GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 1 VINCENT H. CHIEFFO (SBN 49069) 2 E-Mail: *ChieffoV@gtlaw.com* NINA D. BOŸAJIAN (SBN 246415) 3 E-Mail: BoyajianN@gtlaw.com 2450 Colorado Avenue, Suite 400E 4 Santa Monica, CA 90404-5524 Telephone: 310-586-7700 5 Facsimile: 310-586-7800 6 Attorneys for Plaintiffs John G. Branca and John 7 McClain, Special Administrators of the Estate of Michael J. Jackson: Triumph International, Inc. 8 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 WESTERN DIVISION 12 13 JOHN G. BRANCA, Special CASE NO. CV-09-07084 DMG (PLAx) Administrator of the Estate of Michael J. 14 Jackson; JOHN MCCLAIN, Special **PLAINTIFFS' WITNESS STATEMENT** Administrator of the Estate of Michael J. OF FELIX SEBACIOUS 15 Jackson: TRIUMPH INTERNATIONAL. 16 INC., a California corporation, 17 Plaintiffs, 18 VS. HEAL THE WORLD FOUNDATION, a Trial Date: April 19, 2011 19 California corporation; UNITED FLEET, a California corporation; and DOES 1-10, 20 inclusive, Complaint Filed: September 29, 2009 21 Hon. Dolly M. Gee Defendants. 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Pursuant to Local Rule 43-1 and this Court's order, Plaintiffs submit the following witness statement of Felix Sebacious.

PLAINTIFFS' WITNESS STATEMENT OF FELIX SEBACIOUS

- I, Felix Sebacious, submit the following as my direct testimony at the trial of this matter.
 - 1. I am Felix Sebacious and I am employed by Bravado International Group Merchandising Services, Inc. ("Bravado") as its Senior Vice President of A & R and Licensing.
 - 2. In or around March 2009, Bravado entered into arrangements with AEG Live, LLC ("AEG") to serve as the merchandising company for Michael Jackson related merchandise in connection with AEG's agreement with Michael Jackson for the then scheduled "This Is It Tour" of live performances of Mr. Jackson.
 - 3. In connection with Bravado serving as the merchandising company for Mr. Jackson's "This Is It Tour," Bravado created over 300 designs of Michael Jackson related merchandise. Tom Bennett of Bravado presented all of those Jackson merchandise designs to Mr. Jackson personally in Los Angeles, California. At a meeting attended by Mr. Bennett as well as Mr. Jackson in early June 2009, Mr. Jackson personally approved approximately 295 of the Jackson merchandise designs presented to him for creation and sale in connection with the "This Is It Tour" and the official Jackson merchandise website.
 - 4. After Mr. Jackson's untimely death on June 25, 2009, Bravado entered into agreements with the Estate of Michael J. Jackson (the "Estate") and Triumph International, Inc. ("Triumph") for the licensing to Bravado of the merchandising rights previously agreed to with AEG as well as additional merchandising rights for products featuring the name, likeness, symbols, logos, trademarks, etc., associated with Michael Jackson. The Probate Court with jurisdiction over the Estate approved these agreements on August 21, 2009.
 - 5. Bravado manufactures and sells Michael Jackson branded merchandise on its own and it also licenses third parties, with the prior approval

of the Estate and Triumph, the right to merchandise certain Michael Jackson branded products. Currently, there are approximately 22 active third party licenses for the manufacturing and sale of official Michael Jackson branded merchandise in various territories of the world. Additionally, Bravado itself produces at least 1,000 different Michael Jackson branded merchandise which is offered for sale and sold to the public through the internet as well as through "bricks and mortar" retail stores. Michael Jackson branded merchandise directly produced and sold by Bravado includes Mr. Jackson's name, including all versions of his name including "MJ", "Michael", and "King of Pop", Mr. Jackson's likeness in various iconic poses (including Jackson album cover art, silhouettes, and iconic photos), Mr. Jackson's signature, and Jackson logos such as the Michael Jackson dancing feet. Trial Exhibit 372 illustrates some of the official Jackson branded merchandise produced or licensed by Bravado.

- 6. Bravado also polices and takes appropriate action against companies and individuals that attempt to produce and sell unauthorized Michael Jackson related products. For example, Bravado has taken action to prohibit over 200,000 e-Bay auctions that attempted to sell unauthorized Michael Jackson products. In addition, in August, 2009, Bravado, acting through its outside counsel, took action against the Merrick Mint, Inc. with respect to the sale of unauthorized Michael Jackson branded coins that purportedly had been licensed to the Merrick Mint, Inc., by the Heal the World Foundation, which I understand to be one of the Defendants in this case. Subsequently a lawsuit was filed against Merrick Mint which litigation was ultimately settled on terms beneficial to Bravado, Triumph, and the Estate.
- 7. In addition, Bravado's outside counsel has commenced more than 15 lawsuits against more than 50 defendants who have engaged in the unauthorized sale of Jackson branded merchandise. In addition, over 7,500 items of

unauthorized Jackson branded merchandise have been seized and confiscated in trademark counterfeiting proceedings.

8. Since the death of Mr. Jackson, more than 9 figures in retail dollar value of authorized, official Jackson branded merchandise has been sold by Bravado and its licensees.

Dated: April 11, 2011

GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP

By: <u>/S/ VINCENT H. CHIEFFO</u> VINCENT H. CHIEFFO

Attorneys for Plaintiffs John G. Branca and John McClain, Special Administrators of the Estate of Michael J. Jackson; Triumph International, Inc.