

Settlement Agreement

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Parties

This Settlement Agreement (hereafter "Settlement Agreement") is hereby entered into by and between Kingpun Cheng, as an individual, (hereinafter "Cheng") and Newell Brands Inc. and its subsidiaries ("Newell"). Newell and Cheng shall be collectively referred to as the "Parties" and each of them as a "Party." Cheng 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. For purposes of this Settlement Agreement only, Newell acknowledges that it employs ten or more persons and is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of Proposition 65, California Health & Safety Code sections 25249.6 *et seq.*

1.2 Relevant Allegations and Representations

Cheng alleges that Newell has offered for sale and sold in the State of California Rubbermaid Fasttrack Multi-Purpose Hook containing DEHP (Di[2-Ethylhexyl] Phthalate) ("DEHP") and that such sales have not been accompanied by Proposition 65 warnings. DEHP is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer. Cheng has cited "Newell Rubbermaid Fasttrack Multi-Purpose Hook UPC071691230199" as an example of the Rubbermaid Fasttrack Multi-Purpose Hook that are the subject of his allegations.

1.3 Product Description

The products covered by this Settlement Agreement are defined as Rubbermaid Fasttrack Multi-Purpose Hook or substantially similar hooks that contain DEHP and that have been or are distributed and/or sold by Newell in California. All such items shall be referred to herein as the "Products."

1.4 Notices of Violation

On or about September 26, 2016, Cheng served Newell and various public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "60 -Day Notice of Violation" pursuant to California Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(d) (the "Notice"), alleging that Newell was in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn consumers and customers that the Products exposed users in California to DEHP. To the best of the Parties' knowledge, no public enforcer is diligently prosecuting the claims in the Notice.

1.5 Stipulation as to Jurisdiction/No Admission

For purposes of this Settlement Agreement only, the Parties stipulate that in the event that enforcement becomes necessary, or a dispute arises regarding this Settlement Agreement, the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego has specific jurisdiction over Newell for the purposes of

enforcing the terms of this Settlement Agreement only, and that venue is proper in the County of San Diego.

The Parties have entered into this Settlement Agreement to resolve disputed claims and avoid prolonged and costly litigation. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as an admission by Newell 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 Newell of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, such being specifically denied by Newell. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities, and duties of Newell under this Settlement Agreement.

1.6 Effective Date

For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, the term "Effective Date" shall mean the date this Settlement Agreement is fully executed by both Parties.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS AND REFORMULATION

Commencing 120 days after the Effective Date, Newell agrees to only ship for sale, sell, or offer for sale in California Products that are either: (a) reformulated pursuant to Section 2.1; or (b) include a warning as provided in Section 2.3

2.1 Reformulation Option. The Products shall be deemed to comply with Proposition 65 with regard to DEHP and be exempt from any Proposition 65 warning requirements for DEHP if the Product contain no more than 1,000 parts per million (0.1%) in each accessible component (i.e., any component that may be touched or handled during a reasonably foreseeable use). Newell may comply with the above requirements by relying on information obtained from its suppliers regarding the content of DEHP in the Products, provided such reliance is in good faith. For example, without limitation, obtaining test results showing that the DEHP content is no more than 0.1%, using a method of sufficient sensitivity to establish a limit of quantification (as distinguished from detection) of less than 1,000 ppm, shall be deemed to establish good faith reliance. The parties agree that a good faith analysis of safe harbor compliance constitutes compliance with 2.1.

2.2 Warning Alternative. As an alternative to reformulating the Products, commencing 90 days from the Effective Date, Products that Newell ships for sale, sells or offers for sale in California that do not meet the Reformulation Option set forth in Section 2.1 above shall be accompanied by a warning as described in Section 2.3 below.

2.3 Warnings. Where required under Section 2.2 above, Newell shall provide Proposition 65 warnings substantially as follows:

2.3.a **WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including DEHP, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

OR

2.3.b **WARNING:** Cancer – www.P65Warnings.ca.gov

OR

2.3.c **WARNING:** This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer.

If Newell elects to use either of the warning statements identified in 2.3.a or 2.3.b, it shall also include a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline. Where the unit packaging, label or product is not printed using the color yellow, the symbol may be printed in black and white. The symbol shall be placed to the left of the text of the warning, in a size no smaller than the height of the word "WARNING."

2.4 **Warning Method.** Where utilized as an alternative to meeting the criteria set forth in Section 2.1, Newell shall provide the warning language set forth in Section 2.3 either with the Product's unit packaging or labeling or affixed to the Product. Newell may continue to utilize, on an ongoing basis, unit packaging containing not identical but substantively the same Proposition 65 warnings as those set forth in Section 2.3 above, but only to the extent such packaging materials have already been printed within 90 days after the Effective Date. Cheng agrees any such warnings comply with both Proposition 65 and the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

2.5 The requirements for warnings, set forth in Section 2.3 above are imposed pursuant to the terms of this Settlement Agreement. The Parties recognize that these are not the exclusive methods of providing a warning under Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations. Moreover, the Parties acknowledge that nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall prohibit Newell from providing additional information in connection with the warnings required herein.

3. PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(b)

With regard to all claims that have been raised or which could be raised with respect to failure to warn pursuant to Proposition 65 with regard to Products that contain DEHP, Newell shall pay a civil penalty of \$500 pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), to be apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code section 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 penalty remitted to Cheng, as provided by California Health & Safety Code section 25249.12(d) and the instructions directly below. After a full investigation, Cheng agrees that this penalty payment satisfies and complies with the criteria set forth under Proposition 65

Newell shall issue two separate checks for the penalty payment: (a) one check made payable to "OEHHA" (tax identification number: 68-0284486) in an amount representing 75% of the total penalty (i.e., \$375); and (b) one check in an amount representing 25% of the total penalty (i.e., \$125) made payable directly to "Kingpun Cheng" (Sy and Smith, PC will provide Newell with tax identification information on or before the Effective Date). Newell shall mail these payments within five (5) days after the Effective Date to the following addresses, respectively:

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Attn: Mike Gyurics
1001 I Street
Mail Stop 12-B
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Kingpun Cheng
C/O Sy and Smith, PC
11622 El Camino Real, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92130

4. REIMBURSEMENT OF FEES AND COSTS

The Parties reached an accord on the compensation due to Cheng and his counsel under California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 and other applicable law. Under these legal principles, Newell shall reimburse Cheng's counsel for fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to Newell attention, and negotiating this Settlement Agreement in the public interest. Pursuant to and in satisfaction of California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 and other applicable law, Newell shall pay Cheng's counsel a total of \$7,000 in full and complete satisfaction and payment for all attorneys' fees, expert and investigation fees, and related costs associated with this matter, the Notice, and negotiating this Settlement Agreement. Newell shall deliver a check or wire said monies to "Sy and Smith, PC" within five (5) days of the Effective Date. Sy and Smith, PC will provide Newell with wire instruction and tax identification information on or before the Effective Date. Other than the payment required hereunder, each side is to bear his or its own attorneys' fees and costs.

5. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

5.1 Release of Newell and Downstream Customers

Cheng, on behalf of himself, his past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, and successors and/or assignees only, releases Newell and its officers, directors, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, agents, employees, and sister and parent entities, and each of Newell downstream distributors, wholesalers, licensors, licensees, auctioneers, retailers (including, but not limited to, Orchard Supply Hardware, Home Depot, and its affiliates and subsidiaries), franchisees, dealers, customers, purchasers, users, and each of Newell owners, parent companies, corporate affiliates, subsidiaries, and their respective officers, directors, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, agents, and employees, and sister and parent entities (collectively "Releasees") from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on exposure to DEHP from the Products as set forth in the Notice of Violation. Compliance with the terms of this Settlement Agreement constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposures to DEHP from the Products.

Cheng further acknowledges that he is familiar with California Civil Code section 1542, 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 OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

Cheng, on behalf of himself, his past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, expressly waives and relinquishes any and all rights and benefits that he may have under, or which may be conferred on him by the provisions of California Civil Code section 1542 as well as under any other state or federal statute or common law principle of similar effect, to the fullest extent that he may lawfully waive such rights or benefits pertaining to the released matters herein.

5.2 Newell Release of Cheng

Except as set forth in this Agreement, Newell waives any and all claims against Cheng, his attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Cheng and his attorneys and other representatives in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against relating to the Products.

6. SEVERABILITY AND MERGER

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

This Settlement Agreement 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

The terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be governed by the laws of 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 Newell shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Settlement Agreement.

8. 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: either (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 Newell:

Marc P. Clements, Esq.
Newell Brands
Chief Litigation Counsel
P.O. Box 2931
Wichita, KS 67201

and

For Cheng:

Parker A. Smith, Esq.
Sy and Smith, PC
11622 El Camino Real, Ste. 100
San Diego, CA 92130

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

8. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

This Settlement Agreement may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile or pdf, 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 CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.7(f)

Cheng agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(f).

10. MODIFICATION

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

11. AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this document and certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the Party he or she represents to execute the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Party and legally bind that Party.

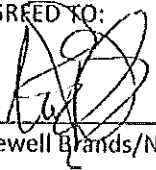
IT IS HEREBY AGREED TO:

By: *Eddie Cheng*
Kingpun Cheng

Date: 2018-2-27

IT IS HEREBY AGREED TO:

By: _____


On Behalf of: Newell Brands/Newell Rubbermaid

Date: 3/2/2018