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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

10
11 **LONNIE MCCRARY, Individually and**
12 **on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,**

13 **Plaintiff,**

14 **v.**

15 **YUME, INC., ERIC B. SINGER,**
16 **CHRISTOPHER B. PAISLEY, DANIEL**
17 **D. SPRINGER, JAYANT KADAMBI,**
18 **ADRIEL G. LARES, MITCHELL J.**
HABIB, AYYAPPAN SANKARAN, and
ELIAS N. NADER,

19 **Defendants.**

Civil Action No.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

- 1. **Violations of § 14(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 14a-9**
- 2. **Violations of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act**

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21
22 Plaintiff Lonnie McCrary (“Plaintiff”), by and through its undersigned attorneys, brings
23 this stockholder class action on behalf of itself and all others similarly situated public stockholders
24 of YuMe, Inc. (“YuMe” or the “Company”) against YuMe, Eric B. Singer, Christopher B. Paisley,
25 Daniel D. Springer, Jayant Kadambi, Adriel G. Lares, Mitchell J. Habib, Ayyappan Sankaran, and
26 Elias N. Nader, the members of the YuMe’s board of directors (collectively referred to as the
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1 “Board” or the “Individual Defendants,” and, together with YuMe, the “Defendants”) for
2 violations of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”),
3 15 U.S.C. §§78n(a) and 78t(a) respectively, and United States Securities and Exchange
4 Commission (“SEC”) Rule 14a-9, 17 C.F.R. § 240.14a-9 in connection with the acquisition of
5 YuMe by RhythmOne, PLC, a public limited corporation incorporated under the laws of England
6 and Wales (“RhythmOne”), through a merger as alleged in detail herein (the “Proposed
7 Transaction”).

8 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

9 1. On September 5, 2017, YuMe and RhythmOne issued a joint press release
10 announcing that they had entered into an agreement and plan of merger and reorganization (the
11 “Merger Agreement”). Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, Purchaser will acquire all
12 issued and outstanding shares of YuMe common stock, with each share of YuMe common stock
13 exchange for the right to receive: (i) \$1.70 in cash; and (ii) 7.325 ordinary shares £0.10 each in the
14 capital of RhythmOne, plus cash in lieu of any fractional shares of RhythmOne Stock, in each
15 case, without interest (the “Merger Consideration”). As a result, each share of YuMe common
16 stock has an implied value of \$5.20 per share. The Proposed Transaction is valued at
17 approximately \$185 million.

18 2. On December 26, 2017, in order to convince YuMe stockholders to tender their
19 shares, the Board authorized the filing of a materially incomplete and misleading Form F-4
20 Registration Statement with the SEC. Subsequently, on January 4, 2018, Defendants authorized
21 the filing of a materially incomplete and misleading Form F-4/A Registration Statement (the “F-
22 4”) with the SEC, in violation of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

23 3. In particular, the F-4 contains materially incomplete and misleading information
24 concerning: (i) financial projections for RhythmOne; and (ii) the valuation analyses performed by
25 the Company’s financial advisor, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. (“Deutsche Bank”), in support of
26 their fairness opinion; and (iii) the background process leading to the Proposed Transaction.

27 4. The special meeting of YuMe stockholders to vote on the Proposed Transaction is
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1 forthcoming. It is imperative that the material information that has been omitted from the F-4 is
2 disclosed to the Company's stockholders prior to the forthcoming shareholder vote so that they
3 can properly exercise their corporate suffrage rights.

4 5. For the reasons, and as set forth in detail herein, Plaintiff asserts claims against
5 Defendants for violations of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 14a-9.
6 Plaintiff seeks to enjoin Defendants from holding the shareholder vote on the Proposed Transaction
7 and taking any steps to consummate the Proposed Transaction unless and until the material
8 information discussed below is disclosed to YuMe's stockholders sufficiently in advance of the
9 vote on the Proposed Transaction or, in the event the Proposed Transaction is consummated, to
10 recover damages resulting from the Defendants' violations of the Exchange Act.

11 **PARTIES**

12 6. Plaintiff is, and at all relevant times has been, a shareholder of YuMe.

13 7. Defendant YuMe is a Delaware corporation and maintains its principal executive
14 offices at 1204 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, California 94063. YuMe's common stock is
15 listed and traded on the NYSE under the ticker symbol "YUME".

16 8. Defendant Eric B. Singer ("Singer") is, and has been since 2016, a director of YuMe
17 and currently serves as the Chairman of the Board.

18 9. Defendant Christopher B. Paisley ("Paisley") is, and has been since 2012, a director
19 of YuMe.

20 10. Defendant Daniel D. Springer ("Springer") is, and has been since 2012, a director
21 of YuMe.

22 11. Defendant Jayant Kadambi ("Kadambi") is, and has been since 2012, a director of
23 YuMe.

24 12. Defendant Adriel G. Lares ("Lares") is, and has been since 2013, a director of
25 YuMe.

26 13. Defendant Mitchell J. Habib ("Habib") is, and has been since 2013, a director of
27 YuMe.

1 14. Defendant Ayyappan Sankaran (“Sankaran”) is, and has been since 2013, a director
2 of YuMe.

3 15. Defendant Elias N. Nader (“Nader”) is, and has been since 2016, a director of
4 YuMe.

5 16. The parties in paragraphs 8 through 15 are referred to herein as the “Individual
6 Defendants” and/or the “Board,” collectively with YuMe the “Defendants.”

7 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8 17. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Section 27 of the Exchange
9 Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question jurisdiction) as Plaintiff alleges
10 violations of Section 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

11 18. This Court has jurisdiction over the Defendants because each Defendant is either a
12 corporation that conducts business in and maintains operations within this District, or is an
13 individual with sufficient minimum contacts with this District so as to make the exercise of
14 jurisdiction by this Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

15 19. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Plaintiff’s
16 claims arose in this District, where a substantial portion of the actionable conduct took place, where
17 most of the documents are electronically stored, and where the evidence exists. YuMe is
18 incorporated in Delaware and is headquartered in this District. Moreover, each of the Individual
19 Defendants, as Company officers or directors, either resides in this District or has extensive
20 contacts within this District.

21 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

22 20. Plaintiff brings this class action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 on behalf of himself
23 and the other public stockholders of YuMe (the “Class”). Excluded from the Class are Defendants
24 herein and any person, firm, trust, corporation, or other entity related to or affiliated with any
25 Defendant.

26 21. This action is properly maintainable as a class action for the following reasons:

27 (a) the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. As of
28

1 (g) a class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently
2 adjudicating the controversy.

3 **SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS**

4 **I. Company Background and the Proposed Transaction**

5 22. YuMe, incorporated on December 16, 2004, is an independent provider of multi-
6 screen video advertising technology, connecting brand advertisers, digital media property owners,
7 and consumers of video content across a range of Internet-connected devices. The Company
8 operating segments include Domestic and International. YuMe offers advertising customers end-
9 to-end marketing solutions by combining data-driven technologies with deep insight into audience
10 behavior. The Company also offers demand-side platform (DSP), called YuMe for Advertisers,
11 to find relevant audiences and deliver targeted advertising, and a supply-side platform (SSP),
12 called YuMe for Publishers (YFP 5.0), which helps aggregate audiences, define audience
13 characteristics, and offer monetization opportunities for digital media property owners. YuMe's
14 technologies serve the specific needs of brand advertisers and enable them to find and target brand-
15 receptive audiences across a range of Internet connected devices and digital media properties. The
16 Company's software is used by digital media properties to monetize professionally-produced
17 content and applications.

18 23. On September 5, 2017, YuMe and RhythmOne issued a joint press release
19 announcing the Proposed Transaction, which states in relevant part:

20 **RHYTHMONE PLC TO ACQUIRE YUME, INC., CREATING ONE**
21 **OF THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT DIGITAL VIDEO**
22 **ADVERTISING MARKETPLACES**

23 *Combined entity will provide a fully-integrated, end-to-end online*
advertising solution, driving advertising efficiency and effectiveness

24 *YuMe Shareholders to Receive US \$1.70 per Share in Cash and 7.325*
25 *shares of RhythmOne Stock which equates to total consideration of*
26 *approximately US \$185 million*

27 *YuMe Stockholders will own approximately 34% of Combined Entity*

1 *Anticipated Run Rate Cost Synergies of US \$10-12M in First Full Year*

2 *Ted Hastings RhythmOne's CEO, to Lead Combined Company with Top*
3 *Talent Management Team*

4 **San Francisco, USA – September 5, 2017** — RhythmOne plc (LSE AIM:
5 RTHM) today announced that that it has entered into a definitive agreement
6 with YuMe, Inc. (NYSE: YUME) to acquire all its issued and to be issued
7 share capital for a total consideration of approximately US \$185M based on
8 current exchange rates. The transaction is expected to close by Q1 2018.

9 The combination of YuMe and RhythmOne will bring together demand-
10 side and supply-side strengths in the fast growing segments of mobile,
11 video, connected TV (“CTV”) and programmatic trading. The combined
12 marketplace is anticipated to be a top five comScore ranked marketplace
13 that will facilitate seamless, transparent connections between thousands of
14 advertisers and a massive supply of brand-safe inventory. The RhythmOne
15 platform is purpose-built to meet a broad range of campaign objectives,
16 providing turnkey solutions for both brand and performance campaigns.
17 Furthermore, the platform will provide advertisers with a credible, scaled
18 and independent alternative to entrenched players.

19 “Acquiring YuMe accelerates RhythmOne’s strategy to build a unified
20 programmatic platform with unique audiences of differentiated quality at
21 scale,” said Ted Hastings, CEO, RhythmOne. “Through YuMe,
22 RhythmOne gains access to premium video supply including emerging,
23 high-value connected TV inventory, unique customer insights, cross-screen
24 targeting technology and established demand relationships. We believe this
25 combination will give RhythmOne the resources, relationships and talent to
26 drive value for its shareholders, and true a return on investment.”

27 “The future of brand advertising is connected; connecting buyers to
28 premium inventory, connecting screens to deliver unified cross-screen
29 campaigns, connecting campaigns to brand objectives and most
30 importantly, connecting the best technologies to each other to deliver a sum
31 that is greater than its parts,” said Paul Porrini, CEO, YuMe. “We are proud
32 of the business we have built at YuMe, and our success in delivering
33 innovative technologies that have helped our clients achieve their marketing
34 goals. Together, RhythmOne and YuMe have an opportunity to transform
35 digital advertising with an adaptive platform that connects premium
36 demand and supply with efficiency and performance at its core.”

37 “The combined company will have a strong financial profile providing a
38 solid, scalable foundation upon which to accelerate growth and
39 profitability,” said Eric Singer, chairman of YuMe. “After a comprehensive

1 review of strategic alternatives, the YuMe board concluded that the
2 combination with RhythmOne is in the best interest of all stockholders. This
3 combination will provide immediate scale and will allow us to build upon
4 the significant financial improvements underway in both companies. I look
5 forward to serving the stockholders as chairman of the combined company
6 upon closing and to guiding the team in realizing the combined company's
7 mission."

8 Strategic Rationale

9 **A demand leader paired with a supply leader.** YuMe's strengths lie in
10 demand-side software and services used by brands, agencies and trading
11 platforms, a robust, first-party data management and targeting platform and
12 global programmatic capabilities. RhythmOne's strengths are primarily
13 focused on the supply-side as well as programmatic platform capabilities
14 represented by its multi-channel, multi-format ad exchange, whereby
15 advertisers and agencies can reach targeted, engaged audiences at scale.
16 YuMe's strong relationships with agencies and brands and its demand side
17 platform complement RhythmOne's robust, unified programmatic
18 platform.

19 **The benefits of scale.** According to eMarketer, for the first time in 2016,
20 digital advertising spend outpaced that of television. Advertisers want the
21 value and scale from digital that they previously experienced with
22 television. RhythmOne's acquisition of YuMe will create a combined
23 organization with one of the largest cross-device supply footprints in the
24 industry. By adding comScore data from the two companies, the combined
25 entity would reach ~220M unique visitors per month. Rather than dealing
26 with a patchwork of boutique providers, advertisers will be able to go to a
27 single source to meet their advertising objectives.

28 **Comprehensive data insights.** YuMe has built a robust, first-party data
management and targeting platform that provides unique insights for brand
advertising campaigns. RhythmOne's analytics, data management platform
and top-ranked brand safety technology provide transparency and drive
results for performance-based campaigns. The unified, proprietary data set,
augmented by machine-learning algorithms, will enable the combined
company to successfully deliver against a broad range of advertising
objectives. The data will also offer significant insight for publishers looking
to derive additional value from their audiences.

Talent. RhythmOne and YuMe have two experienced, tenured teams that
are clearly aligned within the vision for the combined company. These
teams will directly benefit from operating a broader platform with greater
revenue scale on a significantly stronger financial foundation.

1 **Accretive.** RhythmOne anticipates the transaction to be accretive in the first
2 full year of ownership and believes that the acquisition represents an
3 attractive opportunity to achieve savings of approximately US\$10-12M per
4 annum (before tax) across the combined businesses from functional
5 redundancies, duplicative vendor relationships and public company costs.
6 Furthermore, increased scale is likely to improve gross margin as a result of
7 operating leverage and there may also be potential for revenue synergies.

8
9 Management

10 RhythmOne's CEO Ted Hastings will continue in his role as President and
11 CEO of the combined company. Additionally, YuMe will appoint two
12 directors to the newly constituted board of directors, one of whom will be
13 Eric Singer, who will become the Chairman of the Board.

14 Transaction details

15 Under the terms of the agreement, YuMe shareholders will receive \$1.70
16 per share in cash and 7.325 shares in RhythmOne stock which equates to a
17 total consideration of \$185M.

18 YuMe's directors and officers and stockholders owning more than 10% of
19 YuMe, and each of their respective affiliates, who among them hold
20 approximately 31.6% of the issued YuMe shares, have signed tender and
21 support agreements consenting to tender their share and not to offer, sell,
22 grant any option to purchase or otherwise dispose of any RhythmOne shares
23 received by them for a period of six months from closing of the transaction.

24 The acquisition is conditional on YuMe stockholders tendering at least a
25 majority of the issued and outstanding YuMe shares. The acquisition is also
26 subject to other conditions customary for transactions of this nature and
27 requires clearance by the relevant competition authority, including the
28 expiration or termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino
Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976. RhythmOne will register the shares
offered to YuMe stockholders with the US Securities and Exchange
Commission.

 The boards of directors of RhythmOne and YuMe have each unanimously
approved the acquisition.

 The transaction is expected to close by the first quarter of 2018.

 Numis Securities Limited is serving as financial advisor to RhythmOne and
Torys LLP is serving as legal counsel to RhythmOne. Deutsche Bank is
serving as financial advisor to YuMe and Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
LLP is serving as legal counsel to YuMe.

About RhythmOne

RhythmOne is a technology-enabled digital media company that connects online audiences with brands through premium content across devices. Founded in 2004 in the UK, RhythmOne pioneered Internet video search and works with digital advertisers, publishers and content providers to offer fully integrated, cross-screen solutions that span desktop and mobile video, rich media, display, social and native advertising, and content formats. Through its fully integrated programmatic platform, RhythmOneMax, RhythmOne offers digital advertising inventory across owned, controlled and extended supply sources. The RhythmOneMax platform includes unique brand safety technology, RhythmOneGuard, which combines leading third-party verification and proprietary filtering technologies to ensure inventory quality in brand safe environments. RhythmOne's goal is to maximize the return on advertising spend and provide the most efficient and effective marketplace for digital advertising. RhythmOne is headquartered in San Francisco, United States with offices in the US, UK and Canada. For more information, please visit www.RhythmOne.com.

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About YuMe

YuMe is a proven partner for video advertising leadership and innovation. We reach valuable, data validated audiences on any connected TV or digital screen with programmatic brand advertising solutions that increase brand favorability and sales. Our software and technologies combine with unrelenting service to help brand advertisers engage audiences wherever they interact with content that matches their needs and interests. Our brand solutions incorporate data-driven audience insights to help brand advertisers reach and influence their most promising audiences. Brand advertisers benefit from higher awareness, positive perception, purchase intent and sales. YuMe is headquartered in Redwood City, California, with worldwide offices. For more information, visit www.YuMe.com, follow @YuMeVideo on Twitter (www.twitter.com/YuMevideo), or like YuMe on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YuMevideo.¹

24. The Merger Consideration in the Proposed Transaction is unfair and inadequate, because, among other things, the intrinsic value of Company and its common stock is materially in excess of the amount offered given the Company's prospects for future growth and earnings. As a result, the Proposed Transaction will deny Class Members their right to fully share equitably

¹ YuMe, Inc., Current Report (Form 8-K), at Exhibit 99.2 (Press Release dated September 5, 2017) (September 5, 2017).

1 in the true value of the Company.

2 25. For example, on May 8, 2017, YuMe announced its First Quarter 2017 results.
3 Notably, the Company achieved a gross margin of 52.3%, compared to 47.8% in Q1 2016, and net
4 income of \$1.2 million, or \$0.03 per diluted share, compared to net loss of \$3.6 million, or \$0.10
5 per diluted share, in Q1 2016.² Paul Porrini, the Company's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"),
6 commented on the Company's results:

7 We had a strong Q1 executing well against our financial and strategic goals
8 and our Q2 outlook illustrates our continued confidence in the business. Our
9 revenue exceeded consensus and gross margins continued to show strength.
10 For the first time in the company's history, we produced positive net income
11 in the first quarter coupled with the highest ever adjusted EBITDA results
12 for the first quarter. We're proud that while reaching these profitability
13 milestones, we continue to be encouraged by our programmatic growth and
14 performance.

15 In our view, all these metrics confirm the underlying health of our business.
16 We expect to continue this momentum through the rest of 2017.³

17 26. Tony Carvalho, the Company's Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), also commented
18 on the Company's favorable outlook, stating "[w]e now anticipate we'll be net income positive
19 every quarter in 2017. Our outlook assumes typical seasonal trends in our direct business and
20 continued growth in our programmatic business." *Id.*

21 27. On August 8, 2017, YuMe announced record gains in its Second Quarter 2017
22 results. Notably, the Company's revenue rose to \$42.8 million and gross margin increased to
23 50.9% from the prior year's 50.6%. In addition, Yume had \$73.9 million in cash, equivalents, and

24 ² *YuMe Reports First Quarter 2017 Financial Results*, SEEKING ALPHA (May 8, 2017), available
25 at [https://seekingalpha.com/pr/16827448-correcting-replacing-yume-reports-first-quarter-2017-](https://seekingalpha.com/pr/16827448-correcting-replacing-yume-reports-first-quarter-2017-financial-results)
26 [financial-results](https://seekingalpha.com/pr/16827448-correcting-replacing-yume-reports-first-quarter-2017-financial-results).

27 ³ *YuMe's (YUME) Paul Porrini on Q1 2017 Results – Earnings Call Transcript*, SEEKING ALPHA
28 (May 9, 2017), available at [https://seekingalpha.com/article/4071381-yumes-yume-paul-porrini-](https://seekingalpha.com/article/4071381-yumes-yume-paul-porrini-q1-2017-results-earnings-call-transcript?part=single)
[q1-2017-results-earnings-call-transcript?part=single](https://seekingalpha.com/article/4071381-yumes-yume-paul-porrini-q1-2017-results-earnings-call-transcript?part=single).

1 marketable securities, and no debt, as of June 30.⁴

2 28. In addition, the Merger Consideration represents a *discount* compared to the
3 Company's 52-week high price of \$5.50, achieved on June 21, 2017.

4 29. Furthermore, the valuation analyses conducted by Deutsche Bank in its fairness
5 opinion also indicate that the value of YuMe's common stock has substantially greater value than
6 represented by the Merger Consideration. For example, Deutsche Bank's *Selected Transaction*
7 *Analysis* indicated an implied value per YuMe share as high as \$5.89, which illustrates that each
8 share of YuMe has an inherent premium of *approximately 114%* over the implied value of the
9 Merger Consideration.

10 30. In sum, Stone's common stock has demonstrated considerable industry value and
11 growth in 2017. The Company's public common shareholders should be provided with sufficient
12 financial information in the F-4 to make an informed decision regarding the Proposed Transaction.

13 31. It is therefore imperative that YuMe public common stockholders receive the
14 material information (discussed in detail below) that has been omitted from the F-4, which is
15 necessary for the Company's public stockholders to properly exercise their corporate suffrage
16 rights and make a fully informed decision concerning whether to vote in favor of the Proposed
17 Merger.

18 **II. The Merger Agreement's Deal Protection Provisions Deter Superior Offers**

19 32. In addition to failing to conduct a fair and reasonable sales process, the Individual
20 Defendants agreed to certain deal protection provisions in the Merger Agreement that operate
21 conjunctively to deter other suitors from submitting a superior offer for YuMe.

22 33. First, the Merger Agreement contains a no solicitation provision that prohibits the
23 Company or the Individual Defendants from taking any affirmative action to obtain a better deal
24 for YuMe stockholders. Specifically, the Merger Agreement generally states that the Company

25 _____
26 ⁴ *YuMe Reports Second Quarter 2017 Financial Results*, SEEKING ALPHA (August 6, 2017),
27 available at [https://seekingalpha.com/pr/16910475-yume-reports-second-quarter-2017-financial-](https://seekingalpha.com/pr/16910475-yume-reports-second-quarter-2017-financial-results)
28 results.

1 and the Individual Defendants must not: (i) solicit, initiate, or knowingly encourage the
2 submission of, any takeover proposal or any inquiry, proposal, offer, or indication of interest that
3 would reasonably be expected to lead to a takeover proposal; (ii) approve or recommend any
4 takeover proposal, enter into any agreement, agreement-in-principle, or letter of intent with respect
5 to or accept any takeover proposal; (iii) participate or engage in any discussions or negotiations
6 regarding or knowingly take any action to facilitate any inquiries or the making of any proposal
7 that constitutes, or could reasonably be expected to lead to, any takeover proposal; or
8 (iv) terminate, amend, waive, or fail to enforce any rights under any confidentiality or non-
9 use agreement or provision relating to a takeover proposal or “standstill” or other similar
10 agreement to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party. *See* F-4 A-65 – A-66.

11 34. Furthermore, the Company and the Individual Defendants must notify within one
12 (1) business day, orally or in writing, discovery of any proposals, indications of interest, and/or
13 draft agreements received from other persons making an acquisition proposal. *See* F-4 A-66.

14 35. Additionally, the Merger Agreement grants RhythmOne recurring and unlimited
15 matching rights, which provides it with four (4) days to negotiate with YuMe, amend the terms of
16 the Merger Agreement, and make a counter-offer in the event a superior offer is received. *See* F-
17 4 A-60 – A-61.

18 36. The non-solicitation and matching rights provisions essentially ensure that a
19 superior bidder will not emerge, as any potential suitor will undoubtedly be deterred from
20 expending the time, cost, and effort of making a superior proposal while knowing that RhythmOne
21 can easily foreclose a competing bid. As a result, these provisions unreasonably favor
22 RhythmOne, to the detriment of Yume’s public common stockholders.

23 37. The Merger Agreement also provides that YuMe must pay RhythmOne a
24 termination fee of \$5,536,790.00 in cash under certain conditions, including in the event YuMe
25 elects to terminate the Merger Agreement to pursue a superior proposal. The termination fee
26 provision further ensures that no competing offer will emerge, as any competing bidder would
27 have to pay a naked premium for the right to provide YuMe stockholders with a superior offer.

1 *See* F-4 A-A-14.

2 **III. The Proxy Statement is Materially Incomplete and Misleading.**

3 38. On December 26, 2017, in order to convince YuMe stockholders to tender their
4 shares, the Board authorized the filing of a materially incomplete and misleading Form F-4. The
5 F-4 solicits the Company's stockholders to vote in favor of the Proposed Transaction. Defendants
6 were obligated to carefully review the F-4 before it was filed with the SEC and disseminated to
7 the Company's stockholders to ensure that it did not contain any material misrepresentations or
8 omissions. However, the F-4 misrepresents and/or omits material information that is necessary
9 for the Company's stockholders to make an informed decision concerning whether to vote in favor
10 of the Proposed Merger, in violation of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

11 ***RhythmOne's Financial Projections***

12 39. The F-4 fails to provide any projections for RhythmOne, in particular RhythmOne's
13 future unlevered free cash flows for the calendar years 2017 through 2021. *See* F-4 99.

14 40. Failure to provide any financial projections for RhythmOne for the calendar years
15 2017 through 2021 leaves YuMe stockholders without the necessary, material information to reach
16 a fully-informed decision concerning the Company, the fairness of the Merger Consideration, and,
17 ultimately, whether to vote in favor of the Proposed Transaction.

18 41. Furthermore, complete disclosure of the above-mentioned information omitted
19 from the financial projections is particularly important for YuMe public common stockholders
20 because the Merger Consideration is stock in another company: RhythmOne. As a result, financial
21 projections concerning RhythmOne's future performance on a stand-alone basis are material to
22 YuMe stockholders.

23 42. The omission of the above-referenced projections renders the F-4 materially
24 incomplete and misleading. If a registration statement discloses financial projections and valuation
25 information, such projections must be complete and accurate. The question here is not the duty to
26 speak, but liability for not having spoken enough. With regard to future events, uncertain figures,
27 and other so-called soft information, a company may choose silence or speech elaborated by the

1 factual basis as then known—but it may not choose half-truths.

2 43. Accordingly, the failure to disclose RhythmOne’s financial projections renders the
3 F-4 materially incomplete and misleading.

4 ***Deutsche Bank’s Valuation Analyses and Fairness Opinion***

5 44. With respect to Deutsche Bank’s *Discounted Cash Flow Analysis*, the F-4 fails to
6 disclose the following key components used in their analysis: (i) the inputs and assumptions
7 underlying the calculation of the discount rate range of 12.0% to 15.8% used for YuMe; (ii) the
8 range of estimated terminal values for YuMe at the end of 2021; (iii) the range of implied enterprise
9 values for YuMe as of September 1, 2017; (iv) YuMe’s stock based compensation expense; (v)
10 YuMe’s cash taxes; (vi) YuMe’s capital expenditures; (vii) YuMe’s change in net working capital;
11 (viii) the inputs and assumptions underlying the calculation of the range of perpetuity growth rates
12 of 3.0% to 5.0% used for YuMe; and (ix) YuMe’s cash (net of debt). *See* F-4 98.

13 45. Likewise, in the *Other Information* section, Deutsche Bank conducted a discounted
14 cash flow analysis for RhythmOne. However, the F-4 fails to disclose the following key
15 components used in the analysis: (i) the inputs and assumptions underlying the calculation of the
16 discount rate range of 12.0% to 15.8% used for RhythmOne; (ii) RhythmOne’s unlevered free cash
17 flows for the calendar years 2017 through 2021; (iii) the range of estimated terminal values for
18 RhythmOne at the end of 2021; (iii) the range of implied enterprise values for RhythmOne as of
19 September 1, 2017; (iv) RhythmOne’s Adjusted EBITDA; (v) RhythmOne’s stock based
20 compensation expense; (vi) RhythmOne’s cash taxes; (vii) RhythmOne’s capital expenditures;
21 (viii) RhythmOne’s change in net working capital; (ix) the inputs and assumptions underlying the
22 calculation of the range of perpetuity growth rates of 3.0% to 5.0% used for RhythmOne; and (x)
23 RhythmOne’s cash (net of debt). *See* F-4 99.

24 46. These key inputs are material to YuMe stockholders, and their omission renders the
25 summary of Deutsche Bank’s discounted cash flow analyses of Yume and RhythmOne materially
26 incomplete and misleading. Indeed, as a highly-respected professor explained in one of the most
27 thorough law review articles regarding the fundamental flaws with the valuation analyses bankers

1 perform in support of fairness opinions, in a discounted cash flow analysis a banker takes
2 management's forecasts, and then makes several key choices "each of which can significantly
3 affect the final valuation." Steven M. Davidoff, *Fairness Opinions*, 55 Am. U.L. Rev. 1557, 1576
4 (2006). Such choices include "the appropriate discount rate, and the terminal value..." *Id.* As
5 Professor Davidoff explains:

6 **There is substantial leeway to determine each of these, and any change**
7 **can markedly affect the discounted cash flow value. For example, a**
8 **change in the discount rate by one percent on a stream of cash flows in**
9 **the billions of dollars can change the discounted cash flow value by tens**
10 **if not hundreds of millions of dollars.... This issue arises not only with a**
11 **discounted cash flow analysis, but with each of the other valuation**
12 **techniques. This dazzling variability makes it difficult to rely, compare,**
13 **or analyze the valuations underlying a fairness opinion unless full**
14 **disclosure is made of the various inputs in the valuation process, the**
15 **weight assigned for each, and the rationale underlying these choices.** The
16 substantial discretion and lack of guidelines and standards also makes the
17 process vulnerable to manipulation to arrive at the "right" answer for
18 fairness. This raises a further dilemma in light of the conflicted nature of
19 the investment banks who often provide these opinions.

20 *Id.* at 1577-78.

21 47. With respect to Deutsche Bank's *Other Information* analysis, the F-4 fails to
22 disclose the identities of the four publicly available research analysts that were evaluated and their
23 respective price targets for RhythmOne. *See* F-4 99. The omission of the research analysts'
24 identities and their price targets renders the summary of the *Other Information* section materially
25 misleading. A fair summary requires the disclosure of the individual research analysts' identities
26 and their price targets; merely providing the range that a banker evaluated is insufficient, as YuMe
27 stockholders are unable to assess whether the banker limited their analysis to specific analysts and,
28 as a result, unreasonably overstated the value of RhythmOne.

48. In sum, the omission of the above-referenced information renders statements in the
F-4 materially incomplete and misleading in contravention of the Exchange Act. Absent
disclosure of the foregoing material information prior to the special shareholder meeting to vote

1 on the Proposed Transaction, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class will be unable to make
2 a fully-informed decision regarding whether to vote in favor of the Proposed Transaction, and they
3 are thus threatened with irreparable harm, warranting the injunctive relief sought herein.

4 **COUNT I**

5 **(Against All Defendants for Violations of Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act and**
6 **Rule 14a-9 Promulgated Thereunder)**

7 49. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth
8 herein.

9 50. Section 14(a)(1) of the Exchange Act makes it “unlawful for any person, by the use
10 of the mails or by any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce or of any facility of a
11 national securities exchange or otherwise, in contravention of such rules and regulations as the
12 Commission may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection
13 of investors, to solicit or to permit the use of his name to solicit any proxy or consent or
14 authorization in respect of any security (other than an exempted security) registered pursuant to
15 section 78l of this title.” 15 U.S.C. § 78n(a)(1).

16 51. Rule 14a-9, promulgated by the SEC pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Exchange
17 Act, provides that registration statement communications with shareholders shall not contain “any
18 statement which, at the time and in the light of the circumstances under which it is made, is false
19 or misleading with respect to any material fact, or which omits to state any material fact necessary
20 in order to make the statements therein not false or misleading.” 17 C.F.R. § 240.14a-9.

21 52. The omission of information from a registration statement will violate Section 14(a)
22 and Rule 14a-9 if other SEC regulations specifically require disclosure of the omitted information.

23 53. Defendants have issued the F-4 with the intention of soliciting stockholder support
24 for the Proposed Transaction. Each of the Defendants reviewed and authorized the dissemination
25 of the S-4, which fails to provide critical information regarding, amongst other things: (i) financial
26 projections for RhythmOne; and (ii) the valuation analyses performed by the Company’s financial
27 advisor, Deutsche Bank, in support of their fairness opinion; and (iii) the background process

1 leading to the Proposed Transaction.

2 54. In so doing, Defendants made untrue statements of fact and/or omitted material
3 facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading. Each of the Individual Defendants,
4 by virtue of their roles as officers and/or directors, were aware of the omitted information but failed
5 to disclose such information, in violation of Section 14(a). The Individual Defendants were
6 therefore negligent, as they had reasonable grounds to believe material facts existed that were
7 misstated or omitted from the F-4, but nonetheless failed to obtain and disclose such information
8 to YuMe's common stockholders although they could have done so without extraordinary effort.

9 55. The Individual Defendants knew or were negligent in not knowing that the F-4 is
10 materially misleading and omits material facts that are necessary to render it not misleading. The
11 Individual Defendants undoubtedly reviewed and relied upon most if not all of the omitted
12 information identified above in connection with their decision to approve and recommend the
13 Proposed Transaction; indeed, the F-4 states that Deutsche Bank reviewed and discussed their
14 financial analyses with the Board, and further states that the Board considered the financial
15 analyses provided by Deutsche Bank, as well as its fairness opinion and the assumptions made and
16 matters considered in connection therewith. Further, the Individual Defendants were privy to and
17 had knowledge of the projections for the Company and the details surrounding the process leading
18 up to the signing of the Merger Agreement. The Individual Defendants knew or were negligent in
19 not knowing that the material information identified above has been omitted from the F-4,
20 rendering the sections of the F-4 identified above to be materially incomplete and misleading.
21 Indeed, the Individual Defendants were required to, separately, review Deutsche Bank's analyses
22 in connection with their receipt of the fairness opinion, question Deutsche Bank as to the derivation
23 of fairness, and be particularly attentive to the procedures followed in preparing the F-4, and
24 review it carefully before it was disseminated, to corroborate that there are no material
25 misstatements or omissions.

26 56. The Individual Defendants were, at the very least, negligent in preparing and
27 reviewing the F-4. The preparation of a registration statement by corporate insiders containing

1 materially false or misleading statements or omitting a material fact constitutes negligence. The
2 Individual Defendants were negligent in choosing to omit material information from the F-4 or
3 failing to notice the material omissions in the F-4 upon reviewing it, which they were required to
4 do carefully as the Company's directors. Indeed, the Individual Defendants were intricately
5 involved in the process leading up to the signing of the Merger Agreement and the preparation of
6 the Company's financial projections.

7 57. YuMe is also deemed negligent as a result of the Individual Defendants' negligence
8 in preparing and reviewing the F-4.

9 58. The misrepresentations and omissions in the F-4 are material to Plaintiff and the
10 Class, who will be deprived of their right to cast an informed vote if such misrepresentations and
11 omissions are not corrected prior to the vote on the Proposed Transaction. Plaintiff and the Class
12 have no adequate remedy at law. Only through the exercise of this Court's equitable powers can
13 Plaintiff and the Class be fully protected from the immediate and irreparable injury that
14 Defendants' actions threaten to inflict.

15 **COUNT II**

16 **(Against the Individual Defendants for Violations of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act)**

17
18 59. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth
19 herein.

20 60. The Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of YuMe within the
21 meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as
22 directors of YuMe, and participation in and/or awareness of the YuMe's operations and/or intimate
23 knowledge of the incomplete and misleading statements contained in the F-4 filed with the SEC,
24 they had the power to influence and control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly,
25 the decision making of YuMe, including the content and dissemination of the various statements
26 that Plaintiff contends are materially incomplete and misleading.

27 61. Each of the Individual Defendants was provided with or had unlimited access to

1 copies of the F-4 and other statements alleged by Plaintiff to be misleading prior to and/or shortly
2 after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent the issuance of the statements or
3 cause the statements to be corrected.

4 62. In particular, each of the Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory
5 involvement in the day-to-day operations of YuMe, and, therefore, is presumed to have had the
6 power to control or influence the particular transactions giving rise to the Exchange Act violations
7 alleged herein, and exercised the same. The omitted information identified above was reviewed
8 by the Board prior to voting on the Proposed Transaction. The F-4 at issue contains the unanimous
9 recommendation of the Board to approve the Proposed Transaction. The Individual Defendants
10 were thus directly involved in the making of the F-4.

11 63. In addition, as the F-4 sets forth at length, and as described herein, the Individual
12 Defendants were involved in negotiating, reviewing, and approving the Merger Agreement. The
13 F-4 purports to describe the various issues and information that the Individual Defendants
14 reviewed and considered. The Individual Defendants participated in drafting and/or gave their
15 input on the content of those descriptions.

16 64. By virtue of the foregoing, the Individual Defendants have violated Section 20(a)
17 of the Exchange Act.

18 65. As set forth above, the Individual Defendants had the ability to exercise control
19 over and did control a person or persons who have each violated Section 14(a) and Rule 14a-9, by
20 their acts and omissions as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as controlling persons, these
21 Defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. As a direct and proximate
22 result of Individual Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff and the Class will be irreparably harmed.

23 66. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law. Only through the exercise
24 of this Court's equitable powers can Plaintiff and the Class be fully protected from the immediate
25 and irreparable injury that Defendants' actions threaten to inflict.

1 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

2 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays for judgment and relief as follows:

3 A. Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and certifying
4 Plaintiff as Class Representative and its counsel as Class Counsel;

5 B. Enjoining Defendants, their agents, counsel, employees, and all persons acting in
6 concert with them from consummating the Proposed Transaction, unless and until the Company
7 discloses the material information discussed above which has been omitted from the F-4;

8 C. Directing the Individual Defendants to account to Plaintiff and the Class for all
9 damages suffered as a result of the Individual Defendants wrongdoing;

10 D. Awarding Plaintiff the costs and disbursements of this action, including reasonable
11 attorneys' and experts' fees; and

12 E. Granting such other and further equitable relief as this Court may deem just and
13 proper.

14 **JURY DEMAND**

15 Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

16
17 DATED: January 6, 2018

18 Respectfully submitted,

19 **OF COUNSEL**

/s/ David E. Bower

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