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David R. Bush, State Bar No. 154511 1 Jennifer Henry, State Bar No. 208221 Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC 2 3270 Mendocino Ave. #2E 3 Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Telephone: (707) 541-6255 Facsimile: (707) 676-4301 4 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff Michael DiPirro MAY 0 5 2017 6 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT 8 9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 11 UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION 12 13 Case No. RG15787396 MICHAEL DIPIRRO, 14 Plaintiff, PROPOSED JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO 15 **TERMS OF PROPOSITION 65** SETTLEMENT AND CONSENT 16 v. **JUDGMENT** 17 TOPS PRODUCTS; R.R. DONNELLEY & May 05, 2017 Date: SONS COMPANY; STAPLES, INC.; and 10:00 a.m. 18 Time: DOES 1-150, inclusive, Dept. 20 Judge: Hon. Paul D. Herbert 19 Defendants. Reservation No. R - 1835958 20 21 22 BY FAX 23 24

Plaintiff, Michael DiPirro, and Defendants R.R. DONNELLEY & SONS COMPANY and STAPLES, 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,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(f)(4) and Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6, judgment is hereby entered in accordance with the terms of the Consent Judgment attached hereto as Exhibit 1. By stipulation of the parties, the Court will retain jurisdiction to enforce the settlement under Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 5, 2017

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

PAUL D. HERBERT

1 2 3	David R. Bush, State Bar No. 154511 Jennifer Henry, State Bar No. 208221 Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC 3270 Mendocino Ave. #2E	
4	Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Telephone: (707) 541-6255 Facsimile: (707) 676-4301	
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff Michael DiPirro	
6	,	
7	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
8	COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
9	UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION	
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12	MICHAEL DIPIRRO,	Case No. RG15787396
13	Plaintiff,	IDDODOGEDI CONGENIA HID CATINA
14	v.	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
15	TODO DRODUCTO D. D. DONNELLEV (	(Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq.)
16	TOPS PRODUCTS; R.R. DONNELLEY & SONS COMPANY; STAPLES, INC.; and DOES 1-150, inclusive,	
17	Defendants.	
18	Detendants.	
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# 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Parties

This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between plaintiff, Michael DiPirro ("DiPirro"), and R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company and its successor and assignee LSC Communications (hereafter collectively "R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company") and Staples, Inc. (collectively, "Defendants"), with DiPirro and Defendants each individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

#### 1.2 Plaintiff

DiPirro represents that he is an individual residing in California who seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer products.

## 1.3 Defendants

Each Defendant 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 Section 25249.6 et seq. ("Proposition 65").

## 1.4 General Allegations

DiPirro alleges that Defendants manufacture, import, sell, or distribute for sale in the State of California, binders containing phthalates DIDP and DINP without first providing the requisite Proposition 65 health hazard warnings. DIDP is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical that is known to the State of California to cause developmental toxicity. DINP is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical that is known to the State of California to cause cancer.

## 1.5 Product Description

The products covered by this Consent Judgment are binders containing DINP and/or DIDP that are manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale in California by Tops Products and/or R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company, including, but not limited to, the *Cardinal 1" 11X17 ClearVue Slant-D Ring Binder, White (#22112) (UPC #083086221149)* (collectively, the "Products").

## 1.6 Notices of Violation

DiPirro represents that, on or about April 21, 2015, DiPirro served Defendants and certain

requisite public enforcement agencies with a "60-Day Notice of Violation", a document that informed the recipients of DiPirro's allegation that Defendants violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn their customers and consumers in California that the Products expose users to phthalates including DINP. To the best of the Parties' knowledge, no public enforcement agency has commenced and is diligently prosecuting the allegations set forth in the Notice.

On or about December 9, 2016, DiPirro served Defendants and certain requisite public enforcement agencies with a "Supplemental 60-Day Notice of Violation", a document that informed the recipients of DiPirro's allegation that Defendants violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn its customers and consumers in California that the Products expose users to DINP and/or DIDP. To the best of the Parties' knowledge, no public enforcer has commenced and is diligently prosecuting the allegations set forth in the Notice. The two Notices of Violation are collectively referred to herein as "Notices."

# 1.7 Complaint

On or about September 28, 2015, DiPirro filed the instant action against Defendants for the alleged violations of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 that are the subject of the Notices. On or about February 13, 2017, DiPirro filed the First Amended Complaint to include the allegations of violations of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 that are the subject of the Supplemental 60-Day Notice of Violation ("Complaint").

### 1.8 No Admission

Defendants deny the material, factual, and legal allegations contained in the Notices and maintain that all of the products they have manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale 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 Defendants of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by Defendants of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law, the same being specifically denied by Defendants. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Defendants' 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 Defendants as to the allegations in the Complaint, that venue is proper in Alameda County, 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 either February 13, 2017, or the date the Court approves this Consent Judgment, whichever date is later.

# 2. <u>INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION OR WARNINGS</u>

## 2.1 Reformulation Commitment

In order to waive the second civil penalty under Section 3.2 below, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company shall only manufacture for sale or distribution for sale in California, from and after the Effective Date, Products that are reformulated ("Reformulated Products"). For purposes of this Consent Judgment, Reformulated Products are Products that meet the Reformulation Standards of Section 2.2 below.

# 2.2 Reformulation Standard

For purposes of this Consent Judgment, "Reformulated Products" are defined as Products containing no more than 1,000 parts per million (0.1%) of DIDP and/or no more than 1,000 parts per million (0.1%) DINP when analyzed pursuant to EPA testing methodologies 3580A and 8270C, or equivalent methodologies utilized by state or federal agencies for the purpose of determining DIDP or DINP content in a solid substance.

# 2.3 Product Warnings

Commencing on the Effective Date, for all Products that are manufactured for sale or distribution in California and that contain more than 1,000 parts per million (0.1%) DINP or DIDP, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company shall provide a clear and reasonable warning as set forth below. Each warning shall be prominently placed with such conspicuousness as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions before purchase or use. Each

warning shall be provided in a manner such that the consumer or user understands to which specific Product the warning applies, so as to minimize the risk of consumer confusion. R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company shall use one of the following warning language at their option, to the extent required under this section. Either form of the warning statement may be expanded at R.R. Donnelley & Sons' Company option to name additional chemicals that have been listed under Proposition 65 if such chemicals are present:

# OPTION 1:

WARNING: This product contains one or more phthalate chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and developmental toxicity

## **OPTION 2:**

WARNING: This product contains chemicals, including DINP, known to the State of California to cause cancer and developmental toxicity.

# 3. MONETARY PAYMENTS

- 3.1 Initial Civil Penalty. Defendants shall pay an initial civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000.00 within five (5) business days of notification to Defendants by Plaintiff by electronic mail or other method of the Court Approval of this Consent Judgment. The penalty payment will be allocated by DiPirro's counsel 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 funds remitted to DiPirro. The initial penalty payment shall be delivered to the address listed in Section 3.3 below.
- 3.2 Final Civil Penalty. Defendants shall pay a final civil penalty in the amount of \$20,000.00 on or before August 1, 2017. The final civil penalty shall be waived in its entirety, however, if, no later than August 1, 2017, an officer of Defendants provides DiPirro with written certification that, as of the date of such certification and continuing into the future, Defendants have met the reformulation standard specified in Section 2 above, such that all Products manufactured for sale or distribution in California by R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company are Reformulated Products. The certification in lieu of a

final civil penalty payment provided by this Section is a material term, and time is of the essence. The penalty payment, if any, will be allocated by DiPirro's counsel in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(c)(1) & (d), with 75% of the funds remitted to OEHHA and the remaining 25% of the funds remitted to DiPirro. The penalty payment or certification shall be delivered to the address listed in Section 3.3 below.

- 3.3 Payments Held in Trust. Payments shall be delivered to the offices of Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC, 3270 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 2E, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, and shall be in the form of three checks made payable as follows to:
  - (a) "Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment" in the amount of \$7,500.00 for payment to OEHHA, in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Bush & Henry agrees to forward the check to OEHHA in a timely manner.
  - (b) "Michael DiPirro" in the amount of \$2,500.00 as payment to Michael
     DiPirro, in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Bush & Henry agrees
     to forward such check to DiPirro in a timely manner; and
  - (c) "Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC" in the amount of \$40,000, in the form of a certified or cashier's check, as payment for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Section 4 below.
- 3.3 Issuance of 1099 Forms. Defendants shall provide DiPirro's counsel with a separate 1099 form for each of their payments under this Agreement as follows:
  - (a) "Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment", P.O. Box 4010, Sacramento, CA 95814 (EIN: 68-0284486) for its portion of the civil penalties paid;
  - (b) "Michael DiPirro," whose address and tax identification number shall be furnished upon request after this Agreement has been fully executed by the Parties for his portion of the civil penalties paid; and
  - (c) "Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC" for fees and costs reimbursed pursuant to Section 4.

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#### 4. REIMBURSEMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS

The parties acknowledge that DiPirro and his counsel offered to resolve this dispute without reaching terms on the amount of attorney fees and costs to be reimbursed to them, thereby leaving this fee and cost issue to be resolved after the material terms of the agreement had been settled. The Parties then attempted to (and did) reach an accord on the compensation due to OEHHA, DiPirro and his counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine codified at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution of this agreement. Defendants shall pay \$40,000 for fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to Defendants' attention, and negotiating a settlement in the public interest. Defendants shall issue a separate 1099 form for fees and costs (EIN: 81-1257634), shall make the check payable to "Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC" and shall deliver payment within three (3) business days of Court approval of this Consent Judgment, to the address listed in Section 3.3 above.

# CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED

#### 1.1 DiPirro's Public Release of Proposition 65 Claims

DiPirro, acting on his own behalf and in the public interest, releases Defendants and their respective parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates, and their respective past and current officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and assigns, and each entity and individual to whom Defendants directly or indirectly distributed or sold the Products, including without limitation, downstream distributors, wholesalers, dealers, customers, owners, purchasers, users, auctioneers, retailers, franchisees, cooperative members, licensors, and licensees (collectively, "Releasees"), from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on exposures to DINP and DIDP from the Products, as set forth in the Notices. Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposures to DINP and DIDP from the Products manufactured, sold, or distributed by Defendants after the Effective Date, as set forth in the Notices.

#### 5.2 DiPirro's Individual Release of Claims

DiPirro, in his individual capacity only and not in his representative capacity, on his own

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behalf and on behalf of his heirs, executors, administrators, agents, representatives, and attorneys (collectively, the "DiPirro Releasors") also provides a release herein to Releasees which shall be effective as a full and final accord and satisfaction, as a bar to all claims, actions, causes of action, suits, liabilities, demands, obligations, damages, fees (including investigation fees, expert fees, and attorney fees), obligations, costs, expenses, fines, penalties, or losses of any nature, character or kind, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, at law or in equity, that were or could have been brought by the DiPirro Releasors against Releasees under Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on, arising out of, or relating in any way to alleged or actual exposures to phthalate chemicals, including, but not limited to, DIDP and DINP in the Products.

## 5.3 Defendants' Release of DiPirro

Defendants, on their own behalf, on behalf of their respective parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates, and on behalf of their respective past and current officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and assigns, hereby waive any and all claims that they may have against DiPirro and his heirs, executors, administrators, agents, representatives, and attorneys for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by DiPirro and his attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims, otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against Defendants in this matter, or with respect to the Products.

# 6. <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.

# 7. **SEVERABILITY**

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

# 8. GOVERNING LAW

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, is preempted, or is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to the Products, then Defendants may provide written notice to DiPirro 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.

# 9. NOTICES

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

## For Defendants:

Michael P. Pulliam, Esq. Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP 50 Fremont St., 20th Floor San Francisco, CA 94105-2235

## For DiPirro:

Bush & Henry, Attorneys at Law, PC 3270 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 2E Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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

# 10. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

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

# 11. POST EXECUTION ACTIVITIES

DiPirro agrees to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f). The Parties acknowledge that, pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f), a noticed motion is required to obtain judicial approval of the settlement. In furtherance of obtaining such approval, DiPirro and Defendants agree to mutually employ their

1	best efforts, and those of their respective counsel, to support the entry of this agreement as a	
2	Consent Judgment, and to obtain judicial approval of the settlement in a timely manner.	
3	12. MODIFICATION	
4	This Consent Judgment may be modified only: (i) by a written agreement of the Parties	
5	and upon entry of a modified consent judgment by the Court thereon; or (ii) upon a successful	
6	motion or application of any Party and the entry of a modified consent judgment by the Court.	
7	13. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>	
8	The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their	
9	respective Parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this	
10	Consent Judgment.	
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12	AGREED TO:	
13	2 7 15	
14	Date: >- 1 /	
15	By: Thurst State	
16	Michael DiPirro	
17	AGREED TO:	
18	n. 21-1	
19	Date: 3/7/17	
20	By: Printe Pt Kell e.	
21	LSC Communications as successor and assignee to R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company	
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23	AGREED TO:	
24	Date: 3/6/17	
25	an o	
26	By: They Auga DMM	
27	Staples, find. ' ()	
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