1 2 3 4 5	David R. Bush, State Bar No. 154511 Law Office of David R. Bush 755 Baywood Drive Petaluma, CA 94954 Telephone: (707) 658-4420 Facsimile: (707) 676-4301 Attorneys for Plaintiff Michael DiPirro	
6 7 8	COUNTY	THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OF ALAMEDA CIVIL JURISDICTION
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101112	MICHAEL DIPIRRO,	Case No. RG14710225
13 14	Plaintiff, v. EUROMARKET DESIGNS, INC. dba CRATE & BARREL; et al.,	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT (Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq.)
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17	Defendants.	
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1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1.1 Parties

This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between plaintiff, MICHAEL DIPIRRO ("DiPirro"), and defendant, EUROMARKET DESIGNS, INC. dba CRATE & BARREL ("Euromarket Designs" or "Defendant"), with DiPirro and Euromarket Designs each individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

1.2 Plaintiff

DiPirro 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. DiPirro is acting in the public interest as authorized under The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 *et seq*. ("Proposition 65").

1.3 Defendant

Euromarket Designs employs ten or more persons and is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of Proposition 65.

1.4 General Allegations

DiPirro alleges that Euromarket Designs sold seasonal vinyl/PVC placemats containing di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ("DEHP") without first providing the clear and reasonable warning required by Proposition 65. DEHP is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the state of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

1.5 Product Description

The products that are covered by this Consent Judgment are seasonal vinyl/PVC placemats containing DEHP that are imported, manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale by Euromarket Designs to California consumers (collectively "Products") including, but not limited to, the *Poinsettia Placemat* (#369675).

1.6 Notice of Violation

On or about September 30, 2013, DiPirro served Euromarket Designs and the requisite public enforcement agencies with a "60-Day Notice of Violation" ("Notice"), a document that informed the recipients of DiPirro's allegation that Euromarket Designs and its retailers were in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn their customers and consumers in California that the Products expose users to DEHP.

1.7 Complaint

On January 15, 2014, DiPirro filed the instant action against Euromarket Designs ("Complaint") for the alleged violations of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 that are the subject of the Notice.

1.8 No Admission

Euromarket Designs denies the material, factual and legal allegations contained in the Notice and Complaint, and they maintain that all of the products that they have sold and distributed in California, including the Products, have been, and are, in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission 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 of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. This Section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Euromarket Design's obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Consent Judgment.

1.9 Consent to Jurisdiction

For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over Euromarket Designs 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 June 23, 2014.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION

- 2.1. Except as set forth in Section 2.2, commencing on the Effective Date and continuing thereafter, Euromarket Designs shall only import, manufacture, sell or distribute for sale to California consumers Products that are "Reformulated Products." For purposes of this Consent Judgment, Reformulated Products contain a maximum of 1,000 parts per million (0.1%) DEHP content in any accessible component (i.e., any component that may be touched or handled during a reasonably foreseeable use) when analyzed pursuant to EPA testing methodologies 3580A and 8270C, or equivalent methodologies utilized by state or federal agencies for the purpose of determining DEHP content in a solid substance.
- 2.2 From the Effective Date until January 1, 2015 Euromarket Designs (including its retail outlet locations in California) shall not sell to California consumers Products which are not Reformulated Products, unless all of the following criteria are met: (a) clear and reasonable warnings in the form set forth below shall appear on such Products; (b) Euromarket Designs shall have purchased, or contracted for, or taken delivery of, or distributed to its retail outlets, such Products prior to the Effective Date; and (c) the Product is not primarily intended for use by individuals twelve years of age or younger. 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. If a warning is provided pursuant to this Section 2.2, the text shall be as follows, with the text in [brackets] being optional at the discretion of Euromarket Designs:

[California Proposition 65]

WARNING:

This product contains a [phthalate] chemical known [to the State of California] to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

2.3. If a customer returns a Product bearing a warning to a retail outlet in California, Euromarket shall be allowed to sell such Product at a retail outlet in California (provided the warning remains on the Product) so long as the original sale date was before January 1, 2015.

3. MONETARY PAYMENTS

3.1 Civil Penalty Payments

Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b), Euromarket Designs shall pay civil penalties totaling \$6,439.00. Within five (5) business days of Court approval of this Consent Judgment, Euromarket Designs shall pay the civil penalty of \$6,439.00. The penalty payment shall be allocated according to Health & Safety Code § 25249.12 (c) (1) and (d), with seventy-five percent (75%) of the penalty amount earmarked for the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining twenty-five (25%) of the penalty amount earmarked for DiPirro.

3.2 Reimbursement of DiPirro's Fees and Costs

The Parties acknowledge that DiPirro and his counsel offered to resolve this dispute without reaching terms on the amount of fees and costs to be reimbursed to them, thereby leaving the issue to be resolved after the material terms of the agreement had been settled. Shortly after all other settlement terms had been finalized, Euromarket Designs expressed a desire to resolve the fees and costs. The Parties then attempted to (and did) reach an accord on the compensation due to DiPirro and his counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine codified at Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5 for all work performed in this matter exclusive of fees and costs incurred on appeal, if any. Under these legal principles, within five (5) business days of Court approval of this Consent Judgment, Euromarket Designs shall pay \$53,776.00 for the fees and costs incurred investigating, litigating, and enforcing this matter, including the fees and costs incurred (and to be incurred) drafting, negotiating, and obtaining the Court's approval of this Consent Judgment in the public interest.

3.3 Payment Procedures

3.3.1 Payments Held in Trust

Settlement funds shall be delivered to Law Offices of David R. Bush and shall be in the form of three checks for the following amounts made payable to:

4. <u>CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED</u>

4.1 DiPirro's Public Release of Proposition 65 Claims

DiPirro, acting on his own behalf and in the public interest, releases Euromarket Designs, its officers, directors, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, subdivisions, downstream distributors and downstream retailers from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on exposures to DEHP from the Products, as set forth in the Notice and the Complaint. Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposures to DEHP from the Products sold by Euromarket Designs after the Effective Date.

4.2 DiPirro's Individual Release of Claims

DiPirro, in his individual capacity only and *not* in his representative capacity, also provides a 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 DiPirro of any nature, character or kind, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, arising out of alleged or actual exposures to DEHP in the Products imported, manufactured, sold or distributed for sale by Euromarket Designs before the Effective Date.

4.3 Euromarket Design's Release of DiPirro

Euromarket Designs on behalf of itself and on behalf of its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives any and all claims against DiPirro and his attorneys and other representatives, 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 it in this matter, or with respect to the Products.

5. <u>COURT APPROVAL</u>

This Consent Judgment is not effective until it is approved and entered by the Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved and entered by the Court within one year after it has been fully executed by all Parties.

6. 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.

7. **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, preempted, or is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to the Products, then Euromarket Designs 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. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be interpreted to relieve Euromarket Designs from any obligation to comply with any pertinent state or federal toxics control laws. This Consent Judgment shall be interpreted in accordance with the fair meaning of the terms herein, without regard to which Party may have drafted any specific provision.

8. NOTICES

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required by 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 to the following addresses:

For Euromarket Design:

Victoria Donati, Esq., General Counsel Euromarket Designs, Inc. dba Crate & Barrel 1250 Techny Road Northbrook, IL 60062

with a copy to:

Judith M. Praitis, Esq. Sidley Austin LLP 555 West Fifth Street Los Angeles, CA 90013.

For DiPirro:

Law Offices of David R. Bush Attn: Proposition 65 Coordinator 755 Baywood Drive Second Floor Petaluma, CA 94954.

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

9. <u>COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES</u>

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.

10. POST EXECUTION ACTIVITIES

DiPirro agrees to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f). The Parties further 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 Euromarket Designs agree to mutually employ their best efforts, and that of their counsel, to support the entry of this agreement as a Consent Judgment, and to obtain judicial approval of the settlement in a timely manner.

12. MODIFICATION

This Consent Judgment may be modified only by: (i) a written agreement of the Parties and upon entry of a modified consent judgment by the Court thereon; or (ii) upon a successful motion or application of any Party and the entry of a modified consent judgment by the Court.

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13. A	AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment and have read, understood, and agree to all of the terms and conditions contained herein.

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2	13. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>		
	The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment and have read, understood, and agree to all of the terms and conditions contained herein.		
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4	AGREED TO:	AGREED TO:	
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6	Date:	Date: June 18, 2014	
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8	By: MICHAEL DIPIRRO	Victoria L. Dovofi, General Counsel	
9		Euromarket Designs, Inc. dba Crate & Barrel	
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