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13
14 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
15 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
16 **WESTERN DIVISION**
17

18 APRIL TELEK,

19 Plaintiff,

20 v.

21 ANGELA DYBORN,

22 Defendant.
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Case No: 2:20-cv-10664

COMPLAINT

1 **COMPLAINT**

2 This is a civil action for damages, under Canadian law, brought by Plaintiff
3 April Telek, arising from Defendant Angela Dyborn’s (“Defendant” or “Dyborn”)
4 joint participation, aiding and abetting, and conspiring to sex traffic Plaintiff April
5 Telek to Peter J. Nygard (“Nygard”). Defendant Angela Dyborn has been a key co-
6 conspirator with Peter Nygard for decades, and has been a key cog in his vast sex
7 trafficking network. Angela Dyborn has been instrumental in knowingly aiding,
8 abetting, facilitating, conspiring, and participating in Nygard, Nygard Inc., Nygard
9 International Partnership (“Nygard International”), Nygard Holdings Limited’s
10 (“Nygard Holdings”), and Tan Jay International’s (collectively, the “Nygard
11 Companies”) sex trafficking conspiracy. Defendant lured, enticed recruited
12 harbored, provided, solicited and transported Plaintiff April Telek to Nygard’s
13 residence and caused and conspired for her to be raped and/or sexually assaulted by
14 Nygard. Defendant has also paid many other victims hush money, as well as
15 transporting them to receive abortions and get medical treatment for sexually
16 transmitted diseases. And since the Nygard Companies have gone into receivership,
17 Defendant Dyborn has actively conspired after the fact with Nygard to steal and hide
18 assets.

19 **INTRODUCTION**

20 1. As detailed in *Jane Does Nos. 1-57 v. Nygard, et al.*, No. 20-cv-01288
21 (ER) (June 10, 2020) (Ramos, J.), *John Does 1 and 2 v. Nygard, et al.*, No. 20-cv-
22 06501 (ER) (August 16, 2020) (Ramos, J.), and *Jane Doe v. Suelyn Medeiros*, No.
23 20-cv-24357 (SDFL Oct. 22, 2020) (Martinez, J.), Nygard and the Nygard
24 Companies perpetrated a decades-long, international sex trafficking ring that lured,
25 enticed, and coerced countless girls, women, and boys to be raped.

26 2. For decades, Defendant Angela Dyborn has conspired with Nygard, her
27 uncle, and countless others, by knowingly and actively recruiting young women for
28 him to rape as part of his sweeping international sex trafficking venture.

1 3. Plaintiff April Telek is one such innocent victim of Dyborn’s recruiting.

2 4. As a key member of Nygard’s sex trafficking venture, Dyborn
3 recruited, lured, enticed, defrauded, and coerced April Telek to Nygard’s private
4 apartment and abandoned her there, knowing that Nygard intended to rape and/or
5 sexually assaulted her.

6 5. Dyborn admitted to April Telek that she had seen a videotape of her
7 being raped by Nygard and commented to her, “I watched the tape; you didn’t fight
8 *that* hard.”

9 **I. Angela Dyborn Conspired in Trafficking April Telek for Peter Nygard to**
10 **Rape and Sexually Assault.**

11 6. Dyborn conspired to rape April Telek by using Nygard Company
12 resources to lure, entice, and transport her to the Nygard Companies’ warehouse in
13 Winnipeg, Canada, where Nygard also had an apartment, with the pre-planned
14 intention of Nygard raping and/or sexually assaulting her.

15 7. Dyborn is a full-time paid employee of the Nygard Companies whose
16 job it is to recruit and lure other young women to attend “pamper parties” and have
17 sex with (or be raped, sexually assaulted, or sexually battered by) Nygard.

18 8. In addition, Dyborn was tasked with facilitating travel arrangements,
19 lodging, and benefits for Nygard’s “girlfriends,” *i.e.*, his full-time sex workers, as
20 part of his sex-trafficking conspiracy.

21 9. She also would routinely transport victims to doctors on Nygard’s
22 payroll so they could receive abortions and treatment for sexually transmitted
23 diseases.

24 10. She was also one of the key co-conspirators that helped Nygard and his
25 other conspirators—chiefly Greg Fenske and Tiina Tulikorpi—conceal and divert
26 assets to benefit Nygard and defraud creditors and victims.

27 11. On at least one occasion, Dyborn facilitated and enabled the sex
28 trafficking of a minor by knowingly making travel arrangements for her so that she

1 could travel with Nygard and he could rape and/or sexually assault her.

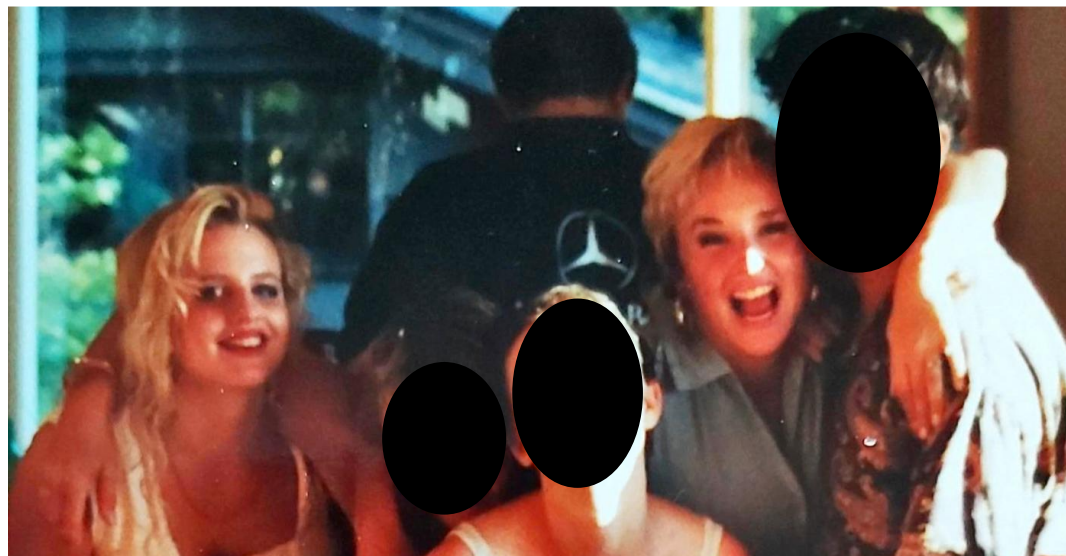
2 12. Dyborn also serves as an officer of a number of U.S. companies owned
3 and operated by Nygard, including, without limitation, Brause Investments, Inc.,
4 Colorado Wellness Research LLC, Dragyn Industries LLC, Edison's Investments
5 Inc., Fashion Ventures Inc., Future Med Consulting LLC, Health Wellness Holdings
6 LLC, NBH LLC, and co-conspirator, Nygard Inc. In that capacity, she has actively
7 assisted Nygard and Greg Fenske to defraud other owners and investors by illegally
8 transferring assets and funds.

9 13. For her services of recruiting women for Nygard to rape, Dyborn was
10 paid extensively in cash and benefits by the Nygard Companies, including a full-
11 time salary, travel, lodging and food.

12 14. On information and belief, Dyborn also skimmed funds from Nygard
13 by diverting cash to herself.

14 **II. Angela Dyborn Knowingly Lured April Telek to Winnipeg to be Raped**
15 **by Peter Nygard.**

16 15. In 1993, April Telek was working as a model and was an acquaintance
17 of Dyborn and her brother, Kris Nichol. April Telek and Angela Dyborn are pictured
18 here together:



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16. Dyborn falsely told April Telek, as a means to lure and entice her to meet with Nygard, that Nygard wanted her to model the Nygard Companies' "Signature Line."

17. Dyborn then arranged for Nygard to call April Telek. During that call, Nygard told April Telek that he wanted her to model for the Nygard Companies. But that was not his real intention.

18. For decades before and after his rape of Plaintiff, Nygard and his accomplices lured and enticed his victims to meet with Nygard by falsely telling them that they would be models for the Nygard Companies.

19. The real purpose, however, was to deliver the victims to Nygard so that he could rape and/or sex traffic them. April Telek was no exception.

20. After Dyborn arranged for a telephone call between Nygard and Plaintiff, Nygard told April Telek that he wanted her to travel to Winnipeg, Canada for a meeting to discuss modeling for the Nygard Companies and that his secretary would contact her with the details.

21. The Nygard Companies paid for April Telek to travel to Winnipeg, Canada.

1 22. April Telek was told that she would be staying at the Nygard
2 Companies' "Executive Suites."

3 23. Dyborn picked April Telek up from the airport when she arrived in
4 Winnipeg, knowing that Nygard intended to rape and/or sexually assault her.

5 24. Dyborn drove April Telek to the Nygard Companies' Notre Dame
6 factory in Winnipeg, Canada to meet Nygard.

7 25. Nygard arrived with his chauffer and told April Telek that she was
8 "better than I remember!"

9 26. Dyborn abandoned April Telek at the warehouse, knowing that Nygard
10 intended to rape and/or sexually assault her.

11 27. April Telek began to panic as she realized that she was not staying at
12 the Nygard Companies "Executive Suites," as she was promised.

13 28. Once he was alone with April Telek, Nygard locked the apartment and
14 prevented her from leaving.

15 29. Nygard held April Telek against her will at the apartment for
16 approximately two days.

17 30. Nygard drugged, raped, and sexually assaulted April Telek repeatedly
18 during that time.

19 31. Eventually, April Telek managed to escape the apartment when Nygard
20 fell asleep.

21 32. After the attack, April Telek described the assault to Dyborn.

22 33. Dyborn responded, "I watched the tape; you didn't fight *that* hard."

23 **III. Dyborn Knowingly Benefitted from Conspiring in the Nygard Sex**
24 **Trafficking Venture and Continues to Conspire with Nygard After the**
25 **Fact to Lie about their Sex Trafficking Venture.**

26 34. In exchange for Dyborn's knowing participation and conspiracy in
27 Nygard's sex trafficking venture, Nygard pays Dyborn a salary and provides other
28 benefits such as travel and lodging.

1 35. In order to receive these benefits, Dyborn continues to conspire with
2 Nygard to cover up and conceal his crimes.

3 36. In furtherance of the conspiracy, Dyborn and her brother, Kris Nichol,
4 knowingly submitted false affidavits about Nygard and their own involvement in
5 this matter.

6 37. In her false affidavit, Dyborn attempts to discredit April Telek and
7 portray her as having a personal vendetta with Nygard, in furtherance of the
8 conspiracy with Nygard and the Nygard Companies.

9 38. Upon information and belief, Dyborn was paid by Nygard and/or the
10 Nygard Companies to submit this false affidavit.

11 39. Dyborn is actively conspiring with Nygard to this day, including, but
12 not limited to, diverting and stealing assets so that Nygard can keep them from the
13 Nygard Companies' Canadian bankruptcy receiver and strip away all assets so that
14 he can keep all of his ill-gotten money.

15 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

16 40. This Court has diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332,
17 because the matter in controversy exceeds the sum value of \$75,000, exclusive of
18 interest and costs, and Plaintiff is a citizen of a foreign state who is not lawfully
19 admitted for permanent residence in the United States.

20 41. This Court has personal jurisdiction and venue is proper in this District
21 under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) because Defendant Angela Dyborn is domiciled in the
22 State of California and her residence is located in this District.

23 **PARTIES**

24 42. April Telek is a Canadian citizen who resides in Canada.

25 43. Defendant Angela Dyborn is the niece of Peter Nygard and resides in
26 California.

27 44. At all times relevant herein, Dyborn was a salaried employee of the
28 Nygard Companies, which are headquartered in New York City and have offices

1 located in California.¹

2 45. Dyborn also serves as a corporate officer of co-conspirator, Nygard Inc.

3 **COUNT I**

4 **JOINT PARTICIPATION AND/OR AIDING AND ABETTING IN**
5 **VIOLATION OF CANADIAN LAW**

6 46. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations
7 contained in paragraphs 1-45, as if fully set forth in this Count.

8 47. Defendant jointly participated, aided and abetted, facilitated, and
9 enabled Nygard's rape and/or sexual battery of April Telek, in violation of Canadian
10 Law.

11 48. Defendant knew that Nygard's conduct constituted a breach of duty
12 and/or tortious conduct.

13 49. Defendant, pursuant to a common design, knowingly participated in the
14 commission of tortious conduct and/or gave substantial assistance or encouragement
15 to Nygard to commit a breach of duty and/or tortious conduct.

16 50. Defendant knowingly participated and gave substantial assistance to
17 Nygard in accomplishing his breach of duty and/or tortious conduct and the
18 Defendant's conduct, separately considered, constitutes a breach of duty to April
19 Telek.

20 51. Defendant had actual knowledge that she was participating in,
21 facilitating, aiding and abetting, and enabling Nygard's use of the Nygard
22 Companies' resources and brand to commit sexual assault and/or sexual battery
23 against April Telek.

24 52. Despite such knowledge, Defendant participated in, facilitated, and
25 aided and abetted Nygard's sexual assault and/or sexual battery of April Telek.

26 53. Defendant participated in, facilitated, and aided and abetted Nygard's
27 rape and/or sexual battery of April Telek because she believed that she would be

28 ¹ *Jane Does Nos. 1-57 v. Nygard, et al.*, No. 20-cv-01288 (ER) (June 10, 2020) (Ramos, J.).

1 rewarded with substantial career-advancing opportunities and other financial
2 benefits if she cooperated and acquiesced to Nygard's demands.

3 54. This affirmative conduct of Defendant was committed knowing, or in
4 reckless disregard of the facts that, Nygard would use the Nygard Companies'
5 money and brand, the promise of a modeling career, and his influence in the fashion
6 industry to rape and/or commit sexual battery against April Telek.

7 55. In exchange for facilitating, aiding and abetting, and covering up
8 Nygard's rape and/or sexual battery of April Telek, Defendant progressed in her
9 career at the Nygard Companies and received financial benefits therefor.

10 56. Participating in, aiding and abetting, and covering up Nygard's sexual
11 misconduct was a means of obtaining success and growth within the Nygard
12 Companies' hierarchy.

13 57. Defendant is a joint tortfeasor of Nygard and Plaintiff has been
14 damaged as a direct result of Defendant's conduct.

15 58. Defendant's conduct has caused Plaintiff serious and permanent harm
16 and/or damages, including, without limitation, physical, psychological, emotional,
17 financial, and reputational harm.

18 **COUNT II**

19 **CIVIL CONSPIRACY IN VIOLATION OF CANADIAN LAW**

20 59. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations
21 contained in paragraphs 1-45, as if fully set forth in this Count.

22 60. Defendant has participated in a continuing conspiracy to commit rape
23 and/or sexual battery and to cover-up the conspiracy.

24 61. Defendant and her co-conspirators formed a group of two or more
25 persons and acted in concert, by agreement, with a common design and intention to
26 commit unlawful acts including sexual assault and/or sexual battery.

27 62. Defendant was aware of the relevant facts and intended to participate
28 in the conspiracy.

1 63. Defendant and her co-conspirators engaged in conduct that was
2 unlawful by carrying out an underlying tort, including sexual assault and/or battery.

3 64. Defendant engaged in a course of conduct with the predominant
4 purpose of causing injury to Plaintiff, notwithstanding that the conduct might
5 otherwise be legal.

6 65. Defendant committed numerous wrongful acts, including knowingly
7 luring, enticing, defrauding, and transporting Plaintiff to Nygard so that he could
8 sexually assault and/or sexually batter her.

9 66. The acts and omissions of Defendant were carried out in and during the
10 course of her employment with the Nygard Companies.

11 67. Defendant's conduct was directed towards Plaintiff.

12 68. Plaintiff was sexually assaulted and/or battered by Nygard in Canada
13 due to substantial participation and conduct of Defendant that occurred in Canada
14 pursuant to and in furtherance of Defendant's conspiracy with Nygard and the
15 Nygard Companies.

16 69. Defendant conspired with Nygard and the Nygard Companies because
17 she believed that she would be rewarded with substantial career-advancing
18 opportunities if she cooperated and agreed to Nygard's demands.

19 70. This affirmative conduct of Defendant was committed knowing, or in
20 reckless disregard of the facts that, Nygard would use the Nygard Companies'
21 money and brand, the promise of a modeling career, and his influence in the fashion
22 industry to commit sexual assault and/or sexual battery against Plaintiff.

23 71. In exchange for facilitating and covering up Nygard's sexual battery of
24 Plaintiff, Defendant progressed in her career at the Nygard Companies and received
25 financial benefits therefor.

26 72. Participating in and covering up Nygard's sexual misconduct was a
27 means of obtaining success and growth within the Nygard Companies' hierarchy.

28 73. Given the circumstances, Defendant knew or should have known that

1 injury to Plaintiff was likely to result.

2 74. Plaintiff was damaged as a direct result of Defendant’s and her co-
3 conspirators’ agreement and conduct in furtherance of the conspiracy.

4 75. Defendant’s conduct has caused Plaintiff serious and permanent harm,
5 including, without limitation, physical, psychological, emotional, financial, and
6 reputational harm.

7 **REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

8 Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court enter judgment in their favor, and
9 against Defendant, as follows:

10 a. That the Court grant permanent injunctive relief to prohibit Defendant
11 from continuing to engage in the unlawful acts and practices described herein;

12 b. That the Court award Plaintiff compensatory, consequential, general,
13 and normal damages in an amount to be determined at trial;

14 c. That the Court award punitive or exemplary damages in an amount to
15 be determined at trial;

16 d. That the Court award to Plaintiff the costs and disbursements of the
17 action, along with reasonable attorneys’ fees, costs, and expenses;

18 e. That the Court award pre- and post-judgment interest at the maximum
19 legal rate; and

20 f. That the Court grant all such other relief as it deems just and proper.

21 **JURY DEMAND**

22 Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all claims so triable.

23 Dated: November 23, 2020

By: /s/ Deborah S. Dixon
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