

1 Josh Voorhees, State Bar No. 241436 Harris A. Weinstein, State Bar No. 282166 2 THE CHANLER GROUP 2560 Ninth Street ALAMEDA COUNTY 3 Parker Plaza, Suite 214 Berkeley, CA 94710 AUG 1 3 2014 Telephone: (510) 848-8880 4 Facsimile: (510) 848-8118 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff ANTHÔNY E. HELD, PH.D., P.E. SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 9 UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION 10 11 12 ANTHONY E. HELD, PH.D., P.E., Case No. HG13702000 13 Plaintiff, PROROSED+JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO TERMS OF 14 ٧. **PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT** AND CONSENT JUDGMENT 15 SPECTRUM BRANDS HOLDINGS, INC.; SPECTRUM BRANDS, INC.; UNITED August 13, 2014 Date: 16 INDUSTRIES CORPORATION; UNITED Time: 9:00 a.m. PET GROUP, INC.; et al., Dept.: 18 17 Judge: Hon. Kimberly E. Colwell Defendants. 18 Reservation No. R-1523638 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

In the above-entitled action, plaintiff Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E. and defendant United Pet Group, Inc., having agreed through their respective counsel that Judgment be entered pursuant to the terms of their settlement agreement in the form of a Consent Judgment, and following this Court's issuance of an Order approving this Proposition 65 settlement and Consent Judgment on [DATE]:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f)(4) and California Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6, Judgment is entered in accordance with the terms of the Consent Judgment attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. By stipulation of the parties, the Court will retain jurisdiction to enforce the settlement under Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 8/13/14

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

EXHIBIT A

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA VTY OF ALAMEDA
10	UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION	
11	ANTHONY E. HELD, PH.D., P.E.,) Case No. HG13702000
12	Plaintiff,	
13	v.	PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
14 15 16 17	SPECTRUM BRANDS HOLDINGS, INC.; SPECTRUM BRANDS, INC.; UNITED INDUSTRIES CORPORATION; UNITED PET GROUP, INC.; and DOES 1-150, inclusive, Defendants.	Action Filed: March 18, 2013)))
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1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1.1 Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E. and United Pet Group, Inc.

This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between plaintiff Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E. ("Held" or "Plaintiff") and defendant United Pet Group, Inc. ("United Pet" or "Defendant"), with Plaintiff and Defendant collectively referred to as the "parties."

1.2 Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E.

Held is an individual residing in the State of California who seeks to promote awareness of exposure to toxic chemicals and to improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer and commercial products.

1.3 United Pet Group, Inc.

Held alleges that United Pet employs ten or more persons and is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, et seq. ("Proposition 65").

1.4 General Allegations

Held alleges that United Pet has manufactured, imported, distributed and/or sold in the State of California pond nets with vinyl/PVC handle grips containing di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ("DEHP"). DEHP is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm.

1.5 Product Description

The products that are covered by this Consent Judgment are defined as pond nets with vinyl/PVC hand grips containing DEHP, including but not limited to, *Tetra Pond Telescoping Pond Net*, #16504-900, UPC #0 46798 16504 0, which are manufactured, imported, distributed, sold and/or offered for sale by United Pet in the State of California, hereinafter the "Products."

1.6 Notice of Violation

On August 16, 2013, Held served United Pet, Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., Spectrum Brands, Inc., United Industries Corporation and various public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "60-Day Notice of Violation" ("Notice") that provided the recipients with notice that United Pet, Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., Spectrum Brands, Inc., United Industries

Corporation were in violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 for failing to warn consumers that their pond nets with vinyl/PVC handle grips exposed users in California to DEHP.

1.7 Complaint

On November 5, 2013, Held filed a complaint in the Superior Court in and for the County of Alameda against United Pet, Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., Spectrum Brands, Inc., United Industries Corporation, and Does 1 through 150, titled *Held v. Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., et al.*, Case No. HG13702000 (the "Action"), alleging violations of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, based on the alleged exposures to DEHP contained in certain pond nets with vinyl/PVC handle grips sold by United Pet, Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., Spectrum Brands, Inc., and United Industries Corporation in the State of California.

1.8 No Admission

United Pet denies the material, factual and legal allegations contained in Held's Notice and Complaint, and maintains that all products that it has sold, manufactured, imported and/or distributed in California, including the Products, have been and are in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by United Pet of any fact, finding, issue of law or violation of law, nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by United Pet of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law or violation of law. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect United Pet's obligations, responsibilities and duties under this Consent Judgment.

1.9 Consent to Jurisdiction

For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over United Pet as to the allegations contained in the Complaint, that venue is proper in the County of Alameda and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter and enforce the provisions of this Consent Judgment.

1.10 Effective Date

For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term "Effective Date" shall mean May 15, 2014.

1.11 Request for Dismissal

Counsel for United Pet has notified counsel for Held that Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., Spectrum Brands, Inc. and United Industries Corporation are not proper parties to the Complaint based upon the allegations made therein, and Held has agreed to dismiss the entire action against these entities without prejudice. To this end, counsel for Held will cause to be filed in the above-referenced court a request for dismissal of the entire action without prejudice as to Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., Spectrum Brands, Inc. and United Industries Corporation ten (10) days of execution by the parties of this [Proposed] Consent Judgment.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION

2.1 Reformulation Standards

"Reformulated Products" are defined as those Products containing DEHP in concentrations less than 0.1 percent (1,000 parts per million) when analyzed pursuant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency testing methodologies 3580A and 8270C or other methodology utilized by federal or state government agencies for the purpose of determining DEHP content in a solid substance.

2.2 Reformulation Commitment

As of the Effective Date, all Products manufactured for sale and/or purchased for sale in the State of California by or on behalf of United Pet shall be Products that qualify as Reformulated Products as defined in Section 2.1 above. At the request of Held, United Pet shall provide written certification by an officer, director, employee or agent of United Pet of compliance with this section.

3. MONETARY PAYMENTS

3.1 Civil Penalty Payments

In settlement of all the claims referred to in this Consent Judgment, United Pet has been assessed a total of \$9,000 in civil penalties in accordance with this Section. Each penalty payment will be allocated in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(c)(1) & (d), with 75% of the funds remitted to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining 25% of the penalty remitted to Held. Each penalty payment shall be

made within two business days of the date it is due and be delivered to the addresses listed in Section 3.3 below. United Pet shall be liable for payment of interest, at a rate of 10% simple interest, for all amounts due and owing under this Section and Section 4 that are not received within two business days of the due date.

3.1.1 Initial Civil Penalty

Within ten days of execution by the parties of this [Proposed] Consent Judgment, United Pet shall issue a check for its initial civil penalty in the amount of \$3,000 to "Barnes & Thornburg LLP". Barnes & Thornburg LLP shall provide The Chanler Group with written confirmation within five days of receipt that the funds have been deposited in a trust account. Within two days of the date that this Consent Judgment is approved by the Court, Barnes & Thornburg LLP shall issue two separate checks for the initial civil penalty payment to: (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$2,250.00; and (b) "Dr. Anthony Held, Client Trust Account" in the amount of \$750.00.

3.1.2 Final Civil Penalty

United Pet has been assessed a final civil penalty of \$6,000, based on its alleged violations of Proposition 65, as specific in the Notice. The Parties acknowledge, however, that United Pet has furnished Plaintiff's counsel with a certification from an officer, director, employee or agent of United Pet certifying that as of the date of the certification and continuing into the future all Products manufactured for sale and/or purchased for sale in the State of California by or on behalf of United Pet are Reformulated Products. As a result of United Pet providing said certification, the final civil penalty of \$6,000 shall be waived in its entirety.

3.2 Reimbursement of Fees and Costs

The parties acknowledge that Held and his counsel offered to resolve this dispute without reaching terms on the amount of fees and costs to be reimbursed to them, thereby leaving this fee issue to be resolved after the material terms of the agreement had been settled. Held then expressed a desire to resolve the fee and cost issue shortly after the other settlement terms had been finalized. The parties then attempted to (and did) reach an accord on the compensation due to Held and his counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine codified

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1	at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual	
2	execution of this agreement. United Pet, within ten days of execution of this Consent Judgment,	
3	shall issue a check payable to "Barnes & Thornburg LLP" in the amount of \$25,000.00 to be held	
4	in trust by Barnes & Thornburg for The Chanler Group. Barnes & Thornburg LLP shall provide	
5	The Chanler Group with written confirmation within five days of receipt that the funds have been	
6	deposited in a trust account. Within two business days of the date this Consent Judgment is	
7	approved by the Court, Barnes & Thornburg LLP shall issue a check payable to "The Chanler	
8	Group" in the amount of \$25,000 to the address listed in Section 3.3.1(a), below.	
9	3.3 Payment Procedures	
10	3.3.1. Issuance of Payments. Payments shall be delivered as follows:	
11	(a) All payments owed to Held and his counsel, pursuant to Sections 3.1	
12	through 3.2, shall be delivered to the following payment address:	
13	The Chanler Group Attn: Proposition 65 Controller	
14	2560 Ninth Street Parker Plaza, Suite 214	
15	Berkeley, CA 94710	
16	(b) All payments owed to OEHHA, pursuant to Sections 3.1 through 3.2,	
17	shall be delivered directly to OEHHA (Memo line "Prop 65 Penalties")	
18	at the following addresses:	
19	For United States Postal Service Delivery:	
20	Mike Gyurics	
21	Fiscal Operations Branch Chief Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment	
22	P.O. Box 4010 Sacramento, CA 95812-4010	
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24	For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:	
25	Mike Gyurics Fiscal Operations Branch Chief	
26	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment 1001 I Street	
27	Sacramento, CA 95814	
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With a copy of the checks payable to OEHHA mailed to The Chanler Group at the address set forth above in 3.3.1(a), as proof of payment to OEHHA.

4. CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED

4.1 Held's Public Release of Proposition 65 Claims

Held, acting on his own behalf and in the public interest, releases United Pet and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities under common ownership, directors, officers, employees, and attorneys ("Releasees") and each entity to whom they directly or indirectly distribute or sell the Products including, but not limited to, their downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisers, cooperative members, licensors and licensees and their respective affiliates and subsidiaries, if any ("Downstream Releasees"), for any claims or violations arising under Proposition 65 for, alleged unwarned exposures to DEHP from the Products sold by United Pet prior to the Effective Date, as set forth in the Notice. Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposures to DEHP from the Products.

4.2 Held's Individual Release of Claims

Held, in his individual capacity only and *not* in his representative capacity, also provides a release to Defendants, Releasees, and Downstream Releasees which shall be effective as a full and final accord and satisfaction, as a bar to all actions, causes of action, obligations, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, damages, losses, claims, liabilities and demands of Held of any nature, character or kind, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, arising out of alleged or actual exposures to DEHP in the Products sold or distributed for sale by United Pet prior to the Effective Date.

Held acknowledges that he is familiar with California Civil Code section 1542, which provides as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE

TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

Held, for his part and on behalf of his past and current agents, representatives, employees, officers, directors, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, if any, expressly waives and relinquishes any and all rights and benefits which he/it/they may have under, or which may be conferred on him/it/them by the provisions of California Civil Code section 1542, as well as under any other state or federal statute or common law principle of similar effect, to the fullest extent that it may lawfully waive such rights or benefits pertaining to the released matters.

4.3 United Pet's Release of Held

United Pet on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, hereby waives any and all claims against Held, his attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Held and his attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against it in this matter with respect to the Products.

5. <u>COURT APPROVAL</u>

This Consent Judgment is not effective until it is approved and entered by the Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved and entered by the Court within one year after it has been fully executed by all parties, in which event any monies that have been provided to Held or his counsel pursuant to Sections 3.1 or 3.2 shall be refunded within fifteen (15) days after receiving written notice from United Pet that the one-year period has expired and the Consent Judgment has not been approved and entered by the Court.

6. <u>SEVERABILITY</u>

If, subsequent to the execution of this Consent Judgment, any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions remaining shall not be adversely affected.

7. GOVERNING LAW

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The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of California and apply within the State of California. In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed, preempted or is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or if any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are rendered inapplicable or no longer required as a result of any such repeal or preemption or rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally as to the Products, then United Pet shall provide written notice to Held of any asserted change in the law, and shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and to the extent that, the Products are so affected. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be interpreted to relieve United Pet from any obligation to comply with any pertinent state or federal toxics control law.

8. NOTICES

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required to be provided pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be in writing and personally delivered or sent by: (i) first-class, (registered or certified mail) return receipt requested; or (ii) overnight courier on any party by the other party at the following addresses:

To United Pet Group, Inc:

c/o Levi W. Heath Barnes & Thornburg LLP 2029 Century Park East, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90067 To Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E.:

Proposition 65 Coordinator The Chanler Group 2560 Ninth Street Parker Plaza, Suite 214 Berkeley, CA 94710-2565

Any party, from time to time, may specify in writing to the other party a change of address to which all notices and other communications shall be sent.

9. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE AND PDF SIGNATURES

This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile or PDF signature, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document. A facsimile or PDF signature shall be as valid as the original.

10. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)

Held and his attorneys agree to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in

California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f).

11. ADDITIONAL POST-EXECUTION ACTIVITIES

Held and United Pet agree to mutually employ their best efforts to support the entry of this agreement as a Consent Judgment and obtain approval of the Consent Judgment by the Court in a timely manner. The parties acknowledge that, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7, a noticed motion is required to obtain judicial approval of this Consent Judgment, which Held shall draft and file, and United Pet shall join. If any third party objection to the noticed motion is filed, Held and United Pet shall work together to file a joint reply and appear at any hearing before the Court. This provision is a material component of the Consent Judgment and shall be treated as such in the event of a breach.

12. MODIFICATION

This Consent Judgment may be modified only: (1) by written agreement of the parties and upon entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court thereon; or (2) upon a successful motion of any party and entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court.

13. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their respective parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment.

AGREED TO:

Date: May 21, 2014

Date: May 70, 2014

By: Anthony E. Hylld, Ph.D., P.E.

By: Name: Joseph Color Title: pop 290/ Techpolor Traces
United Pet Group, Inc.