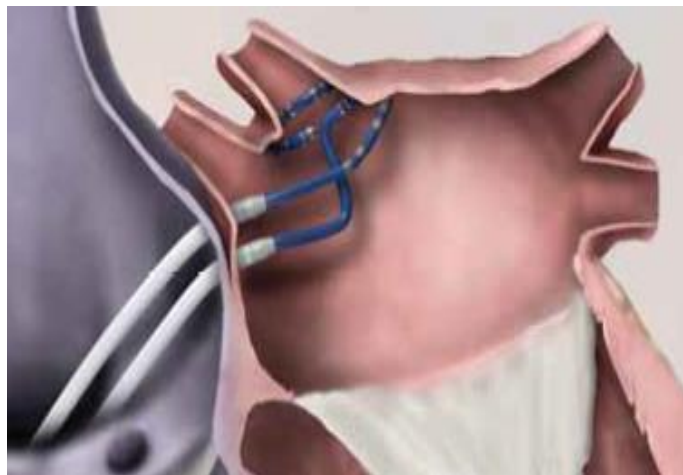
27           68.     Promotion and marketing of SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method is  
28 further accomplished by providing literature and brochures to Doctors for their own education, or



1 for distribution to their patients. SJM routinely provides literature and brochures to Doctors to  
2 promote the use of SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method. These materials serve the dual  
3 purpose of reinforcing to Doctors that SJM Devices can be used to perform the Patented Method,  
4 and to encourage patients to ask Doctors about the use of SJM Devices to perform the Patented  
5 Method.

6 69. For example, beginning no later than 2008, SJM published and widely distributed  
7 through Doctors a patient-focused handbook teaching the use of catheter ablation to treat AFib.  
8 This handbook, a copy of which is attached here as Exhibit 9, demonstrated and promoted the use  
9 of certain SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method, using SJM's ablation catheters and a  
10 circular "mapping catheter," which is specifically for use in the performance of the Patented  
11 Method.

12 70. In particular, the handbook included the illustration shown below, which shows the  
13 use of a mapping and ablation catheter positioned to perform a circumferential lesion at a location  
14 where a pulmonary vein extends from the left atrium, as taught and claimed in the Asserted  
15 Patents. *See id.* at 9. SJM Devices, such as those shown below, are designed and used to perform  
16 the Patented Method.



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***Publication and Dissemination of Journal Articles and Other Materials  
Touting the Use of SJM Devices in Medical Studies***

28 71. It is well understood by medical device manufacturers, such as SJM, that

1 sponsoring, promoting, and publicizing the fact and results of clinical trials in which their medical  
2 devices are used to perform a certain procedure is a very effective means of marketing the use of  
3 their medical devices to medical professionals and hospitals alike. Over the years, SJM has  
4 sponsored, promoted, and publicized numerous medical studies in which SJM Devices were used  
5 to perform the Patented Method, with the purpose and intent of specifically teaching and inducing  
6 Doctors to use the SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method in violation of the Asserted  
7 Patents.

8 72. As just one example, in August 2008, SJM sponsored and promoted a major study,  
9 not designed for submission to the FDA for approval, called the “STAR-AF: Substrate Versus  
10 Trigger Ablation for Reduction of Atrial Fibrillation Trial” (“STAR-AF”). The SJM Devices  
11 used in this study, and promoted by SJM for use in performing the Patented Method, were  
12 products already on the market in the United States. The SJM Devices included, but were not  
13 limited to, the SJM Ensite NavX, Therapy Cool Path, and Therapy Dual 8 devices. SJM’s study  
14 confirmed the Patented Method’s effectiveness in treating AFib.

15 73. SJM actively promoted its STAR-AF study and the use of its SJM Devices to  
16 perform the Patented Method to Doctors in numerous ways. For example, SJM released multiple  
17 news reports promoting this study, both on its website and directly to industry media. One news  
18 release from May 14, 2009, is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.

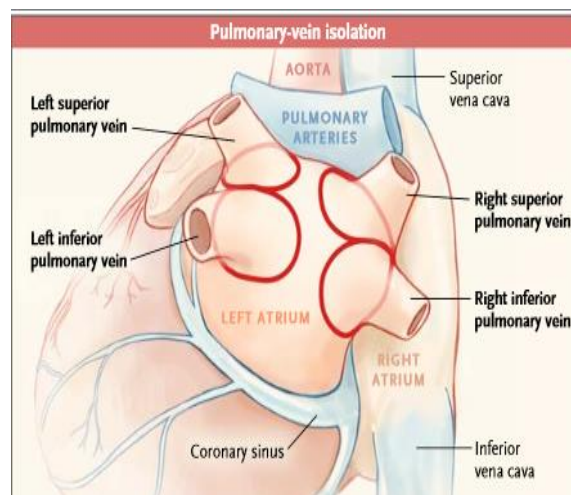
19 74. SJM also paid researchers to write and publish journal articles and abstracts which  
20 claimed that SJM Devices could be used to perform the Patented Method for effectively treating  
21 AFib. An example of one such journal article is attached hereto as Exhibit 11. Finally, SJM  
22 described the results of the STAR-AF study on its corporate website, a page of which is attached  
23 hereto as Exhibit 12. This website included a “Contact” link, encouraging visiting medical  
24 professionals to contact SJM representatives to discuss the study, learn more about the use of  
25 SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method, or purchase SJM Devices to perform the Patented  
26 Method.

27 75. Medical device manufacturers, including SJM, are actively involved in planning,  
28 editing, and approving journal articles before they are submitted to medical journals for

1 publication. The purpose of these reports, journal articles, abstracts, website promotions, and the  
 2 presentations given at the medical conferences referenced above was to induce Doctors to use  
 3 SJM's Devices to perform the Patented Method as claimed in the Asserted Patents. SJM thus  
 4 specifically intended and encouraged Doctors to purchase SJM Devices and to use them to  
 5 perform the Patented Method in violation of the Asserted Patents.

6 76. Before the STAR-AF study had concluded, SJM initiated and funded a second  
 7 larger AFib treatment study, called the "STAR-AF II" study in November 2010. The stated  
 8 purpose of the STAR-AF II study was to test the hypothesis that combining the Patented Method  
 9 with more complex lesions would offer a higher success rate than the Patented Method alone, as  
 10 SJM promoted the use of its devices on the web site clinical trials.gov, attached as Exhibit 13. As  
 11 with the STAR-AF study, the researchers used multiple SJM Devices.

12 77. The STAR-AF II study concluded that the Patented Method was at least as  
 13 effective alone in treating AFib as by adding additional lesion sets. SJM marketed this STAR-AF  
 14 II study and its conclusions regarding the Patented Method's effectiveness at treating AFib by  
 15 sponsoring multiple journal articles in industry-leading journals, examples of which are attached  
 16 hereto as Exhibits 14 and 15. One article (Exhibit 14 at 3), included the below-reproduced  
 17 illustration which depicts and promotes performance of the Patented Method using SJM Devices.



27 78. SJM similarly sponsored, paid for, and heavily promoted other clinical trials in  
 28 which SJM Devices—that were already approved and on the market—were used to perform the

1 Patented Method. As with the STAR-AF and STAR-AF II studies, SJM has sponsored, published,  
2 or otherwise widely disseminated publications, “educational brochures,” and multiple news  
3 reports both through its website and in medical industry media, thereby promoting its other  
4 studies and the use of SJM Devices to treat AFib using the Patented Method.

5 79. The purpose and effect of SJM’s publications was to inform Doctors that they  
6 could and should use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method to treat AFib. SJM knows  
7 and intends that Doctors reading these promotional materials at conferences and meetings will  
8 learn that SJM Devices are designed to perform the Patented Method. SJM thus induces Doctors  
9 to purchase and/or use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method.

10 ***Promoting SJM Devices to Perform the Patented Method***  
11 ***Through Product Catalogs and Labels***

12 80. During the relevant time period, SJM further distributed a catalog of SJM Devices  
13 used to treat AFib. SJM’s catalog is entitled “Atrial Fibrillation Division U.S. Product Catalog.”  
14 The catalog lists all of the SJM Devices approved and on the market for use in the United States,  
15 and sold and offered for sale by SJM for treatment of AFib, *i.e.*, using the Patented Method.

16 81. SJM, as well as Doctors and other customers that used this catalog to make  
17 purchasing decisions, knew that the universally-adopted method to treat AFib using SJM Devices  
18 was the Patented Method. SJM published this catalog to the medical community with the  
19 knowledge and intent to induce Doctors to use the SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method.

20 82. In August 2013, SJM also acquired Endosense, which manufactured, promoted,  
21 and sold a tissue pressure-sensing ablation catheter called the TactiCath. SJM sought FDA  
22 approval for the TactiCath ablation catheter specifically for treatment of AFib. The FDA granted  
23 approval of the TactiCath in October 2014. The product’s FDA-approved label specifically  
24 instructs Doctors that the TactiCath is approved for treatment of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation.

25 83. As alleged above, the Patented Method is the primary non-pharmacologic  
26 treatment for paroxysmal AFib. On its website, SJM advertises that one of the primary benefits  
27 of using the TactiCath ablation catheter is that it “[i]mprove[s] pulmonary vein (PV) isolation,”  
28 *i.e.*, it is for use in performing the Patented Method. At all relevant times, SJM has actively and

1 intentionally promoted and advertised the use of the TactiCath, other SJM Devices, and related  
2 equipment to Doctors to be used according to and for infringement of the Patented Method.

3 84. SJM's marketing activities alleged herein were performed for the commercial  
4 purpose of selling SJM Devices, and were not reasonably related to the development and  
5 submission of information necessary to obtain regulatory approval from the FDA; nor were they  
6 directed to the collection of information or data necessary for filing an application with the FDA  
7 for approval to market any SJM Device. The SJM Devices were FDA approved and on sale in  
8 the United States before SJM engaged in its infringing activities, alleged herein, by marketing and  
9 promoting the SJM Devices with knowledge and intent that Doctors would use the SJM Devices  
10 to perform the Patented Method.

11 85. On February 1, 2016, The Regents wrote to SJM and advised it of The Regents'  
12 concern that SJM Devices were being marketed and sold to Doctors for use in practicing the  
13 Patented Method. SJM did not change its marketing or promotional practices. SJM waited until  
14 June 13, 2016, to provide a substantive response to The Regents' letter, at which time it  
15 wrongfully asserted that it was not promoting any SJM Devices for use in a manner that infringes  
16 the Asserted Patents.

17 **COUNT I: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '283 PATENT**

18 86. Plaintiff re-alleges here all of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-85 above.

19 87. At all relevant times, SJM had knowledge of the '283 Patent and the Patented  
20 Method.

21 88. SJM induces others to infringe and/or contributorily infringes one or more claims  
22 of the '283 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

23 89. Claim 1 of the '283 Patent recites:

24 A method for treating atrial arrhythmia in a patient, comprising:

25 forming a circumferential conduction block in a circumferential  
26 region of tissue at a location where a pulmonary vein extends from  
an atrium in the patient,

27 wherein the circumferential conduction block formed is continuous  
28 along the circumferential region of tissue, and

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wherein the circumferential conduction block is formed without contacting the tissue with an ablative fluid medium.

90. The use of SJM Devices by Doctors to perform the Patented Method on patients with AFib satisfies each and every limitation of claim 1 of the '283 Patent.

91. At all relevant times, SJM knowingly encouraged and intended Doctors to use SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method on patients who have been diagnosed with AFib, in violation of claim 1.

92. Upon information and belief, both by manufacturing SJM Devices to be used in a manner that SJM knows infringes the '283 Patent, and by encouraging Doctors and/or customers to use SJM Devices in a manner that SJM knows infringes the '283 Patent, SJM is inducing infringement of the '283 Patent by Doctors and/or customers in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b). For example, SJM's marketing and promotional materials tout the use of SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method within the scope of at least claim 1 of the '283 Patent.

93. A subset of SJM Devices sold by SJM, as set forth in paragraph 49, are material to performing the Patented Method, according to claim 1 of the '283 Patent.

94. This subset of SJM Devices is not a staple article, commodity of commerce, or suitable for substantial non-infringing uses. Moreover, by its actual knowledge of the '283 Patent, SJM knew that a subset of SJM Devices are especially made or especially adapted for use in a manner that infringes the '283 Patent. Accordingly, SJM's sale of the subset of SJM Devices set forth in paragraph 49 contributes to the infringement of the '283 Patent by Doctors and/or customers in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c).

95. SJM has profited and will continue to profit from its infringement of the '283 Patent.

96. SJM's infringement of the '283 patent has caused and will continue to cause The Regents substantial monetary harm, for which The Regents is entitled to receive compensatory damages in an amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty.

97. Further, SJM's infringement of the '283 Patent has been willful, deliberate, and with full knowledge that the use of SJM Devices infringes the '283 Patent, justifying an increase

1 in the damages to be awarded to The Regents up to three times the amount found or assessed, in  
2 accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 284.

3 98. SJM's willful infringement of the '283 Patent, among other actions, renders this an  
4 exceptional case, justifying the award to The Regents of its reasonable attorney fees, in  
5 accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 285.

6 **COUNT II: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '576 PATENT**

7 99. Plaintiff re-alleges here all of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-98 above.

8 100. At all relevant times, SJM had knowledge of the '576 Patent and the Patented  
9 Method.

10 101. SJM induces others to infringe and/or contributorily infringes one or more claims  
11 of the '576 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

12 102. Claim 12 of the '576 Patent recites:

13 A method for treating atrial arrhythmia in a heart of a patient,  
14 wherein the patient includes a plurality of pulmonary veins and  
15 each pulmonary vein extends from a unique location in an atrium  
16 of the heart, the method comprising:

16 ablating a first ablation lesion that substantially circumscribes only  
17 one of the locations; and

17 ablating a second ablation lesion that substantially circumscribes  
18 only a different one of said locations.

19 103. The use of SJM Devices by Doctors to perform the Patented Method on patients  
20 with AFib satisfies each and every limitation of claim 12 of the '576 Patent.

21 104. At all relevant times, SJM knowingly encouraged and intended Doctors to use  
22 SJM Devices to perform the Patented Method on patients who have been diagnosed with AFib, in  
23 violation of claim 12.

24 105. Upon information and belief, both by manufacturing SJM Devices to be used in a  
25 manner that SJM knows infringes the '576 Patent, and by encouraging Doctors and/or customers  
26 to use the SJM Devices in a manner that SJM knows infringes the '576 Patent, SJM is inducing  
27 infringement of the '576 Patent by Doctors and/or customers in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b).  
28 For example, SJM's marketing and promotional materials tout the use of SJM Devices to perform



1 the Patented Method within the scope of at least claim 12 of the '576 Patent.

2 106. A subset of SJM Devices sold by SJM, as set forth in paragraph 49, are material to  
3 performing the Patented Method, according to claim 12 of the '576 Patent.

4 107. This subset of SJM Devices is not a staple article, commodity of commerce, or  
5 suitable for substantial non-infringing uses. Moreover, by its actual knowledge of the '576 Patent,  
6 SJM knew that a subset of SJM Devices are especially made or especially adapted for use in a  
7 manner that infringes the '576 Patent. Accordingly, SJM's sale of the subset of SJM Devices set  
8 forth in paragraph 49 contributes to infringement of the '576 Patent by Doctors and/or customers  
9 in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c).

10 108. SJM has profited and will continue to profit from its infringement of the '576  
11 Patent.

12 109. SJM's infringement of the '576 Patent has caused and will continue to cause The  
13 Regents substantial monetary harm, for which The Regents is entitled to receive compensatory  
14 damages in an amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty.

15 110. Further, SJM's infringement of the '576 Patent has been willful, deliberate, and  
16 with full knowledge that the use of SJM Devices infringes the '576 Patent, justifying an increase  
17 in the damages to be awarded to The Regents up to three times the amount found or assessed, in  
18 accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 284.

19 111. SJM's willful infringement of the '576 Patent, among other actions, renders this an  
20 exceptional case, justifying the award to The Regents of its reasonable attorney fees, in  
21 accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 285.

22 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

23 Wherefore, The Regents of the University of California respectfully requests that the  
24 Court enter a judgment as follows:

25 A. That SJM has infringed the Asserted Patents;

26 B. Awarding The Regents damages, including enhanced damages, pursuant to 35  
27 U.S.C. § 284, for SJM's infringement of the Asserted Patents, in an amount to be determined at  
28 trial, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty;



1 C. Awarding The Regents pre-judgment and post-judgment interest to compensate  
2 The Regents for the damages it has sustained;

3 D. Awarding The Regents all of its costs and disbursements incurred in bringing this  
4 action;

5 E. Declaring that this is an exceptional case under 35 U.S.C. § 285 and awarding The  
6 Regents its reasonable attorney fees, costs, and expenses; and

7 F. Awarding The Regents any further relief the Court deems just and proper.  
8

9 Dated: October 26, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

10  
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24 **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
25  
26  
27  
28

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

The Regents of the University of California hereby requests a trial by a jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: October 26, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

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