

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Ena Bell & American Textile Company, Incorporated**

This Settlement Agreement is entered into by and between Ena Bell ("Bell") and American Textile Company, Incorporated ("American Textile"). Together, Bell and American Textile are collectively referred to as the "Parties." Bell is an individual that resides in the State of California, and seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and to improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer products.

American Textile employs ten or more persons and is considered a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code section 25249.6, et seq. ("Proposition 65").

1.2 **General Allegations**

Bell alleges that American Textile has imported, distributed and/or sold in the State of California *Vinyl Zippered Mattress Protectors, UPC No. 0 2241507011 9* (the "Product") without requisite Proposition 65 warning that the Product contains the chemical Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP). On January 1, 1988, the State of California listed DEHP as a chemical known to the State to cause cancer. On October 24, 2003, the State of California listed DEHP as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity.

1.3 **Notice of Violation(s)**

On July 21, 2015 Bell served Bed Bath & Beyond, Inc. ("BB&B"), American Textile, and various public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq." (the "Notice"). The Notice provided American Textile and such others, including public enforcers, with notice that alleged that American Textile was in violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, for failing to warn consumers and customers that the Product exposed

users in California to DEHP. No public enforcer has diligently prosecuted the allegations set forth in the Notice.

1.4 No Admission

American Textile denies the material factual and legal allegations contained in the Notice and maintains that, to the best of its knowledge, all products that are or have been sold and distributed in California, including the Product, has been and is in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as an admission by American Textile of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Settlement Agreement constitute or be construed as an admission by American Textile of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law or violation of law, such being specifically denied by American Textile. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities and duties under this Settlement Agreement. Notwithstanding the allegations in the Notice, American Textile maintains that it has not knowingly manufactured, or caused to be manufactured, the Product for sale in California which is in violation of Proposition 65.

1.5 Effective Date

For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, the term "Effective Date" shall mean July 26, 2016.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

2.1 Reformulation of the Product

Commencing on the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, American Textile shall only ship, sell, or offer for sale in California, reformulated Product pursuant to Section 2.2 or Product that is labeled with a clear and reasonable warning pursuant to Section 2.3. For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, a "Reformulated Product" is Product that meets the standard set forth in Section 2.2 below.

2.2 Reformulation Standard

“Reformulated Product” shall mean Product that contains less than or equal to 1,000 parts per million (“ppm”) of DEHP when analyzed pursuant to CPSC-CH-C1001-09.3 Standard Operating Procedure for Determination of Phthalates method.

2.3 Clear and Reasonable Warnings

Commencing on the Effective Date, American Textile shall, for all Product it sells or distributes and which is intended for sale in California that is not a Reformulated Product, or which American Textile has reason to believe will be shipped or sold in California, provide clear and reasonable warnings as set forth in subsections 2.3(a) and (b) below. The 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 is reasonably likely to understand to which specific Product the warning applies, so as to minimize the risk of consumer confusion.

In the event that the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment promulgates one or more regulations requiring or permitting warning text and/or methods of transmission different than those set forth above, American Textile shall be entitled to use, at its discretion, such other warning text and/or method of transmission without being deemed in breach of this Agreement.

(a) Retail Store Sales

(i) Product Labeling. American Textile shall affix a warning to the packaging, labeling or directly on each Product in California by American Textile that states:

[PROPOSITION 65] WARNING:

This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

The bracketed text may, but is not required to, be used.

(ii) Point of Sale Warnings. Alternatively,

American Textile may provide warning signs in the form below to its customers in California with instructions to post the warnings in close proximity to the point of display of the Product. Such instruction sent to American Textile customers shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested.

[PROPOSITION 65] WARNING:

This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

The bracketed text may, but is not required to, be used.

(b) Mail Order Catalog Warning. In the event that American

Textile sells Product via mail order catalog directly to consumers located in California after the Effective Date that is not a Reformulated Product, American Textile shall provide a warning for such Product sold via mail order catalog to such California residents. A warning that is given in a mail order catalog shall be in the same type size or larger than the Product description text within the catalog. The following warning shall be provided on the same page and in the same location as the display and/or description of the Product:

[PROPOSITION 65] WARNING:

This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

The bracketed text may, but is not required to, be used. Where it is impracticable to provide the warning on the same page and in the same location as the display and/or description of the Product, American Textile may utilize a designated symbol to cross reference the applicable warning and shall define the term “designated symbol” with the

following language on the inside of the front cover of the catalog or on the same page as any order form for the Product:

[PROPOSITION 65] WARNING: Certain products identified with this symbol ▼ and offered for sale in this catalog contain chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

The bracketed text may, but is not required to, be used. The designated symbol must appear on the same page and in close proximity to the display and/or description of the Product. On each page where the designated symbol appears, American Textile must provide a header or footer directing the consumer to the warning language and definition of the designated symbol.

(c) **Internet Sales Warning.** In the event that American Textile sells Product via the internet directly to consumers located in California after the Effective Date that is not a Reformulated Product, American Textile shall provide a warning for such Product sold via the internet to such California residents. A warning that is given on the internet shall be in the same type size or larger than the Product description text and shall be given in conjunction with the direct sale of the Product. The warning shall appear either: (a) on the same web page on which the Product is displayed; (b) on the same web page as the order form for the Product; (c) on the same page as the price for the Product; or (d) on one or more web pages displayed to a purchaser during the checkout process. The following warning shall be provided:

[PROPOSITION 65] WARNING:
This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

3. SETTLEMENT PAYMENT

3.1 In settlement of all the claims referred to in this Settlement Agreement, and without any admission of liability therefore, American Textile shall make the following monetary payments:

3.1.1 American Textile shall pay a total of \$2,000.00 in civil penalties in accordance with this Section. The civil penalty payment will be allocated in accordance with California Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with 75% of the funds remitted to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining 25% of the civil penalty remitted to Bell. Each penalty payment shall be delivered to the addresses listed in Section 3.1.2 below.

3.1.2 Within five (5) calendar days of the Effective Date, American Textile shall issue two separate checks for the initial civil penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$1,500.00; and (b) "Brodsky & Smith, LLC in Trust for Bell" in the amount of \$500.00. Payment owed to Bell pursuant to this Section shall be delivered to the following payment address:

Evan J. Smith, Esquire
Brodsky & Smith, LLC
Two Bala Plaza, Suite 510
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Payment owed to OEHHA (EIN: 68-0284486) pursuant to this Section shall be delivered directly to OEHHA (Memo Line "Prop 65 Penalties") at one of the following address(es):

For United States Postal Service Delivery:

Mike Gyurics
Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
P.O. Box 4010
Sacramento, CA 95812-4010

For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:

Mike Gyurics
Fiscal Operations Branch Chief

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

A copy of the check payable to OEHHA shall be mailed to Brodsky & Smith, LLC at the address set forth above as proof of payment to OEHHA.

3.1.3 In addition to the payment above, American Textile shall pay \$23,000.00 to Brodsky & Smith, LLC (“Brodsky & Smith”) as complete reimbursement for Bell’s attorneys’ fees and costs, including any investigation and laboratory costs or expert fees, incurred in the course of bringing the Bell action, and in enforcing Proposition 65, including without limitation, preparation of the 60-Day Notice letter and discussions with the office of the Attorney General. The Parties acknowledge that Bell 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. Bell then expressed a desire to resolve the fee and cost issue shortly after the other settlement terms had been finalized. The Parties reached an accord on the compensation due to Bell and her counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine and principles codified at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution of this agreement. As such, within five (5) calendar days of the Effective Date, American Textile shall issue one check to “Brodsky & Smith, LLC” for \$11,000.00 delivered to the address listed in Section 3.1.3 below. Thereafter, and for the ensuing three (3) months, American Textile shall make the following payments to “Brodsky & Smith, LLC” on each one month (i.e. 30 day) anniversary of the Effective Date until all monies owed to Brodsky & Smith have been paid:

- (a) \$4,000.00 is due August 26, 2016;
- (b) \$4,000.00 is due September 26, 2016; and
- (c) \$4,000.00 is due October 26, 2016.

American Textile shall be liable for penalty payment equal to \$1,000.00, for all amounts due and owing that are not received within five (5) calendar days of the date they are due.

4. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

4.1 Release of American Textile, BB&B, and Downstream Customers and Entities

Bell acting on her own behalf, releases American Textile, BB&B, and their parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities under common ownership, directors, officers, agents, employees, attorneys and each entity to whom American Textile and/or BB&B directly or indirectly distributes or sells the Product, including but not limited to, downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisees, cooperative members and licensees (collectively, the "Releasees"), from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 through the Effective Date based on their failure to warn about alleged exposures to the chemical DEHP that is contained in the Product, and was distributed, sold and/or offered for sale by American Textile and/or BB&B to customers and consumers in the State of California. This settlement is a full, final and binding resolution of all claims that were or could have been asserted against American Textile, BB&B and/or the Releasees for failure to provide warnings for alleged exposures to DEHP contained in the Product.

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, and for the payments to be made pursuant to Section(s) 3 and 4 above, Bell, on behalf of herself, her past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, 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 American Textile, BB&B and/or the Releasees 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 DEHP in the Product.

4.2 American Textile's Release of Bell

American Textile, on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, hereby waives any and all claims against Bell, her attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Bell and/or her attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against it in this matter or with respect to the Products.

4.3 California Civil Code Section 1542

It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties arising out of the facts alleged in the Notice and relating to the Products will develop or be discovered. Bell on behalf of herself only, on one hand, and American Textile, on the other hand, acknowledge that this Agreement is expressly intended to cover and include all such claims up through the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefor. The Parties acknowledge that the claims released in Sections 5.1 and 5.2 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.

Bell and American Textile each acknowledge and understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code section 1542.

5. SEVERABILITY

If, subsequent to the execution of this Settlement Agreement, any of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement are deemed by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions remaining shall not be adversely affected.

6. GOVERNING LAW

The terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be governed by the law 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 Product, American Textile shall provide written notice to Bell of any asserted change in the law, and shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Settlement Agreement with respect to, and to the extent that, the Product is so affected.

7. NOTICES

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required to be provided pursuant to this Settlement Agreement shall be in writing and personally delivered or sent by: (i) first-class (registered or certified mail) return receipt requested; or (ii) overnight or two-day courier on any party by the other party to the following addresses:

For American Textile:

Leslie T. Krasny
Keller and Heckman LLP
Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 1420
San Francisco, CA 94111
415-948-2810

For Bell:

Evan J. Smith
Brodsky & Smith, LLC
Two Bala Plaza, Suite 510
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
877-534-2590

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.

8. COUNTERPARTS: SIGNATURES

This Settlement Agreement may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile or .pdf signature, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document.

9. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)

Bell agrees to comply with the reporting requirements referenced in Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(f).

10. MODIFICATION

This Settlement Agreement may be modified only by a written agreement of the Parties.

11. AUTHORIZATION

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

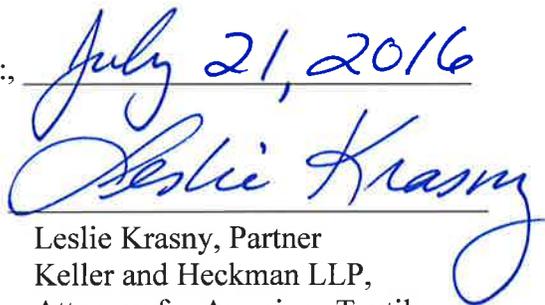
AGREED TO:

AGREED TO:

Date: _____

Date: July 21, 2016

By:  _____
Emma Bell

By:  _____
Leslie Krasny, Partner
Keller and Heckman LLP,
Attorney for American Textile
Company, Incorporated

