

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: SOCIAL MEDIA ADOLESCENT
ADDICTION/PERSONAL INJURY
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

Case No. 4:22-md-03047-YGR

MDL No. 3047

This Document Relates to:
Berkshire Hills Regional School District; Plaintiff
v.
Meta Platforms, Inc., et al.; Defendants

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SCHOOL
DISTRICT MASTER SHORT-FORM
COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY
TRIAL**

Member Case No.:

3:24-cv-07994

The Plaintiff(s) named below file(s) this *Short-Form Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial* against the Defendant(s) named below by and through their undersigned counsel. Plaintiff(s) incorporate(s) by reference the allegations, claims, and relief sought in *Plaintiffs' Master Local Government and School District Complaint* ("Master Complaint") as it relates to the named Defendant(s) (checked-off below), filed in *In Re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 3047, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Plaintiff(s) file(s) this *Short-Form Complaint* as permitted by Case Management Order No 8.

Plaintiff(s) indicate(s) by checking the relevant boxes below the Parties and Causes of Actions specific to Plaintiff(s)' case.

Plaintiff(s), by and through their undersigned counsel, allege(s) as follows:

I. DESIGNATED FORUM

1. *For Direct Filed Cases:* Identify the Federal District Court in which the Plaintiff(s) would have filed in the absence of direct filing:

District of Massachusetts

2. *For Transferred Cases:* Identify the Federal District Court in which the Plaintiff(s) originally filed and the date of filing:

N/A

II. IDENTIFICATION OF PARTIES

A. PLAINTIFF(S)

3. *Plaintiff(s):* Name(s) of the local government or school district alleging claims against Defendant(s):

Berkshire Hills Regional School District

4. Number of schools served in the Plaintiff(s)' school district or local community:

3

5. Number of minors served in the Plaintiff(s)' school district or local community:

1,189

6. At the time of the filing of this *Short-Form Complaint*, Plaintiff(s) is/are a resident and citizen of [*Indicate State*]:

Massachusetts

B. DEFENDANT(S)

7. Plaintiff(s) name(s) the following Defendant(s) in this action [*Check all that apply*]:

META ENTITIES

- ☒ META PLATFORMS, INC.,
formerly known as Facebook, Inc.
- ☒ INSTAGRAM, LLC
- ☒ FACEBOOK PAYMENTS, INC.
- ☒ SICULUS, INC.
- ☒ FACEBOOK OPERATIONS, LLC
- ☒ FACEBOOK HOLDINGS, LLC
- ☒ META PAYMENTS INC.

TIKTOK ENTITIES

- ☒ BYTEDANCE LTD
- ☒ BYTEDANCE INC.
- ☒ TIKTOK LTD
- ☒ TIKTOK LLC
- ☒ TIKTOK INC.

SNAP ENTITY

- ☒ SNAP, INC.

GOOGLE ENTITIES

- ☒ GOOGLE, LLC
- ☒ YOUTUBE, LLC

OTHER DEFENDANTS

For each “Other Defendant” Plaintiff(s) contends are additional parties and are liable or responsible for Plaintiff(s)’ damages alleged herein, Plaintiff(s) must identify by name each Defendant and its citizenship, and Plaintiff(s) must plead the specific facts supporting any claim against each “Other Defendant” in a manner complying with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. In doing so, Plaintiff(s) may attach additional pages to this *Short-Form Complaint*.

NAME	CITIZENSHIP
FACEBOOK TECHNOLOGIES, LLC	USA
ALPHABET INC.	USA

III. CAUSES OF ACTION ASSERTED

8. The following Causes of Action asserted in the *Master Complaint*, and the allegations with regard thereto, are adopted in this *Short-Form Complaint* by reference (*check all that are adopted*):

Asserted Against ¹	Count Number	Cause of Action (COA)
☒ Meta entities ☒ Snap ☒ TikTok entities ☒ Google entities ☒ Other Defendant(s) ²	1	NEGLIGENCE
☒ Meta entities ☒ Snap ☒ TikTok entities ☒ Google entities ☒ Other Defendant(s)	2	PUBLIC NUISANCE

NOTE

If Plaintiff(s) want(s) to allege additional Cause(s) of Action other than those selected in paragraph 8, which are the Causes(s) of Action set forth in the *Master Complaint*, the facts supporting those additional Cause(s) of Action, must be pled in a manner complying with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. In doing so, Plaintiff(s) may attach additional pages to this *Short-Form Complaint*.

IV. ADDITIONAL CAUSES OF ACTION

9. Plaintiff(s) assert(s) the following additional Causes of Action and supporting allegations against the following Defendants:

¹ For purposes of this paragraph, “entity” means those Defendants identified in Paragraph 7 (*e.g.*, “TikTok entities” means all TikTok Defendants against which Plaintiff(s) is/are asserting claims).

² Reference selected “Other Defendants” by the corresponding row number in the “Other Defendant(s)” chart identified in Paragraph 7.

1 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff(s) pray(s) for relief and judgment against Defendants and all
2 such further relief that this Court deems equitable and just as set forth in the *Master Complaint*,
3 and any additional relief to which Plaintiff(s) may be entitled.

4
5 **JURY DEMAND**

6 Plaintiff(s) hereby demand a trial by jury as to all claims in this action.

7 *****

8 By signature below, Plaintiff(s)' counsel hereby confirms their submission to the authority
9 and jurisdiction of the United States District Court of the Northern District of California and
10 oversight of counsel's duties under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, including enforcement as
11 necessary through sanctions and/or revocation of *pro hac vice* status.

12 /s/ William B. Shinoff

13 Name: William B. Shinoff, Esq.

14 Firm: Frantz Law Group, APLC

15 Address: 2029 Century Park East # 400, Los Angeles, CA 90067

16 Phone: (323) 425-8138

17 Fax: (619) 525-7672

18 Email: wshinoff@frantzlawgroup.com

19
20 *Attorneys for Plaintiff(s)*

21 Berkshire Hills Regional School District
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The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

Berkshire Hills Regional School District

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

Berkshire County, MA

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

William B. Shinoff/James P. Frantz, Frantz Law Group, APLC, 2029 Century Park East #400, Los Angeles, CA 90067. P: 323.425.8138

DEFENDANTS

META PLATFORMS, INC.; META PAYMENTS INC.; INSTAGRAM, LLC; FACEBOOK PAYMENTS, INC.; FACEBOOK OPERATIONS, LLC; FACEBOOK HOLDINGS, LLC; SICULUS, INC.; BYTEDANCE INC.; BYTEDANCE LTD.; TIKTOK, LTD.; TIKTOK, LLC; TIKTOK, INC.; SNAP, INC.; GOOGLE LLC; ET AL.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

San Mateo, CA

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff

☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant

☐ 3 Federal Question
(U.S. Government Not a Party)

☒ 4 Diversity
(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	☐ 1	☐ 1
Citizen of Another State	☐ 2	☐ 2
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	☐ 3	☐ 3

	PTF	DEF
Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	☐ 4	☒ 4
Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	☒ 5	☐ 5
Foreign Nation	☐ 6	☐ 6

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881	422 Appeal 28 USC § 158	375 False Claims Act
120 Marine	310 Airplane	690 Other	423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157	376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a))
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product Liability	LABOR	PROPERTY RIGHTS	400 State Reapportionment
140 Negotiable Instrument	320 Assault, Libel & Slander	710 Fair Labor Standards Act	820 Copyrights	410 Antitrust
150 Recovery of Overpayment Of Veteran's Benefits	330 Federal Employers' Liability	720 Labor/Management Relations	830 Patent	430 Banks and Banking
151 Medicare Act	340 Marine	740 Railway Labor Act	835 Patent—Abbreviated New Drug Application	450 Commerce
152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)	345 Marine Product Liability	751 Family and Medical Leave Act	840 Trademark	460 Deportation
153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	350 Motor Vehicle	790 Other Labor Litigation	880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016	470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	SOCIAL SECURITY	480 Consumer Credit
190 Other Contract	360 Other Personal Injury	IMMIGRATION	861 HIA (1395ff)	485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act
195 Contract Product Liability	362 Personal Injury -Medical Malpractice	462 Naturalization Application	862 Black Lung (923)	490 Cable/Sat TV
196 Franchise	CIVIL RIGHTS	465 Other Immigration Actions	863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange
REAL PROPERTY	PRISONER PETITIONS		864 SSID Title XVI	890 Other Statutory Actions
210 Land Condemnation	HABEAS CORPUS		865 RSI (405(g))	891 Agricultural Acts
220 Foreclosure	440 Other Civil Rights		FEDERAL TAX SUITS	893 Environmental Matters
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	441 Voting		870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	895 Freedom of Information Act
240 Torts to Land	442 Employment		871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC § 7609	896 Arbitration
245 Tort Product Liability	443 Housing/Accommodations			899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities—Employment			950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities—Other			
	448 Education			
	OTHER			
	540 Mandamus & Other			
	550 Civil Rights			
	555 Prison Condition			
	560 Civil Detainee—Conditions of Confinement			

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☐ 1 Original Proceeding

☐ 2 Removed from State Court

☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court

☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened

☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify)

☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation—Transfer

☒ 8 Multidistrict Litigation—Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

28 U.S.C. § 1332

Brief description of cause:

Public nuisance, negligence and related claims in connection with impact of social media addiction/use.

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers

DOCKET NUMBER 4:22-MD-03047-YGR

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☒ SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND

☐ SAN JOSE

☐ EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet. The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
 - b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the “defendant” is the location of the tract of land involved.)
 - c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section “(see attachment).”
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an “X” in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
- (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 - (2) United States defendant. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an “X” in this box.
 - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 - (4) Diversity of citizenship. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an “X” in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin.** Place an “X” in one of the six boxes.
- (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
 - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 - (5) Transferred from Another District. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 - (6) Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
 - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC § 553. Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an “X” in this box if you are filing a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment.** If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: “the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated.”
- Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.