

FILED ALAMEDA COUNTY

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CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Deputy

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

ANTHONY FERREIRO,

WOOD INDUSTRIES, INC.,

٧.

Plaintiff,

Defendant.

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CONSENT JUDGMENT

Case No.:: RG18897216

CONSENT JUDGMENT

Judge: Michael M. Markman

Dept.: 16

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Hearing Date: June 5, 2018

Hearing Time: 9:00 AM

Reservation #: R-1951516

BY FAX

1. INTRODUCTION

- The Parties. This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Anthony Ferreiro acting on behalf of the public interest (hereinafter "Ferreiro") and Wood Industries, Inc. ("Wood Industries" or "Defendant") with Ferreiro and Defendant collectively referred to as the "Parties" and each of them as a "Party." Ferreiro is an individual residing in California that seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer products. Wood Industries is alleged to be a person in the course of doing business for purposes of Proposition 65, Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 et seq.
- Allegations and Representations. Ferreiro alleges that Defendant has exposed individuals to Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), a toxic chemical found Eagle Hybri-Flex Air Hoses without providing clear and reasonable exposure warnings under Proposition 65. DEHP is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause reproductive toxicity and cancer
- Notice of Violation/Complaint. On or about November 21, 2017, Ferreiro served Wood Industries, and various public enforcement agencies with documents entitled "60-Day Notice of Violation" pursuant to Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d) (the "Notice"), alleging that Defendant was in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn consumers and customers that Eagle Hybri-Flex Air Hoses exposed users in California to DEHP. No public enforcer has brought and is diligently prosecuting the claims alleged in the Notices. On March 19, 2018, Ferreiro filed a complaint (the "Complaint") in the matter.
- 1.4 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations contained in the Complaint filed in this matter, that venue is proper in the County of Alameda, and that this Court has jurisdiction to approve, enter, and oversee the enforcement of this Consent Judgment as a full and final binding resolution of all claims which were or could have been raised in the Complaint based on the facts alleged therein and/or in the Notice.

1.5 Defendant denies the material allegations contained in Ferreiro's Notice and Complaint and maintains that it has not violated Proposition 65. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Defendant 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 Defendant of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, such being specifically denied by Defendant. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities, and duties of Defendant under this Consent Judgment.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 Covered Products. The term "Covered Products" means Eagle Hybri-Flex Air Hoses that are manufactured, distributed and/or offered for sale in California by Wood Industries or Downstream Releasees as defined in Section 5.1.
- 2.2 Effective Date. The term "Effective Date" means the date this Consent Judgment is entered as a Judgment of the Court.

3. <u>INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS</u>

- 3.1 As of the date this Consent Judgment is signed by both Parties, Wood Industries shall not manufacture or order from any supplier any Covered Products intended for retail sale in California that contains DEHP on any component to which consumers are exposed in excess of 0.1% (1,000 ppm) (hereinafter "Reformulated Products") unless the Covered Product is accompanied by a warning that complies with Article 6 of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations. Covered Products sold by Wood Industries before the date this Consent Judgment is signed by both Parties may sell through without a warning even if not Reformulated Products. Until August 30, 2018, the warning shall consist of either:
 - (a) The statement: "WARNING: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm."; or
 - (b) (1) A symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline to the left of the word "warning" in bold all capital letters, followed by the statement "This product can expose you to chemicals including Di(2-ethylhexyl)

phthalate (DEHP), which is known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm. For more information, go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov."; or (2) a warning consisting of a symbol that is a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline to the left of the word "warning" in bold all capital letters, followed by the statement "Cancer and Reproductive Harm - www.P65Warnings.ca.gov." For Covered Products manufactured on and after August 30, 2018, the warnings set forth in Section 3.1(b) shall be used.

3.2 The warnings provided pursuant to Section 3.1 shall be affixed to or printed on the Covered Products' packaging or labeling, or on a placard, shelf tag, sign or electronic device or automatic process, providing that the warning is displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use. A warning may be contained in the same section of the packaging, labeling, or instruction booklet that states other safety warnings, if any, concerning the use of the product and shall be at least the same size as those other safety warnings.

4. MONETARY TERMS

- 4.1 Civil Penalty. Wood Industries shall pay a Civil Penalty of \$2,000.00 pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), to be apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25192, with 75% of these funds remitted to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the remaining 25% of the Civil Penalty remitted to Ferreiro, as provided by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(d).
- 4.1.1 Within ten (10) days of the Effective Date, Wood Industries shall issue two separate checks for the Civil Penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$1,500.00; and (b) "Brodsky & Smith, LLC in Trust for Ferreiro" in the amount of \$500.00. Payment owed to Ferreiro pursuant to this Section shall be delivered to the following payment address:

¹ The triangular symbol need only be in yellow where the sign, label, shelf tag or other transmission format is being printed in color for purposes of other language, symbols or designs.

1 2	Evan J. Smith, Esquire Brodsky & Smith, LLC
3	Two Bala Plaza, Suite 510 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
4	Payment owed to OEHHA (EIN: 68-0284486) pursuant to this Section shall be delivered directly
5	to OEHHA (Memo Line "Prop 65 Penalties") at one of the following address(es):
6	For United States Postal Service Delivery:
7	Mike Gyurics Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
8	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment P.O. Box 4010
9	Sacramento, CA 95812-4010
10	For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:
11	Mike Gyurics Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
12	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment 1001 I Street
13	Sacramento, CA 95814
14	A copy of the check payable to OEHHA shall be mailed to Brodsky & Smith, LLC at the
15	address set forth above as proof of payment to OEHHA.
16	4.2 Attorney Fees. Within ten (10) days of the Effective Date, Wood Industries shall
17	pay \$27,000.00 to Brodsky & Smith, LLC ("Brodsky Smith") as complete reimbursement for
18	Plaintiff Ferreiro's attorneys' fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this
19	matter to Wood Industries' attention, litigating and negotiating and obtaining judicial approval of
20	a settlement in the public interest, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5.
21	5. <u>RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS</u>
22	5.1 This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between Ferreiro
23	acting on his own behalf, and on behalf of the public interest, and Wood Industries, and its parents,
24	shareholders, members, directors, officers, managers, employees, representatives, agents,
25	attorneys, divisions, subdivisions, subsidiaries, partners, sister companies, and affiliates, and their
26	predecessors, successors and assigns ("Defendant Releasees"), and all entities from whom they
27	obtain and to whom they directly or indirectly distribute or sell Covered Products, including but

not limited to manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, customers, licensees

 retailers, franchisees, and cooperative members, including but not limited to Rockler Companies, Inc. ("Downstream Releasees"), of all claims for violations of Proposition 65 based on exposure to DEHP from Covered Products as set forth in the Notice and the Complaint, with respect to any Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Wood Industries prior to the Effective Date. This Consent Judgment shall have preclusive effect such that no other person or entity, whether purporting to act in his, her, or its interests or the public interest shall be permitted to pursue and/or take any action with respect to any violation of Proposition 65 that was alleged in the Complaint, or that could have been brought pursuant to the Notice against Wood Industries or its Downstream Releasees of the Product including but not limited to ("Proposition 65 Claims"). Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with regard to the Covered Products.

5.2 In addition to the foregoing, Ferreiro, on behalf of himself, his past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, and successors and/or assignees, and <u>not</u> in his representative capacity, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases Wood Industries, Defendant Releasees, and Downstream Releasees from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, claims, demands, rights, suits, obligations, debts, contracts, agreements, promises, liabilities, damages, charges, losses, costs, expenses, and attorneys' fees, of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, in law or equity, fixed or contingent, now or in the future, with respect to any alleged violations of Proposition 65 related to or arising from Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Wood Industries, Defendant Releasees or Downstream Releasees. With respect to the foregoing waivers and releases in this paragraph, Ferreiro hereby specifically waives any and all rights and benefits which she now has, or in the future may have, conferred by virtue of the provisions of 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 SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

5.3 Wood Industries waives any and all claims against Ferreiro, his attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Ferreiro and his 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 Covered Products.

6. <u>INTEGRATION</u>

6.1 This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement of the Parties and any and all prior negotiations and understandings related hereto shall be deemed to have been merged within it. No representations or terms of agreement other than those contained herein exist or have been made by any Party with respect to the other Party or the subject matter hereof.

7. GOVERNING LAW

7.1 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 or is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to Covered Products, then Defendant shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and to the extent that, Covered Products are so affected.

8. NOTICES

8.1 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:

For Defendant:

Duncan Lott Langston & Lott PLLC 100 S Main St. Booneville, Mississippi 38829

And

For Ferreiro:

Evan Smith

2	Brodsky & Smith, LLC 9595 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 900 Beverly Hills, CA 90212
3	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.
4	
5	9. <u>COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES</u>
6	9.1 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile, each of
7	which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and
8	the same document.
9	10. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)/COURT
10	APPROVAL
11	10.1 Ferreiro agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health &
12	Safety Code §25249.7(f) and to promptly bring a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment.
13	Defendant agrees it shall support approval of such Motion.
14	10.2 This Consent Judgment shall not be effective until it is approved and entered by the
15	Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved by the Court. In such case,
16	the Parties agree to meet and confer on how to proceed and if such agreement is not reached within
-17	30 days, the case shall proceed on its normal course.
18	10.3 If the Court approves this Consent Judgment and is reversed or vacated by an
19	appellate court, the Parties shall meet and confer as to whether to modify the terms of this Consent
20	Judgment. If the Parties do not jointly agree on a course of action to take, the case shall proceed on
21	its normal course on the trial court's calendar.
22	11. MODIFICATION
23	11.1 This Consent Judgment may be modified only by further stipulation of the Parties
24	and the approval of the Court or upon the granting of a motion brought to the Court by either Party.
25	12. ATTORNEY'S FEES
26	12.1 A Party who unsuccessfully brings or contests an action arising out of this Consent
27	Judgment shall be required to pay the prevailing party's reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

1	12.2 Nothing in this Section shall preclude a Party from seeking an award of sanctions
2	pursuant to law.
3	13. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION
4	13.1 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement or modify the
5	Consent Judgment
6	14. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>
7	14.1 The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of
8	their respective Parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of
9	this document and certify that he or she is fully authorized by the Party he or she represents to
10	execute the Consent Judgment on behalf of the Party represented and legally bind that Party.
11	Except as explicitly provided herein each Party is to hear its own fees and costs.
13	AGREED TO: AGREED TO:
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15	Date: 4/16/18 Date:
16	By: Anthony Frencis By: By:
17	ANTHONY FIRERO WOODE DEUSTRIES. INC.
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19	IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:
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2]	Dated: 7/24/18 Judge of Superior Court
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