Gregory M. Sheffer, State Bar No. 173124 1 SHEFFER LAW FIRM 2 81 Throckmorton Ave., Suite 202 Mill Valley, CA 94941 3 Telephone: 415.388.0911 OCT - 5 2016 Facsimile: 415.388.9911 4 JAMES M. KIM, Court Executive Officer MARIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT Attorneys for Plaintiff 5 SUSAN DAVIA By: C. Lucchesi, Deputy 6 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIN 9 UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION 10 11 SUSAN DAVIA, Case No. CIV1601915 12 Plaintiff. JUDGMENT ON PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT 13 v. Case Filed: June 1, 2016 14 FORMATION BRANDS, LLC and DOES 1-Trail Date: None Assigned 150. 15 Defendants. 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

JUDGMENT ON PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT

In the above-entitled action, Plaintiff Susan Davia and Defendant Formation Brands, LLC, having agreed through their respective counsel that a judgment be entered pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Stipulation to Judgment entered into by the parties in resolution of this Proposition 65 action, and following the issuance of an order approving the Parties' Settlement Agreement and Stipulation to Judgment on this day, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f)(4) and Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6, judgment is hereby entered in accordance with the terms of the Stipulation to 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: OCT - 5 2016

ROY O. CHERNUS

Honorable Roy O. Chernus Judge Of The Superior Court

# EXHIBIT A

1 2 3 4 5 6	Gregory M. Sheffer, Esq., State Bar No. 173124 SHEFFER LAW FIRM 81 Throckmorton Ave., Suite 202 Mill Valley, CA 94941 Telephone: (415) 388-0911 Facsimile: (415) 388-9911  Attorneys for Plaintiff SUSAN DAVIA	
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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
9	FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIN	
10	UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION	
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12	SUSAN DAVIA,	Case No. CIV
13	Plaintiff,	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND
14	vs.	STIPULATION TO JUDGMENT
15	FORMATION BRANDS, LLC and DOES 1-	Case Filed: June 1, 2016 Trial Date: None Assigned
16	150,	
17	Defendants.	
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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### **1.1** The Parties

This Stipulation to Judgment Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between Plaintiff Susan Davia, ("Davia" or "Plaintiff") and Defendant Formation Brands, LLC ("Formation"), with Formation referred to as "Settling Defendant" and Davia and Formation each referred to as a "Party" and collectively referred to as the "Parties."

#### **1.2** Plaintiff

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

#### **1.3** Defendant

Formation is a Delaware Limited Liability Company. For purposes of this Agreement only, Formation represents that it employs 10 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

Davia alleges that Formation manufactured, distributed and/or sold, in the State of California, certain mugs known as "Moscow Mule" mugs with brass handles comprised of or made with made with components that exposed users to Lead without first providing a "clear and reasonable warning" as Proposition 65 defines that phrase. Lead is listed as a reproductive and developmental toxicant pursuant to Proposition 65 and is referred to hereinafter as the "Listed Chemical" or "Lead."

#### **1.5** Notice of Violation

On March 22, 2016, Davia represents she served Formation and Beverages & More, Inc. and BevMo Holdings, LLC (collectively "BevMo") with a valid and compliant Proposition 65 60-DayNotice of Violation, including a valid, requisite Certificate of Merit, that provided public enforcers and these entities with notice of alleged violations of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 for failing to warn consumers of exposure to Lead in brass-handled copper and colored "Moscow Mule"

mug products sold in California (the "Notice").

Formation received the Notice. The Parties represent that, as of the date they execute this Agreement, they believe that no public enforcer is diligently prosecuting a Proposition 65 enforcement action related to the Listed Chemical in the products identified in the Notice.

# 1.6 Complaint

On June 1, 2016, Davia, acting in the interest of the general public in California, filed a Complaint in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Marin, Case No. CIV \_\_\_\_\_ alleging violations by Formation and Does 1-150 of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 based, inter alia, on the alleged consumer exposures to Lead contained in the Covered Products (defined below).

#### **1.7** No Admission

This Agreement resolves claims that are denied and disputed by the Parties. The Parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to a full and final settlement of any and all claims between the Parties for the purpose of avoiding prolonged litigation. Settling Defendant denies the material factual and legal allegations contained in the Notice and Action, maintains that it did not knowingly or intentionally expose California consumers to the Listed Chemical through the reasonably foreseeable use of the Covered Product and otherwise contends that all products, including the Covered Products, it has manufactured, and/or distributed and/or sold in California have been and are in compliance with all applicable laws. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as an admission against interest by any Party of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Agreement constitute or be construed as an admission against interest by any Party of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the Parties' obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Agreement.

# **1.8** Consent to Jurisdiction

For purposes of this Agreement only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over Formation as to the allegations contained in the Complaint, that venue is proper in County of Marin, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter and enforce the provisions of this Agreement. As an

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26 27 28 express part of this Agreement, pursuant to C.C.P. §664.6 the Court in which this action was filed shall retain jurisdiction over the parties to enforce the Agreement.

#### 2. **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 The term "Complaint" shall mean the June 1, 2016, Complaint.
- 2.2 The term "Covered Product 1" means any Formation brand copper or other beverage "Moscow Mule" mug product with brass handles including, but not limited to, 16 oz. copper and colored Moscow Mule mugs, such as those contained in the "Set of Two" packaging identified in the Notice. The term "Covered Product 2" shall mean any additional type of beverage "Moscow Mule" mug product with brass handles, except for Covered Product 1. Collectively, Covered Product 1 and Covered Product 2 are the "Covered Products."
- 2.3 The term "Effective Date" shall mean the date on which Davia serves notice, via email on counsel for Formation, of a Court Order approving this Agreement.
- 2.4 The term "Lead Free" shall mean Covered Products containing materials or components that may be handled, touched or mouthed by a consumer, and which materials or components each yield less than 100 parts per million ("ppm") Lead when such surface material is analyzed pursuant to EPA testing methodologies 3050B and 6010B, or equivalent methodologies utilized by Federal or State agencies for the purpose of determining Lead content in a solid substance.
- 2.5 "Manufactured" and "manufactures" have the meaning defined in Section 3(a)(10) of the Consumer Product Safety Act ("CPSA") [15 U.S.C. § 2052(a)(10)], as amended from time to time.

#### **3.** NON-MONETARY RELIEF

#### 3.1 Formulation Commitment

Formation represents that the Covered Products distributed in California were a limited time, exclusive arrangement with BevMo and that they only caused to be manufactured a very limited amount of such Covered Products. After December 31, 2016 if Formation manufactures, causes to be manufactured on its behalf, distributes or causes to be distributed on its behalf, or sells any Covered Product in California, all such products shall be Lead Free. After December 31, 2016, Formation shall no longer retain the option to manufacture, distribute or sell Covered Products in California with a warning.

**3.1.1** At any time after the Effective Date that Formation contracts with an existing or new vendor of Covered Product 1 or Covered Product 2, Formation shall provide such vendor with the Lead Free concentration standards of Section 2.4 and instruct its vendors not to incorporate any raw or component materials into such Covered Products, especially brass materials, that do not meet the Lead Free concentration standards of Section 2.4.

**3.1.2** To the extent Covered Product 1 and Covered Product 2 are subject to Section 3.1.1 above, Formation shall maintain copies of all testing of such products it conducts or obtains demonstrating compliance with this Section 3, shall maintain copies of material vendor correspondence relating to the Lead Free standards and shall produce such copies to Davia within fifteen (15) days of receipt of written request from Davia. Davia shall not be entitled to request this information more than once in 2016 and once annually thereafter, absent good cause shown. Formation shall retain the Section 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 records for three (3) years after the dates thereof.

**3.2** Previously Obtained or Distributed Covered Products - BevMo Notification.

No later than May 20, 2016, Formation shall send a letter, electronic or otherwise ("Notification Letter") to its primary customer contact at BevMo. The Notification Letter shall advise BevMo that Formation has reviewed test results demonstrating that Covered Product 1 contains Lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. The Notification letter shall direct BevMo to either (a) remove all inventory of Covered Product 1 from California BevMo stores and terminate further retail sale of Covered Product 1 in California or (b) label all Covered Product 1 with a clear and reasonable Proposition 65 warning before such product is sold in the California stores. The Notification Letter shall include a minimum of one sheet of white background, adhesive, Proposition 65 Warning stickers with the following warning in no less than Book Antiqua, point 9 font (or its equivalent):

**WARNING:** This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

The Notification Letter shall request written confirmation from the recipient, within fifteen (15) days

of mailing, as to the number of Covered Product 1 in their inventory and confirmation that all such inventory either is no longer available for retail sale or has been labeled with the warning language identified in this section or, if it is not possible to complete either such action within fifteen (15) days, a date by which either such action will be completed. Formation shall diligently pursue such written response from BevMo and shall take all reasonable efforts to ensure that BevMo does not sell any Covered Product in California in 2016 without a clear and reasonable warning as described herein. Formation shall maintain records of compliance correspondence, inventory reports or other material communications confirming compliance with Section 3.2 for three (3) years from the Effective Date and shall produce copies of such records upon written request by Davia subject to the same terms in Section 3.1.2 governing when Davia may request information.

# **3.3** Formation Warning Obligations

Formation certifies that, as Covered Product 1 was a limited run and a BevMo exclusive product, it has no further inventory of Covered Product 1. As of May 20, 2016, and until December 31, 2016, Formation shall not sell or ship any Covered Product to a California vendor or retailer, or sell or ship any Covered Product to a vendor or retailer that Formation reasonably understands maintains retail outlets in California, unless such Covered Product is sold or shipped with one of the clear and reasonable warnings set forth hereafter. 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* use. Each warning shall be provided in a manner such that the consumer or user understands to which *specific* Covered Product the warning applies, so as to minimize the risk of consumer confusion.

(a) **Product Labeling.** For all Covered Products sold after May 20, 2016 to any entity that Formation reasonably understands maintains retail outlets in California, Formation shall affix a warning to each Covered Product, which may be on the label or packaging of each such product, that states:

**WARNING:** This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

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(b) **Mail Order Catalog and Internet Sales.** Formation represents that, to its knowledge, no Covered Products are sold by Formation or BevMo via mail order catalog or the Internet to customers located in California.

#### **4.** MONETARY PAYMENTS

# 4.1 Civil Penalty Payment Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b)

As a condition of settlement of all the claims referred to in this Agreement, Formation Brands, LLC shall pay a total of \$13,000.00 in civil penalties 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 Davia.

# 4.2 Augmentation of Penalty Payments

For purposes of the penalty assessment under this Agreement, Plaintiff is relying entirely upon Defendant for accurate, good faith reporting to Plaintiff of the nature and amounts of relevant sales activity and retailer BevMo's compliance with the warning obligations of this Agreement. If within nine (9) months of the Effective Date, Plaintiff discovers and presents to Defendant either (1) evidence that any type of Covered Product has been distributed by Defendant in sales volumes materially different (more than 15%) than those identified by Defendant prior to execution of this Agreement or (2) that after completion of the actions set forth in Section 3.2, BevMo is selling the Covered Product in California without a warning pursuant to this Agreement, then Formation shall be liable for an additional penalty amount of up to \$65.00 for each unit of Covered Product sold in California prior to execution of this Agreement but not identified by Formation to Plaintiff or for each unit of Covered Product sold by BevMo in California without a warning after more than five (5) units are found without the requisite warning. Defendant shall also be liable for any reasonable, additional attorney fees expended by Plaintiff in discovering applicable California sales without warning. Plaintiff agrees to provide Defendant with a written demand for all such additional penalties and attorney fees under this Section. After service of such demand, the Parties shall meet and confer in good faith to assess the information. If within twenty (20) days Defendant agrees Plaintiff has documented a violation of this Section, the Parties shall have and additional ten (10) days to agree to the amount of fees and penalties owing. Thereafter, Defendant shall have five (5) days to submit such

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Section 4.4. These deadlines may be extended upon mutual agreement of the Parties. Should the Parties fail to agree on whether a violation exists or the amount of penalties or fees, Plaintiff shall be entitled to enforce this Agrement and resulting Consent Judgment, seeking such relief as is authorized by law, and shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs as set forth in Section 14.

#### 4.3 Reimbursement of Plaintiff's Fees and Costs

The Parties acknowledge that Davia and her 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. Settling Defendant 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 Davia and her counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine codified at California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5, for all work performed in this matter, except fees that may be incurred on appeal. Under these legal principles, Formation Brands, LLC shall pay the amount of \$33,500.00 for fees and costs incurred investigating, litigating and enforcing this matter, including the fees and costs incurred (and yet to be incurred) negotiating, drafting, and obtaining the Court's approval of this Agreement in the public interest.

#### 4.4 Payment Timing and Delivery Instructions, Payments Held In Trust

Formation Brands, LLC shall deliver all settlement checks required by this Agreement and resulting Consent Judgment to its counsel within thirty (30) days of the date that Davia reports this Agreement to the Office of the Attorney General, and notice of the same is provided to Davia's counsel via electronic mail. Formation Brands, LLC's counsel shall confirm receipt of settlement checks in writing to plaintiff's counsel. Within five business days of the Effective Date, counsel for Formation Brands, LLC shall deliver the settlement checks it has held pursuant to this Section to Plaintiff's counsel as follows:

a civil penalty check in the amount of \$9,750.00 payable to "OEHHA" (EIN: 68-1. 0284486, Memo line "Prop 65 Penalties, 2016-00218");

- **2.** a civil penalty check in the amount of \$3,250.00 payable to "Susan Davia" (EIN: to be supplied upon request by Formation), Memo line "Prop 65 Penalties, 2016-00218"); and
- 3. An attorney fee and cost reimbursement check, pursuant to Section 4.3, in the amount of \$33,500.00 payable to "Sheffer Law Firm" (EIN 55-08-58910, Memo line "2016-00218").

All penalty and fee/cost payments shall be delivered to the Sheffer Law Firm at the following address:

Sheffer Law Firm Attn: Proposition 65 Controller 81 Throckmorton Ave., Suite 202 Mill Valley, CA 94941.

Formation Brands, LLC shall be liable for payment of interest, at a rate of 10% simple interest, for all amounts due and owing from it under this Section that are not received by Sheffer Law Firm within two business days of the due date for such payment.

#### **5.** CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASE

- **5.1** Davia's Releases of Settling Defendant
- **5.1.1** This Agreement is a full, final, and binding resolution between Davia, on behalf of herself, her past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, and in the interest of the general public, and Formation and BevMo and each of their attorneys, predecessors, successors, affiliates, licensors, and assigns, ("Defendant Releasees"), of any violation of Proposition 65 that has been or could have been asserted against Defendant Releasees regarding the failure to warn about exposure to the Listed Chemical arising in connection with any Covered Product manufactured, sourced, distributed, or sold by Defendant Releasees prior to the Effective Date. Defendant's compliance with this Agreement shall constitute compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to the Listed Chemical in the Covered Products on and after the Effective Date.
- **5.1.2** Davia, on behalf of herself, her past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, and in the interest of the general public, hereby waives with respect to Covered Products all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases all claims, including, without limitation, all actions, and causes of action, in law or in equity, suits, liabilities, demands, obligations, damages, costs, fines, penalties, losses, or expenses

(including, but not limited to, investigation fees, expert fees, and attorneys' fees) of any nature whatsoever, whether known or unknown, fixed or contingent (collectively "Claims"), against Defendant Releasees that arise under Proposition 65 or any other statutory or common law claims that were or could have been asserted in the public interest, as such Claims relate to Defendant Releasees' alleged failure to warn about exposures to the Listed Chemical contained in any Covered Products.

- **5.1.3** The Parties further understand and agree that this Section 5.1 release shall not extend upstream to any entities that manufactured any Covered Product or any component parts thereof, or any distributors or suppliers who sold any Covered Products or any component parts thereof to Defendants.
- **5.1.4** Upon court approval of the Agreement, the Parties waive their respective rights to a hearing or trial on the allegations of the Complaint.
  - **5.2** Defendant's Release of Davia
- **5.2.1** Defendant waives any and all claims against Davia, her attorneys, and other representatives for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Davia and her attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against it in this matter, and/or with respect to the Covered Products up through the Effective Date.
  - **5.3** General Release
- **5.3.1** Each Party also provides, for the benefit of the other Party, a general release herein 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 any Party of any nature, character or kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, arising out of the subject matter of the Action up through the Effective Date, except as otherwise expressly identified herein. Each Party Defendant acknowledges that it is familiar with Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, 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.

Each Party expressly waives and relinquishes any and all rights and benefits that it may have under, or which may be conferred on it by the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code 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. In furtherance of such intention, the release hereby given shall be and remain in effect as a full and complete release notwithstanding the discovery or existence of any such additional or different claims or facts arising out of the released matters.

#### **6.** SEVERABILITY

If, subsequent to the Effective Date any provision of this Agreement is determined by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions remaining, upon agreement of the Parties, shall not be adversely affected, unless the Court finds that any unenforceable provision is not severable from the remainder of the Agreement.

#### **7.** COURT APPROVAL

This Agreement is effective upon execution but must also be approved by the Court. If the Court does not approve this Agreement in its entirety, the Parties shall meet and confer to determine whether to modify the terms of the Agreement and to resubmit it for approval. In meeting and conferring, the Parties agree to undertake any actions reasonably necessary to amend and/or modify this Agreement in order to further the mutual intention of the Parties in entering into this Agreement. The Agreement shall become null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved and entered by the Court, as it is executed, within one year after it has been fully executed by all Parties.

#### **8.** GOVERNING LAW

The terms of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California. This Agreement applies only to Covered Products sold in California and shall have no effect on, and does not govern, any Covered Products that are not manufactured and distributed for sale in California or sold in California.

#### **9.** NOTICES

When any Party is entitled to receive any notice under this Agreement, the notice shall be sent

1	by certified mail or other delivery method with a delivery confirmation/tracking system and	
2	electronic mail to the following:	
3	For Formation Brands, LLC:	
4	Mark Towery, President	
5	Formation Brands LLC 389 Oyster Point Boulevard, Suite 6	
6	South San Francisco, CA 94080.	
7	With copy to their counsel at:	
8	Judith Praitis, Esq.	
9	Sidley Austin LLP 555 West Fifth Street	
10	Los Angeles, CA 90013.	
11	For Davia to:	
12	Proposition 65 Coordinator	
13	Sheffer Law Firm 81 Throckmorton Ave., Suite 202	
14	Mill Valley, CA 94941.	
15	Any Party may modify the person and address to whom the notice is to be sent by sending each other	
16	Party notice by certified mail and/or other verifiable form of written communication.	
17	10. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(F)	
18	Davia agrees to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced, in California Health	
19	& Safety Code §25249.7(f) and to file a motion for approval of this Agreement.	
20	11. MODIFICATION	
21	This Agreement may be modified only by (1) a written agreement of the Parties and (2) upon	
22	a successful motion of any party and approval of a modified Agreement by the Court. A copy of any	
23	such motion to modify shall be served on the Office of the Attorney General.	
24	12. ADDITIONAL POST-EXECUTION ACTIVITIES	
25	Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7 Davia is obligated to file a noticed motion to	
26	obtain Court approval of this Agreement and Davia agrees to do so. Formation shall not oppose	
27	entry of this Agreement and shall support the Court approval of this Agreement in a timely manner	
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#### **13.** ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Settlement contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof, and any and all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related hereto. No representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have been made by any Party hereto. No other agreements not specifically referred to herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties. No supplementation, modification, waiver, or termination of this Agreement shall be binding unless executed in writing by the Party to be bound. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed or shall constitute a waiver of any of the other provisions whether or not similar, nor shall such waiver constitute a continuing waiver

#### **14.** ATTORNEY'S FEES

- 14.1 Should Davia prevail on any motion, application for order to show cause or other proceeding to enforce a violation of this Agreement, Davia shall be entitled to her reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred as a result of such motion, order or application, if allowed under C.C.P. § 1021.5. Should Settling Defendant prevail on any motion, application for order to show cause or other proceeding to enforce a violation of this Agreement and resulting Consent Judgment, Settling Defendant may be entitled to its reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred as a result of such motion, order or application upon a finding that Davia's prosecution of the motion or application lacked substantial justification. For purposes of this Agreement, the term substantial justification shall carry the same meaning as used in the Civil Discovery Act of 1986, Code of Civil Procedure §§ 2016, et seq.
- **14.2** Except as specifically provided in the above paragraph and in Section 4.3, each Party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees in connection with this action.
- **14.3** Nothing in this Section 14 shall preclude a Party from seeking an award of sanctions pursuant to law.

#### **15.** NEUTRAL CONSTRUCTION

All Parties and their counsel have participated in the preparation of this Agreement and this Agreement is the result of the joint efforts of the Parties. This Agreement was subject to revision and modification by the Parties and has been accepted and approved as to its final form by all Parties and

their counsel. Accordingly, any uncertainty or ambiguity existing in this Agreement shall not be interpreted against any Party as a result of the manner of the preparation of this Agreement. Each Party to this Agreement agrees that any statute or rule of construction providing that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting Party should not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement and, in this regard, the Parties hereby waive California Civil Code Section 1654.

# 16. COUNTERPARTS, FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

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

# 17. AUTHORIZATION

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

#### IT IS SO AGREED

Dated: May, 2016	Dated: May <u>25</u> , 2016
	Mark Towery, President Formation Brands LLC

their counsel. Accordingly, any uncertainty or ambiguity existing in this Agreement shall not be 1 interpreted against any Party as a result of the manner of the preparation of this Agreement. Each 2 Party to this Agreement agrees that any statute or rule of construction providing that ambiguities are 3 to be resolved against the drafting Party should not be employed in the interpretation of this 4 Agreement and, in this regard, the Parties hereby waive California Civil Code Section 1654. 5 16. COUNTERPARTS, FACSIMILE SIGNATURES This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile or portable document 7 format (PDF), each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document. 9 17. **AUTHORIZATION** 10 The undersigned parties are authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of their 11 respective Parties and have read, understood, and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this 12 Agreement. 13 IT IS SO AGREED 14 15 Dated: May 25,2016 Dated: May \_\_\_, 2016 16 17 Plaintiff Susan Davia Mark Towery, President 18 Formation Brands LLC 19

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