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10 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

12 KAREN CALACIN,
13 Plaintiff,

14 v.

15 ARTISTIC PRODUCTS, LLC,
16 Defendant.

Case No.:

CONSENT JUDGMENT

Judge:

Dept.:

Hearing Date:

Hearing Time:

Reservation #:

1 **1. INTRODUCTION**

2 **1.1 The Parties.** This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Karen Calacin
3 acting on behalf of the public interest (hereinafter “Calacin”) and Artistic Products, LLC (“Artistic
4 Products” or “Defendant”) with Calacin and Defendant collectively referred to as the “Parties” and
5 each of them as a “Party.” Calacin is an individual residing in California who seeks to promote
6 awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating
7 hazardous substances contained in consumer products. Artistic Products is a person in the course
8 of doing business for purposes of Proposition 65, Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 et seq.

9 **1.2 Allegations and Representations.** Calacin alleges that Defendant has exposed
10 individuals to Diisononyl phthalate (DINP) from Krystal View Clear Desk Pads without providing
11 clear and reasonable warnings under Proposition 65. DINP is listed under Proposition 65 as a
12 chemical known to the State of California to cause reproductive toxicity.

13 **1.3 Notices of Violation/Complaint.** On or about December 21, 2016, Calacin served
14 Artistic Products and various public enforcement agencies with a document entitled “60-Day
15 Notice of Violation” pursuant to Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d) (the “Notice”), alleging that
16 Defendant was in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn consumers and customers that
17 Krystal View Clear Desk Pads exposed users in California to DINP. No public enforcer has brought
18 and is diligently prosecuting the claims alleged in the Notice. On _____, 2017, Calacin
19 filed a complaint in the matter (the “Complaint”).

20 **1.4** For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has
21 jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations contained in the Complaint filed in this matter, that
22 venue is proper in the County of Alameda, and that this Court has jurisdiction to approve, enter,
23 and oversee the enforcement of this Consent Judgment as a full and final binding resolution of all
24 claims which were or could have been raised in the Complaint based on the facts alleged therein
25 and/or in the Notice.

26 **1.5** Defendant denies the material allegations contained in Calacin’s Notice and
27 Complaint and maintains that it has not violated Proposition 65. Nothing in this Consent Judgment
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1 shall be construed as an admission by Defendant of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of
2 law; nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission
3 by Defendant of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, such being
4 specifically denied by Defendant. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the
5 obligations, responsibilities, and duties of Defendant under this Consent Judgment.

6 **2. DEFINITIONS**

7 2.1 **Covered Products.** The term “Covered Products” means Krystal View Clear Desk
8 Pads, SKU No. 0 30615 62009 6, that are manufactured, distributed and/or offered for sale in
9 California by Artistic Products and that contains DINP.

10 2.2 **Effective Date.** The term “Effective Date” means the date this Consent Judgment is
11 entered as a Judgment of the Court.

12 **3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS**

13 3.1 Commencing ninety (90) days after the Effective Date, Artistic Products shall not
14 manufacture, import, or purchase for sale in California any Covered Product that contains more
15 than 1,000 parts per million DINP, unless the Covered Product is accompanied by the following
16 warning: “WARNING: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause
17 cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm.”

18 3.2 The warning provided pursuant to Section 3.1 shall be affixed to or printed on the
19 Covered Product’s packaging or labeling. The warning shall be prominently affixed to or printed
20 on the packaging or labeling and displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other
21 words, statements, or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary
22 individual under customary conditions of purchase or use. A warning may be contained in the same
23 section of the packaging, labeling, or instruction booklet that states other safety warnings, if any,
24 concerning the use of the product and shall be at least the same size as those other safety warnings.

25 **4. MONETARY TERMS**

26 4.1 **Initial Civil Penalty.** Artistic Products shall pay an Initial Civil Penalty of
27 \$5,500.00 pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), to be apportioned in accordance
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1 with California Health & Safety Code § 25192, with 75% of these funds remitted to the State of
2 California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the remaining 25% of the
3 penalty remitted to Calacin, as provided by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(d).

4 4.1.1 Within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date, Artistic Products shall
5 issue two separate checks for the civil penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of
6 \$4,125.00; and (b) "Brodsky & Smith, LLC in Trust for Calacin" in the amount of \$1,375.00.

7 Payment owed to Calacin pursuant to this Section shall be delivered to the following payment
8 address:

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

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

14 For United States Postal Service Delivery:

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

18 For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:

19 Mike Gyurics
20 Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
21 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

24 4.2 **Final Civil Penalty.** Two hundred twenty (220) days after the Effective Date,
25 Artistic Products shall make a Final Civil Penalty payment of \$5,500.00 on the same terms as set
26 forth in Section 4.1.1 pertaining to the Initial Civil Penalty. Pursuant to Title 11 California Code
27 of Regulations, Section 3203(c), Calcin agrees that the Final Civil Penalty payment shall be waived
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1 in its entirety if, on or before the Final Civil Penalty payment is due, an officer of Artistic Products
2 provides Plaintiff with a signed declaration certifying that all Covered Products it ships for sale or
3 distributes for sale in California as of the date of its certification are Reformulated Products or are
4 marked with the warnings required by this Consent Decree (hereinafter "Labeled Product") and
5 that Artistic Products will continue to offer only Reformulated Products or Labeled Products in
6 California in the future. The option to provide a declaration certifying its complete early
7 reformulation or labeling of the Covered Products in lieu of making the Final Civil Penalty payment
8 otherwise required by this Section is a material term, and time is of the essence.

9 **4.3 Attorney Fees.** Artistic Products shall pay \$42,000.00 to Brodsky & Smith, LLC
10 ("Brodsky Smith") as complete reimbursement for Plaintiff Calacin's attorneys' fees and costs
11 incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to Artistic Products' attention, litigating
12 and negotiating and obtaining judicial approval of a settlement in the public interest, pursuant to
13 Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5. The timing specified for payment required by this Section
14 is a material term, and time is of the essence:

15 **4.3.1** Within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date, Artistic Products shall
16 issue a check for Attorney Fees addressed to "Brodsky & Smith, LLC" for \$22,000.00 delivered to
17 the address listed in Section 4.1.1 above.

18 **4.3.2** Within sixty (60) calendar days of the Effective Date, Artistic Products shall
19 issue a second check for Attorney Fees addressed to "Brodsky & Smith, LLC" for \$20,000.00
20 delivered to the address listed in Section 4.1.1 above.

21 **4.4** Artistic Products shall be liable for reimbursement of additional attorney fees
22 ("Additional Fees") equal to \$2,500.00, for all amounts due and owing that are not received within
23 five (5) calendar days of the date they are due.

24 **5. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

25 **5.1** This consent judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between Calacin acting
26 in the public interest, and Artistic Products, and its parents, shareholders, divisions, subdivisions,
27 subsidiaries, partners, sister companies, and affiliates, and their successors and assigns ("Defendant
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1 Releasees”), and all entities from whom they obtain and to whom they directly or indirectly
2 distribute or sell Covered Products, including but not limited to Staples, Inc. (“Marshalls”),
3 manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, customers, licensors, licensees retailers,
4 franchisees, and cooperative members (“Downstream Defendant Releasees”), of all claims for
5 violations of Proposition 65 based on exposure to DINP from Covered Products as set forth in the
6 Notice, with respect to any Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Artistic
7 Products prior to ninety (90) days after the Effective Date. Compliance with the terms of this
8 Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with regard to the Covered Products.

9 5.2 In addition to the foregoing, Calacin, on behalf of herself, her past and current
10 agents, representatives, attorneys, and successors and/or assignees, and not in her representative
11 capacity, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of
12 legal action and releases any Artistic Products, Defendant Releasees, and Downstream Defendant
13 Releasees from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, claims, demands, rights, suits,
14 obligations, debts, contracts, agreements, promises, liabilities, damages, charges, losses, costs,
15 expenses, and attorneys’ fees, of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, in law or equity, fixed
16 or contingent, now or in the future, with respect to any alleged violations of Proposition 65 related
17 to or arising from Covered Products manufactured distributed or sold by Artistic Products or
18 Defendant Releasees. With respect to the foregoing waivers and releases in this paragraph, Calacin
19 hereby specifically waives any and all rights and benefits which she now has, or in the future may
20 have, conferred by virtue of the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which
21 provides as follows:
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23 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE
24 CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS FAVOR
25 AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY
26 HIM MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS SETTLEMENT WITH
27 THE DEBTOR.

28 5.3 Artistic Products waives any and all claims against Calacin, her attorneys and other
representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been

1 taken or made) by Calacin and her attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of
2 investigating claims or otherwise seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against it in this matter,
3 and/or with respect to Covered Products.

4 **6. INTEGRATION**

5 6.1 This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement of the Parties and
6 any and all prior negotiations and understandings related hereto shall be deemed to have been
7 merged within it. No representations or terms of agreement other than those contained herein exist
8 or have been made by any Party with respect to the other Party or the subject matter hereof.

9 **7. GOVERNING LAW**

10 7.1 The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of
11 California and apply within the State of California. In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed or
12 is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to Covered Products, then
13 Defendant shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and
14 to the extent that, Covered Products are so affected.

15 **8. NOTICES**

16 8.1 Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required to be provided
17 pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be in writing and personally delivered or sent by: (i) first-
18 class, (registered or certified mail) return receipt requested; or (ii) overnight courier on any party
19 by the other party at the following addresses:

20 For Defendant:

21
22 Bradley Brighton
23 Artistic Products, LLC
125 Commerce Drive
Hauppauge, NY 11788

24 And

25 For Calacin:

26 Evan Smith
27 Brodsky & Smith, LLC
2 Bala Plaza, Suite 510
28 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

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

3 **9. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES**

4 9.1 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile, each of
5 which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and
6 the same document.

7 **10. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)/COURT**
8 **APPROVAL**

9 10.1 Calacin agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health &
10 Safety Code §25249.7(f) and to promptly bring a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment
11 and Defendant agrees it shall support approval of such Motion.

12 10.2 This Consent Judgment shall not be effective until it is approved and entered by the
13 Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved by the Court. In such case,
14 the Parties agree to meet and confer on how to proceed and if such agreement is not reached within
15 30 days, the case shall proceed on its normal course.

16 10.3 If the Court approves this Consent Judgment and is reversed or vacated by an
17 appellate court, the Parties shall meet and confer as to whether to modify the terms of this Consent
18 Judgment. If the Parties do not jointly agree on a course of action to take, the case shall proceed on
19 its normal course on the trial court's calendar.

20 **11. MODIFICATION**

21 11.1 This Consent Judgment may be modified only by further stipulation of the Parties
22 and the approval of the Court or upon the granting of a motion brought to the Court by either Party.

23 **12. ATTORNEY'S FEES**

24 12.1 A party who unsuccessfully brings or contests an action arising out of this Consent
25 Judgment shall be required to pay the prevailing party's reasonable attorney's fees and costs unless
26 the unsuccessful party has acted with substantial justification. For purposes of this Consent
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1 Judgment, the term substantial justification shall carry the same meaning as used in the Civil
2 Discovery Act of 1986, Code of Civil Procedure Section 2016, et seq.

3 12.2 Nothing in this Section shall preclude a Party from seeking an award of sanctions
4 pursuant to law.

5 **13. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

6 13.1 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement or modify the
7 Consent Judgment.

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19 **14. AUTHORIZATION**

20 14.1 The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their
21 respective Parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this
22 document and certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the Party he or she represents to execute
23 the Consent Judgment on behalf of the Party represented and legally bind that Party. Except as
24 explicitly provided herein each Party is to bear its own fees and costs.
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AGREED TO:

AGREED TO:

Date: 6-26-17

Date: 6/25/17

By: 
KAREN CALACIN

By: Bradley Brighton Pres.
ARTISTIC PRODUCTS, LLC

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

Dated: _____

Judge of Superior Court