Case 2:19-cv-04487 Document 1 Filed 05/23/19 Page 1 of 10 Page ID #:1 Steven W. Ritcheson, Esq. (SBN 174062) **INSIGHT, PLC** 578 Washington Blvd., #503 Marina del Rey, California 90292 Telephone: (424) 289-9191 Facsimile: (818) 337-0383 Email: swritcheson@insightplc.com for Plaintiff, LEXIDINE, LLC UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA LEXIDINE, LLC, Case No. PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT Plaintiff, v. **Jury Trial Demanded** SONIC ELECTRONIX, INC., Defendant.

Plaintiff Lexidine, LLC (hereinafter, "Lexidine" or "Plaintiff") files this Original Complaint for Patent Infringement against Defendant Sonic Electronix, Inc. (hereinafter, "Sonic" or "Defendant") as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a patent infringement action to stop Defendant's infringement of the following patent (the "Patent-in-Suit"), which was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter, the "USPTO"), a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

	Patent No.	Title
A.	7,609,961	VEHICLE CAMERA

- 2. The Patent-in-Suit traces its priority date back to Application No. 11/401,405 (hereinafter, "the '405 Application"), which was filed with the USPTO on April 11, 2006, and was issued as on October 27, 2009.
- 3. Plaintiff is the owner of the Patent-in-Suit and possesses all right, title and interest in the Patent-in-Suit, including the right to enforce the Patent-in-Suit, the right to license the Patent-in-Suit, and the right to sue Defendant for infringement and recover past damages. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief and monetary damages.

PARTIES

- 4. Lexidine is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Oklahoma and maintains its principal place of business at 5924 SW 12th St. Suite 7201, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73128 (Oklahoma County).
- 5. According to public information, Sonic is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of California since December 15, 2005.
- 6. According to public information, Sonic may be served through its registered agent, Nathaniel J. Victor, who is located at 9631 Topanga Canyon Place, Chatsworth, California 91311 (Los Angeles County).

- 7. According to public information, Sonic is registered with the California Secretary of State as an "active" entity with the right to transact business in California under the name "Sonic Electronix, Inc."
- 8. According to public information, Sonic has its principal place of business at 10645 Freeport Drive, Louisville, Kentucky 40258.
- 9. Upon information and belief, Defendant ships, distributes, makes, uses, offers for sale, sells, and/or advertises 3rd Brake Light Cameras, with such cameras including, but not limited to, the BOYO Vision brand (model numbers VTMBK1, VTC525R, VTFTK1, VTFTK2, VTL400CIR, VTL400CL, VTL420CIR, VTL420CL, VTL420IRTJ, VTL420RX), the Crimestopper brand (model number SV-6901), the NVX brand (model number BarCam221), and the RoadGear Mobile brand (model number RC100P) (the "Brake Light Cameras").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 10. This action arises under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., including 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, 283, 284, and 285. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this case for patent infringement under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 11. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because: Defendant has minimum contacts within the State of California and in the Central District of California; Defendant has purposefully availed itself of the privileges of conducting business in the State of California and in the Central District of California; Defendant has sought protection and benefit from the laws of the State of California; Defendant regularly conducts business within the State of California and within the Central District of California (as well as throughout the United States), and Plaintiff's causes of action arise directly from Defendant's business contacts and other activities in the State of California and in the Central District of California.

- 12. More specifically, Defendant, directly and/or through its intermediaries, ships, distributes, makes, uses, imports, offers for sale, sells, and/or advertises its products and affiliated services in the United States, the State of California, and the Central District of California. Defendant has committed patent infringement in the State of California and in the Central District of California. Defendant solicits customers in the State of California and in the Central District of California. Defendant has many paying customers who are residents of the State of California and the Central District of California and who use Defendant's products in the State of California and in the Central District of California.
 - 13. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b) because Sonic is incorporated in this district.
 - 14. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) because Sonic is incorporated in this district.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 15. Lexidine is 100% owned by the inventor of the Patent-in-Suit, Mr. Eric Park. Mr. Park is a visionary inventor of consumer safety related products and has patented many of his inventions. He has worked on many vehicle safety projects such as lane departure detection, heads up displays (HUDs), headrest displays, rearview navigation, in-car entertainment systems, rearview camera and backup safety solutions, among others. Mr. Park has invested a great deal of time and money to develop and legally protect Lexidine's innovations, and he believes those who find value incorporating these proprietary technologies into their products and services should obtain a proper license.
- 16. The Patent-in-Suit was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office after full and fair examinations. Plaintiff is the owner of the Patent-in-Suit, and possesses all right, title and interest in the Patent-in-Suit

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- 17. Defendant sells, advertises, offers for sale, uses, or otherwise provides the Brake Light Cameras (collectively, the "Accused Products"). Representative images of the Accused Products are attached as **Exhibits B to N** (offers for sale of Brake Light Cameras from publicly-available websites).
- 18. According to public information, Defendant owns, operates, advertises, and/or controls the website www.sonicelectronix.com, through which Defendant advertises, sells, offers to sell, provides and/or educates customers about the Accused Products. Evidence obtained from Defendant's website regarding these products is provided in Exs. B to N (representative Brake Light Cameras).

COUNT I: INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,609,961

- 19. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each of the paragraphs above.
- 20. United States Patent No. 7,609,961 (hereinafter, the "'961 Patent") was duly and legally issued by the USPTO on October 27, 2009 to its inventor, Eric S. Park. The '961 Patent was later assigned by Eric Park to Lexidine, with filing number 512619107, on May 30, 2017. Following that, the '961 Patent was assigned from Lexidine, with filing number 512619107, to Eric Park on May 18, 2018. Subsequent to that, the '961 Patent was assigned by Eric Park to Lexidine, with filing number 3512681526, on March 20, 2019.
- 21. The '961 Patent was issued after full and fair examination of the '405 Application which was filed with the USPTO on April 11, 2006.
- 22. Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe the '961 Patent either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents through the manufacture and sale of infringing products. More specifically, Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe one or more claims of the '961 Patent, including at least Claim 1 (the "'961

Patent Claims") because it ships distributes, makes, uses, imports, offers for sale, sells, and/or advertises the Accused Products. Specifically, Defendant's Accused Products infringe the '961 Patent Claims by providing to its customers a vehicle camera that includes a vehicle lens for an external third brake light that has a translucent colored vehicle lens (for instance, on some models, red) that allows light transmission. *See, e.g.,* Exs. B-N. The Accused Products have an opening in the vehicle lens (allowing the camera lens to protrude through the vehicle lens or be placed outside the vehicle lens) with the camera lens within the vehicle lens and having a viewing axis through the opening. *Id.* The Accused Products also include a base attached to the vehicle lens where the viewing axis is at an angle of between about 15 to 75 degrees with respect a plane of that base, as claimed in the '961 Patent Claims. *Id.* Defendant's Accused Products are available for sale on its website. *See id.*

23. Defendant has intentionally induced and continues induce infringement of the '961 Patent Claims in this district and elsewhere in the United States, by its intentional acts which have successfully, among other things, encouraged, instructed, enabled, and otherwise caused Defendant's customers to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner. Despite knowledge of the '961 Patent as early as the date of service of the Original Complaint in this action, Defendant continues to encourage, instruct, enable, and otherwise cause its customers to use its systems and methods, in a manner which infringes the '961 Patent claims. Defendant's source of revenue and business focus is the provision of and sale of the Accused Products, among other products. Defendant has specifically intended its customers to use its systems in such a way that infringes the '961 Patent by, at a minimum, providing and supporting the Accused Products and instructing its customers on how to use them in an infringing manner, at least through information available on Defendant's websites including information brochures, promotional material, and contact information. See Exs. B-N. Defendant knew that its actions,

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including, but not limited to any of the aforementioned systems and methods, would induce, have induced, and will continue to induce infringement by its customers by continuing to sell, support, and instruct its customers on using the Accused Products.

- 24. Defendant's aforesaid activities have been without authority and/or license from Plaintiff.
- 25. Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendant the damages sustained by Plaintiff as a result of Defendant's wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial, which, by law, cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.
- 26. Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's rights under the '961 Patent will continue to damage Plaintiff, causing irreparable harm to Plaintiff for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

JURY DEMAND

27. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- 28. Plaintiff respectfully requests the following relief:
 - A. An adjudication that one or more claims of the Patent-in-Suit has been infringed, either literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, by the Defendant;
 - B. An adjudication that Defendant has induced infringement of one or more claims of the Patent-in-Suit;
 - C. An award of damages to be paid by Defendant adequate to compensate Plaintiff for Defendant's past infringement and any continuing or future infringement up until the date such judgment is entered, including interest, costs, and disbursements as justified under 35 U.S.C. § 284 and, if necessary to adequately compensate Plaintiff

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- for Defendant's infringement, an accounting of all infringing sales including, but not limited to, those sales not presented at trial;
- A grant of permanent injunction pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 283, enjoining the Defendant and its respective officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of the order by personal service or otherwise, from further acts of infringement with respect to any one or more of the claims of the Patent-in-Suit;
- That this Court declare this to be an exceptional case and award Plaintiff its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in accordance with
- Any further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

List of Exhibits A. U.S. Patent No. 7,609,961 B. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTC525R C. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTFTK1 D. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTFTK2 E. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTL400CIR F. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTL400CL G. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTL420CIR H. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTL420CL I. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTL420IRTJ J. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTL420RX K. Offer for Sale of BOYO Vision VTMBK1 L. Offer for Sale of Crimestopper SV-6901 M. Offer for Sale of NVX BarCam221 N. Offer for Sale of RoadGear Mobile RC100P