

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CHRIS STEWART, Individually and on Behalf
of All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

ALPHABET INC., SUNDAR PICHAI, AND
ANAT ASHKENAZI,

Defendants.

Case No.

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

1 Plaintiff Chris Stewart (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all others similarly
 2 situated, by and through his attorneys, alleges the following upon information and belief, except as
 3 to those allegations concerning Plaintiff, which are alleged upon personal knowledge. Plaintiff’s
 4 information and belief is based upon, among other things, his counsel’s investigation, which
 5 includes without limitation: (a) review and analysis of regulatory filings made by Alphabet Inc.
 6 (“Alphabet” or the “Company”) with the United States (“U.S.”) Securities and Exchange
 7 Commission (“SEC”); (b) review and analysis of press releases and media reports issued by and
 8 disseminated by Alphabet; and (c) review of other publicly available information concerning
 9 Alphabet.

10 NATURE OF THE ACTION AND OVERVIEW

11 1. This is a class action on behalf of persons and entities that purchased or otherwise
 12 acquired Alphabet securities between May 19, 2026 and July 16, 2026, inclusive (the “Class
 13 Period”). Plaintiff pursues claims against the Defendants under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
 14 (the “Exchange Act”).

15 2. Alphabet offers various products and platforms in the United States, Europe, the
 16 Middle East, Africa, the Asia-Pacific, Canada, and Latin America. It operates through Google
 17 Services, Google Cloud, and Other Bets segments.

18 3. On May 19, 2026, Alphabet hosted its annual Google I/O developer conference.
 19 During the conference, the Company’s Chief Executive Officer, Sundar Pichai announced its much
 20 anticipated latest artificial intelligence offering Gemini 3.5 Pro would launch in June 2026.

21 4. On July 16, 2026, at approximately 2:00 PM EST, *Bloomberg* reported that Google
 22 is “***months behind schedule on delivering Gemini 3.5 Pro***, its most powerful flagship AI model”
 23 due to the Company’s ongoing coding efforts.¹ Specifically, “[l]ate last month, Google updated the
 24 data being used to train Gemini in an attempt to improve [its] skills, ***but the results were***
 25 ***disappointing.***”

26
 27
 28 ¹ Unless otherwise stated, all emphasis in bold and italics hereinafter is added.

1 United States mail, interstate telephone communications, and the facilities of a national securities
2 exchange.

3 **PARTIES**

4 12. Plaintiff Chris Stewart, as set forth in the accompanying certification, incorporated
5 by reference herein, purchased Alphabet securities during the Class Period, and suffered damages
6 as a result of the federal securities law violations and false and/or misleading statements and/or
7 material omissions alleged herein.

8 13. Defendant Alphabet is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal
9 executive offices located in Mountain View, California. Alphabet's Class A common stock trades
10 on the NASDAQ exchange under the symbol "GOOGL" and its Class C common stock trades under
11 the symbol "GOOG."

12 14. Defendant Sundar Pichai ("Pichai") was the Company's Chief Executive Officer
13 ("CEO") at all relevant times.

14 15. Defendant Anat Ashkenazi ("Ashkenazi") was the Company's Chief Financial
15 Officer ("CFO") at all relevant times.

16 16. Defendants Pichai and Ashkenazi (collectively the "Individual Defendants"),
17 because of their positions with the Company, possessed the power and authority to control the
18 contents of the Company's reports to the SEC, press releases and presentations to securities analysts,
19 money and portfolio managers and institutional investors, i.e., the market. The Individual
20 Defendants were provided with copies of the Company's reports and press releases alleged herein
21 to be misleading prior to, or shortly after, their issuance and had the ability and opportunity to
22 prevent their issuance or cause them to be corrected. Because of their positions and access to
23 material non-public information available to them, the Individual Defendants knew that the adverse
24 facts specified herein had not been disclosed to, and were being concealed from, the public, and that
25 the positive representations which were being made were then materially false and/or misleading.
26 The Individual Defendants are liable for the false statements pleaded herein.
27
28

SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

Background

17. Alphabet offers various products and platforms in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the Asia-Pacific, Canada, and Latin America. It operates through Google Services, Google Cloud, and Other Bets segments.

Materially False and Misleading

Statements Issued During the Class Period

18. The Class Period begins on May 19, 2026. On that day, Alphabet hosted its annual Google I/O developer conference. During the conference, Defendant Pichai announced Gemini 3.5 Pro would arrive in June 2026. Specifically, he stated: ***“Give us until next month to get it to you.”*** Pichai further stated the chatbot was ***“showing great improvements”*** compared to previous versions.

19. On June 3, 2026, the Company held a Special Investor Call to discuss AI-Driven Growth, Infrastructure Investment, and Strategic Focus Areas. During the Special Call, Defendant Pichai stated “Gemini 3.5 Flash is now available, and ***we expect Gemini 3.5 Pro will be coming in June.***”

20. The above statements identified in ¶¶18-19 were materially false and/or misleading, and failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company’s business, operations, and prospects. Specifically, Defendants failed to disclose to investors: (1) that the Gemini 3.5 Pro was delivering disappointing training results; (2) that, as a result, the launch of Gemini 3.5 Pro would be significantly delayed; and (3) that, as a result of the foregoing, Defendants’ positive statements about the Company’s business, operations, and prospects were materially misleading and/or lacked a reasonable basis.

Disclosures at the End of the Class Period

21. On July 16, 2026, at approximately 2:00 PM EST, *Bloomberg* reported that Google is ***“months behind schedule on delivering Gemini 3.5 Pro***, its most powerful flagship AI model” due to the Company’s ongoing coding efforts. Specifically, “[l]ate last month, Google updated the data being used to train Gemini in an attempt to improve [its] skills, ***but the results were disappointing.***”

22. On this news, Alphabet’s Class A common price fell \$16.46, or 4.4%, to close at \$354.46 per share on July 16, 2026, on unusually heavy trading volume. Alphabet’s Class C common stock price fell \$16.39, or 4.4%, to close at \$353.58 per share on July 16, 2026.

23. Then, on July 22, 2026, after the market closed, Alphabet released its second quarter 2026 financial results. During the related conference call, Defendant Pichai stated “Gemini 3.5 Pro is *currently in testing*.” No additional details on the expected commercial launch, customer adoption, or financial impact of Gemini 3.5 Pro were provided. Specifically, on that date, Defendant Pichai stated as follows, in relevant part:

Gemini 3.5 Pro is currently in testing and our team is already building the next generation of models. We have started our most ambitious pretraining run yet for Gemini 4 and are excited by the progress we are seeing at the frontier.

24. On September 30, 2026, Google announced that it would release Gemini 4 Argon, which had already been rolled out to “a set of trusted cyber defenders through [its] Fairwind Program.” Google stated that it was “actively engaged in the U.S. government’s voluntary process for pre-release model access while [it] gradually expand[s] access.” The same day, Reuters reported that “Google no longer plans to release Gemini 3.5 Pro.”

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

25. 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 and entities that purchased or otherwise acquired Alphabet securities between May 19, 2026 and July 16, 2026, inclusive, and who were damaged thereby (the “Class”). Excluded from the Class are Defendants, the officers and directors of the Company, at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest.

26. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Throughout the Class Period, Alphabet’s shares actively traded on the NASDAQ. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are at least hundreds or thousands of members in the proposed Class. Millions of Alphabet shares were traded publicly

1 during the Class Period on the NASDAQ. Record owners and other members of the Class may be
2 identified from records maintained by Alphabet or its transfer agent and may be notified of the
3 pendency of this action by mail, using the form of notice similar to that customarily used in securities
4 class actions.

5 27. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class as all members
6 of the Class are similarly affected by Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of federal law that
7 is complained of herein.

8 28. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class
9 and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class and securities litigation.

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

13 (a) whether the federal securities laws were violated by Defendants' acts as
14 alleged herein;

15 (b) whether statements made by Defendants to the investing public during the
16 Class Period omitted and/or misrepresented material facts about the business, operations, and
17 prospects of Alphabet; and

18 (c) to what extent the members of the Class have sustained damages and the
19 proper measure of damages.

20 30. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient
21 adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is impracticable. Furthermore, as the
22 damages suffered by individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of
23 individual litigation makes it impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs
24 done to them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

25 **UNDISCLOSED ADVERSE FACTS**

26 31. The market for Alphabet's securities was open, well-developed and efficient at all
27 relevant times. As a result of these materially false and/or misleading statements, and/or failures to
28 disclose, Alphabet's securities traded at artificially inflated prices during the Class Period. Plaintiff

1 and other members of the Class purchased or otherwise acquired Alphabet's securities relying upon
2 the integrity of the market price of the Company's securities and market information relating to
3 Alphabet, and have been damaged thereby.

4 32. During the Class Period, Defendants materially misled the investing public, thereby
5 inflating the price of Alphabet's securities, by publicly issuing false and/or misleading statements
6 and/or omitting to disclose material facts necessary to make Defendants' statements, as set forth
7 herein, not false and/or misleading. The statements and omissions were materially false and/or
8 misleading because they failed to disclose material adverse information and/or misrepresented the
9 truth about Alphabet's business, operations, and prospects as alleged herein.

10 33. At all relevant times, the material misrepresentations and omissions particularized in
11 this Complaint directly or proximately caused or were a substantial contributing cause of the
12 damages sustained by Plaintiff and other members of the Class. As described herein, during the
13 Class Period, Defendants made or caused to be made a series of materially false and/or misleading
14 statements about Alphabet's financial well-being and prospects. These material misstatements
15 and/or omissions had the cause and effect of creating in the market an unrealistically positive
16 assessment of the Company and its financial well-being and prospects, thus causing the Company's
17 securities to be overvalued and artificially inflated at all relevant times. Defendants' materially false
18 and/or misleading statements during the Class Period resulted in Plaintiff and other members of the
19 Class purchasing the Company's securities at artificially inflated prices, thus causing the damages
20 complained of herein when the truth was revealed.

21 **LOSS CAUSATION**

22 34. Defendants' wrongful conduct, as alleged herein, directly and proximately caused
23 the economic loss suffered by Plaintiff and the Class.

24 35. During the Class Period, Plaintiff and the Class purchased Alphabet's securities at
25 artificially inflated prices and were damaged thereby. The price of the Company's securities
26 significantly declined when the misrepresentations made to the market, and/or the information
27 alleged herein to have been concealed from the market, and/or the effects thereof, were revealed,
28 causing investors' losses.

1 shares. Defendants' materially false and/or misleading statements during the Class Period resulted
2 in Plaintiff and other members of the Class purchasing the Company's securities at such artificially
3 inflated prices, and each of them has been damaged as a result.

4 39. At all relevant times, the market for Alphabet's securities was an efficient market for
5 the following reasons, among others:

6 (a) Alphabet shares met the requirements for listing, and was listed and actively
7 traded on the NASDAQ, a highly efficient and automated market;

8 (b) As a regulated issuer, Alphabet filed periodic public reports with the SEC
9 and/or the NASDAQ;

10 (c) Alphabet regularly communicated with public investors via established
11 market communication mechanisms, including through regular dissemination of press releases on
12 the national circuits of major newswire services and through other wide-ranging public disclosures,
13 such as communications with the financial press and other similar reporting services; and/or

14 (d) Alphabet was followed by securities analysts employed by brokerage firms
15 who wrote reports about the Company, and these reports were distributed to the sales force and
16 certain customers of their respective brokerage firms. Each of these reports was publicly available
17 and entered the public marketplace.

18 40. As a result of the foregoing, the market for Alphabet's securities promptly digested
19 current information regarding Alphabet from all publicly available sources and reflected such
20 information in Alphabet's share price. Under these circumstances, all purchasers of Alphabet's
21 securities during the Class Period suffered similar injury through their purchase of Alphabet's
22 securities at artificially inflated prices and a presumption of reliance applies.

23 41. A Class-wide presumption of reliance is also appropriate in this action under the
24 Supreme Court's holding in *Affiliated Ute Citizens of Utah v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128 (1972),
25 because the Class's claims are, in large part, grounded on Defendants' material misstatements and/or
26 omissions. Because this action involves Defendants' failure to disclose material adverse
27 information regarding the Company's business operations and financial prospects—information that
28 Defendants were obligated to disclose—positive proof of reliance is not a prerequisite to recovery.

1 All that is necessary is that the facts withheld be material in the sense that a reasonable investor
2 might have considered them important in making investment decisions. Given the importance of
3 the Class Period material misstatements and omissions set forth above, that requirement is satisfied
4 here.

5 **NO SAFE HARBOR**

6 42. The statutory safe harbor provided for forward-looking statements under certain
7 circumstances does not apply to any of the allegedly false statements pleaded in this Complaint. The
8 statements alleged to be false and misleading herein all relate to then-existing facts and conditions.
9 In addition, to the extent certain of the statements alleged to be false may be characterized as forward
10 looking, they were not identified as “forward-looking statements” when made and there were no
11 meaningful cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause actual results to
12 differ materially from those in the purportedly forward-looking statements. In the alternative, to the
13 extent that the statutory safe harbor is determined to apply to any forward-looking statements
14 pleaded herein, Defendants are liable for those false forward-looking statements because at the time
15 each of those forward-looking statements was made, the speaker had actual knowledge that the
16 forward-looking statement was materially false or misleading, and/or the forward-looking statement
17 was authorized or approved by an executive officer of Alphabet who knew that the statement was
18 false when made.

19 **FIRST CLAIM**

20 **Violation of Section 10(b) of The Exchange Act and**

21 **Rule 10b-5 Promulgated Thereunder**

22 **Against All Defendants**

23 43. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully
24 set forth herein.

25 44. During the Class Period, Defendants carried out a plan, scheme and course of conduct
26 which was intended to and, throughout the Class Period, did: (i) deceive the investing public,
27 including Plaintiff and other Class members, as alleged herein; and (ii) cause Plaintiff and other
28 members of the Class to purchase Alphabet’s securities at artificially inflated prices. In furtherance

1 of this unlawful scheme, plan and course of conduct, Defendants, and each defendant, took the
2 actions set forth herein.

3 45. Defendants (i) employed devices, schemes, and artifices to defraud; (ii) made untrue
4 statements of material fact and/or omitted to state material facts necessary to make the statements
5 not misleading; and (iii) engaged in acts, practices, and a course of business which operated as a
6 fraud and deceit upon the purchasers of the Company's securities in an effort to maintain artificially
7 high market prices for Alphabet's securities in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and
8 Rule 10b-5. All Defendants are sued either as primary participants in the wrongful and illegal
9 conduct charged herein or as controlling persons as alleged below.

10 46. Defendants, individually and in concert, directly and indirectly, by the use, means or
11 instrumentalities of interstate commerce and/or of the mails, engaged and participated in a
12 continuous course of conduct to conceal adverse material information about Alphabet's financial
13 well-being and prospects, as specified herein.

14 47. Defendants employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud, while in possession
15 of material adverse non-public information and engaged in acts, practices, and a course of conduct
16 as alleged herein in an effort to assure investors of Alphabet's value and performance and continued
17 substantial growth, which included the making of, or the participation in the making of, untrue
18 statements of material facts and/or omitting to state material facts necessary in order to make the
19 statements made about Alphabet and its business operations and future prospects in light of the
20 circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, as set forth more particularly herein,
21 and engaged in transactions, practices and a course of business which operated as a fraud and deceit
22 upon the purchasers of the Company's securities during the Class Period.

23 48. Each of the Individual Defendants' primary liability and controlling person liability
24 arises from the following facts: (i) the Individual Defendants were high-level executives and/or
25 directors at the Company during the Class Period and members of the Company's management team
26 or had control thereof; (ii) each of these defendants, by virtue of their responsibilities and activities
27 as a senior officer and/or director of the Company, was privy to and participated in the creation,
28 development and reporting of the Company's internal budgets, plans, projections and/or reports;

1 (iii) each of these defendants enjoyed significant personal contact and familiarity with the other
2 defendants and was advised of, and had access to, other members of the Company's management
3 team, internal reports and other data and information about the Company's finances, operations, and
4 sales at all relevant times; and (iv) each of these defendants was aware of the Company's
5 dissemination of information to the investing public which they knew and/or recklessly disregarded
6 was materially false and misleading.

7 49. Defendants had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and/or omissions of
8 material facts set forth herein, or acted with reckless disregard for the truth in that they failed to
9 ascertain and to disclose such facts, even though such facts were available to them. Such defendants'
10 material misrepresentations and/or omissions were done knowingly or recklessly and for the purpose
11 and effect of concealing Alphabet's financial well-being and prospects from the investing public
12 and supporting the artificially inflated price of its securities. As demonstrated by Defendants'
13 overstatements and/or misstatements of the Company's business, operations, financial well-being,
14 and prospects throughout the Class Period, Defendants, if they did not have actual knowledge of the
15 misrepresentations and/or omissions alleged, were reckless in failing to obtain such knowledge by
16 deliberately refraining from taking those steps necessary to discover whether those statements were
17 false or misleading.

18 50. As a result of the dissemination of the materially false and/or misleading information
19 and/or failure to disclose material facts, as set forth above, the market price of Alphabet's securities
20 was artificially inflated during the Class Period. In ignorance of the fact that market prices of the
21 Company's securities were artificially inflated, and relying directly or indirectly on the false and
22 misleading statements made by Defendants, or upon the integrity of the market in which the
23 securities trades, and/or in the absence of material adverse information that was known to or
24 recklessly disregarded by Defendants, but not disclosed in public statements by Defendants during
25 the Class Period, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class acquired Alphabet's securities during
26 the Class Period at artificially high prices and were damaged thereby.

27 51. At the time of said misrepresentations and/or omissions, Plaintiff and other members
28 of the Class were ignorant of their falsity, and believed them to be true. Had Plaintiff and the other

1 members of the Class and the marketplace known the truth regarding the problems that Alphabet
2 was experiencing, which were not disclosed by Defendants, Plaintiff and other members of the Class
3 would not have purchased or otherwise acquired their Alphabet securities, or, if they had acquired
4 such securities during the Class Period, they would not have done so at the artificially inflated prices
5 which they paid.

6 52. By virtue of the foregoing, Defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act
7 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

8 53. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and the
9 other members of the Class suffered damages in connection with their respective purchases and
10 sales of the Company's securities during the Class Period.

11 **SECOND CLAIM**

12 **Violation of Section 20(a) of The Exchange Act**

13 **Against the Individual Defendants**

14 54. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully
15 set forth herein.

16 55. Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of Alphabet within the meaning
17 of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their high-level positions and
18 their ownership and contractual rights, participation in, and/or awareness of the Company's
19 operations and intimate knowledge of the false financial statements filed by the Company with the
20 SEC and disseminated to the investing public, Individual Defendants had the power to influence and
21 control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision-making of the Company,
22 including the content and dissemination of the various statements which Plaintiff contends are false
23 and misleading. Individual Defendants were provided with or had unlimited access to copies of the
24 Company's reports, press releases, public filings, and other statements alleged by Plaintiff to be
25 misleading prior to and/or shortly after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent
26 the issuance of the statements or cause the statements to be corrected.

27 56. In particular, Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory involvement in the
28 day-to-day operations of the Company and, therefore, had the power to control or influence the

1 particular transactions giving rise to the securities violations as alleged herein, and exercised the
2 same.

3 57. As set forth above, Alphabet and Individual Defendants each violated Section 10(b)
4 and Rule 10b-5 by their acts and omissions as alleged in this Complaint. By virtue of their position
5 as controlling persons, Individual Defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange
6 Act. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and other members
7 of the Class suffered damages in connection with their purchases of the Company's securities during
8 the Class Period.

9 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

10 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

11 (a) Determining that this action is a proper class action under Rule 23 of the Federal
12 Rules of Civil Procedure;

13 (b) Awarding compensatory damages in favor of Plaintiff and the other Class members
14 against all defendants, jointly and severally, for all damages sustained as a result of Defendants'
15 wrongdoing, in an amount to be proven at trial, including interest thereon;

16 (c) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class their reasonable costs and expenses incurred in this
17 action, including counsel fees and expert fees; and

18 (d) Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

19 **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

20 Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.
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