DOWNEY, BRAND, SEYMOUR & ROHWER PETER E. GLICK, ESQ. (Bar No. 127979) 2 555 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor 94 DEC 22 PM 4: 10 Sacramento, California 95814-4686 3 (916) 441-0131 LEGAL PROCESS #4

Attorneys for Defendants RALEY'S; CHARLES L. COLLINGS; JAMES E. TEEL; and JOYCE RALEY TEEL

IN THE SUPERIOR AND MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

10

4

5

6

7

8

9

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

25

26

27

28

CHARLES C. NORDBY, 11

Plaintiff,

v.

RALEY'S; CHARLES L. COLLINGS; JAMES E. TEEL; and MRS. JAMES E. (JOYCE RALEY) TEEL; and DOES 1 through 25, inclusive,

Defendants.

No. 544344

DEMURRER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON DEMURRER

Date:

9:00 a.m

Time: Dept:

#28 Trial Date:

Opp all - 1.12.95

TO: PLAINTIFF CHARLES C. NORDBY, in pro per:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on January 12, 1995, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in Department 28 of the above-entitled court, located at 800 H Street, Sacramento, California, Defendants RALEY'S, CHARLES L. COLLINGS, JAMES E. TEEL and JOYCE RALEY TEEL (erroneously sued herein as "MRS. JAMES E. (JOYCE RALEY) TEEL"), jointly and severally, will and hereby do demur to the complaint of CHARLES C. NORDBY on each of the following grounds, specified in summary below, and more particularly in the accompanying Memorandum of Points and

Authorities served and filed herewith:

- 1. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 430.10(e), the complaint fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action against any of the Defendants because the complaint is barred by the statute of limitations, which defense is apparent from the face of the complaint, the facts alleged therein, and from such other matters as the court may judicially notice.
- 2. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 430.10(e), the complaint fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action against any of the Defendants because the complaint is barred by the equitable doctrine of laches, which defense is apparent from the face of the complaint, the facts alleged therein, and from such other matters as the court may judicially notice.

The demurrer will be based upon this Demurrer, Notice of Hearing on Demurrer, the Memorandum of Points and Authorities served and filed herewith, on matters as to which the court may take judicial notice pursuant to CCP Section 430.70, Evidence Code Sections 452,453, upon the pleadings and papers herein, and on such other oral or documentary evidence as may be presented at or before the time of hearing.

WHEREFORE, Defendants RALEY'S, CHARLES L. COLLINGS, JAMES E.

TEEL and JOYCE RALEY TEEL jointly and severally pray that their

Demurrer be sustained, that the Complaint be dismissed, for costs

26 / / /

27 / / /

28 / / /

of suit incurred herein, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Pursuant Local Rule 3.05, the Court will make a tentative ruling on the merits of this matter by 2:00 p.m., the Court day before the hearing. To receive the tentative ruling, call the department in which the matter is to be heard. If you do not call the court and the opposing party by 4:30 p.m. the court day before the hearing, no hearing will be held. (See Local Rule 3.05(B)).

DATED: December 22, 1994

DOWNEY, BRAND, SEYMOUR & ROHWER

Peter E. Glick

Attorneys for Defendants RALEY'S, CHARLES L. COLLINGS, JAMES E. TEEL and JOYCE RALEY TEEL

-3-

DEMURRER NOTICE

PROOF OF SERVICE

2	.				
3	age of ei	I am a resident of the State of California, over the ghteen years, and not a party to the within action. My			
4	business address is Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer, 555 Capit Mall, 10th Floor, Sacramento, California 95814-4686. On				
5		22, 1994, I served the within documents:			
6 7		DEMURRER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON DEMURRER; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF DEMURRER; AND DECLARATION OF PETER E. GLICK REGARDING NOTICE TO OPPOSING PARTY OF HEARING ON DEMURRER			
8		by transmitting via factivile the decount (1) at the			
9		by transmitting via facsimile the document(s) listed above to the fax number(s) set forth below on this date before 5:00 p.m.			
10	Х	by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed			
11		envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail at Sacramento, California addressed as set forth below.			
12					
. 13		by causing personal delivery by of the document(s) listed above to the person(s) at the address(es) set forth below.			
14		by personally delivering the document(s) listed above			
15		to the person(s) at the address(es) set forth below.			
16		CHARLES C. NORDBY 3411 Shady Lane			
17		Sacramento, CA 95821			
18	collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that				
19					
20	course of	business. I am aware that on motion of the party rvice is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date			
21	or postage	meter date is more than one day after date of depositing in affidavit.			
22					
23	. <u>x</u>	(State) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.			
24		(Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office			
25		of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.			
26					
27					

28

Executed on December 22, 1994, at Sacramento, California.

91558.1

-2-

1 DOWNEY, BRAND, SEYMOUR & ROHWER PETER E. GLICK, ESQ. (Bar No. 127979) 2 555 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor 94 DEC 22 PM 4: 10 Sacramento, California 95814-4686 3 (916) 441-0131 * LEGAL PROCESS #4 4 Attorneys for Defendants RALEY'S; 5 CHARLES L. COLLINGS; JAMES E. TEEL; and JOYCE RALEY TEEL 7 IN THE SUPERIOR AND MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO 9 10 CHARLES C. NORDBY, No. 544344 11 Plaintiff, MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND 12 AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF DEMURRER 13 V. Date: January 12, 1995 RALEY'S; CHARLES L. COLLINGS;) Time: JAMES E. TEEL; and MRS. JAMES) 9:00 a.m. Dept: #28 E. (JOYCE RALEY) TEEL; and DOES 1 through 25, inclusive, Trial Date: TBA 16 Defendants. 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

DOWNEY BRAND

SEYMOUR

TABLE OF CONTENTS

_		
2	Page(s)	
3	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	
4	SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT	
5	STATEMENT OF FACTS	
6	ARGUMENT	
7	A. THE COMPLAINT FAILS TO STATE FACTS SUFFICIENT TO CONSTITUTE A CAUSE OF ACTION OF FRAUD	
8		
9	1. THE SINGLE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR FRAUD IS BARRED BY THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS WHICH APPEARS ON THE FACE OF THE COMPLAINT	
10		
11	2. <u>PLAINTIFF'S ATTEMPTS TO "ARTFULLY PLEAD" AROUND</u> <u>THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IS UNAVAILING</u> 6	
12	B. THE SINGLE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR FRAUD IS BARRED BY THE DOCTRINE OF LACHES	
13	1. THERE IS UNREASONABLE DELAY	
14		
15		
16	CONCLUSION	
17		
18		
19 [.]		
20		
21		
22		
2.3		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

DOWNEY BRAND SEYMOUR

-i-

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	
2		Page(s)
3	CASES	
4		
5	Casualty Insurance Company v. Rees Investment Co. (1971) 14 Cal.App.3d 716	7-9
6	Conti v. Board of Civil Service Comm'rs. (1969) 1 Cal.3d 351, 362	10
7	<u>Leeper v. Beltrami</u> (1959) 53 Cal.2d 195, 211	10
8	Miller v. Parker (1933) 128 Cal.App. 775, 776	, 5
9	National Automobile & Casualty Insurance Co. v. Payne	
10		9
11	State Farm Fire & Casualty Co. v. Superior Court (1989) 210 Cal.App.3d, 604, 612	9
12	Weir v Snow 210 Cal Ann 2d 202 [26 Cal Bata 200]	
13	Weir v. Snow 210 Cal.App.3d 283 [26 Cal.Rptr. 868]; Sides v. Sides 119 Cal.App.2d 349	7
14	<u>STATUTES</u>	
15		
16	2 Witkin, California Procedure (2d ed. 1970) Actions, section 339, pages 1180-1181	7
17	C.C.P. 338(4)	7
18	Code of Civil Procedure Section 338(d)	. 5,8
19	Code of Civil Procedure Section 430.10(e)	4
20	Code of Civil Procedure Section 430.30(a)	4
21	OMUED AUMUODIMIES	
22	OTHER AUTHORITIES	:
23	63 Harv. L. Rev. 1217)	7
24		
25		
26		
27		;
8		

DOWNEY
BRAND
SEYMOUR
& ROHWER

102465.1

-ii-

```
DOWNEY, BRAND, SEYMOUR & ROHWER
  1
    PETER E. GLICK, ESQ. (Bar No. 127979)
    555 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor
    Sacramento, California
                            95814-4686
  3 |
    (916) 441-0131<sub>*</sub>
 4
    Attorneys for Defendants RALEY'S;
    CHARLES L. COLLINGS; JAMES E. TEEL;
    and JOYCE RALEY TEEL
 6
 7
     IN THE SUPERIOR AND MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 8
 9
                            COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
10
11
    CHARLES C. NORDBY,
                                      No. 544344
12
              Plaintiff,
                                      MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
                                      AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF
13
                                      DEMURRER
   RALEY'S; CHARLES L. COLLINGS: )
                                      Date:
                                                      January 12, 1995
   JAMES E. TEEL; and MRS. JAMES )
                                      Time:
                                                      9:00 a.m.
   E. (JOYCE RALEY) TEEL; and
                                      Dept:
                                                      #28
   DOES 1 through 25, inclusive,
                                      Trial Date:
                                                      TBA
16
              Defendants.
17
18
                            SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT
19
        For twenty years Charles C. Nordby has been pursuing a
20
   relentless campaign against Raley's and its principals.
21
   vendetta is apparently motivated by grievances that Mr. Nordby
```

has had against Raley's since 1974, when he was hired as Director of Security, a position he resigned in 1976.

After two decades of what can only be described as a bizarre and twisted fascination with Raley's and its principals, Mr. Nordby has filed a lawsuit for what appears to be a single cause of action sounding in tort, "Fraud".

23

25

27

102465.1

The complaint is subject to general demurrer for failure to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action. The bar of statute of limitations and laches is apparent from the face of the complaint. Mr. Nordby alleges that he was defrauded in 1974 and it is clear from the face of the complaint that Mr. Nordby knew of the underlying facts which he contends constitutes the basis of an action decades before bringing this action.

The law is clear. The statute of limitations for an action for intentional misrepresentation is three years. And, although the three years may be "tolled" in cases where the plaintiff did not discover the facts constituting the alleged fraud, the authorities are in accord that, in order to benefit from the tolling, the plaintiff must <u>plead</u>, as well as prove, the required facts constituting the exception to the three year statute of limitations.

Even if the statute of limitations has been tolled, the doctrine of laches appears from the face of the complaint. The complaint alleges facts sufficient to demonstrate prejudicial delay to the defendants.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Charles Nordby alleges that he was hired by Raley's in 1974 (Complaint at Para. FR-1a, Page 3, FR-7a(2) at Page 18). He alleges that an oral contract of employment existed between himself and Raley's. (Complaint at Para. FR-2a(1)(2)(3) at Page 6). He alleges that Mr. Charles Collings made representations to him for the purposes of inducing employment. (Complaint at Para. FR-2a(1), Page 6, Line 8). Plaintiff alleges that defendant JAMES TEEL was involved in the employment process. (Complaint at

Para. FR-2a(4) at Page 6, Line 21). Plaintiff alleges that the 1 representations were made by defendants in 1974. (Complaint at FR-1, Page 3). Plaintiff alleges that the representations 3 included such statements as Mr. Collings' statements concerning his "Christian beliefs" and that Mr. Collings' "word was his bond". (Complaint at Para. FR-2a(1)(2) at Page 6). Plaintiff alleges that Mr. Collings "misrepresented the final inducement to plaintiff of a bonus commitment which caused plaintiff to 8 substantially change his position at the item of making the oral 9 contract". (Complaint at Para. Fr-2a(5) at Page 6). 10 11 12

Plaintiff alleges that, notwithstanding the oral contract to provide a bonus, no bonus was provided in 1974, nor in 1975, nor, ultimately in 1976. (Complaint at Para. 7a(2)(3)(4) at Pages 18-19). When plaintiff learned in 1976 that no bonuses would be paid, he "immediately resigned". (Complaint at Para. 7a(4) at Page 19, Line 11). Plaintiff's "detrimental reliance" occurred "on or about June 10, 1974" when plaintiff "finally relented and moved his family to Sacramento" in alleged reliance on defendants' alleged misrepresentations. (Complaint at Para. FR-5a(2) at Page 16, Line 13).

The foregoing appear to be the only material, comprehensible facts supporting plaintiff's untimely allegations of fraud. Other than alleging representations of belief, opinion, or other non-actionable or otherwise vague and uncertain statements, these "representations" appear to constitute the entire gist of 26 | plaintiff's complaint for fraud. To paraphrase, plaintiff's complaint can be reduced to the following:

111

102465.1

13

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

28

DOWNEY

-3-

Ps&As Demurrer

In 1974 I was hired by Charles Collings on behalf of Raley's as Security Director. Mr. Collings represented to me that I would receive a bonus. Mr. Collings told me that because he was a "good Christian" and because his "word was his bond" no written contract was necessary. I justifiably relied on the representation and took the job to my detriment in 1974. I did not receive a bonus in 1974. I did not receive a bonus in 1975. And, when I did not receive a bonus in 1976 I "immediately resigned". Twenty years later, I now seek damages of \$4,860,000, "unjust enrichment" of \$588,000,000.00, and exemplary damages of \$10,000,000.00.

For the reasons set forth below, the complaint, reduced to these material facts, and even taken as true for the purposes of this demurrer are not sufficient to state a cause of action for fraud.

ARGUMENT

A. THE COMPLAINT FAILS TO STATE FACTS SUFFICIENT TO CONSTITUTE A CAUSE OF ACTION OF FRAUD

The party against whom a complaint or cross-complaint has been filed may object, by demurrer, to the pleading on the ground that the pleading does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action. Code of Civil Procedure Section 430.10(e). When any ground for objection to a complaint appears on the face thereof, or from any matter of which the court is required to take judicial notice, the objection on that ground may be taken by a demurrer. Code of Civil Procedure Section 430.30(a). The "general demurrer" for failure to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action lies where the dates alleged in the complaint indicate the claim is barred by the statute of limitations. Such a complaint fails to "state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action" because the action is barred by

DOWNEY BRAND SEYMOUR

-4-

Ps&As Demurrer

102465.1

the statute of limitations. <u>Miller v. Parker</u> (1933) 128 Cal.App. 775, 776.

1. THE SINGLE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR FRAUD IS
BARRED BY THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS
WHICH APPEARS ON THE FACE OF THE
COMPLAINT

The statute of limitations for fraud is set forth in Code of Civil Procedure Section 338(d). An action for relief on the ground of fraud or mistake must be brought within three years. The cause of action is not to be deemed to have accrued until discovery by the aggrieved party of the facts constituting the fraud or mistake. Code of Civil Procedure Section 338(d).

Plaintiff alleges in his complaint that he was "defrauded on or about October 1, 1974" (Complaint at Para. FR-1 at Page 3).

Not one fact alleged as a "representation" of material fact in Attachment FR-2a or Fr-3a to the complaint is alleged to have occurred later than 1976.

When, then, did plaintiff's cause of action for fraud accrue in this case?

Giving plaintiff <u>some</u> benefit of reasonable doubt, it would be when he <u>first</u> learned he wasn't going to get the bonus and compensation he claims was misrepresented to him. He possessed such actual knowledge in 1974.

Giving plaintiff a <u>more liberal</u> benefit of doubt, the cause of action would have certainly accrued by 1975 when he learned for the <u>second time</u> that he wasn't going to get the bonus and compensation he claims was misrepresented to him. He possessed such actual knowledge in 1975.

Giving plaintiff the <u>ultimate</u> <u>reasonable</u> benefit of the

doubt, the cause of action most certainly accrued in 1976.

Plaintiff describes what occurred when he learned, not for the first time, but for the third that there were to be no bonuses:

"When the third payment of bonuses came up in 1976, plaintiff again asked defendant Collings about his bonus, to which at that time defendant Collings replied that plaintiff should not expect to get a bonus, that none of the defendant's receive bonuses. point, plaintiff considered that the nonpayment of a bonus was just a renegment on the part of one person, a breach of trust and reliance. plaintiff had no information at this time that defendant Collings in fact had only made the promise of a bonus in order to induce plaintiff to provide services and expertise to Raley's without any intention of payment. Plaintiff immediately resigned his position, stating that the nonpayment of a bonus for the third time was inappropriate." (Complaint, Para. 7a(4) at Page 19, Lines 5-12 [emphasis added]).

Obviously, plaintiff knew in 1974 and 1975 that there would be no bonuses. He admits as much. But even giving plaintiff the benefit of the doubt, he clearly knew that there were not going to be any bonuses in 1976. Having alleged, as the substance of the misrepresentation, the reliance, and the damages, Mr. Nordby admits that he knew that these representations "were false" in 1976 when no bonuses were, in fact paid.

2. PLAINTIFF'S ATTEMPTS TO "ARTFULLY PLEAD"
AROUND THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IS
UNAVAILING

Plaintiff, obviously aware of the apparent statute of limitations defense, pleads the following:

"Plaintiff was unaware of the fraud by defendants until April 10, 1994 when plaintiff's son, Charles C. Nordby Jr., who had moved to Sacramento from Santa Rosa on April 7th, 1994 was looking over the facts of the case and realized that there were elements of fraud. Plaintiff, and plaintiff's two other sons, Jack Nordby and Frank Nordby, each had some of the information, but until April 10, 1994 no one person had seen all of the information at one time." (Complaint at Para. 8a(6) at

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

17

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

102465.1

-6-

Page 20, Lines 5-9).

1

2

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

This conclusory, and unbelievable statement is not only a sham, but it is wholly insufficient as a matter of law to operate as a tolling of the statute. A general demurrer was sustained where the action was barred by the statute of limitations in the case of <u>Casualty Insurance Company v. Rees Investment Co.</u> (1971) 14 Cal.App.3d 716. The court articulated the following rule which can't be any better stated:

"When, as here, it is apparent on the face of a pleading that the time limit of an applicable statute of limitations has run, in order to avoid the bar of the statute it is incumbent upon the pleader to state, with particularity, facts, rather than conclusions, which excuse his failure to learn of the fraud within the statutory period. (Weir v. Snow 210 Cal.App.3d 283 [26 Cal.Rptr. 868]; Sides v. Sides 119 Cal.App.2d 349.

The rule is set forth in 2 Witkin, California Procedure (2d ed. 1970) Actions, section 339, pages 1180-1181, in 'C.C.P. 338(4) adds the statement these words: (commonly found in fraud statutes of limitation: 63 Harv. L. Rev. 1217): "The cause of action in such case not to be deemed to have accrued until the discovery by the aggrieved party of the facts constituting the fraud or mistake." Literally interpreted, this language would give the plaintiff an unlimited period to sue if he could establish ignorance of the facts. But the courts have read into the statute a duty to exercise diligence to discover the The rule is that plaintiff must plead and prove (a) Lack of knowledge. (b) the facts showing: of means of obtaining knowledge (in the exercise of reasonable diligence the facts could not have been (c) How and when he discovered at an earlier date). did actually discover the fraud or mistake. Under this rule constructive or presumed notice of knowledge are So, when the plaintiff has equivalent to knowledge.... notice or information of circumstances to put a reasonable person on inquiry, or has the opportunity to obtain knowledge from sources open to his investigation (such as public records or corporation books), the statute commences to run.'" [emphasis in original] Casualty Ins. Co. v. Rees Investment Co. (1971) 14 Cal.App.3d 716, 719-720.

/ / /

102465.1

27

28

Has plaintiff pleaded "with particularity, facts, rather than conclusions" (Casualty Insurance Co. v. Rees Investment Co., In fact, plaintiff's conclusions are absurd. supra at 720)? No. To reward plaintiff's twenty year delay in prosecuting what he believes to be a legitimate claim of misrepresentation by tolling the statute of limitations would be to undermine any pretext that a statute of limitations could ever exist. What plaintiff is really saying is that, although he knew all of the facts since 1974, it wasn't until someone (his two sons) got together in 1994 and reviewed all of the facts that he "realized that there were elements of fraud". This is preposterous. It is tantamount to inviting any plaintiff to say that, although one had actual, if not constructive notice of the actionable facts for ten, twenty, thirty, forty or more years, the statute of limitations doesn't start running until one consults with someone who suggests that the facts could constitute a legal cause of action. Such is not the law, and for obvious good reason. The statute of limitations permits late accrual of the cause of action from "discovery, by the aggrieved party, of the facts constituting the fraud or mistake". CCP Section 338(d). If the legislature had intended the statute to start running from the date the party first knew that facts already within their knowledge constituted elements of a legal claim for relief, the statute would so provide. One can imagine the literal flood of late claims as lawyers review ancient facts, applying recent law to resurrect long-dead claims. Section 338(d) is a statute of limitations, not a Statute of Lazarus.

102465.1

26

27

28

Has plaintiff pleaded "lack of knowledge" (Casualty

Insurance Co. v. Rees Investment Co., supra, at 720)? No. Has

plaintiff pleaded "lack of means of obtaining knowledge" (Id.).

No. Has plaintiff pleaded that "in the exercise of reasonable diligence the facts could not have been discovered in 1974, 1975, 1976 or earlier than 1994? No. Has plaintiff pleaded "how and when he did actually discover the fraud"? No, only in the most conclusory statement.

Constructive or presumed notice of knowledge are equivalent to knowledge. (Casualty Insurance Co., supra, at 720). To avoid the statute of limitations, plaintiff has the burden of pleading and proving that he had no actual or presumptive knowledge of facts sufficient to put him on inquiry. National Automobile & Casualty Insurance Co. v. Payne (1968) 261 Cal.App.2d 403, 408-409. Plaintiff is presumed to have known that the representations (made in 1974) inducing plaintiff to enter into an oral contract for employment (from which he resigned in 1976) were false when plaintiff did not deliver the bonuses and compensation allegedly promised by defendants in 1974.

Statutes of limitations are upheld regardless of hardship or of the underlying merits of the claim. State Farm Fire & Casualty Co. v. Superior Court (1989) 210 Cal.App.3d, 604, 612. Even if the court, for the purposes of this demurrer, admits as true the underlying allegations of fact in the complaint, the defense of Statute of Limitations cannot be rebutted. The only amendment capable of curing the defect would be an admission of perjury and a repudiation of the admissions set forth in the complaint.

- 13

B. THE SINGLE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR FRAUD IS BARRED BY THE DOCTRINE OF LACHES

Laches may, be raised by demurrer, but only if the complaint shows on its face unreasonable delay plus prejudice or acquiescence". Conti v. Board of Civil Service Comm'rs. (1969) 1 Cal.3d 351, 362. A demurrer is properly sustained if the complaint reveals a significant delay after knowledge of the facts without explanation for the period of delay. Leeper v. Beltrami (1959) 53 Cal.2d 195, 211.

Plaintiff's cause of action for fraud seeks damages for "unjust enrichment" which are essentially quasi contractual, or equitable in nature. In fact, a careful reading of the complaint compels the conclusion that plaintiff's grievance is essentially a twenty year old breach of oral contract action dressed up as a tort. As such, plaintiff is essentially asking the court to equitably avoid the statute of frauds, as well as the statute of limitations. Since laches operates as a defense to such claims for equitable relief, defendants request the court apply the doctrine in this case.

In order to prove laches, defendant must show both unreasonable delay and prejudice. Where such facts appear on the face of the complaint, a general demurrer may be sustained.

Conti v. Board of Civil Service Comm'rs, supra, at 362.

1. THERE IS UNREASONABLE DELAY

As argued above, there is absolutely no excuse for a twenty year delay in prosecuting plaintiff's claim. If plaintiff felt aggrieved by the failure of Raley's to pay him compensation in 1976 he could not have reasonably waited until 1994 to seek such

compensation. Defendant submits this argument as a matter of law.

2. THE DELAY WAS PREJUDICIAL

The failure to prosecute the claims within a reasonable period of time severely prejudices defendants' ability to defend. Evidence tending to prove or disprove both liability and damages may be difficult to obtain. One of the most significant witnesses to the whole incident, the individual with ultimate authority to hire and fire at Raley's was Mr. Thomas P. Raley, who passed away in 1993. Paragraph FR-7a(5) at Page 19 suggests the importance of Mr. Raley as a witness in this case. Further evidence of delay is in plaintiff's exaggerated demand of \$588,000,000.00 in "unjust enrichment". If plaintiff believed that Raley's was being unjustly enriched as a result of their alleged failure to honor their "oral contract" shouldn't plaintiff have diligently prosecuted his claim in 1976 instead of waiting twenty years later for the alleged "unjust enrichment" to reach the alleged magnitude of \$588 Million?

Defendants request that the court sustain the demurrer on the ground that laches appear from the face of the complaint.

CONCLUSION

Plaintiff alleges he was defrauded in 1974. The complaint alleges facts which occured no later than 1976. Plaintiff has failed to satisfy the burden of pleading with particularity the specific circumstances which would give relief to the three year statute of limitations for fraud. The complaint fails to state

27 / / /

28 / / /

facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action for Fraud and should be dismissed without leave to amend.

DATED: December 22, 1994

Respectfully submitted,

DOWNEY, BRAND, SEYMOUR & ROHWER

Bv:

PETER E. GLICK

Attorneys for Defendants RALEY'S, CHARLES L. COLLINGS, JAMES E. TEEL and JOYCE RALEY TEEL

DOWNEY, BRAND, SEYMOUR & ROHWER PETER E. GLICK, ESQ. (Bar No. 127979) 555 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor Sacramento, California 95814-4686 (916) 441-0131, 4 Attorneys for Defendants RALEY'S; JOYCE RALEY TEEL

94 DEC 22 PM 4: 10 LEGAL FROCESS #4

CHARLES L. COLLINGS; JAMES E. TEEL; and

7 8

IN THE SUPERIOR AND MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

10

9

CHARLES C. NORDBY, 11

No. 544344

12

Plaintiff,

DECLARATION OF PETER E. GLICK REGARDING NOTICE TO OPPOSING PARTY OF HEARING ON DEMURRER

TBA

13

v.

Date: Time:

Trial Date:

January 12, 1995 9:00 a.m.

JAMES E. TEEL; and MRS. JAMES) E. (JOYCE RALEY) TEEL; and DOES 1 through 25, inclusive,

RALEY'S; CHARLES L. COLLINGS;

Dept: #28

16

15

Defendants.

17

I, Peter E. Glick, declare as follows:

18 19

20

I am an attorney at law and a partner in the firm of Downey, Brand, Seymour and Rohwer, attorneys for Defendants in

21

this action. I have personal knowledge of the following facts

22

and am competent to testify to the same if called to do so.

23

On December 15, 1994, at 9:30 a.m., I called the 2.

24 25

telephone number for Mr. Charles C. Nordby who is appearing in

26

this action in pro per. After ascertaining that Mr. Nordby was not represented by counsel in this action, I informed Mr. Nordby

27

who I was and who I represented. I informed him that my clients intended to demur both generally and specially to the complaint

28

DOWNEY

BRAND SEYMOUR

on file herein on the grounds that the complaint was barred by the statute of limitations, laches, and uncertainty. I asked Mr. Nordby if he would voluntarily dismiss the complaint and he declined. I informed him of the hearing date of January 12, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. in Department 28 of this court and asked if he had 5 any objections to this date. He indicated no objection. Mr. Nordby confirmed to me that he had no fax machine 7 and that service at his home address listed on the complaint, via mailbox drop, would be sufficient if no one was home at the time of service. 10 I also informed Mr. Nordby that my clients reserved all 11 rights in connection with recovery of any fees, costs, or damages incurred as a result of having to bring this demurrer. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the 14 State of California that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowledge and that this declaration was executed on December 10, 1994 at Sacramento, California.

18

19 20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

DOWNEY BRAND SEYMOUR tuerul E. Glick