1 2 3 4 5 6	David R. Bush, State Bar No. 154511 Jennifer Henry, State Bar No. 208221 Bush & Henry 3270 Mendocino Ave. #2E Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Telephone: (707) 541-6255 Facsimile: (707) 676-4301  Attorneys for Plaintiff Michael DiPirro	
7	Witchael Dif into	
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
9	COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
10	UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION	
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12	MICHAEL DIPIRRO,	Case No. RG15791674
13	Plaintiff,	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
14	V.	
15	AMERICAN RECREATION PRODUCTS,	(Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq.)
16	LLC, dba KELTY, INC.; RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT, INC., dba "R.E.I."; et al.,	
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 Exxel Outdoors, LLC, doing business as named defendant AMERICAN RECREATION PRODUCTS, LLC, dba KELTY, INC. ("Defendant" or "American Rec"), with DiPirro and Defendant 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.

### 1.3 Defendant

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, Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 *et seq.* ("Proposition 65").

## 1.4 General Allegations

DiPirro alleges that Defendant manufactures, imports, sells, or distributes for sale in the state of California, tents containing Tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate ("TDCPP") without first providing the clear and reasonable exposure warning required by Proposition 65. TDCPP 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 tents containing TDCPP that are designed, purchased, imported, manufactured, sold, commissioned, brokered, licensed or unlicensed, or distributed for sale in California by Defendant, including, but not limited to, *Kelty Discovery 2 Tent* (#869-082-0001), and tents sold under the names Kelty, Wenzel (including without limitation Wenzel Starlite Backpacking Tent), Sierra Designs, Ultimate Direction, Campex, Starlite, Ozark Trail (including without limitation the Ozark Trail 4-person Dome Tent), TICLA, Slumberjack, Tailgaterz, Mountain Trails, Suisse Sport, and Master Sportsman ("Products").

### 1.6 Notice of Violation

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On or about April 4, 2015, DiPirro served Defendant and certain requisite public enforcement agencies with a "60-Day Notice of Violation" ("Notice"), a document that informed the recipients of DiPirro's allegation that Defendant violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn its customers and consumers in California that the Products expose users to TDCPP. To the best of the Parties' knowledge, no public enforcer has commenced and is diligently prosecuting the allegations set forth in the Notice.

# 1.7 Complaint

On or about November 2, 2015, DiPirro filed the instant action against Defendant ("Complaint") for the alleged violations of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 that are the subject of the Notice.

### 1.8 No Admission

Defendant denies the material, factual, and legal allegations contained in the Notice and maintains that all of the products it has manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale in California, including the Products, have been, and are, in compliance with all laws. Notwithstanding the allegations in the Notice, Defendant contends that it has not knowingly manufactured or distributed, or caused to be manufactured or distributed, Products for sale in California in violation of Proposition 65. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Defendant 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, offered or admitted as evidence in any administrative or judicial proceeding or litigation in any court, agency, or forum, as an admission by Defendant, or its owners, officers, directors, employees, parents, subsidiaries, employees, shareholders, directors, insurers, attorneys, successors and assigns, past and present, affiliated entities or corporations, or entities absorbed by merger or acquisition, of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law, the same being specifically denied by Defendant. Furthermore, nothing in this Consent Judgment shall prejudice, waive or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have in any other or future legal proceeding, except as expressly provided in this Consent Judgment. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Defendant'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 Defendant 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 March 15, 2016.

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

# 2.1 Reformulation Commitment Option

In order to waive the second civil penalty under Section 3.2, Defendant shall only manufacture for sale or distribute for sale in California, 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 25 parts per million ("ppm") (the equivalent of .0025%) of TDCPP in any material, component, or constituent of a subject product, when analyzed by a laboratory accredited by the State of California, a federal agency, or similar nationally recognized accrediting organization now or in the future (such laboratory referred hereinafter as an "Accredited Lab") pursuant to EPA testing methodologies 8141, 3545 and 8270C, or equivalent methodologies utilized by federal or state agencies to determine the presence, and measure the quantity, of TDCPP in a solid substance.

# 2.3 Warning

Commencing on the Effective Date, Defendant shall not sell to California consumers Products which are not Reformulated Products, unless clear and reasonable warnings in the form set forth below shall appear on such Products. Each warning shall be prominently placed with such conspicuousness as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices as to render it likely

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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, the text shall be as follows, at Defendant's option,

Option 1: WARNING: This product contains TDCPP, a chemical

known to the State of California to cause cancer.

Option 2: WARNING: This product contains chemicals known to the

State of California to cause cancer and birth

defects or other reproductive harm.

# 3. MONETARY PAYMENTS

- 3.1 Initial Civil Penalty. Defendant shall pay an initial civil penalty in the amount of \$6,000.00 within five (5) business days of 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 penalty remitted to DiPirro. The initial penalty payment shall be delivered to the address listed in Section 3.3 below.
- 3.2 Final Civil Penalty. Defendant shall pay a final civil penalty of \$12,000.00 on or before September 1, 2016. The final civil penalty shall be waived in its entirety, however, if, no later than August 1, 2016, an officer of Defendant provides DiPirro with written certification that, as of the date of such certification and continuing into the future, Defendant has met the reformulation standard specified in Section 2 above, such that all Products manufactured for sale in California by Defendant 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 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 penalty remitted to DiPirro. The penalty payment or certification shall be delivered to the address listed in Section 3.3 below.
  - **Payments Held in Trust**. Payments shall be delivered to the Law Offices of David R.

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Bush, 3270 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 2E, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, within five (5) business days of Court approval of this Consent Judgment, and shall be in the form of three checks for the following amounts made payable to:

- (a) "Law Office of David R. Bush" in the amount of \$4,500.00 for payment to OEHHA. Law Office of David R. Bush agrees to forward such funds to OEHHA in a timely manner.
- (b) "Law Office of David R. Bush" in the amount of \$1,500.00 as payment to Michael DiPirro. David R. Bush agrees to forward such funds in a timely manner; and
- (c) "Bush & Henry" in the amount of \$30,000, as payment for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Section 4 below.

For any payment that is returned for insufficient funds, payment must be made by a cashier's check within ten (10) calendar days of notification of insufficient funds, plus a stipulated 8% service fee. If the check was returned due to bank error, the penalty shall be reduced to actual bank fees incurred by Plaintiff.

- **3.3 Issuance of 1099 Forms**. Defendant shall provide DiPirro's counsel with a separate 1099 forms for each of its payments under this Agreement as follows:
  - "Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment", P.O. Box 4010, Sacramento, (a) CA 95814 (EIN: 68-0284486) for civil penalties paid;
  - "Michael DiPirro," whose address and tax identification number shall be furnished (b) upon request after this Agreement has been fully executed by the Parties for his portion of the civil penalties paid; and
  - "Law Offices of David R. Bush," for fees and costs reimbursed pursuant to Section 4. (c)

#### 4. REIMBURSEMENT OF 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 this fee 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. Defendant shall pay \$30,000 for fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to Defendant' attention, and negotiating a settlement in the public interest. Defendant shall issue a separate 1099 for fees and costs (EIN: 94-3171522), shall make the check payable to "David R. Bush, Attorney at Law" and shall deliver payment within five (5) business days of receiving notice Court approval of this Consent Judgment to the address listed in Section 3.3 above.

# 5. <u>CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED</u>

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

DiPirro, acting on his own behalf and in the public interest, releases Defendant, its officers, directors, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, parent company, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, clients, and retailers or other downstream entities to which Defendant sells or distributes the Products (including, but not limited to, dot coms, distributors, licensees, licensors, wholesalers, product representatives and customers), including, but not limited to, Exxel Outdoors, LLC, Sierra Design Acquisitions, LLC, Campex (BD) LTD, Recreational Equipment, Inc. (dba "REI"), and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and all of their affiliates and subsidiaries from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on exposures to TDCPP 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 TDCPP from the Products sold by Defendant after the Effective Date.

## 5.2 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, limited to and arising out of the alleged or actual exposure to the chemical Tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate (TDCPP) in the Products.

## 5.3 Defendant's Release of DiPirro

Defendant, on its own behalf and on behalf of their past and current agents, representatives,

attorneys, successors, and assignees, hereby waives any and all claims that it may have 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.

### 5.4 California Civil Code Section 1542

DiPirro on behalf of himself only, on one hand, and Defendant, on the other hand, acknowledge that this Agreement is expressly intended to cover and include all Proposition 65 claims related to the Products as set forth in the Notice of Violation, up through the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefor. DiPirro and Defendant acknowledge that the claims released in Sections 5.2 and 5.3 above may include unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code section 1542 as to any such unknown claims. California Civil Code section 1542 reads 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.

DiPirro and Defendant each acknowledge and understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code section 1542.

## 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

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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 the Products, then Defendant may provide written notice to DiPirro of any asserted change in the law, and 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 Defendants 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.

# 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 at the following addresses:

For Defendant Exxel Outdoors, LLC, dba American Recreation Products, LLC, dba Kelty, Inc.:

Law Firm of Knar K. Mouhibian 1008 Lindenwood Lane Los Angeles, CA 90049

For DiPirro:

Law Offices of David R. Bush 3270 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 2E Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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.

# 10. <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.

# 11. POST EXECUTION ACTIVITIES

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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 Defendant 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.

## 13. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>

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

AGREED TO:	AGREED TO:	
Date: $3/25/6$	Date: 03-21-16	
By: M 8 //	By:	
Michael DiPirro	Afficen Kouleyan, Managing Member	
	Exxel Outdoors, LLC, dba American	
	Recreation Products, LLC	