

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

\_\_\_\_\_, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF  
ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FENIX PARTS, INC., W. KENT ROBERTSON,  
SCOTT PETTIT, BMO CAPITAL MARKETS  
CORP., STIFEL, NICOLAUS & COMPANY,  
INCORPORATED, BB&T SECURITIES, LLC, and  
BARRINGTON RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC.

Defendants.

**Civil Action No.:**

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR  
VIOLATIONS OF THE FEDERAL  
SECURITIES LAWS**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

Plaintiff \_\_\_\_\_ (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, by Plaintiff’s undersigned attorneys, for Plaintiff’s complaint against Defendants (defined below), alleges the following based upon personal knowledge as to Plaintiff and Plaintiff’s own acts, and information and belief as to all other matters, based upon, *inter alia*, the investigation conducted by and through his attorneys, which included, among other things, a review of the Defendants’ public documents, conference calls and announcements made by Defendants, United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filings, wire and press releases published by and regarding Fenix

Parts, Inc. (“Fenix” or the “Company”), and information readily obtainable on the Internet. Plaintiff believes that substantial evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable opportunity for discovery.

### **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is a class action on behalf of persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired Fenix securities: (1) pursuant and/or traceable to the Company’s Registration Statement and Prospectus (collectively, the “Offering Documents”) issued in connection with the Company’s initial public offering on or about May 14, 2015 (the “IPO” or the “Offering”); and/or (2) on the open market between May 14, 2015 and October 13, 2016, inclusive (the “Class Period”). Plaintiff seeks to recover compensable damages caused by Defendants’ violations of the federal securities laws under the Securities Act of 1933 (the “Securities Act”) and under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”).

2. On May 19, 2015, the Company completed its IPO, raising approximately \$110.4 million in gross proceeds by selling 13.8 million shares at \$8.00 per share.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. The claims asserted herein arise under and pursuant to Sections 11, 12(a)(2), 15 of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 77k, 77l(a)(2), 77o), and Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5).

4. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, Section 22 of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. § 77v), and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §78aa).

5. Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa(c)). The Company maintains an office in this Judicial District, and a significant portion of Defendants' actions, and the subsequent damages, took place in this Judicial District.

6. In connection with the acts, conduct and other wrongs alleged in this complaint, Defendants, directly or indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, including but not limited to, the United States mails, interstate telephone communications and the facilities of the national securities exchange.

### **PARTIES**

7. Plaintiff, as set forth in the accompanying certification, incorporated by reference herein, purchased Fenix securities pursuant to or traceable to the Company's IPO and/or during the Class Period and was economically damaged thereby.

8. Defendant Fenix is incorporated in Delaware and headquartered in Westchester, Illinois. Defendants maintain an office in Rahway, New Jersey. Fenix owns full service and self service recycling yards throughout the USA and Canada. Fenix recycles and resells original equipment manufacturer ("OEM") automotive products. The Company's primary business is auto recycling, which is the recovery and resale of OEM parts, components and systems reclaimed from damaged, totaled or low value vehicles. Customers include collision repair shops (body shops), mechanical repair shops, auto dealerships and individual retail customers. Fenix securities trade on NASDAQ under the ticker "FENX."

9. Defendant W. Kent Robertson ("Robertson") has been the Company's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and President throughout the Class Period. Defendant Robertson signed the IPO Registration Statement.

10. Defendant Scott Pettit (“Pettit”) has been the Company’s Chief Financial Officer throughout the Class Period. Defendant Pettit signed the IPO Registration Statement.

11. Defendants Robertson and Pettit are collectively referred to herein as the “Individual Defendants.”

12. Each of the Individual Defendants:

- (a) directly participated in the management of the Company;
- (b) was directly involved in the day-to-day operations of the Company at the highest levels;
- (c) was privy to confidential proprietary information concerning the Company and its business and operations;
- (d) was directly or indirectly involved in drafting, producing, reviewing and/or disseminating the false and misleading statements and information alleged herein;
- (e) was directly or indirectly involved in the oversight or implementation of the Company’s internal controls;
- (f) was aware of or recklessly disregarded the fact that the false and misleading statements were being issued concerning the Company; and/or
- (g) approved or ratified these statements in violation of the federal securities laws.

13. Fenix is liable for the acts of the Individual Defendants and its employees under the doctrine of *respondeat superior* and common law principles of agency because all of the wrongful acts complained of herein were carried out within the scope of their employment.

14. 15. The scienter of the Individual Defendants and other employees and agents of the Company is similarly imputed to Fenix under *respondeat superior* and agency principles.

15. Defendant BMO Capital Markets Corp. (“BMO”) was an underwriter for the Company’s IPO and sold 4,500,000 shares of Fenix in the IPO.

16. Defendant Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated (“Stifel”) was an underwriter for the Company’s IPO and sold 4,500,000 shares of Fenix in the IPO.

17. Defendant BB&T Securities, LLC, through its division, BB&T Capital Markets, (“BB&T”) was an underwriter for the Company’s IPO and sold 2,100,000 shares of Fenix in the IPO.

18. Defendant Barrington Research Associates, Inc. (“Barrington”) was an underwriter for the Company’s IPO and sold 900,000 shares of Fenix in the IPO.

19. Defendants BMO, Stifel, BB&T, and Barrington are collectively referred to herein as the “Underwriter Defendants.”

20. Defendants Fenix, Individual Defendants, and Underwriter Defendants are collectively referred to herein as “Defendants.”

## **SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS**

### **Background**

21. Fenix was founded in January 2014 to combine eight companies (the “Founding Companies”) and to create a network that offers sales, fulfillment and distribution in key regional markets in the United States and Canada. The Founding Companies consisted of eight American companies and Standard Auto Wreckers, Inc.’s (“Standard”)(one of those companies) three Canadian subsidiaries.

22. On April 8, 2015, Fenix filed a draft registration statement with the SEC in connection with the Company’s IPO. The draft registration statement was subsequently amended several times, and the final amended registration statement was filed with the SEC on May 7, 2015 (collectively, the “Registration Statement”).

23. The Registration Statement contained a preliminary prospectus. The final prospectus (the “Prospectus”) was filed with the SEC on May 15, 2015.

24. On May 13, 2015, the SEC declared Fenix’s Registration Statement and Prospectus effective and Fenix securities began trading on NASDAQ on May 14, 2015.

25. On May 19, 2015, the Company completed the IPO, issuing 13.8 million shares at \$8.00 per share and raising approximately \$110.4 million in gross proceeds.

26. Concurrently with the closing of the IPO, Fenix planned to use the proceeds to acquire, in separate transactions, the eleven corporate entities which was comprised of the eight Founding Companies and the three Canadian subsidiaries of Standard.

**Materially False and Misleading  
Statements Issued During the Class Period**

27. The Offering Documents discussed the Company’s accounting policies pertaining to inventory, stating in relevant part:

**Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates, assumptions, and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, assumptions, and judgments, including those related to revenue recognition, inventory valuation, business combinations, and goodwill impairment. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The results of these estimates form the basis for our judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities and our recognition of revenue. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

\* \* \*

*Inventories*

Our recycled OEM and related product inventory cost is established based upon the price we pay for a vehicle, including auction, storage and towing fees, as well as expenditures for buying and dismantling vehicles. After dismantling, the cost assigned to salvaged parts and scrap is determined using the average cost to sales percentage at each of our facilities and applying that percentage to the facility's inventory at expected selling prices. The average cost to sales percentage is derived from each facility's historical vehicle profitability for salvage vehicles purchased at auction or from contracted rates for salvage vehicles acquired under certain direct procurement arrangements.

For all inventories, carrying value is recorded at the lower of cost or market and is reduced to reflect the age of the inventory and current anticipated demand. If actual demand differs from our estimates, additional reductions to inventory carrying value would be necessary in the period such determination is made.

28. On June 29, 2015, the Company filed a Form 10-Q for the quarter ending March 31, 2015 (the "1Q15 10-Q") with the SEC. The 1Q15 10-Q was signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit. Attached to the 1Q15 10-Q were certifications pursuant to the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 ("SOX") signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit attesting to the accuracy of the financial statements and that all fraud was disclosed.

29. The 1Q15 10-Q discussed the Company's accounting policies pertaining to inventory, stating in relevant part:

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon both the individual consolidated or combined financial statements of Fenix Parts, Inc. (prior to the IPO and Combinations) and the predecessors, as well as a discussion of the pro forma results of operations for the Company as if the Combinations had taken place on January 1, 2014, all of which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates, assumptions and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on going basis, we evaluate our estimates, assumptions and judgments including those related to revenue recognition, warranty costs, inventory valuation, allowance for doubtful accounts, goodwill impairments, self-insurance programs, contingencies, asset impairments and taxes. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The results of these estimates form the basis for our

judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities and our recognition of revenue that is not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

\* \* \*

### ***Inventory Accounting***

Our recycled OEM and related product inventory cost is established based upon the price we pay for a vehicle, including auction, storage and towing fees, as well as expenditures for buying and dismantling vehicles. After dismantling, the cost assigned to salvaged parts and scrap is determined using the average cost to sales percentage at each of our facilities and applying that percentage to the facility's inventory at expected selling prices. The average cost to sales percentage is derived from each facility's historical vehicle profitability for salvage vehicles purchased at auction or from contracted rates for salvage vehicles acquired under certain direct procurement arrangements.

For all inventories, carrying value is recorded at the lower of cost or market and is reduced to reflect the age of the inventory and current anticipated demand. If actual demand differs from our estimates, additional reductions to inventory carrying value would be necessary in the period such determination is made.

30. The statements contained in ¶¶ 27-29 were materially false and/or misleading because they misrepresented and failed to disclose the following adverse facts pertaining to the Company's business, operations and prospects, which were known to Defendants or recklessly disregarded by them. Specifically, Defendants made false and/or misleading statements and/or failed to disclose that: (1) the Company had an inadequate inventory valuation methodology; (2) the Company was engaging and/or had engaged in conduct that would result in an SEC investigation; (3) as a result of the foregoing, Defendants' statements about its business, operations, and prospects, were materially false and misleading and/or lacked a reasonable basis at all relevant times.

### **The Truth Begins to Emerge**

31. On September 10, 2015, *Street Sweeper* published the article, "Fenix Parts: This Automobile Parts Seller Could Be Headed To The Junkyard." The article discussed some of the

problems at Fenix including its messy financials and lack of adequate inventory valuation methodologies, stating in relevant part:

**Messy Financials** - Fenix is also challenged by messy financials, apparent inability to file financial reports on time and a Nasdaq deficiency notice.

\* \* \*

**\*Frequently Delayed Financial Report Raises Issues, Builds NASDAQ Deficiency Notice Pressure**

But cash-poor publicly traded companies are expected to file their financials on time, too. The second quarter financials were due Aug. 14.

Fenix didn't make it. So Nasdaq notified the company of its short-coming on Aug. 20. Four business days later, Fenix notified investors about the Nasdaq deficiency notice, stating it would file its financials on Sept. 2.

But in a filing dated Sept. 2, Fenix states:

“On September 2, 2015, the Company issued a press release reporting its second quarter 2015 pro forma consolidated revenues and providing an update on its second quarter Form 10-Q filing, which is now expected within the next two business days.”

What happened two days later, on Sept. 4? Nothing.

Fenix did hold a Sept. 3 “investor update” in which CEO Kent Robertson said, “...we are close to completing our second-quarter 10-Q filing. This filing is complex ...”

This filing issue is yet another chapter in Fenix's history of complex, incomplete financial details that managers must repeatedly apologize for in conference calls.

The company did recently tell investors to expect a loss for the second quarter. But how bad?

The clock is ticking. Investors are wondering.

32. On this news, shares of Fenix securities declined \$1.12 per share or approximately 11.7% from its previous closing price on unusually heavy volume to close at \$8.47 per share on September 10, 2015, damaging investors.

### **Additional Misleading Class Period Statements**

33. On September 14, 2015, the Company filed a Form 10-Q for the quarter ending June 30, 2015 (the “2Q15 10-Q”) with the SEC. The 2Q15 10-Q was signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit. Attached to the 2Q15 10-Q were SOX certifications signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit attesting to the accuracy of the financial statements and that all fraud was disclosed.

34. The 2Q15 10-Q discussed the Company’s accounting policies pertaining to inventory, stating in relevant part:

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon both the individual consolidated or combined financial statements of Fenix Parts, Inc. (prior to the IPO and Combinations) and the co-predecessors, as well as a discussion of the actual results of operations since the Combinations and certain pro forma results of operations for the Company as if the Combinations and IPO had taken place on January 1, 2014, all of which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates, assumptions and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on going basis, we evaluate our estimates, assumptions and judgments including those related to revenue recognition, warranty costs, inventory valuation, allowance for doubtful accounts, goodwill impairments, self-insurance programs, contingencies, asset impairments and taxes. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The results of these estimates form the basis for our judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities and our recognition of revenue that is not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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#### ***Inventory Accounting***

Our recycled OEM and related product inventory cost is established based upon the price we pay for a vehicle, including auction, storage and towing fees, as well as expenditures for buying and dismantling vehicles. After dismantling, the cost assigned to salvaged parts and scrap is determined using the average cost to sales percentage at each of our facilities and applying that percentage to the facility’s inventory at expected selling prices. The average cost to sales percentage is derived from each facility’s historical vehicle profitability for salvage vehicles purchased at

auction or from contracted rates for salvage vehicles acquired under certain direct procurement arrangements.

For all inventories, carrying value is recorded at the lower of cost or market and is reduced to reflect the age of the inventory and current anticipated demand. If actual demand differs from our estimates, additional reductions to inventory carrying value would be necessary in the period such determination is made.

35. On November 17, 2015, the Company filed a Form 10-Q for the quarter ending September 30, 2015 (the “3Q15 10-Q”) with the SEC. The 3Q15 10-Q was signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit. Attached to the 3Q15 10-Q were SOX certifications signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit attesting to the accuracy of the financial statements and that all fraud was disclosed.

36. The 3Q15 10-Q discussed the Company’s accounting policies pertaining to inventory, stating in relevant part:

**Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon both the individual consolidated or combined financial statements of Fenix Parts, Inc. (prior to the IPO and Combinations) and the co-predecessors, as well as a discussion of the actual results of operations since the Combinations and certain pro forma results of operations for the Company as if the Combinations and IPO had taken place on January 1, 2014, all of which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates, assumptions and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on going basis, we evaluate our estimates, assumptions and judgments including those related to revenue recognition, warranty costs, inventory valuation, allowance for doubtful accounts, goodwill impairments, self-insurance programs, contingencies, asset impairments and taxes. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The results of these estimates form the basis for our judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities and our recognition of revenue that is not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

\* \* \*

***Inventory Accounting***

Our recycled OEM and related product inventory cost is established based upon the price we pay for a vehicle, including auction, storage and towing fees, as well as expenditures for buying and dismantling vehicles. After dismantling, the cost assigned to salvaged parts and scrap is determined using the average cost to sales percentage at each of our facilities and applying that percentage to the facility's inventory at expected selling prices. The average cost to sales percentage is derived from each facility's historical vehicle profitability for salvage vehicles purchased at auction or from contracted rates for salvage vehicles acquired under certain direct procurement arrangements.

For all inventories, carrying value is recorded at the lower of cost or market and is reduced to reflect the age of the inventory and current anticipated demand. If actual demand is less than our estimates, additional reductions to inventory carrying value would be necessary in the period such determination is made.

Inventories acquired in business combinations are marked up from historical cost to an estimate of fair market value as described below. This mark up increases reported cost of goods sold and reduces gross margin in the initial months following an acquisition.

37. On April 14, 2016, the Company filed a Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2015 (the "2015 10-K") with the SEC. The 2015 10-K was signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit. Attached to the 2015 10-K were SOX certifications signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit attesting to the accuracy of the financial statements and that all fraud was disclosed.

38. The 2015 10-K discussed the Company's accounting policies pertaining to inventory, stating in relevant part:

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require us to make estimates and assumptions especially as it relates to Revenue Recognition, Allowance for Doubtful Accounts, Inventories, Business Combinations, Goodwill, Intangible Assets, and Contingent Consideration. We believe that the following accounting policies (see Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the consolidated financial statements in this document) involve a higher degree of judgment and complexity and are deemed critical. We discuss our critical accounting policies with the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors.

\* \* \*

### ***Inventories***

Our recycled OEM and related product inventory cost is established based upon the price we pay for a vehicle, including auction, storage and towing fees, as well as expenditures for buying and dismantling vehicles. After dismantling, the cost assigned to salvaged parts and scrap is determined using the average cost to sales percentage at each facility and applying that percentage to the facility's inventory at expected selling prices. The average cost to sales percentage is derived from each facility's historical vehicle profitability for salvage vehicles purchased at auction or acquired under other arrangements.

All inventory is recorded at the lower of cost or market. The market value of our inventory is determined based on the nature of the inventory and anticipated demand. If actual demand differs from our earlier estimates, reductions to inventory carrying value would be necessary in the period such determination is made.

The historical cost basis of inventories acquired in conjunction with all business combinations includes an adjustment to record the inventory at its fair value on the date of acquisition. This incremental adjustment of inventory to fair value is amortized through cost of goods sold based on the average utilization of the acquired inventory. The acquisitions of the Subsidiaries contributed a \$10.0 million increase in our recycled OEM and related products inventory during 2015, of which, approximately \$8.6 million was amortized through cost of goods sold. As of December 31, 2015, the unamortized fair value inventory adjustment is approximately \$1.4 million. See Note 3, Business Combinations, to the consolidated financial statements in this document for further information on our acquired inventory.

39. On June 29, 2016, the Company filed a Form 10-Q for the quarter ending March 31, 2016 (the "1Q16 10-Q") with the SEC. The 1Q16 10-Q was signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit. Attached to the 1Q16 10-Q were SOX certifications signed by Defendants Robertson and Pettit attesting to the accuracy of the financial statements and that all fraud was disclosed.

40. The 1Q16 10-Q discussed the Company's accounting policies pertaining to inventories, stating in relevant part:

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our accounting policies require us to apply methodologies, estimates and judgments that have a significant impact on the results we report in our consolidated financial statements. In our 2015 Annual Report on Form 10-K, we discussed those material policies that we believe are critical and require the use of complex judgment in

application. There have been no changes to our critical accounting policies since that time.

41. The statements contained in ¶¶ 33-40 were materially false and/or misleading because they misrepresented and failed to disclose the following adverse facts pertaining to the Company's business, operations and prospects, which were known to Defendants or recklessly disregarded by them. Specifically, Defendants made false and/or misleading statements and/or failed to disclose that: (1) the Company has an inadequate inventory valuation methodology; (2) the Company was engaging and/or had engaged in conduct that would result in an SEC investigation; (3) as a result of the foregoing, Defendants' statements about its business, operations, and prospects, were materially false and misleading and/or lacked a reasonable basis at all relevant times.

### **THE TRUTH EMERGES**

42. On October 13, 2016, the Company issued a press release entitled, "Fenix Parts Announces Preliminary Second Quarter 2016 Revenue and Provides Update Regarding Second Quarter Form 10-Q Filing Status." The Company revealed that it was still not able to file its quarterly report for the second quarter of 2016 and it received subpoena from the SEC, stating in relevant part:

The Company has delayed filing its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the second quarter of 2016 to complete quarterly review and first-time-through procedures, which are still ongoing. *The delay has been, in large part, caused by the complexity of accounting for the Company's multiple business combinations, the coordination of the transition of responsibilities between the Company's prior and new independent registered public accounting firms, and additional procedures on purchase accounting and inventory following the Company's recent receipt of a subpoena from the Chicago Regional Office of the SEC requiring the production of various documents. The SEC inquiry appears to be focused on the Company's recent change in its independent registered public accounting firm, its previously announced business combinations and related goodwill impairment charge, the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting and its inventory valuation methodology.* The Company's receipt of a subpoena from the SEC does not mean that it has violated the securities laws, and management does not believe that the inquiry will have a material impact on the Company's financial condition,

results of operations or cash flow, but cannot predict the duration or outcome of the inquiry.

(Emphasis added).

43. On this news, shares of Fenix declined \$0.45 per share or approximately 11.6% from its previous closing price on unusually heavy volume to close at \$3.42 per share on October 13, 2016, further damaging investors.

44. Since the IPO, Fenix securities traded as high as \$11.51 per share or \$3.51 per share over the IPO price.

45. At the time of the filing of this action, Fenix securities trade at approximately \$3.38 per share.

#### **PLAINTIFF'S CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

46. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) on behalf of a class consisting of all persons other than defendants who acquired Fenix securities during the Class Period and who were damaged thereby (the "Class"). Excluded from the Class are Defendants, the officers and directors of Fenix, members of the Individual Defendants' and Underwriter Defendants' immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns and any entity in which Officer or Director Defendants have or had a controlling interest.

47. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Throughout the Class Period, Fenix securities were actively traded on NASDAQ. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can be ascertained only through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are hundreds, if not thousands of members in the proposed Class.

48. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class as all members of the Class are similarly affected by defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of federal law that is complained of herein.

49. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class and securities litigation. Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to or in conflict with those of the Class.

50. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

- whether the Exchange Act were violated by Defendants' acts as alleged herein;
- whether statements made by Defendants to the investing public during the Class Period misrepresented material facts about the financial condition and business Fenix;
- whether Defendants' public statements to the investing public during the Class Period omitted material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;
- whether the Defendants caused Fenix to issue false and misleading SEC filings during the Class Period;
- whether Defendants acted knowingly or recklessly in issuing false and SEC filing
- whether the prices of Fenix's securities during the Class Period were artificially inflated because of the Defendants' conduct complained of herein; and
- whether the members of the Class have sustained damages and, if so, what is the proper measure of damages.

51. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is impracticable. Furthermore, as the

damages suffered by individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation make it impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

52. Plaintiff will rely, in part, upon the presumption of reliance established by the fraud-on-the-market doctrine in that:

- Fenix shares met the requirements for listing, and were listed and actively traded on NASDAQ, a highly efficient and automated market;
- As a public issuer, Fenix filed periodic public reports with the SEC and NASDAQ;
- Fenix regularly communicated with public investors via established market communication mechanisms, including through the regular dissemination of press releases via major newswire services and through other wide-ranging public disclosures, such as communications with the financial press and other similar reporting services; and
- Fenix was followed by a number of securities analysts employed by major brokerage firms who wrote reports that were widely distributed and publicly available.

53. Based on the foregoing, the market for Fenix securities promptly digested current information regarding Fenix from all publicly available sources and reflected such information in the prices of the shares, and Plaintiff and the members of the Class are entitled to a presumption of reliance upon the integrity of the market.

54. Alternatively, Plaintiff and the members of the Class are entitled to the presumption of reliance established by the Supreme Court in *Affiliated Ute Citizens of the State of Utah v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128 (1972), as Defendants omitted material information in their Class Period statements in violation of a duty to disclose such information as detailed above.

## COUNT I

### **For Violations of Section 10(b) And Rule 10b-5 Promulgated Thereunder Against All Defendants**

55. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.

56. This Count is asserted against Defendants is based upon Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC.

57. During the Class Period, Defendants, individually and in concert, directly or indirectly, disseminated or approved the false statements specified above, which they knew or deliberately disregarded were misleading in that they contained misrepresentations and failed to disclose material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

58. Defendants violated §10(b) of the 1934 Act and Rule 10b-5 in that they:

- employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud;
- made untrue statements of material facts or omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- engaged in acts, practices and a course of business that operated as a fraud or deceit upon plaintiff and others similarly situated in connection with their purchases of Fenix securities during the Class Period.

59. Defendants acted with scienter in that they knew that the public documents and statements issued or disseminated in the name of Fenix were materially false and misleading; knew that such statements or documents would be issued or disseminated to the investing public; and knowingly and substantially participated, or acquiesced in the issuance or dissemination of such statements or documents as primary violations of the securities laws. These defendants by virtue of

their receipt of information reflecting the true facts of Fenix, their control over, and/or receipt and/or modification of Fenix's allegedly materially misleading statements, and/or their associations with the Company which made them privy to confidential proprietary information concerning Fenix, participated in the fraudulent scheme alleged herein.

60. Individual Defendants, who are the senior officers and/or directors of the Company, had actual knowledge of the material omissions and/or the falsity of the material statements set forth above, and intended to deceive Plaintiff and the other members of the Class, or, in the alternative, acted with reckless disregard for the truth when they failed to ascertain and disclose the true facts in the statements made by them or other Fenix personnel to members of the investing public, including Plaintiff and the Class.

61. As a result of the foregoing, the market price of Fenix securities was artificially inflated during the Class Period. In ignorance of the falsity of Defendants' statements, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class relied on the statements described above and/or the integrity of the market price of Fenix securities during the Class Period in purchasing Fenix securities at prices that were artificially inflated as a result of Defendants' false and misleading statements.

62. Had Plaintiff and the other members of the Class been aware that the market price of Fenix securities had been artificially and falsely inflated by Defendants' misleading statements and by the material adverse information which Defendants did not disclose, they would not have purchased Fenix securities at the artificially inflated prices that they did, or at all.

63. As a result of the wrongful conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff and other members of the Class have suffered damages in an amount to be established at trial.

64. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have violated Section 10(b) of the 1934 Act and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder and are liable to the plaintiff and the other members of the

Class for substantial damages which they suffered in connection with their purchase of Fenix securities during the Class Period.

## **COUNT II**

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

65. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

66. During the Class Period, the Individual Defendants participated in the operation and management of Fenix, and conducted and participated, directly and indirectly, in the conduct of Fenix's business affairs. Because of their senior positions, they knew the adverse non-public information about Fenix's misstatement of revenue and profit and false financial statements.

67. As officers and/or directors of a publicly owned company, the Individual Defendants had a duty to disseminate accurate and truthful information with respect to Fenix's financial condition and results of operations, and to correct promptly any public statements issued by Fenix which had become materially false or misleading.

68. Because of their positions of control and authority as senior officers, the Individual Defendants were able to, and did, control the contents of the various reports, press releases and public filings which Fenix disseminated in the marketplace during the Class Period concerning Fenix's results of operations. Throughout the Class Period, the Individual Defendants exercised their power and authority to cause Fenix to engage in the wrongful acts complained of herein. The Individual Defendants therefore, were "controlling persons" of Fenix within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. In this capacity, they participated in the unlawful conduct alleged which artificially inflated the market price of Fenix securities.

69. By reason of the above conduct, the Individual Defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act for the violations committed by Fenix.

### **COUNT III**

#### **Violation of Section 11 of the Securities Act Against All Defendants**

70. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained above.

71. The Registration Statement for the IPO was inaccurate and misleading, contained untrue statements of material facts, omitted to state other facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading, and omitted to state material facts required to be stated therein.

72. Fenix is the registrant for the IPO. Defendants are responsible for the contents of the Registration Statement based upon their status as directors of the Company or because they signed or authorized the signing of the Registration Statement on their behalf pursuant to Sections 11(a)(1)-(3) of the Securities Act.

73. As issuer of the shares, Fenix is strictly liable to Plaintiff and the Class for the misstatements and omissions.

74. Fenix is strictly liable for the contents of the Registration Statement. Defendants failed to make a reasonable investigation or possess reasonable grounds for the belief that the statements contained in the Registration Statement were true and without omissions of any material facts and were not misleading.

75. By reasons of the conduct herein alleged, each Defendant named in this Count violated Section 11 of the Securities Act.

76. Plaintiff acquired Fenix shares pursuant to the Registration Statement.

77. Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages. The value of Fenix shares has declined substantially subsequent to and due to Defendants' violations.

78. At the times Plaintiff purchased Fenix shares, Plaintiff and other members of the Class were without knowledge of the facts concerning the wrongful conduct alleged herein and could not have reasonably discovered those facts prior to the IPO. Less than one year has elapsed from the time that Plaintiff discovered or reasonably could have discovered the facts upon which this Complaint is based to the time that Plaintiff filed this Complaint. Less than three years elapsed between the time that the securities upon which this Count is brought were offered to the public and the time Plaintiff filed this Complaint.

#### **COUNT IV**

#### **Violations of §12(a)(2) of the Securities Act Against All Defendants**

Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained above as if fully set forth herein.

79. By means of the defective Prospectus, Defendants Fenix, the Individual Defendants and the Underwriter Defendant promoted and sold Fenix stock to Plaintiff and other members of the Class.

80. The Prospectus contained untrue statements of material fact, and concealed and failed to disclose material facts, as detailed above. The Defendants named in this Cause of Action owed Plaintiff and the other members of the Class who purchased Fenix securities pursuant to the Prospectus the duty to make a reasonable and diligent investigation of the statements contained in the Prospectus to ensure that such statements were true and that there was no omission to state a material fact required to be stated in order to make the statements contained therein not misleading. These Defendants, in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known of the misstatements and omissions contained in the Prospectus as set forth above.

81. Plaintiff did not know, nor in the exercise of reasonable diligence could have known, of the untruths and omissions contained in the Prospectus at the time Plaintiff acquired Fenix securities.

82. By reason of the conduct alleged herein, these defendants violated §12(a)(2) of the Securities Act. As a direct and proximate result of such violation, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class who purchased Fenix securities pursuant to the Prospectus sustained substantial damages in connection with their purchases of the stock. Accordingly, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class who hold the securities issued pursuant to the Prospectus have the right to rescind and recover the consideration paid for their shares, and hereby tender their securities to defendants sued herein. Class members who have sold their securities seek damages to the extent permitted by law.

#### **COUNT V**

##### **Violations of Section 15 of the Securities Act Against Individual Defendants**

83. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained above.

84. This claim is asserted against the Individual Defendants, each of whom was a control person of Fenix during the relevant time period.

85. For the reasons set forth above in the First Claim, above, Fenix is liable to the Plaintiff and the members of the Class who purchased Fenix shares in the IPO based on the untrue statements and omissions of material fact contained in the Registration Statement and Prospectus, pursuant to Section 11 of the Securities Act, and were damaged thereby.

86. The Individual Defendants were control persons of Fenix by virtue of, among other things, their positions as senior officers of the Company, and they were in positions to control and did control, the false and misleading statements and omissions contained in the Registration Statement and Prospectus.

87. None of the Individual Defendants made reasonable investigation or possessed reasonable grounds for the belief that the statements contained in the Registration Statement and Prospectus were accurate and complete in all material respects. Had they exercised reasonable care, they could have known of the material misstatements and omissions alleged herein.

88. This claim was brought within one year after the discovery of the untrue statements and omissions in the Registration Statement and Prospectus and within three years after Fenix shares was sold to the Class in connection with the IPO.

89. By reason of the misconduct alleged herein, for which Fenix is primarily liable, as set forth above, the Individual Defendants are jointly and severally liable with and to the same extent as Fenix pursuant to Section 15 of the Securities Act.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Class, prays for judgment and relief as follows:

(a) declaring this action to be a proper class action, designating plaintiff as Lead Plaintiff and certifying plaintiff as a class representative under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and designating plaintiff's counsel as Lead Counsel;

(b) awarding damages in favor of plaintiff and the other Class members against all defendants, jointly and severally, together with interest thereon;

(c) awarding plaintiff and the Class reasonable costs and expenses incurred in this action, including counsel fees and expert fees; and

(d) awarding plaintiff and other members of the Class such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.