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# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

KATHERINE LEE BUCKLAND,  $\it et~al.$ , Plaintiffs,

V.

THRESHOLD ENTERPRISES, LTD., et al.

Defendants.

Case No. BC344046 [Hon. Robert L. Hess]

[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT ONLY AS TO DEFENDANT MATOL BOTANICAL INTERNATIONAL LTD.

Complaint Filed: December 7, 2005 Location: Dept. 24, Room 314

This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Katherine Lee Buckland ("Ms. Buckland"), the California Women's Law Center ("CWLC" – collectively with Ms. Buckland, "Plaintiffs"), and defendant Matol Botanical International Ltd. (hereinafter "Defendant"). Plaintiffs and Defendant may be collectively referred to herein as "Parties."

- 1. <u>Definitions</u>. As used in this Consent Judgment, the following definitions shall apply:
- 1.1 "Regulated Chemicals" are: Progesterone, Medroxyprogesterone acetate,
  Testosterone and its esters, Methyltestosterone, Testosterone cypionate, and/or Testosterone
  enanthate as an ingredient. Each Regulated Chemical is a chemical known to the State of
  California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity.
- 1.2 "Products" are consumer creams, gels and/or lotion products containing as an ingredient one or more of the Regulated Chemicals. "Products" shall also include any future

Products that are manufactured by or on behalf of Defendant for sale to consumers in California under any product name or brand, whether a current or new name and/or brand.

**1.3** Plaintiff and Defendant will be referred to collectively as the "Parties" or individually as a "Party."

## 2. Background.

- 2.1 Ms. Buckland is the Executive Director of the California Women's Law Center ("CWLC"), a non-profit California corporation. Since its founding in 1989, CWLC has served as a unique advocate in California, working in collaboration with others to protect, secure and advance the comprehensive civil rights of women and girls. The CWLC works to ensure, through systemic change, that life opportunities for women and girls are free from unjust social, economic, and political constraints. CWLC is based in Los Angeles, and was incorporated under the laws of the State of California in 1989.
- 2.2 Ms. Buckland is a "consumer" within the meaning of the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA"), California Civil Code ("Civil Code") § 1761(d). Ms. Buckland is also a "person" within the meaning of California Business and Professions ("B&P") Code §§17201, 17204 and 17506. She brought and settles this lawsuit on her own behalf and, to the fullest extent permitted by law, on behalf of the general public. CWLC is a "person" within the meaning of Health & Safety Code §§25249.7(d) and 25249.11(a). CWLC brings its Proposition 65 cause of action in the public interest.
- 2.3 Defendant is a Canadian corporation. Defendant directly or indirectly sells to California consumers Products, all of which Plaintiffs allege contain a chemical or chemicals listed by the State of California as known to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health and Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq. ("Proposition 65"); Title 22, California Code of Regulations § 12000 et seq.
- **2.4** Beginning on or about July 28, 2005, CWLC served Defendant and each of the appropriate public enforcement agencies with a "60-Day Notice" that provided Defendant and the public enforcement agencies with a notice alleging that Defendant was in violation of

Proposition 65 for failing to warn the purchasers of, and individuals using, the Products that the use of the Products exposes them to Regulated Chemicals. Defendant stipulates for the purpose of this Consent Judgment that the 60-Day Notice sent to it is adequate to comply with Title 22, California Code of Regulations §12903. None of the public enforcement agencies has commenced and begun diligently prosecuting an action against Defendant for such alleged violations.

**2.5** On or about October 5, 2005, Ms. Buckland, pursuant to Civil Code § 1782 served Defendant with a notice letter (the "CLRA Notice" -- collectively with the 60-Day Notice, "Notices") via certified mail, return receipt requested, stating *inter alia* as follows:

These Products have been sold to literally millions of California consumers without any of the noticed companies providing a clear and reasonable warning prior to their purchase by a consumer that the Progesterone, Medroxyprogesterone acetate, Testosterone and its esters, Methyltestosterone, Testosterone cypionate, and/or Testosterone enanthate in these Products are chemicals known to be carcinogens and/or reproductive toxins by the State of California. Nor has any of the noticed companies disclosed the potential adverse health effect risks posed by exposure to these chemicals in these Products because Progesterone, Medroxyprogesterone acetate, Testosterone and its esters, Methyltestosterone, Testosterone cypionate, and/or Testosterone enanthate in these Products are chemicals regulated as drugs by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration under the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. These omissions of material facts constitute deceptive representations and misrepresentations, failure to disclose that the product is a regulated drug, and misbranding in violation of § 1770 of the CLRA.

2.6 On Decei

2.6 On December 7, 2005, Ms. Buckland and CWLC filed their initial complaint entitled *Buckland*, *et al.* v. *Threshold Enterprises*, *Ltd.*, *et al.*, No. BC344046, in the Los Angeles County Superior Court. On January 24, 2006, Plaintiffs filed their First Amended First Amended First Amended Complaint, which is the now-operative complaint in this matter (the "First Amended First Amended Complaint"). CWLC alleged violations of Proposition 65 against Defendant, while Ms. Buckland alleged violations of the CLRA, Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et seq.* and 17500 *et seq.*, and Civil Code §§1709 and 1710, against Defendant, respectively.

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21 3. <u>Injunctive Relief.</u>

3.1 Sale of Products Requires a Warning.

the CLRA Notice or the First Amended Complaint.

Pursuant to Civil Code § 1782(d), B&P Code §§ 17203 and 17535, and Health & Safety Code §25249.7(a), the sale of a Product by Defendant to consumers in California shall be accompanied by a warning. This warning shall be provided both by (a) product labeling pursuant to Paragraph 3.1.1; and (b) warnings for any mail order and Internet sales pursuant to Paragraph 3.1.2.

For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court

Defendant denies that the Products have been or are in violation of any law, and

The Parties enter into this Consent Judgment to settle certain disputed claims as

has jurisdiction over the allegations of the violations contained in the Notices and the First

Amended Complaint, and personal jurisdiction over Defendant as to the acts or omissions

further contends that all Products have been and are safe for use as directed. However, the

Parties desire to resolve this matter (including the Notices, First Amended Complaint and all

alleged in the Notices and the First Amended Complaint, to avoid prolonged and costly

§ 1750 et seq.), the Unlawful Competition Law (B&P Code § 17200 et seq.), the False

Advertising Law (B&P Code § 17500 et seq.), Civil Code §§1709 and 1710, Proposition 65

litigation, and to promote the public interest. By executing and complying with this Consent

Judgment, no Party admits any facts or conclusions of law including, but not limited to, any facts

or conclusions of law regarding any violations of the California Legal Remedies Act (Civil Code

(Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.) or any other statutory, common law or equitable claim

not be construed as an admission by Defendant as to any of the allegations in the 60-Day Notice,

or requirement relating to or arising from Defendant's Products. This Consent Judgment shall

that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment.

related matters) without further litigation or cost.

alleged in the First Amended Complaint; that venue is proper in the County of Los Angeles; and

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# 3.1.1 Product Label Warnings

At the earliest such time when, in the ordinary course of business, new labels for the Products are printed on or after January 1, 2006, Defendant shall include:

(1) on the label of each of its Products that it manufactures and ships for sale into California, (in the same type size as the surrounding, non-heading text), the following warning, including the specific name or names of the Regulated Chemicals where shown:

"WARNING: This product contains [Progesterone,
Medroxyprogesterone acetate, Testosterone and its esters,
Methyltestosterone, Testosterone cypionate, and/or Testosterone
enanthate], a chemical(s) known to the State of California to cause

cancer. Consult with your physician before using this product."

(2) on every Product that it manufactures and ships for sale outside of California, either on the label or on a separate sticker affixed to the Product, the statement: "Not for sale in California."

# 3.1.2 Additional Warnings for Mail Order or Internet Sales

If Defendant sells a Product by mail order or over the Internet to a purchaser in the state of California on or after the date that is 90 days after the entry of this consent judgment by the court, the following additional requirements shall apply:

- (1) For such mail order sales, the warning language required under this Consent Judgment at paragraph 3.1.1 shall be included in the mail order catalogue, either on the same page as any order form, or on the same page(s) upon which the Product's price is listed, in the same type size as the surrounding, non-heading text.
- (2) For such Internet sales, the warning language required under this Consent Judgment at paragraph 3.1.1 shall be displayed (in the same type size as the surrounding, non-heading text) in one or more of the following ways: (a) on the same page upon which the Product is displayed or referenced; (b) on the same page as any order form for any Product; (c) on the same page as the price for the Product is displayed; (d) on one or more pages displayed to a purchaser over the Internet or via electronic mail during the checkout and order confirmation

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27 28 process for sale of a Product; or (e) in any manner such that it is likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary business conditions prior to the purchase of the Product.

## 3.1.3 Additional Warnings to Distributors

Within 10 days of the date of entry of this Consent Judgment, Defendant shall notify, in writing, each of the independent distributors distributing its Product as of that date in California, Oregon, Nevada, and Arizona (or any other independent distributor that, according to Defendants' records, regularly ships Defendants' Product to consumers in California) that its Product is not intended for and may not be sold or shipped to consumers in California, and Defendant shall also so notify any new independent distributor meeting the aforementioned criteria.

3.2 Pursuant to Civil Code § 1782(d) and B&P Code §§ 17203 and 17535, and effective when, in the ordinary course of business, new labels and advertising, marketing, mail order catalog or Internet-based descriptions of each of its respective Products are printed or posted electronically on or after January 1, 2006, Defendant agrees to remove any "healthrelated" claims (as that term is used by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration under Title 21 United States Code § 201(g) and Title 21 Code of Federal Regulation, Part 310.530, Over-The-Counter Topically Applied Hormone Drug Products) made by Defendant for any of its respective Products.

#### 4. Financial Settlement and Attorneys' Fee Payments.

- 4.1 In lieu of damages or penalties, Defendant shall pay to the CWLC the sum of \$33,345.00 ("Settlement Amount"), and shall make that payment to the Client Trust Account of the Carrick Law Group P.C., by wire transfer, certified or bank check in immediately available funds. This Settlement Amount shall be due and payable within five (5) calendar days after the date of notice of entry of this Consent Judgment. This Settlement Amount shall be disbursed promptly thereafter by the Carrick Law Group P.C. to the CWLC.
- 4.2 **Attorneys Fees and Costs.** The Parties shall each bear their own attorneys' fees and costs.

# 5. Claims Covered and Released.

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This Consent Judgment includes the resolution of all actual and potential claims that were considered or could have been brought by Plaintiffs regarding the Regulated Chemical(s) in Defendant's Products. This Consent Judgment is a final and binding resolution between Plaintiff and Defendant of any and all alleged violations of Proposition 65, the CLRA, the Unfair Competition Law, the False Advertising Law, Civil Code §§1709 and 1710, or any other law that was or could have been asserted by Plaintiff arising from or related to Defendant's Products up through the date of entry of this Consent Judgment, including, but not limited to any claims for attorneys' fees and costs (collectively "Claims"). Plaintiffs hereby release the Defendant Releasees (as defined below) and waive all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action seeking any form of relief (whether injunctive, compensatory, punitive, or otherwise) arising from the Claims against Defendant, its officers, directors, employees, agents, attorneys, consultants, representatives, shareholders, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, subdivisions, downstream distributors, downstream retailers, downstream customers, and upstream suppliers of the raw materials used in the Products (the "Defendant Releasees"); however, Plaintiffs cannot and expressly do not release any other claims, including specifically and without limitation any personal injury or directly related claims, that could be brought by any other individual or organization. Defendant hereby releases each Plaintiff from and against any claims arising out of each Plaintiff's notices and their filing or prosecution of this action. Each Party respectively waives any right to appeal or other review of this Consent Judgment, except as expressly provided in this Consent Judgment.

6. Covenant Not To Sue. The Parties covenant and agree that with regard to those matters that the Parties have herein released and that are described above, neither Plaintiffs nor Defendant will ever institute a lawsuit or administrative proceedings against the other, nor shall Plaintiffs or Defendant assert any claim of any nature against any person or entity hereby released with regard to any such matters which have been released. However, nothing in this

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paragraph shall be interpreted to preclude enforcement of this Consent Judgment pursuant to paragraph 7 below.

- Senforcement of Consent Judgment. Any Party may, by noticed motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of Los Angeles, enforce this Consent Judgment. To enforce this Consent Judgment, any Party must first give written notice of any violation of this Consent Judgment alleged to have occurred to the Party alleged to be in violation. The Parties shall meet and confer in good faith and attempt to resolve the alleged violation. If a resolution is not reached within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice, the aggrieved Party may move the Court to hear and resolve the dispute. The prevailing Party in any proceeding brought to enforce this Consent Judgment shall be entitled to recover from the other Party the prevailing Party's reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of such an enforcement proceeding.
- 8. Application of Consent Judgment. Paragraphs 3, 5 and 6 of this Consent Judgment shall apply to, be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties, Ms. Buckland and the CWLC, their divisions, subdivisions, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, predecessors and assigns, and the directors, officers, employees, legal counsel, and agents of each of them, as applicable, and will inure to the benefit of the Parties' parent companies, all suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers and contract manufacturers, and all of their respective directors, officers, employees, legal counsel, and agents.
- Modification/Termination of Consent Judgment. This Consent Judgment may be modified or terminated upon written agreement of Defendant and Plaintiffs, with approval of the Court, or upon noticed motion for good cause shown. However, the Parties shall meet and confer in good faith and attempt to mutually agree upon any modification prior to the filing of any motion. The Parties acknowledge that new toxicological information or exposure assessments concerning hazardous substances and testing methodologies are continuously becoming available, and that statutory and regulatory standards applicable to the Products may evolve in the future, either of which may establish good cause for modification of this Consent Judgment. The burden of proof in any such motion shall be on the moving party to establish

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such good cause. The prevailing Party in any such motion shall be entitled to recover from the other Party the prevailing Party's reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the preparation and prosecution of such a motion.

- **10.** Governing Law. This Consent Judgment shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California.
- 11. Entire Agreement. The Parties declare and represent that no promise, inducement or other agreement has been made conferring any benefit upon any party except those contained herein and that this Consent Judgment contains the entire agreement pertaining to the subject matter hereof. This Consent Judgment supersedes any prior or contemporaneous negotiations, representations, agreements and understandings of the Parties with respect to such matters, whether written or oral. Parol evidence shall be inadmissible to show agreement by, between or among the Parties to any term or condition contrary to or in addition to the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. The Parties acknowledge that each has not relied on any promise, representation or warranty, expressed or implied, not contained in this Consent Judgment except with regard to that certain declaration executed under penalty of perjury by the Defendant providing information that induced Ms. Buckland and CWLC to enter into the financial terms of this Consent Judgment, which declaration may be used solely as evidence in any future enforcement proceeding brought pursuant to Paragraph 7 above.
- **Challenges.** Subject to their rights to apply for a modification of this Consent Judgment for good cause shown under Paragraph 9 hereof, the Parties agree that they, individually or collectively, will not seek to challenge or to have determined invalid, void or unenforceable any provision of this Consent Judgment or this Consent Judgment itself. The Parties understand that this Consent Judgment contains the relinquishment of legal rights and each Party has, as each has deemed appropriate, sought the advice of legal counsel, which each of the Parties has encouraged the other to seek. Further, no Party has reposed trust or confidence in any other Party so as to create a fiduciary, agency or confidential relationship.

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1	17.2	All correspondence and notices required by this Consent Judgment to CWLC shall		
2	be sent to:			
3		Katherine Lee Buckland	With a copy to:	
4		Executive Director California Women's Law Center	Roger Lane Carrick	
5		6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 980 Los Angeles, CA 90048	The Carrick Law Group, P.C. 350 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2930	
6		Tel: (323) 951-1041 Fax: (323) 951-9870	Los Angeles, CA 90071-3406 Tel: (213) 346-7930	
7		katie@cwlc.org	Fax: (213) 346-7931 E-mail: roger@carricklawgroup.com	
8				
9	17.3	All correspondence and notices require	red by this Consent Judgment to Defendant	
10	shall be sent	to Defendant as follows:		
11			With a copy to:	
12		Kelley A. Leithman, Esq. Legal Counsel	Trenton H. Norris, Esq. Bingham McCutchen LLP	
13		Matol Botanical International 290 Labrosse Avenue	Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 2500 San Francisco, CA 94111-4067	
14		Pointe Claire, Quebec H9R 6R6 CANADA	Tel: (415) 393-2602 Fax: (213) 393-2286	
15			E-mail: trent.norris@bingham.com	
16	18. <u>Entry</u>	of Stipulation For Entry of Consent	Judgment Required. This Consent	
17	Judgment shall be null and void, and without any force or effect, unless fully approved as required by law and entered by the Court. If the Court does not enter this Consent Judgment, the			
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19	execution thereof by Defendant or Plaintiffs shall not be construed as an admission by Defendan			
20	or Plaintiffs of any fact, issue of law or violation of law.			
21	<b>19. <u>Jurisdiction.</u></b> This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement this Consen			
22	Judgment.			
23	<b>20.</b> <u>Compliance with Reporting Requirements</u> . Plaintiffs shall comply with the reporting form requirements referred to in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(f) and established in			
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<ul><li>25</li><li>26</li></ul>	Title 11 of the California Code of Regulations sections 3000-3008. Copies of all such reports			
27	shall be supplied as provided in Paragraph 18.2.			
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1	21. <u>Non-Interference in Settlen</u>	nent Approval Process. The Parties will cooperate, as well		
2	as use their respective best efforts, to secure the Attorney General's approval of this Consent			
3	Judgment, and not to seek his disapproval of any portion of this Consent Judgment.			
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5	IT IS SO STIPULATED.			
6	Date: March / 2006	KATHERINE LEE BUCKLAND, an individual		
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8		By: A THE LEE BUCKLAND		
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10	Date: March 2, 2006	CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S LAW CENTER		
11		VAL LUBING		
12		By: Katherne Lt Birkler Executive Director		
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14	Date: March, 2006	MATOL BOTANICAL INTERNATIONAL LTD.		
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16		Ву:		
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18		Title:		
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20	IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED.			
21	DATED:			
22	DATED:			
23		ROBERT L. HESS		
24		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT		
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1	21. <u>Non-Interference in Settlement Approval Process</u> . The Parties will cooperate, as well			
2	as use their respective best efforts, to secure the Attorney General's approval of this Consent			
3	Judgment, and not to seek his disapproval of any portion of this Consent Judgment.			
4				
5	IT IS SO STIPULATED.			
6	Date: March, 2006 KATHERINE LEE BUCKLAND, an individual			
7				
8	By: KATHERINE LEE BUCKLAND			
9				
10	Date: March, 2006 CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S LAW CENTER			
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12	By:Executive Director			
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14	Date: March 16, 2006 MATOL BOTANICAL INTERNATIONAL LTD.			
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16	By. Doldme			
17				
18	Title:			
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20 21	IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED.			
21	DATED:			
23				
24	ROBERT L. HESS			
25	JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT			
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