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Attorneys for Plaintiff
MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
FOUNDATION

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
FOUNDATION,

Plaintiff,

vs.

KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS,
INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 463859

~~PROPOSED~~ CONSENT JUDGMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.0 On May 31, 2007, the MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION (“Plaintiff” or “MEJF”) acting on behalf of itself and the general public, filed a Complaint for civil penalties and injunctive relief (“Complaint”) in San Francisco Superior Court, Case No. 463859, against defendant, KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS, INC. (“Defendant” or “KCP”), among others. (MEJF and KCP are collectively referred to as “the Parties.”) The

ENDORSED
FILED
San Francisco County Superior Court

JAN 14 2008

GORDON PARK-LI, Clerk

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

1 Complaint alleges that KCP violated provisions of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic
2 Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code sections 25249.5, et seq. (Proposition 65), and
3 Business and Professions Code sections 17200 et seq. (the "Unfair Competition Act"), by, among
4 other things, knowingly and intentionally exposing persons to products containing lead and/or
5 lead compounds, which are chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or
6 birth defects or other reproductive harm, without first providing a clear and reasonable warning to
7 such individuals. The Complaint was based upon a 60-Day Notice letter, dated March 15, 2007,
8 sent by MEJF to KCP, the California Attorney General, all District Attorneys, and all City
9 Attorneys with populations exceeding 750,000. A copy of the 60-Day Notice letter is attached as
10 Exhibit A to the complaint in this action.

11 1.1 KCP filed a timely answer to the Complaint denying each and every allegation set
12 forth therein and asserting numerous affirmative defenses.

13 1.2 Defendant is a business that employs more than ten persons and, itself or through
14 its manufacturers, customers, licensees and business partners, manufactures, distributes and/or
15 markets within the State of California children's jackets made with lead-containing polyvinyl
16 chloride, neoprene and/or other plastic materials ("PVC Materials"). Pursuant to Proposition 65,
17 lead and lead compounds are chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and
18 reproductive toxicity. Products containing lead and/or lead compounds that are sold or
19 distributed in the State of California may be, under specified circumstances, subject to the
20 Proposition 65 warning requirement set forth in Health and Safety Code section 25249.6.
21 Plaintiff alleges that children's jackets made with lead-containing PVC Materials ("PVC
22 Jackets") that are manufactured, distributed, sold and/or marketed by KCP for use in California,
23 require a warning under Proposition 65.

24 1.3 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term "Covered Products" shall be
25 defined as PVC Jackets that: (i) are distributed, sold or used within the State of California, and
26 (ii) either (a) bear a KCP trademark, or (b) are otherwise manufactured, distributed or sold by or
27 on behalf of KCP.

28 ////

1 1.4 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court
2 has subject matter jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint and
3 personal jurisdiction over KCP as to the acts alleged in the Complaint, that venue is proper in the
4 County of San Francisco and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment as a
5 full settlement and resolution of the allegations contained in the Complaint and of all claims
6 which were or could have been raised by any person or entity based in whole or in part, directly
7 or indirectly, on the facts alleged therein or arising therefrom or related to.

8 1.5 KCP disputes that it has violated Proposition 65 as described in the 60-Day Notice
9 Letter, the Complaint, or otherwise. This Consent Judgment shall not constitute an admission
10 with respect to any material allegation of the Complaint, each and every allegation of which KCP
11 denies, nor may this Consent Judgment or compliance with it be used as evidence of any
12 wrongdoing, misconduct, culpability or liability on the part of KCP.

13 **2. SETTLEMENT PAYMENT**

14 2.0 In settlement of all of the claims that are alleged, or could have been alleged, in the
15 Complaint KCP shall pay \$20,000 to the Klamath Environmental Law Center ("KELC") to cover
16 Plaintiff's attorneys' fees. Additionally, KCP shall pay \$20,000 to the Ecological Rights
17 Foundation for use toward reducing exposures to toxic chemicals and other pollutants, and toward
18 increasing consumer, worker and community awareness of health hazards posed by lead and other
19 toxic chemicals. The parties agree and acknowledge that the charitable contributions made
20 pursuant to this section shall not be construed as a credit against personal claims by absent third
21 parties, if any, for restitution against Defendant. KCP shall not be required to pay a civil penalty
22 pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b). The above described payments shall be
23 forwarded by Defendant so that they are received at least 5 days prior to the hearing date
24 scheduled for approval of this Consent Judgment. If the Consent Judgment is not approved with
25 120 days of the date scheduled for approval, the above-described payments shall be returned and
26 the provisions of this Consent judgment shall become null and void.

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1 **3. ENTRY OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

2 3.0 The Parties hereby request that the Court enter this Consent Judgment forty-five
3 (45) days after the Consent Judgment is served on the Attorney General in accordance with Title
4 11, California Code of Regulations, section 3003(a). Upon the Court's entry of a final judgment,
5 including any third-party appeals to the entry of the judgment, MEJF and KCP waive their
6 respective rights to a hearing or trial on the allegations in the Complaint.

7 **4. MATTERS COVERED BY THIS CONSENT JUDGMENT**

8 4.0 This Consent Judgment, once entered by the Court, is a final and binding
9 resolution between MEJF, acting on behalf of itself and (as to those matters raised in the Notice
10 Letter) the general public, and KCP of: (i) any violation of Proposition 65 or the Unfair
11 Competition Act (including but not limited to the claims made in the Complaint); and (ii) any
12 other statutory or common law claim to the fullest extent that any of the foregoing described in (i)
13 or (ii) were or could have been asserted by any person or entity against KCP or its parents,
14 subsidiaries or affiliates, and all of their customers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, licensors,
15 licensees, or any other person in the course of doing business, and the successors and assigns of
16 any of them, who may use, maintain, manufacture, distribute, advertise, market or sell Covered
17 Products ("Released Entities"), based on its or their exposure of persons to Covered Products or
18 their failure to provide a clear and reasonable warning of exposure to such individuals; and (iii) as
19 to alleged exposures to Covered Products, any other claim based in whole or in part on the facts
20 alleged in the Complaint, whether based on actions or omissions by the Released Entities. As to
21 alleged exposures to Covered Products, compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment
22 resolves any issue, now and in the future, concerning compliance by KCP and the Released
23 Entities, with the requirements of Proposition 65 and the Unfair Competition Act with respect to
24 Covered Products, and any alleged resulting exposure.

25 4.1 As to alleged exposures to Covered Products and other claims in the Complaint,
26 MEJF, by and on behalf of itself, and its respective agents, successors, attorneys and assigns,
27 waives any and all rights to institute any form of legal action, and releases all claims against KCP
28 and the Released Entities, and all of their respective parents, subsidiaries or affiliates, and all of

1 their customers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, licensors, licensees, or any other person in the
2 course of doing business, and the successors and assigns of any of them, who may use, maintain,
3 manufacture, distribute, advertise, market or sell the Covered Products, whether, under
4 Proposition 65, the Unfair Competition Act or any other statute, provision of common law or any
5 theory or issue, arising out of or resulting from, or related directly or indirectly to, in whole or in
6 part, the Covered Products, including but not limited to any exposure to, or failure to warn with
7 respect to, the Covered Products (referred to collectively in this paragraph as the "Claims"). In
8 furtherance of the foregoing, as to alleged exposures to Covered Products, MEJF hereby waives
9 any and all rights and benefits which it now has, or in the future may have, conferred upon it with
10 respect to the Claims by virtue of the provisions of section 1542 of the California Civil Code,
11 which provides as follows:

12 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS
13 WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO
14 EXIST IN HIS FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE
15 RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM, MUST HAVE
MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS SETTLEMENT WITH THE
DEBTOR.

16 MEJF understands and acknowledges that the significance and consequence of this waiver of
17 California Civil Code section 1542 is that even if it suffers future damages arising out of or
18 resulting from, or related directly or indirectly to, in whole or in part, the Covered Products,
19 including but not limited to any exposure to, or failure to warn with respect to exposure to, the
20 Covered Products, MEJF will not be able to make any claim for those damages against KCP or
21 the Released Entities. Furthermore, MEJF acknowledges that it intends these consequences for
22 any such Claims as may exist as of the date of this release but which MEJF does not know exist,
23 and which, if known, would materially affect their decision to enter into this Consent Judgment,
24 regardless of whether their lack of knowledge is the result of ignorance, oversight, error,
25 negligence, or any other cause.

26 **5. ENFORCEMENT AND PRECLUSIVE EFFECT OF JUDGMENT**

27 5.0 The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be enforced exclusively by the Parties
28 hereto. The Parties may, by noticed motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of

1 San Francisco County, giving the notice required by law, enforce the terms and conditions
2 contained herein. In any proceeding brought by either party to enforce this Consent Judgment,
3 such Party may seek whatever fines, costs, penalties or remedies as may be provided by law for
4 any violation of Proposition 65 or this Consent Judgment. Additionally, if in such a proceeding
5 the Court finds that KCP failed to comply with the reformulation requirements as specified in
6 Section 7 of this Consent Judgment, and notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent
7 Judgment, then as to such Covered Products, KCP shall not benefit from any release from liability
8 specified in any provision of this Consent Judgment.

9 **6. MODIFICATION OF JUDGMENT**

10 6.0 This Consent Judgment may be modified only upon written agreement of the
11 parties and upon entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court thereon, or upon motion of
12 any party as provided by law and upon entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court.

13 **7. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

14 7.0 On and after January 1, 2008, the PVC Materials in all Covered Products
15 manufactured by KCP, itself or through its manufacturers, licensees and business partners, for
16 distribution or use in California, shall meet the following criteria:

- 17 (a) The PVC Materials shall have no lead as an intentionally added
18 constituent;
- 19 (b) A representative sample of the bulk PVC Materials used to manufacture the
20 Covered Products shall have been tested for lead, and must have shown
21 lead content by weight of less than 0.003% (30 parts per million "30
22 ppm"), using a test method of sufficient sensitivity to establish a limit of
23 quantification (as distinguished from detection) of less than 30 ppm.

24 7.1 KCP and the Released Entities may comply with the above requirements by
25 relying on information obtained from its suppliers of the Covered Products, and the PVC
26 Materials utilized in their manufacture, so long as such reliance is in good faith. Demonstration
27 of good faith reliance may include, but is not limited to e-mails or other written correspondence
28 from suppliers attesting to compliance with the provisions of this Section.

1 7.2 In the event that MEJF settles another actual or potential claim concerning the
2 alleged failure of a business to provide adequate Proposition 65 warnings concerning its
3 manufacture, distribution or sale of PVC Clothing in California, and agrees to a standard for
4 reformulation that allows for lead content by weight of greater than 30 ppm in the PVC Materials,
5 KCP's compliance with the less stringent standard will be deemed to meet the requirements of
6 Sections 7.0(b) above. MEJF shall notify KCP of any and each such settlement by written notice
7 pursuant to Section 15, within 10 days of execution of such settlement or consent judgment.

8 **8. AUTHORITY TO STIPULATE**

9 8.0 Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully authorized
10 by the party he or she represents to enter into this Consent Judgment and to execute it on behalf of
11 the party represented and legally to bind that party.

12 **9. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

13 9.0 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement the Consent
14 Judgment.

15 **10. SERVICE ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

16 10.0 MEJF shall serve a copy of this Consent Judgment, signed by both parties, on the
17 California Attorney General on behalf of the parties so that the Attorney General may review this
18 Consent Judgment. MEJF, in compliance with Title 11, California Code of Regulations,
19 section 3003(a), also shall file and serve notice of the motion for approval of this Consent
20 Judgment.

21 **11. ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

22 11.0 This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding
23 of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof and any and all prior discussions,
24 negotiations, commitments and understandings related hereto. No representations, oral or
25 otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have been made by either Party
26 hereto. No other agreements not specifically referred to herein, oral or otherwise, shall be
27 deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties.

28 ////

1 **12. GOVERNING LAW**

2 12.0 The validity, construction and performance of this Consent Judgment shall be
3 governed by the laws of the State of California, without reference to any conflicts of law
4 provisions of California law.

5 **13. COURT APPROVAL**

6 13.0 If this Consent Judgment, in its entirety, is not approved by the Court, it shall be of
7 no force or effect, and cannot be used in any proceeding for any purpose.

8 **14. NOTICES**

9 14.0 Any notices under this Consent Judgment shall be by personal delivery of First
10 Class Mail.

11 If to MEJF: William Verick, Esq.
12 Klamath Environmental Law Center
13 424 First Street
Eureka, CA 95501

14 If to Kenneth Cole: General Counsel
15 Kenneth Cole Productions, Inc.
603 West 50th Street
New York, New York 10019

16 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

17 Dated: 11/29/07

MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION

18 By: William Verick
19 WILLIAM VERICK
20

21 Dated:

KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS, INC.

22 By: _____
23 DAVID EDELMAN
24 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

25 IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

PETER J. BUSON

26 Dated: **JAN 14 2008**

27 _____
28 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

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12 Klamath Environmental Law Center
13 424 First Street
14 Eureka, CA 95501

15 If to Kenneth Cole: General Counsel
16 Kenneth Cole Productions, Inc.
17 603 West 50th Street
18 New York, New York 10019

19 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

20 Dated: MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION

21 By: _____
22 WILLIAM VERICK

23 Dated: KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS, INC.

24 By: David F. Edelman
25 DAVID EDELMAN,
26 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

27 IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

28 Dated: (SEE PREVIOUS PG)
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

1 WILLIAM VERICK, CSB #140972
Klamath Environmental Law Center
2 FREDRIC EVENSON, CSB #198059
424 First Street
3 Eureka, CA 95501
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4 Email: wverick@igc.org
Email: ecorights@earthlink.net

5 DAVID H. WILLIAMS, CSB #144479
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370 Grand Avenue, Suite 5
7 Oakland, CA 94610
Telephone: (510) 271-0826
8 Facsimile: (510) 271-0829
Email: davidhwilliams@earthlink.net
9 Email: brianacree@earthlink.net

10 Attorneys for Plaintiff
MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION

11
12 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

13
14 COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

15 MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CASE NO. 463859
16 FOUNDATION,

17 Plaintiff,

[Proposed] ORDER APPROVING
SETTLEMENT AS TO DEFENDANT
KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS, INC.,

18 vs.

Date: January 14, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Dept. No.: 301

19 KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS, INC.,
20 et al.,

21 Defendant.
_____/

22
23 Plaintiff's motion for approval of settlement and entry of Consent Judgment as to
24 Defendant KENNETH COLE PRODUCTIONS, INC., was heard on regular noticed motion on
25 January 14, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in Department No. 301. Having reviewed the pleadings and the
26 moving papers, having reviewed the terms of the proposed consent judgment and having
27 considered the arguments of counsel, the Court finds as follows:
28

ENDORSED
FILED
San Francisco County Superior Court

JAN 14 2008

GORDON PARK-LI, Clerk
BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

ENDORSED
FILED
San Francisco County Superior Court

JAN 14 2008

GORDON PARK-II, Clerk
by _____
Deputy Clerk

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1. The reformulation standards and warnings the Consent Judgment requires comply with the requirements of Proposition 65.

2. The offset payments in lieu of civil penalties specified in the Consent Judgment are reasonable and conform to the criteria of Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(b)(2).

3. The attorneys fees awarded under the Consent Judgment and the underlying hourly rates, time expended, and costs incurred are reasonable.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

PETER J. BUDON

Dated: JAN 14 2008

Judge of the Superior Court

MOORE J. 1974

1974 J. 1974