IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

SOUNDCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

AMAZON.COM, INC.; AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC; AND AMAZON WEB SERVICES, INC.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:24-cv-01283-AJT-WBP

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

FILED UNDER SEAL

SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff SoundClear Technologies LLC ("SoundClear") files this second amended complaint against Amazon.com, Inc., Amazon.com Services LLC, and Amazon Web Services, Inc., (hereinafter collectively "Amazon" or "Defendants") for infringement of United States Patent Nos. 11,069,337; 11,244,675; and 9,223,487 (the "Patents-in-Suit"), attached hereto as Exhibits 1-3.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. §§1 *et seq*.

THE PARTIES

SoundClear is a limited liability company organized under laws of the
 Commonwealth of Virginia with its principal place of business at 1900 Reston Metro Plaza,
 Suite 600, Reston, Virginia 20190.

- 3. On information and belief, defendant Amazon.com, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware with a principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave N, Seattle, Washington 98109-5210.
- 4. On information and belief, Amazon.com, Inc. may be served with process through its registered agent, Corporation Service Company, 251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808, or anywhere it may be found.
- 5. Amazon.com, Inc. does business across the United States, including in the Commonwealth of Virginia and, more specifically, in the Eastern District of Virginia.
- On information and belief, defendant Amazon.com Services LLC is a limited 6. liability corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware and a whollyowned subsidiary of Amazon.com, Inc, with a principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave N, Seattle, Washington 98109-5210.
- 7. On information and belief, Amazon.com Services LLC may be served with process through its registered agent, Corporation Service Company, 251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808, or anywhere it may be found.
- 8. Amazon.com Services LLC does business across the United States, including in the Commonwealth of Virginia and, more specifically, in the Eastern District of Virginia.
- 9. On information and belief, defendant Amazon Web Services, Inc. ("AWS") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware with a principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave N, Seattle, Washington 98109-5210.
- 10. AWS is a subsidiary and controlled affiliate of defendant Amazon.com, Inc. and a so-called Amazon Group Company.

- 11. On information and belief, AWS may be served with process through its registered agent, Corporation Service Company, 100 Shockoe Slip, Floor 2, Richmond, Virginia, 23219-4100, or anywhere it may be found.
- 12. AWS does business across the United States, including in the Commonwealth of Virginia and, more specifically, in the Eastern District of Virginia.
- 13. On information and belief, AWS has been authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Eastern District of Virginia since on or about January 25, 2013, under Virginia Entity ID F1918947.
- On information and belief, Defendants sell and offer to sell products and services 14. throughout Virginia, including in this judicial district, as well as throughout the United States, and introduces products and services that perform infringing processes into the stream of commerce knowing that they would be used, offered for sale, or sold in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States.
- 15. On information and belief, Amazon has made, used, offered to sell, offered to sell access to, sold, and/or sold access to products and services, including the following specifically accused products and services: (1) Amazon Echo Products (e.g., Amazon Echo 1st Generation, Amazon Echo 2nd Generation, Amazon Echo 3rd Generation, Amazon Echo Dot 1st Generation, Amazon Echo Dot 2nd Generation, Amazon Echo Dot 3rd Generation, Amazon Echo Dot Kids Edition 1st Generation, Amazon Echo Dot Kids Edition 2nd Generation, Amazon Echo Look, Amazon Echo Show 2nd Generation, Amazon Echo Spot, Amazon Echo Plus 1st Generation, Amazon Echo Plus 2nd Generation, Amazon Echo Studio, Amazon Echo (4th Generation), Amazon Echo Dot (4th Generation), Amazon Echo Dot With Clock (3rd Generation), Amazon Echo Dot With Clock (4th Generation), Amazon Echo Dot Kids (3rd Generation), Amazon Echo Dot Kids (4th Generation), Amazon Echo Hub (all generations), Amazon Echo Show 5 (all

generations), Amazon Echo Show 8 (all generations), Amazon Echo Show 10 (all generations), Amazon Echo Show 15 (all generations), Amazon Echo Show 15 10 (3rd generation) (collectively "Amazon Echo Products"); (2) Amazon Kindle and Amazon Fire Products (e.g., Amazon Kindle Fire (2nd Generation), Kindle Fire (2.5th Generation), Kindle Fire (3rd Generation), Fire HD (4th Generation), Fire/Fire HD (5th Generation), Fire HD (6th Generation), Fire/Fire HD (7th Generation), Fire HD (8th Generation), Fire/Fire HD (9th Generation), Fire HD (10th Generation), Fire HD 10 (11th Generation), Fire 7 (12th Generation), Fire HD 8 (12th Generation), Fire HD 10 (13th Generation), Fire Max 11 (13th Generation) (Collectively "Amazon Tablet Products" or "Fire Tablet Devices"); (3) Amazon Fire TV and Amazon Fire TV Cube (2nd Generation) Products; (4) Alexa Built-In Products; (5) current or legacy products or services, which use, or have used, one or more of the foregoing products and services as a component product or component service; (6) combinations of products and/or services comprising, in whole or in part, two or more of the foregoing products and services; and, (7) all other current or legacy products and services imported, made, used, sold, or offered for sale by Amazon that operate, or have operated in a substantially similar manner as the above-listed products and services. (As used herein, one or more of the foregoing products and services are individually and collectively referred to as "the Amazon Products and Services").

16. On information and belief, Amazon, as well as the hardware and software components comprising the Amazon Products and Services and/or that enable the Amazon Products and Services to operate, including but not limited to servers, server software, webserver software, webserver hardware, email server hardware, email server software, website client software, mobile computing device client application software, networked communications hardware, network routers, network switches, network hubs, WIFI access point hardware, WIFI access point software, point-of-sale hardware, point-of-sale software, back-end hardware, back-

end software, cloud-based software, cloud-based hardware, and other hardware and software computing systems and components infringes (literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least one claim of each of the Patents-in-Suit.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 17. This civil action arises under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.* Accordingly, this Court has subject matter jurisdiction under at least 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 18. This Court has general and specific personal jurisdiction over the Defendants because it regularly conducts and solicits business, or otherwise engages in other persistent courses of conduct in this judicial district, and/or derives substantial revenue from the use, sale, and distribution of goods and services, including but not limited to the accused Amazon Products and Services provided to individuals and businesses in the Eastern District of Virginia.
- 19. On information and belief, Amazon infringes the patent-in-suit in the Eastern District of Virginia, at least, by making, using, offering to sell access to, and/or selling access to the accused Amazon Products and Services in this district.
- 20. Amazon is the world's largest online retailer and marketplace and provider of cloud computing services through AWS. Amazon distributes a variety of downloadable and streaming content through its Amazon Prime Video, Amazon Music, and Audible units. Amazon also produces retail consumer electronics including the Amazon Echo Products and the Kindle ereader.
- 21. On information and belief, Amazon is the second largest private employer in the United States. According to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Amazon has since

2010 invested more than \$109 billion in Virginia, including infrastructure and compensation to employees, and has created more than 36,000 jobs in the Commonwealth.¹

- 22. Amazon officially opened its "HQ2"—i.e. its second headquarters—in Arlington, Virginia and plans to add more than 25,000 new jobs to the more than 30,000 employees it already has in the Virginia and DC metro area.² Amazon's new headquarters are within this judicial district in the National Landing neighborhood of Arlington, Virginia. According to Amazon, the new Arlington campus will feature energy-efficient offices, neighborhood retail, and new public and green spaces including 1.1 acres of new public open space, designed for a variety of uses, including a dog park, recreation areas, farmers markets, and more to help realize the community's vision for a large, centrally-located park. *Id*.
- 23. On information and belief, certain features of the accused Amazon Products and Services (e.g., Amazon Alexa) are developed at Amazon's HQ2 in the Eastern District of Virginia. See https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/amazon-hiring-for-cloud-services-alexa-products-at-hq2-in-arlington-va-53798578; https://www.linkedin.com/posts/amazon_amazon-alexa-hq2-recruiting-short-1mov-activity-6862406229579456512-8Iu9">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vU2szgs2M7c.
- 24. On information and belief, the accused Amazon Products and Services are made, used, sold and offered for sale by Amazon throughout the Eastern District of Virginia.
- 25. On information and belief, Amazon customers located in the Eastern District of Virginia have obtained access to and used the accused Amazon Products and Services while located in the Eastern District of Virginia.

¹ See https://www.vedp.org/press-release/2023-09/amazon-virginiabeach.

² See https://www.aboutamazon.com/workplace/corporate-offices.

26. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Amazon because, inter alia, Amazon, on information and belief: (1) has committed acts of patent infringement in this Eastern District of Virginia; (2) maintains a regular and established place of business, namely its HQ2 in Arlington, within the Eastern District of Virginia; (3) has substantial, continuous, and systematic contacts with this Commonwealth and the Eastern District of Virginia; (4) owns, manages, and operates facilities in this Commonwealth and the Eastern District of Virginia; (5) enjoys substantial income from its operations and sales in this Commonwealth and the Eastern District of Virginia; (6) employs Virginia residents in this Commonwealth and the Eastern District of Virginia, and (7) solicits business using the Amazon Products and Services in this Commonwealth and the Eastern District of Virginia.

27. On April 9, 2020, this Court held,

It must be said that Amazon is nothing if not ubiquitous in the United States. Furthermore, after considering 238 cities, Amazon chose Arlington in the Eastern District of Virginia as the location for its HQ2 and will invest \$2.5 billion and 25,000 jobs in the undertaking. As such, Amazon cannot in good faith represent to the Court that E.D. Va. is an undesirable or inconvenient location to operate and do business. Litigating should not be an additional significant strain.

Maglula, Ltd. v. Amazon.com, Inc., No. 1:19-cv-01570, ECF No. 52 at 32-33 (E.D. Va. Apr. 9, 2020).

- 28. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and/or 1400(b), at least because Amazon has committed acts of infringement in this judicial district, and Amazon has regular and established places of business in this judicial district. Venue is also proper for the reasons set forth by this Court in its *Maglula* decision. *See* 1:19-cv-01570 (E.D. Va. Apr. 9, 2020), D.I. 52.
- 29. In fact, Amazon has already admitted that venue is proper in this District. In *Amazon.com, Inc. v. WDC Holdings LLC*, No. 1:20-cv-484, ECF No. 1, ¶26 (E.D. Va. Apr. 27,

2020), Amazon argued that venue in this district was proper because "it is a district in which Plaintiff [Amazon] maintains headquarters and/or substantial business operations…"

THE ASSERTED PATENTS

U.S. Patent No. 11,069,337

- 30. On July 20, 2021, the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") duly and legally issued United States Patent No. 11,069,337 ("the '337 patent") entitled "Voice-Content Control Device, Voice-Content Control Method, and Non-Transitory Storage Medium" to inventor Tatsumi Naganuma.
 - 31. The '337 patent is presumed valid under 35 U.S.C. § 282.
 - 32. SoundClear owns all rights, title, and interest in the '337 patent.
- 33. SoundClear has not granted Amazon an approval, an authorization, or a license to the rights under the '337 patent.
- 34. The '337 patent relates to, among other things, a voice-content control device and method, that, "classif[ies] [an] ... acquired voice as either one of a first voice and a second voice" and "adjust[s] the sound volume of voice data" based on the classification of the acquired voice. '337 patent, Col. 19, lines 26-27, Col. 20 lines 4-9; *see also, e.g., id.*, Col. 1, line 66 through Col. 2 line 11.
- 35. The method "calculat[es] a distance between a user and a voice-content control device" and "analyz[es] the acquired voice ... based on the distance." *Id.*, Col. 19, lines 23-28; *see also*, *e.g.*, *id.*, Col. 1, line 66 through Col. 2 line 11.
- 36. The manner of voice-content control allows for the "influence of the output voice to people other than the user ... to be suppressed, and the content of the output voice to the user ... to be made adequately understandable." *Id.*, Col. 1, lines 39-42.

37.	According to Amazon	's current Director of Audio	Technology, Philip Hilmes

U.S. Patent No. 11,244,675

- 38. On February 8, 2022, the USPTO duly and legally issued United States Patent No. 11,244,675 ("the '675 patent") entitled "Word Replacement in Output Generation for Detected Intent by Voice Classification" to inventor Tatsumi Naganuma.
 - 39. The '675 patent is presumed valid under 35 U.S.C. § 282.
 - 40. SoundClear owns all rights, title, and interest in the '675 patent.
- 41. SoundClear has not granted Amazon an approval, an authorization, or a license to the rights under the '675 patent.
- 42. The '675 patent relates to, among other things, an output-content control device and method, that, "acquir[es] a voice spoken by a user" and "classif[ies] the voice into either a first voice or a second voice" and generating output sentences with different information based on the classification of the acquired voice. '675 patent, Col. 22, lines 9-12 and 20-28; *see also*, *e.g.*, *id.*, Col. 1, line 62 through Col. 2 line 8.
- 43. The method "calculat[es] a distance between the user and an output-content control device by a proximity sensor" and "classif[ies] the acquired voice ... based on the calculated distance." *Id.*, Col. 22, lines 10-13; *see also*, *e.g.*, *id.*, Col. 1, line 63 through Col. 2 line 8.

- 44. This manner of output-content control allows for "a content of notification in response to an inquiry of a user difficult to be understood by people other than the user when the content of the notification is output." *Id.*, Col. 1, lines 35-37.
 - 45. According to Amazon's current Director of Audio Technology, Philip Hilmes,

U.S. Patent No. 9,223,487

- 46. On December 29, 2015, the USPTO duly and legally issued United States Patent No. 9,223,487³ ("the '487 patent") entitled "Electronic Apparatus, Method of Controlling the Same, and Related Computer Program" to inventor Yoshie Maeda.
 - 47. The '487 patent is presumed valid under 35 U.S.C. § 282.
 - 48. SoundClear owns all rights, title, and interest in the '487 patent.
- 49. SoundClear has not granted Amazon an approval, an authorization, or a license to the rights under the '487 patent.
- 50. The '487 patent relates to, among other things, an electronic apparatus and method of controlling an electronic apparatus using "a touch panel superposed on the display and acquiring positions of the user's touches to the touch panel as touch positions." '487 patent, Col. 23, lines 52-54; *see also, e.g., id.*, Col. 4, lines 44-62.

On November 8, 2024, the Court in this case found claim 1 of the '487 patent invalid under 35 U.S.C. § 101. *See* Dkt. 63. SoundClear reserves the right to appeal that dismissal upon final judgment.

- 51. The method determines "whether or not the calculated distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time," and sets a "rectangular area and select[s] the object or objects contained in the rectangular area in cases where ... the distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time, the first angle is smaller than the prescribed angle, and the second angle is smaller than the prescribed angle." *Id.*, Col. 23, lines 59-61; Col. 24, lines 21-27; *see also*, *e.g.*, *id.*, Col. 4, lines 44-62.
- 52. This manner of controlling an electronic apparatus "allow[s] a user to give a command for a process by easy operation." *Id.*, Col. 5, lines 20-21.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTIONS

- 53. These patents have been generated by the R&D engineers of a major audio processing product powerhouse, namely JVC, now known as JVC Kenwood ("JVCK").
- 54. JVCK is well known for producing quality, leading-edge audio and associated products and has a long and esteemed history in doing so.
- 55. The Patents-in-Suit were developed within the R&D department of JVCK, which consisted of many thousands of professional engineers spread over a number of R&D facilities.
- 56. Over the years, JVCK employed the host of audio technologies that it developed to bring forward an array of leading-edge products to market.
- 57. JVCK typically invested \$260m in R&D per year to develop commercially viable technologies capable of generating substantial revenues.
- 58. JVCK has, for various reasons, realigned its technology focus over recent years, which has led the company to divest a number of patents it developed.
- 59. SoundClear has acquired these patents and has worked to identify companies that it believes are utilizing the technologies and profiting from the claimed inventions.

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

Infringing Conduct

	60.	The signal processing in the Amazon Products and Services	
		. Some of the signals output	ut
from tl	he devic	e speaker is also picked up again by the device microphones. The following	
proces	ses	·	

Ex. 4 at 217:11-220:9.

61. The following image exemplifies, at a high level, they type of path signals follow in the accused devices and services—even though questions remain as to whether some blocks shown are not present in all Amazon accused products or others not shown are present:

2. THE PROPOSED SYSTEM AND RECONFIGURABLE FILTERBANK ALGORITHM

Figure 1 illustrates the proposed reconfigurable volumedependent MBDP scheme, which is integrated with an AEC system. The HPF, RES, NR, and AGC denote acronyms for high-pass filter, residual echo suppression, noise reduction, and automatic gain control, respectively. Their algorithmic details can be found in our previous works [2, 3, 9].

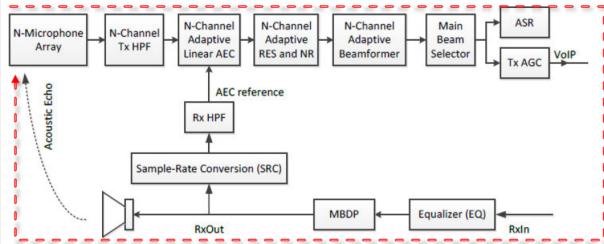
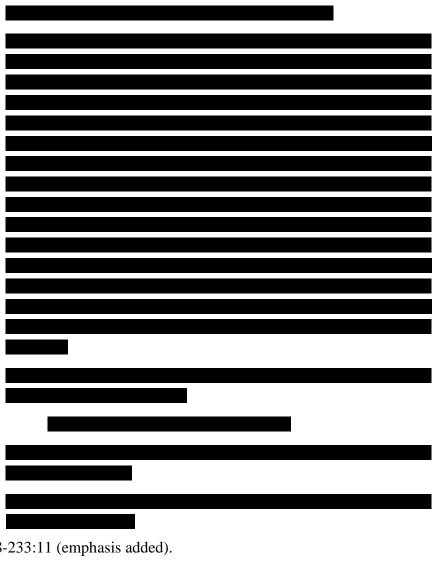


Figure 1: The proposed MBDP scheme integrated with AEC system.

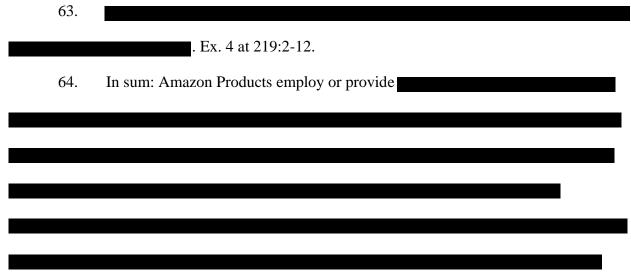
See https://assets.amazon.science/04/1f/c067c86047b8808d35458ae709e2/reconfigurablemultitask-audio-dynamics-processing-scheme.pdf (annotated); see also Ex. 4 at 230:4-231:17

62. Even if signals proceeding through Amazon Echo Products are not " "," the effects of the processing blocks still affect one another:





Ex. 4 at 231:18-233:11 (emphasis added).



. See Ex. 4 at 219:2-220:8, 230:7-

233:11, 245:8-246:16.

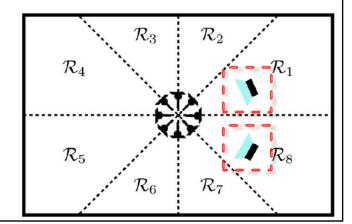
Testing of Accused Products

65. By way of specific, non-limiting example, Amazon Products also incorporate testing Amazon has conducted on additional or future versions of the above-listed products and functionality that might be used in additional or future products. *See, e.g.*, https://www.amazon.science/blog/locating-multiple-sound-sources-from-raw-audio ("During testing, we first detect the active coarse regions whose probabilities are above a certain threshold. The fine localization outputs for these active regions are considered to be the locations of each active source."); Ex. 4 at 146:21-147:5; 228:3-16; and https://www.amazon.science/blog/signal-processor-improves-echos-bass-response-loudness-and-speech-recognition-accuracy ("We conducted extensive listening tests") . That testing includes voice-controlled devices determine distance:

- normalized Euclidean distance between the source and the center of the microphone array;
- normalized azimuthal angle of the source with respect to the horizontal line passing through the center of the array.

The distance and angle are normalized using the minimum and maximum possible distances and angles for each sector.

This design circumvents the permutation problem. Each of the coarse regions ($R_1 - R_8$) has a designated set of nodes in the network's output layer. Hence there is no



<u>https://www.amazon.science/blog/locating-multiple-sound-sources-from-raw-audio</u> (annotated in red-dashed lines).

https://assets.amazon.science/da/c2/71f5f9fa49f585a4616e49d52749/sir-beam-selector-for-amazon-echo-devices-audio-front-end.pdf; Ex. 4 at 234:17-236:20.

The testing also includes use of an SIR beam selector.

Other Infringing Actions

66.

- 67. Each Defendant is a direct infringer. Defendants individually and collectively: (i) make, use, sell, offer to sell, sell access to, offer to sell to access to, import, and/or market the Amazon Products and Services; (ii) make, use, sell, offer to sell, import, and/or market services/products which use the accused products; (iii) perform the accused methods (e.g., for users and via internal and third-party testing); and (iv) provide developer kits, SDKs, or other settings or customization options (individually and collectively, "Customization").
- 68. To the extent that Defendant asserts that any method step is not performed or attributable to them, that step is also performed or controlled by either (1) users, or one or more Defendants, operating the accused products and/or services ("end-users") or other (2) persons developing Customizations ("developers") (individually and collectively, "users"). The role of such users is to access, use, customize, communicate with, share information associated with, or operate (individually, and collectively, "use") the accused products and/or services, such that each method step is performed or that each limitation becomes present. The role of those developing Customizations is to operate the accused products and/or services with the addition of functionality provided by Customizations. Each of the foregoing users operate or modify the accused products and/or services as intended by each Defendant based upon manuals provided by Defendants (e.g., SDKs or APIs), other information provided by Defendants, and pursuant to license agreements associated with the accused products and/or services.

- 69. Defendants control many, if not all, aspects of the accused products and/or services, including the servers and cloud functionality with which the accused products and/or services communicate, and software updates.
- 70. Defendants encouraged and continue to encourage end-users by advertising, selling, licensing, and making available any accused products and/or services with instructions on using it (including, for example, in manuals, in online forums, in online videos and other support, technical support and other customer service, detailed instructions, and troubleshooting). No Defendant ever provided any alternative use that could not infringe.
- 71. Defendants encouraged and continue to encourage developers to use and develop Customizations that would infringe without any efforts to preclude practicing the asserted claims. Further, each Defendant provided and continues to provide to users components of the claimed inventions, or apparatuses for use in practicing a patented process, that constitute a material part of the inventions (e.g., the functionality described above and below, and access to that functionality).
- 72. Each Defendant knew, and still knows, that such components and functionality have no substantial non-infringing uses (e.g., they are used only in connection with the products and services of which they are a part or with which they interact), and that each component or functionality is a material part of the claimed inventions (e.g., based upon the allegations made in the Complaint and in this Action).
- 73. Further, the following actions (see ¶74-80 below), individually or collectively constitute infringing conduct by Defendants (e.g., by Defendants themselves, through direction or control of users and the accused products and/or services functionality, joint enterprise with users, or via vicarious liability).

- All limitations of the asserted claims are automatically performed by equipment 74. or functions controlled, individually or collectively, by Defendants. The limitations practiced by any accused products and/or services do not operate without such continuous direct control.
- 75. Defendants profit from a user's use of the accused products and/or services and have the right (legally or contractually) and the ability (by modifying or disabling source code associated with any accused products and/or services functionality; terminating any user, license, or other applicable agreement; or revoking login or other access credentials) to stop or limit the infringement.
- 76. Defendants each act through an agent (applying traditional agency principles) or via contract with users to use any accused products and/or services, including Customizations.
- 77. Defendants condition participation in one or more activities or receipt of one or more benefits (e.g., features of any accused products and/or services that are only available and operational when the recited limitations are performed) upon performance of one or more steps. Defendants also establish the manner and timing of that performance (e.g., controlling how any accused products and/or services operate, including how it responds to input from users, including in connection with Customizations as well as imposing requirements on users to access and use any accused products and/or services (e.g., click through agreements), providing detailed instructions on how to use any accused products and/or services functions that practice the claims (e.g., in manuals, online forums, web pages, and technical support), and dedicating resources to help users resolve problems).
- 78. Defendants continuously update backend and frontend computer code that runs all aspects of any accused products and/or services. In other words, the benefits flowing to consumers are coextensive with the claim limitations. Thus, if users did not, or do not, use any accused products and/or services exactly as Defendants instruct and intend, they would lose the

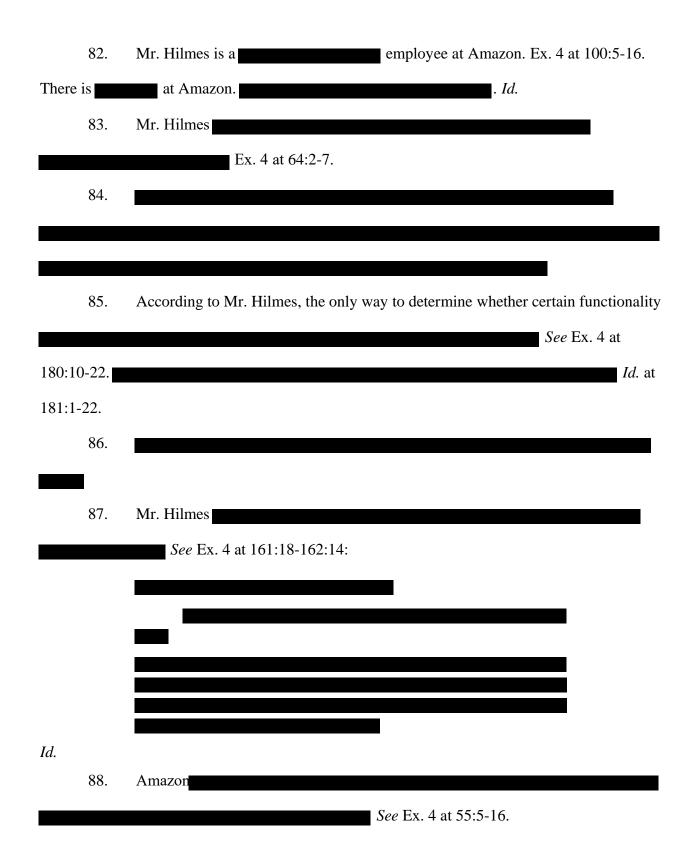
ability to use the claimed functionality and the value they expect when they pay Defendants for such use. Stated another way, the very activity in which Defendants and users seek to use any accused products and/or services is the very activity identified in the claim steps.

- 79. Defendants and users form a joint enterprise. They have (i) an agreement, express or implied; (ii) a common purpose (e.g., to use and share any accused products and/or services); (ii) a community of pecuniary interest (e.g., to make any accused products and/or services more well known or prominent among users such that, for example, it becomes entrenched in the market, and to improve the devices on which any accused products and/or services is used and other services in connection with which it is used, including Customizations); and an equal right to a voice in the direction of the enterprise, which gives an equal right of control (e.g., developers can cease using Customizations, users can cease using any accused products and/or services, and Defendants can modify or discontinue any accused products and/or services or related functionality).
- 80. Defendants put into service the accused products and/or services as a whole. It provides software to end users and others, and the cloud and server functionality is intimately and continuously involved in operating every aspect of any accused products and/or services. For example, any and all functions of software or applications on an end-user device (or via the Internet) are fully and constantly under Defendants control. Additionally, Defendants provide the accused products and/or services software and other functionality that is capable of performing all the limitations of the recited claims. *See, e.g.*,

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=201399130.

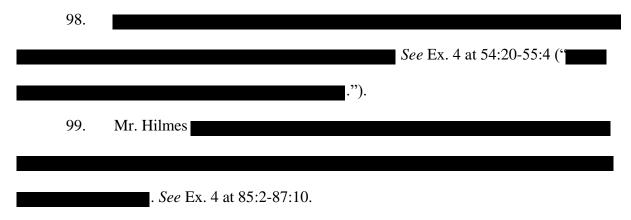
Amazon Testimony Regarding Lack of Information

81. Amazon lacks information related to the technical operation of the accused products.



	89.	It is not clear Ex. 4 at
50:6-5	51:22.	
	90.	The software that runs on the Accused Products (e.g., that runs Alexa)
	See Ex	x. 4 at 56:16-58:16.
		Id.
	91.	For example, Hr. Hilmes
		See Ex. 4 at 168:3-11.
		<i>Id.</i> at 168:12-15.
	92.	Mr. Hilmes
		Ex. 4 at 178:16-179:2.
		See id. at 182:9-183:1 (
).
	93.	In fact, Mr. Hilmes
	94.	Mr. Hilmes
		See Ex. 4 at 16:163:11-22."
		See https://developer.amazon.com/en-
<u>US/bl</u>	ogs/alex	a/post/042be85c-5a62-4c55-a18d-d7a82cf394df/esp-moves-to-the-cloud-for-alexa-
enable	ed-devic	e ("The technology determines which device is closest to the customer, and helps
Alexa	respond	I through that device."); See Ex. 4 at 211:4-212:21.

95. Mr. Hilmes
$.\ \underline{https://assets.amazon.science/52/d7/50cad18249579b6d307e49c65f52/scipub-1256.pdf;}$
Ex. 4 at 172:11-1723:19 and 175:4-8 ("""").
96. Mr. Hilmes
See https://www.amazon.science/latest-news/echo-show-10-the-
<u>intersection-of-design-and-science</u> , p. 5 ("Hedau and her team helped deliver the answer in the
form of bounding boxes and Kalman filtering, an algorithm that provides estimates of some
unknown variables given the measurements observed over time. That approach allows the device
to, essentially, make <u>informed guesses about a user's movement</u> ." (emphasis added)); see Ex. 4 a
202:13-203:3 ("
"). Mr. Hilmes
. See Ex. 4 at 60:17-62:5.
97. In one instance, Mr. Hilmes
Ex.
4 at 211:19-212:4. But nonetheless, "
"Id. (emphasis added). Even someone at Mr. Hilmes level as Director of Audio
Technology :
Id. at 212:5-10, 259:15-21 ("
.").



100. When it comes to the accused products, a full understanding of the operation is necessary to determine whether certain functionality exists. Mr. Hilmes, by his own admission,

COUNT I - Infringement of the '337 patent

- 101. SoundClear repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth here, the allegations of the preceding paragraphs above.
- 102. On information and belief, Defendants (or those acting on their behalf) make, use, sell, sell access to, import, offer to sell and/or offer to sell access to the Amazon Products and Services in the United States that infringe (literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least claim 4 of the '337 patent.
- 103. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a voice-content control method (*e.g.*, a method for receiving and processing voice sound signals). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services receive voice inputs through a microphone, is connected to Alexa Voice Service (AVS), and receives information from AVS that relays to the user via its speaker. *See* https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/alexa/devices/alexa-built-in.

104.	On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and
Services is, en	mploys, or provides a method t
	. See Ex. 4 at 230:7-233:11 (
	")

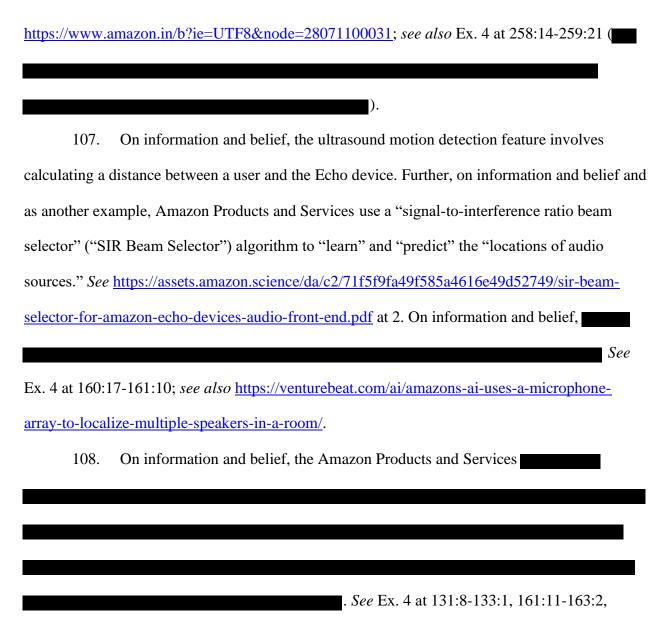
105. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method voice-content control method comprising calculating a distance (*e.g.*, using ultrasound motion detection, adaptive content, and/or an algorithm for detecting the location of the voice audio source (*e.g.*, "SIR beam selection")) between a user (*e.g.*, a person within range of an Echo device) and a content control device (*e.g.*, an Echo device). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use "adaptive content" to "detect the proximity of a person." *See* https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=TBmEUIW1U7xwcgPvdl. On information and belief, the adaptive content feature involves calculating a distance between a user and the Echo device.

106. On information and belief,

See Ex. 4 at 256:7-257:7.

Further, on information and belief and as another example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use "ultrasound motion detection" to "detect motion in a room." See

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GSR22RYDWS3KBUYW;



164:16-165:1, 176:4-179:2. By employing technologies such as sound source localization, Amazon Products and Services normalize the distance between the user and the sensor array within the voice-content control device. *See* https://www.amazon.science/blog/locating-multiple-sound-sources-from-raw-audio; Ex. 4 at 142:21-143:20, 150:22-154:3, 156:14-157:12.

109. On information and belief, Computer Vision singularly or in combination with Sound Source Localization uses or depends on a calculated distance to determine if a user is within its range of motion. *See* https://www.amazon.science/blog/the-science-behind-echo-show-

10; see also Ex. 4 at 186:13-187:7. Computer Vision additionally employs spatiotemporal filtering to suppress ephemeral false positives caused by camera motion and blur, where "spatiotemporal" inherently accounts for changes in both spatial dimensions and time, implicating the calculation of distance between the user and the voice-content control device. See https://www.amazon.science/blog/the-science-behind-echo-show-10; see also Ex. 4 at 184:15-185:21.

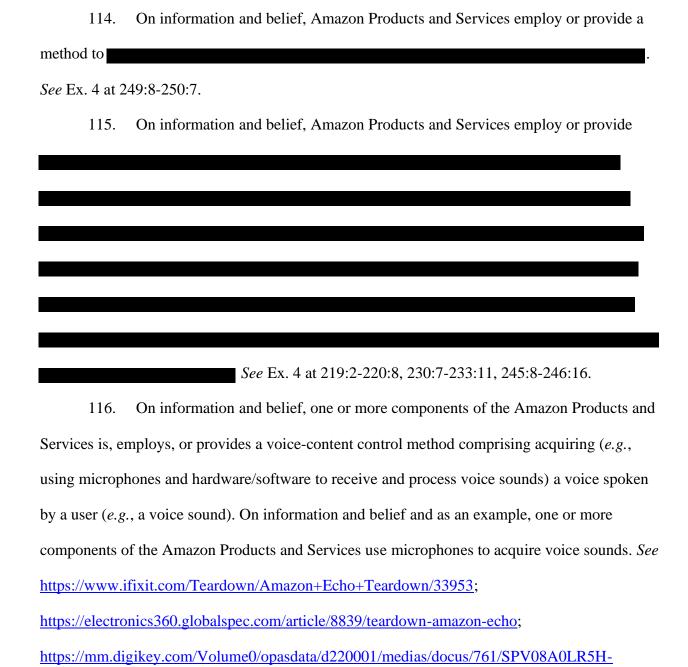
- 110. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ Kalman filtering algorithms, Sound Source Localization, Computer Vision, or a combination thereof to estimate distance between a user and a voice-content control device. See https://www.amazon.science/latest-news/echo-show-10-the-intersection-of-design-and-science; see also Ex. 4 at 204:18-206:19.
- 111. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ or provide a method to

. See Ex. 4 at 167:7-168:11; see also id., 161:18-163:2.

- 112. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ or provide a method to determine "the position of the user in relation to the device" using the "APL Entity-Sensing Extension." See https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/docs/alexa/alexa-presentationlanguage/apl-ext-entity-sensing.html; see also Ex. 4 at 257:17-258:4.
 - 113. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services

See Ex. 4 at 209:1-10; see

https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/blogs/alexa/post/042be85c-5a62-4c55-a18dd7a82cf394df/esp-moves-to-the-cloud-for-alexa-enabled-device.



1_DS.pdf. On information and belief, these microphones are omnidirectional and include an acoustic sensor, a low noise input buffer, and an output amplifier. *See*https://www.ifixit.com/Teardown/Amazon+Echo+Teardown/33953. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services also use

additional hardware components (e.g., a TLV320ADC3101 microcontroller) to acquire voice

sounds. See https://www.ti.com/product/TLV320ADC3101. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services also use additional software components (e.g., software associated with Alexa and/or Alexa Voice Service) to acquire voice sounds. See https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/alexa;

https://developer.amazon.com/ja-JP/docs/alexa/avs-device-sdk/overview.html.

117. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a voice-content control method comprising analyzing the acquired voice (*e.g.*, the signal representing the voice sound) to classify the acquired voice as either one of a first voice (*e.g.*, the voice of a particular first person, or a near/close voice) and a second voice (*e.g.*, the voice of a particular second person, or a far/distant voice) based on the distance between the user and the voice-content control device. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use Amazon Alexa to classify voices based on a voice profile that generates a VoiceID associated with individual users. *See*

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GYCXKY2AB2QWZT2X.

On information and belief, the voice profiles ensure personalised results such as a user's playlist, calendar, etc. when the user's voice is detected. *See id.* Further, on information and belief and as another example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services classify a voice signal as a first voice (near) or a second voice (far) using, *e.g.*, the adaptive content feature or the SIR beam selection feature. *See*

https://assets.amazon.science/da/c2/71f5f9fa49f585a4616e49d52749/sir-beam-selector-for-amazon-echo-devices-audio-front-end.pdf. On information and belief, the Amazon Products and Services use that information to process the voice sounds accordingly (*e.g.*, to adjust the display/appearance of information presented in response to the acquired voice signal). In another

example, on information and belief, based on the distance calculated using the SIR beam selection feature (e.g., in determining the location of the voice source and the amount of interference and noise acquired), the Amazon Products and Services determine that the acquired voice sound is originating from a user that is near or far from device. As such, on information and belief, the Amazon Products and Services use that information to process the voice sounds accordingly (e.g., to apply enhanced additional noise cancelation/suppression for voice signals that originate further away from the device). On information and belief, in any one of the examples above, the classification of the acquired voice signal as a first voice or a second voice is based on the distance between the user and the voice-content control device using, e.g., ultrasound motion detection, adaptive content, and/or SIR beam selection.

- Services is, employs, or provides a voice-content control method comprising analyzing the acquired voice to execute processing intended by the user (e.g., processing audio signals representing voice sounds and transcribing them into text). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use on-board processing (e.g., a process executing unit) to analyze the speech input provided by the user. See https://www.amazon.science/blog/on-device-speech-processing-makes-alexa-faster-lower-bandwidth; https://www.amazon.science/24/c2/e90a7a64473cb630814bb369f181/query-rewriting-using-markov-chain-collaborative-filtering.pdf. On information and belief, the on-board processor converts the user's speech input into text and the text is sent to Amazon cloud for further processing. See id.
- 119. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a voice-content control method comprising generating, based

on content of the executed processing, output sentence (*e.g.*, information provided by the Echo device in response to the user voice signal acquired by Echo device) that is a text data for a voice to be output to the user. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services after analyzing the user's voice input by the on-board processor and the Amazon cloud, the Amazon Echo Products output a response that is presented as a text string which can be further converted into an audio signal using a Text-To-Speech (TTS) unit and audibly output to the user through the Echo device. *See*https://assets.amazon.science/24/c2/e90a7a64473cb630814bb369f181/query-rewriting-using-markov-chain-collaborative-filtering.pdf;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1yT_4xcglY&t=220s.

120. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a voice-content control method comprising adjusting (e.g., using Adaptive Volume) a sound volume of voice data obtained by converting the output sentence thereinto. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use an Adaptive Volume feature that allows the automatic adjustment of volume of Alexa's voice response according to the ambient noise. See https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-adaptive-volume-on-alexa-5205636; https://www.cnet.com/home/smart-home/how-to-use-alexa-adaptive-volume-on-your-amazon-echo/.

121. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services adapt the volume of sound output from the devices. *See, e.g.*,

https://www.theverge.com/2021/8/31/22651304/amazon-alexa-adaptive-volume-noisy-loud-environments ("According to the company, the mode is meant to make sure that you can still hear Alexa's responses over any background noise (like the sound of a dishwasher, people

talking, or music playing on another device."); see also Ex. 4 at 245:8-247:19 (emphasis added). *Id.* (emphasis added). On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services products 122. . See Ex. 4 at 225:10-227:3; 231:3-17 (" ."). In the accused products, the " Id. at 227:14-229:11. The purpose is to " ." *Id*. On information and belief, one or more of the Amazon Products and Services is, 123. employs, or provides a voice-content control method comprising wherein at the generating, a first output sentence (e.g., a first set of information provided by the Echo device in response to the user voice signal acquired by the Echo device) is generated as the output sentence when the

acquired voice has been classified as the first voice, and a second output sentence (e.g., a second

set of information provided by the Echo device in response to the user voice signal acquired by Echo device) is generated as the output sentence in which a part of information included in the first output sentence is omitted when the acquired voice has been classified as the second voice (e.g., the second set of information includes less or different information than the first set). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services display and/or audibly present different information depending on whether an acquired voice has been classified as one that corresponds to one particular user or another. See https://www.amazon.in/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GYCXKY2AB2QWZT2X; https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=TBmEUIW1U7xwcgPvdl. On information and belief, Amazon Alexa generates personalized voice and/or visual responses using Voice ID and Alexa (using Voice ID) recognizes a user by their voice and provides them with personalized results (e.g., their calendar schedule, music playlist etc.). See id. On information and belief and as another example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services display more or less information depending on whether an acquired voice has been classified as one that corresponds to a nearby/close user or a far/distant user (e.g., using Adaptive Content). On information and belief, the Amazon Products and Services can also provide a voice response with more or less information consistent with the more or less information that is visually displayed. See

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=TBmEUIW1U7xwcgPvdl.

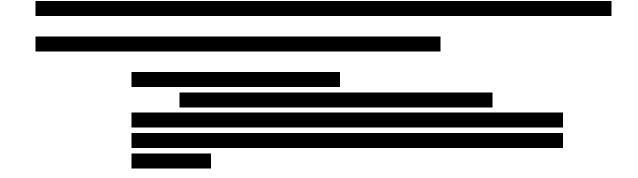
124. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services provides a voice-content control method comprising wherein at adjusting the sound volume of voice data, further adjusting the sound volume of voice data such that the sound volume of voice data obtained by converting the first output sentence thereinto differs (*e.g.*, is output at a higher/lower volume, or is output in a regular voice or a whisper voice) from the

sound volume of voice data obtained by converting the second output sentence thereinto. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services (using Adaptive Volume) automatically adjust the volume of Alexa's voice response.

See https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-adaptive-volume-on-alexa-5205636. On information and belief, if the acquired voice signal includes significant sound interference signals, the Amazon Products and Services can increase the volume of its response compared to the volume of its response if fewer interference signals were detected. See id. On information and belief and as another example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services, if the acquired voice signal is detected as a whisper compared to a normal voice, can adjust the volume/voice of its response to also be a whisper compared to the volume/voice of its response if a normal voice signal were detected. See https://www.cnet.com/home/smart-home/how-to-use-alexa-adaptive-volume-on-your-amazon-echo/.

125. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services adapt the volume of sound output from the devices. *See*, *e.g.*,

https://www.theverge.com/2021/8/31/22651304/amazon-alexa-adaptive-volume-noisy-loud-environments ("According to the company, the mode is meant to make sure that you can still hear Alexa's responses over any background noise (like the sound of a dishwasher, people talking, or music playing on another device."); see also Ex. 4 at 245:8-247:19 (emphasis added).



- 127. On information and belief, Amazon directly infringes at least claim 4 of the '337 patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) by making, using, selling, selling access to, importing, offering for sale, and/or offering to sell access to the Amazon Products and Services.
- 128. On information and belief, Amazon also indirectly infringes at least claim 4 of the '337 patent by actively inducing infringement under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b).
 - 129. Amazon has been on notice of the '337 patent at least since August 1, 2024.
- 130. On information and belief, Amazon intends/intended to induce patent infringement by third-party customers and users of the Amazon Products and Services and

has/had knowledge that its inducing acts cause/would cause infringement or is/was willfully

131. On information and belief, Amazon specifically intends and is aware that the normal and customary use of the accused products infringe the '337 patent. Amazon performs the acts that constitute induced infringement, and induce actual infringement, with knowledge of the '337 patent and with the knowledge that the induced acts constitute infringement. For example, Amazon provides the infringing Amazon Products and Services, and further provides documentation and training materials that cause customers and end users of the Amazon Products and Services to use the products in a manner that directly infringe one or more claims of the '337 patent. By providing instruction and training to customers and end users on how to use the Amazon Products and Services in a manner that directly infringes one or more claims of the '337 patent, including at least claim 4, Amazon specifically intends to induce infringement of the '337 patent. On information and belief, Amazon engages in such inducement (e.g., through Amazon user manuals, product support, marketing materials, and training materials to actively induce the users of the Amazon Products and Services to infringe the '337 patent) to promote the sales of the Amazon Products and Services. Accordingly, Amazon has induced and continues to induce users of the Amazon Products and Services to use the Amazon Products and Services in their ordinary and customary way to infringe the '337 patent, knowing that such use constitutes infringement of the '337 patent.

blind to the possibility that its inducing acts cause/would cause infringement.

132. Defendants' infringement has damaged SoundClear and caused / continues to cause it to suffer irreparable harm and damages.

COUNT II - Infringement of the '675 patent

133. SoundClear repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth here, the allegations of the preceding paragraphs above.

least claim 6 of the '675 patent.

- 134. On information and belief, Defendants (or those acting on their behalf) make, use, sell, sell access to, import, offer to sell and/or offer to sell access to the Amazon Products and Services in the United States that infringes (literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents) at
- 135. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method (*e.g.*, a method for receiving and processing voice sound signals). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services receive voice inputs through a microphone, is connected to Alexa Voice Service (AVS), and receives information from AVS that relays to the user via its speaker. *See* https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/alexa/devices/alexa-built-in.
- 136. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method comprising acquiring (*e.g.*, using microphones and hardware/software to receive and process voice sounds) a voice spoken by a user (*e.g.*, a voice sound). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use microphones to acquire voice sounds. *See* https://www.ifixit.com/Teardown/Amazon+Echo+Teardown/33953;

https://electronics360.globalspec.com/article/8839/teardown-amazon-echo;

https://mm.digikey.com/Volume0/opasdata/d220001/medias/docus/761/SPV08A0LR5H-

<u>1_DS.pdf</u>. On information and belief, these microphones are omnidirectional and include an acoustic sensor, a low noise input buffer, and an output amplifier. *See*

https://www.ifixit.com/Teardown/Amazon+Echo+Teardown/33953. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services also use additional hardware components (e.g., a TLV320ADC3101 microcontroller) to acquire voice

sounds. *See* https://www.ti.com/product/TLV320ADC3101. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services also use additional software components (e.g., software associated with Alexa and/or Alexa Voice Service) to acquire voice sounds. *See* https://developer.amazon.com/ja-JP/docs/alexa/avs-device-sdk/overview.html.

137. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method to analyze and classify acquired voices using, for example, technologies such as Voice ID. *See* Ex. 4 at 230:7-233:11 (

Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method comprising calculating a distance (*e.g.*, using ultrasound motion detection, adaptive content, and/or an algorithm for detecting the location of the voice audio source (*e.g.*, "SIR beam selection")) between the user (*e.g.*, a person within range of an Echo device) and an output-content control device (*e.g.*, an Echo device) by a proximity sensor (*e.g.*, hardware/software associated with ultrasound motion detection, adaptive content, and/or an algorithm for detecting the location of voice audio sources) to classify the voice (*e.g.*, the signal representing the voice sound) into either a first voice (*e.g.*, the voice of a particular first person, or a near/close voice) or a second voice (*e.g.*, the voice of a particular second person, or a far/distant voice) based on the calculated distance. On information and belief and as an example, one or more of the Amazon Products and Services use "adaptive

content" to "detect the proximity of a person." See https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=TBmEUIW1U7xwcgPvdl. On information and belief, the adaptive content feature involves calculating a distance between a user and the Echo device. See id. See Ex. 4 at 256:7-257:7. Further, on information and belief and as another example, one or more 139. components of the Amazon Products and Services use "ultrasound motion detection" to "detect motion in a room." See https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GSR22RYDWS3KBUYW; https://www.amazon.in/b?ie=UTF8&node=28071100031; see Ex. 4 at 258:14-259:21 (). On information and belief, the ultrasound motion detection feature involves calculating a distance between a user and the Echo device. Further on information and belief and as another example, Amazon Products and Services use a "signal-to-interference ratio beam selector" ("SIR Beam Selector") algorithm to "learn" and "predict" the "locations of audio sources." See https://assets.amazon.science/da/c2/71f5f9fa49f585a4616e49d52749/sir-beam-selector-foramazon-echo-devices-audio-front-end.pdf at 2. On information and belief, . *See* Ex. 4 at 160:17-161:10; see https://venturebeat.com/ai/amazons-ai-uses-a-microphone-array-to-localizemultiple-speakers-in-a-room/. Further, on information and belief, Amazon Products and Services analyze an acquired voice signal and classify it as a first voice or second voice; as an example, Echo Products (using Amazon Alexa) are capable of classifying voices based on a voice profile

that generates a Voice ID associated with individual users and ensures personalized results when

the user's voice is detected. See

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GYCXKY2AB2QWZT2X.

On information and belief, the Amazon Products and Services 140.

See Ex. 4 at 131:8-133:1, 161:11-163:2,

164:16-165:1, 176:4-179:2. By employing technologies such as sound source localization, Amazon Products and Services normalize the distance between the user and the sensor array within the output-content control device. See https://www.amazon.science/blog/locatingmultiple-sound-sources-from-raw-audio; Ex. 4 at 142:21-143:20, 150:22-154:3, 156:14-157:12. Computer Vision singularly or in combination with Sound Source Localization uses or depends on a calculated distance to determine if a user is within its range of motion. See https://www.amazon.science/blog/the-science-behind-echo-show-10; see also Ex. 4 at 186:13-187:7. Computer Vision additionally employs spatiotemporal filtering to suppress ephemeral false positives caused by camera motion and blur, where "spatiotemporal" inherently accounts for changes in both spatial dimensions and time, implicating the calculation of distance between the user and the output-content control device. See https://www.amazon.science/blog/thescience-behind-echo-show-10; see also Ex. 4 at 184:15-185:21.

141. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ Kalman filtering algorithms, Sound Source Localization, Computer Vision, or a combination thereof to estimate distance between a user and a output-content control device. See https://www.amazon.science/latest-news/echo-show-10-the-intersection-of-design-and-science; see also Ex. 4 at 204:18-206:19.

142. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services
. See Ex. 4 at 167:7-168:11; see also id., 161:18-163:2.
143. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ or provide a
method to determine "the position of the user in relation to the device" using the "APL Entity-
Sensing Extension." See https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/docs/alexa/alexa-presentation-
language/apl-ext-entity-sensing.html; see also Ex. 4 at 257:17-258:4.
144. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services
See Ex. 4 at 209:1-10; see also
https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/blogs/alexa/post/042be85c-5a62-4c55-a18d-
d7a82cf394df/esp-moves-to-the-cloud-for-alexa-enabled-device.
145. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ or provide a
method to
See Ex. 4 at 249:8-250:7.
146. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services employ or provide
See Ex. 4 at 219:2-220:8, 230:7-233:11, 245:8-246:16

147. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method comprising analyzing the acquired voice (e.g., the signal representing the voice sound) to detect intention information (e.g., the target of the voice request/query) indicating what kind of information is wished to be acquired by the user (e.g., processing audio signals representing voice sounds, transcribing them into text, and analyzing the text to determine the target of the voice request/query). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services use on-board processing to analyze the speech input provided by the user. See https://www.amazon.science/blog/on-device-speech-processing-makes-alexa-faster-lowerbandwidth; https://www.amazon.in/b?ie=UTF8&node=28071107031; https://assets.amazon.science/24/c2/e90a7a64473cb630814bb369f181/query-rewriting-usingmarkov-chain-collaborative-filtering.pdf. Further, on information and belief and as an example, the on-board processor converts the user's speech input into text and the text is sent to Amazon cloud for further processing. See id. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services, Amazon Alexa's spoken language understanding system utilizes Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) and Natural Language Understanding (NLU) units to recognize and understand speech. On information and belief, the ASR recognizes the user's speech and converts it into text while the NLU unit interprets the

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1yT 4xcglY&t=220s;

context of the user's requested intent to provide the relevant results. See

https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/devices/how-our-scientists-are-making-alexa-smarter;
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1yT_4xcglY&t=707s; https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/docs/alexa/custom-skills/calendar-intents.html.

Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method comprising acquiring notification information which includes content information (*e.g.*, information provided by the Echo device in response to the user voice signal acquired by Echo device) as a content of information to be notified to the user based on the intention information. On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services, after analyzing the user's voice input by the on-board processor and the Amazon cloud, use Amazon Alexa to obtain the relevant output for the user's request, which is output content information that is provided to the user via a display or text-to-speech process which consequently notifies the user about the information. *See*

https://assets.amazon.science/24/c2/e90a7a64473cb630814bb369f181/query-rewriting-using-markov-chain-collaborative-filtering.pdf;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1yT_4xcglY&t=220s;

https://www.amazon.in/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=G66R7GDSL86KNFUN; https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/docs/alexa/custom-skills/calendar-intents.html.

149. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method comprising generating, when the voice is determined to be the first voice, a first output sentence (*e.g.*, a first set of information provided by the Echo device in response to the user voice signal acquired by Echo device) in which at least one word selected among words included in the content information of the notification information is replaced with another work (*e.g.*, filtering/customizing content information based on a particular user and/or the proximity of that user to the Echo device). On information and belief and as an example, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services display and/or audibly present different information depending on whether an acquired

https://www.amazon.in/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GYCXKY2AB2QWZT2X. On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Alexa generates personalized voice and/or visual responses using Voice ID, and recognizes a user by their voice to provide them with personalized results (e.g., their calendar schedule, music playlist, etc.). See id; see also https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GYCXKY2AB2QWZT2X; https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/docs/alexa/custom-skills/calendar-intents.html; https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=G3AJT9URG45M44HB.

Further, on information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services can display more or less information depending on whether an acquired voice has been classified as one that corresponds to a nearby/close user or a far/distant user (e.g., using Adaptive Content). On information and belief, the Amazon Products and Services can also provide a voice response with more or less information consistent with the more or less information that is visually displayed. See

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=TBmEUIW1U7xwcgPvdl.

Services is, employs, or provides an output-content control method comprising generating, when the voice is determined to be the second voice, a second output sentence (*e.g.*, a second set of information provided by the Echo device in response to the user voice signal acquired by Echo device) which includes all of the intention information and the content information (*e.g.*, unfiltered/non-customized content information based on a particular user and/or the proximity of that user to the Echo device). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services, in determining a user's status and/or proximity to the Echo device, can cause more/additional content information to be displayed and/or audibly transmitted. *See id.*; *see also*

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=GYCXKY2AB2QWZT2X;
https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/docs/alexa/custom-skills/calendar-intents.html;
https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=G3AJT9URG45M44HB;
https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=TBmEUlW1U7xwcgPvdl.

- 151. On information and belief, Amazon directly infringes at least claim 6 of the '675 patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) by making, using, selling, selling access to, importing, offering for sale, and/or offering to sell access to the Amazon Products and Services.
- 152. On information and belief, Amazon also indirectly infringes at least claim 6 of the '675 patent by actively inducing infringement under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b).
 - 153. Amazon has been on notice of the '675 patent at least since August 1, 2024.
- 154. On information and belief, Amazon intends/intended to induce patent infringement by third-party customers and users of the Amazon Products and Services and has/had knowledge that its inducing acts cause/would cause infringement or is/was willfully blind to the possibility that its inducing acts cause/would cause infringement.
- 155. On information and belief, Amazon specifically intends and is aware that the normal and customary use of the accused products infringes the '675 patent. Amazon performs the acts that constitute induced infringement, and induce actual infringement, with knowledge of the '675 patent and with the knowledge that the induced acts constitute infringement. For example, Amazon provides the infringing Amazon Products and Services, and further provides documentation and training materials that cause customers and end users of the Amazon Products and Services to use the products in a manner that directly infringe one or more claims of the '675 patent. By providing instruction and training to customers and end users on how to use the Amazon Products and Services in a manner that directly infringes one or more claims of the '675 patent, including at least claim 6, Amazon specifically intends to induce infringement of

the '675 patent. On information and belief, Amazon engages in such inducement (e.g., through Amazon user manuals, product support, marketing materials, and training materials to actively induce the users of the Amazon Products and Services to infringe the '675 patent) to promote the sales of the Amazon Products and Services. Accordingly, Amazon has induced and continues to induce users of the Amazon Products and Services to use the Amazon Products and Services in their ordinary and customary way to infringe the '675 patent, knowing that such use constitutes infringement of the '675 patent.

156. Defendants' infringement has damaged SoundClear and caused / continues to cause it to suffer irreparable harm and damages.

COUNT III - Infringement of the '487 patent

[Paragraphs 157 - 170 Re-Stated Solely to the Extent Required to Preserve Issues for Appeal]

- 157. SoundClear repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth here, the allegations of the preceding paragraphs above.
- 158. On information and belief, Defendants (or those acting on their behalf) make, use, sell, sell access to, import, offer to sell and/or offer to sell access to the Amazon Products and Services in the United States that infringes (literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least claim 11 of the '487 patent.
- 159. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus (*e.g.*, an Amazon Product), comprising several method steps. On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services perform a variety of display functions on a screen of the device. *See* <a href="https://www.amazon.com/b/?ie=UTF8&node=9818047011&tag=googhydr-20&hvadid=453973924207&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=18095407401951544&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=p&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9053018&hvtargid=kwd-

yQtOEAMYASAAEgIyA_D_BwE.

296991474210&ref=pd_sl_1kh9ribjzp_p&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI79mV9LuYhwMVo15HAR0E

- 160. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising indicating objects on a display (*e.g.*, displaying visual text, images, and representations of objects on an electronic touchscreen). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services include a digital screen for displaying images, information (including but not limited to time, temperature, weather forecast, calendar events), and icons for controlling the Amazon Products and Services and other linked products (including but not limited to accessing software applications), through the Amazon Product devices. *See*https://www.amazon.com/echo-show-10/dp/B07VHZ41L8.
- Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising detecting user's touches to a touch panel (*e.g.*, the touch-sensitive capability of touchscreen that correlates the location of a touch position relative to information, icons, objects, etc. being displayed) superposed on the display and acquiring (*e.g.*, determining) positions of the user's touches to the touch panel as touch positions (*e.g.*, location of a touch position relative to information, icons, objects, etc. being displayed). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services include a touchscreen that enables the device to detect when a user touches the touchscreen. *See* https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=21213730011; https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsm_htsmt?node=21341318011. Further, on information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services also acquire the positions of the user's touch(es) relative to the display/interface that indicates information and objects. *See id*; *see also*

https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsmt_htsm?node=21213730011 (stating "[t]o change the zoom level, pinch inward or outward with two fingers when the screen is magnified.").

162. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising deciding whether or not first and second touch positions are acquired by the detecting and acquiring step (*e.g.*, determining whether or not the touchscreen is being touched in two places and determining the positions of both those places). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services are capable of certain functionalities, but only when two touch positions are detected and acquired. *See*

https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=21213730011;

https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsm_htsmt?node=21341318011. On information and belief and as a further example, Amazon Products and Services must first decide whether or not first and second touch positions are acquired in order to perform functionalities such as "pan" or "zoom." *See id.* (explaining "[t]o pan to a part of the screen, drag two fingers across the screen ... [h]old your fingers slightly apart while panning," and "[t]o change the zoom level, pinch inward or outward with two fingers when the screen is magnified.").

Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising calculating a distance between the first and second touch positions (*e.g.*, determining the location on the display where the touchscreen is being touched relative to another location where the screen is simultaneously being touched). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services are capable of certain functionalities, but only when two touch positions are detected and acquired. *See* https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsm_htsmt?node=21341318011. On information and

belief and as a further example, Amazon Products and Services must first decide whether or not first and second touch positions are acquired in order to perform functionalities such as "pan" or "zoom." *See id.* (explaining "[t]o pan to a part of the screen, drag two fingers across the screen ... [h]old your fingers slightly apart while panning," and "[t]o change the zoom level, pinch inward or outward with two fingers when the screen is magnified.").

164. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising deciding whether or not the calculated distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time (*e.g.* determining whether a location on the display where the touchscreen is being touched is becoming closer over time to another location where the screen is simultaneously being touched in order to activate a function (*e.g.*, pan, zoom in, zoom out)). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services have the ability to perform different functions in response to detecting two separate touch positions based on whether or not the distance changes between the two touch positions. *See* https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=21213730011;

https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsm_htsmt?node=21341318011. As a further example, on information and belief, Amazon Products and Services include a "pan" function that is activated by the device determining that the distance between the two touch positions is *not* decreasing or increasing while the user "drag[s] two fingers across the screen." *See id.* Further, the "zoom in" function is activated by the device determining that the distance between the two touch positions is increasing because the user is "pinch[ing]...outward with two fingers[,]" while the "zoom out" function is activated by the device determining that the distance between the two touch positions is decreasing because the user is "pinch[ing] inward...with two fingers" (emphasis added). *See id.*

- 165. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising setting a rectangular area (e.g., the rectangular area formed based on locations of the two touch positions (e.g., two linearly disposed touch positions)) with respect to the display and selecting an object or objects (e.g., the information, images, icons, in the rectangular area formed based on locations of the two touch positions) contained in the rectangular area in cases (e.g., "zoom out" function) where it is decided that the first and second touch positions are acquired and the distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time. On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services perform a "zoom out" function on the display when the distance between the two touch positions decreases over time. See https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=21213730011; https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods afe htsm htsmt?node=21341318011. On information and belief and as further example, Amazon Products and Services perform the zoom function by setting a rectangular area with respect to the display and selecting an object or objects contained in the rectangular area in cases where it is decided that the first and second touch positions are acquired and the distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time (e.g., two linearly disposed touch positions are moved toward each other simultaneously, or one touch position is moved toward the other touch position). See id.
- 166. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising wherein two opposite corners of the rectangular area are respectively coincident with the first and second touch positions occurring at an initial stage (*e.g.*, when the device first detects the two touch positions before one or both touch positions are moved/adjusted to enable the "zoom in" or "zoom out" functions) of the user's touches to the touch panel. On information and belief

and as an example, Amazon Products and Services, prior to zooming in or out on the display, first detect that the two touch positions are disposed linearly (e.g., diagonally) to each other. *See* https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsmt_htsm?node=21213730011. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services detect two touch positions that are two opposite corners of a rectangular area. *See id*.

167. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising wherein the setting and selecting step comprises deriving a first vector extending from the first touch position occurring at a first moment to the first touch position occurring at a second moment after the first moment (e.g., a vector (e.g., a distance and direction) between the starting position of a touch position and the ending position of that same touch position), deriving a straight line connecting the first and second touch positions occurring at the first moment (e.g., a line between the starting position of each touch position), deriving a second vector extending from the second touch position occurring at the first moment to the second touch position occurring at the second moment (e.g., a vector (e.g., a distance and direction) between the starting position of another touch position and the ending position of that same touch position), calculating a first angle between the first vector and the straight line (e.g., an angle between the vector corresponding to one of the touch positions and the line between the starting positions of each touch position), calculating a second angle between the second vector and the straight line (e.g., an angle between the vector corresponding to one of the touch positions and the line between the starting positions of each touch position), deciding whether or not the first angle is smaller than a prescribed angle (e.g., a reference angle), and deciding whether or not the second angle is smaller than the prescribed angle. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services perform a zoom function on the display when two linearly disposed touch positions

move toward each other simultaneously, with one touch position moved toward the other. See https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=21213730011;

https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsm_htsmt?node=21341318011. On information and belief, Amazon Products and Services perform the zoom function by deriving a first vector extending from the first touch position occurring at a first moment to the first touch position occurring at a second moment after the first moment, deriving a straight line connecting the first and second touch positions occurring at the first moment, deriving a second vector extending from the second touch position occurring at the first moment to the second touch position occurring at the second moment, calculating a first angle between the first vector and the straight line, calculating a second angle between the second vector and the straight line, deciding whether or not the first angle is smaller than a prescribed angle, and deciding whether or not the second angle is smaller than the prescribed angle. See id.

168. On information and belief, one or more components of the Amazon Products and Services is, employs, or provides a method of controlling an electronic apparatus, comprising wherein the setting and selecting step further comprises setting the rectangular area and selecting the object or objects contained in the rectangular area in cases where it is decided that the distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time, the first angle is smaller than the prescribed angle, and the second angle is smaller than the prescribed angle (e.g., zooming in on the information, images, icons, in the rectangular area formed by the two linearly disposed touch positions). On information and belief and as an example, Amazon Products and Services perform a zoom function on the display when two linearly disposed touch positions move toward each other simultaneously, or one touch position is moved toward the other. See https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=21213730011; https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=ods_afe_htsm_htsmt?node=21341318011. On information and

belief, Amazon Products and Services thus perform the zoom function by setting the rectangular area and selecting the object or objects contained in the rectangular area in cases where it is decided that the distance between the first and second touch positions decreases in accordance with the lapse of time, the first angle is smaller than the prescribed angle, and the second angle is smaller than the prescribed angle. *See id.* (explaining "[t]o change the zoom level, pinch inward or outward with two fingers when the screen is magnified.").

- 169. On information and belief, Defendants directly infringe at least claim 11 of the '487 patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) by making, using, selling, selling access to, importing, offering for sale, and/or offering to sell access to the Amazon Products and Services.
- 170. Defendants' infringement has damaged SoundClear and caused / continues to cause it to suffer irreparable harm and damages.

JURY DEMANDED

171. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b), SoundClear hereby requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

SoundClear respectfully requests this Court to enter judgment in SoundClear's favor and against Amazon as follows:

- a. finding that Amazon has infringed one or more claims of the '337 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a);
- b. finding that Amazon has infringed one or more claims of the '675 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a);
- c. [preserved for appeal] finding that Amazon has infringed one or more claims of the '487 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a);

- d. awarding SoundClear damages under 35 U.S.C. § 284, or otherwise permitted by law, including enhanced damages for willful infringement and/or supplemental damages for any continued post-verdict infringement;
- e. awarding SoundClear pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on the damages award and costs;
- f. awarding cost of this action (including all disbursements) and attorney fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285, or as otherwise permitted by the law; and
- g. awarding such other costs and further relief that the Court determines to be just and equitable.

Dated: February 3, 2025 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chandran B. Iyer

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on February 3, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing Second Amended Complaint for Patent Infringement with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will then send a notification of such filing (NEF) to all counsel of record.

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