1 2	Evan J. Smith, Esquire (SBN 242352) Ryan P. Cardona, Esquire (SBN 302113) BRODSKY & SMITH, LLC 9595 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 900 Beverly Hills, CA 90212 Telephone: (877) 534-2590	
3		
4	Facsimile: (310) 247-0160	
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff	
6	ANTHONY FERREIRO	
7		
8		
9	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
10	COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
11	ANTHONY FERREIRO,	Case No.: RG19005658
12	Plaintiff,	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
13	V.	Judge: The Hon. Ronni MacLaren
14	AUGUST THOMSEN CORP., et al.,	Dept.: 25 Hearing Date: May 22, 2019
15	Defendants.	Hearing Time: 9:00 AM Reservation #: R-2064850
16		Complaint filed February 5, 2019
17		•
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- The Parties. This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Anthony Ferreiro acting on behalf of the public interest (hereinafter "Ferreiro") and August Thomsen Corp. ("August Thomsen" or "Defendant") with Ferreiro and Defendant collectively referred to as the "Parties" and each of them as a "Party." Ferreiro 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. August Thomsen is alleged to be a person in the course of doing business for purposes of Proposition 65, Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 et seq.
- 1.2 Allegations and Representations. Ferreiro alleges that Defendant has exposed individuals to bisphenol A ("BPA") from Ateco polycarbonate baking mold/cutter sets without providing clear and reasonable warnings under Proposition 65. BPA is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause reproductive toxicity.
- August Thomsen and various public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "60-Day Notice of Violation" pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d) (the "Notice"), alleging that Defendant was in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn consumers and customers that August Thomsen Ateco polycarbonate mold/cutter sets exposed users in California to BPA. No public enforcer has brought and is diligently prosecuting the claims alleged in the Notice. On February 5, 2019, Ferreiro filed a complaint in the matter against August Thomsen and defendant The Webstaurant Store, Inc.¹ (the "Complaint" or "Action").
- 1.4 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations contained in the Action, that venue is proper in the County of Alameda, and that this Court has jurisdiction to approve, enter, and oversee the enforcement of this Consent Judgment as a full and final binding resolution of all claims which were or could have been raised in the Action based on the facts alleged therein and/or in the Notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On April 3, 2019, defendant The Webstaurant Store, Inc. was dismissed from the Action.

1.5 Defendant denies the material allegations contained in the Notice and the Action and maintains that it has not violated Proposition 65. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission against interest by Defendant of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission against interest by Defendant of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, such being specifically denied by Defendant. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities, and duties of Defendant under this Consent Judgment.

# 2. **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 **Covered Products.** The term "Covered Products" means all sizes, models and packaging of August Thomsen Ateco polycarbonate baking mold/cutter sets that are either manufactured, and/or distributed and/or sold or offered for sale in California by August Thomsen, or any entity to whom August Thomsen directly or indirectly distributes the products.
- 2.2 **Effective Date.** The term "Effective Date" means the date Plaintiff serves notice on Defendant this Consent Judgment is entered as a Judgment of the Court.

# 3. <u>INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS</u>

- Reformulation of Covered Products. As of the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, Covered Products that August Thomsen directly either manufactures, and/or imports, and/or distributes, and/or sells, or offers for sale in California shall either: (a) be Reformulated Products pursuant to § 3.2, below; or (b) be labeled with a clear and reasonable exposure warning pursuant to §§ 3.3 and 3.4, below. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, a "Reformulated Product" is a Covered Product that is in compliance with the standard set forth in § 3.2 below. The warning requirement set forth in §§ 3.3 and 3.4 shall not apply to any Reformulated Product.
- 3.2 **Reformulation Standard.** "Reformulated Products" shall mean Covered Products that are BPA-Free when analyzed pursuant to ATS 367 Rev. 0 by LC/MS/MS or other methodology utilized by federal or state government agencies for the purpose of determining BPA migration from a polycarbonate food or drinkware item.

- 3.3 Clear and Reasonable Warning. As of the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, a clear and reasonable exposure warning as set forth in this §§ 3.3 and 3.4 must be provided for all Covered Products that Defendant either manufacturers, and/or imports, and/or distributes, and/or sells, or offers for sale in California that is not a Reformulated Product. There shall be no obligation for Defendant or any other person to provide a warning for Covered Products that enter the stream of commerce prior to the Effective Date. The warning shall consist of either the Warning or Alternative Warning described in §§ 3.3(a) or (b), respectively, in Defendant's sole discretion:
  - (a) Warning. The "Warning" shall consist of the statement:

    A WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including bisphenol A (BPA), which is known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to <a href="https://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov">www.P65Warnings.ca.gov</a>.
- (b) Alternative Warning: August Thomsen may, but is not required to, use the alternative short-form warning as set forth in this § 3.3(b) ("Alternative Warning") as follows:

⚠ WARNING: Reproductive Harm - www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

"WARNING:" in all capital letters and in bold font, followed by a colon. The warning symbol to the left of the word "WARNING:" must be a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a black outline, except that if the sign or label for the Covered Product does not use the color yellow, the symbol may be in black and white. The symbol must be in a size no smaller than the height of the word "WARNING:". The warning shall be affixed to or printed on the Covered Product, or on the Covered Product's packaging or labeling, or on a placard, shelf tag, sign or electronic device or automatic process, providing that the warning is displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use. A warning may be contained in the same section of the packaging, labeling, or instruction booklet that states other safety warnings, if any, concerning the use of the product and shall be at least the same size as those other safety warnings.

If August Thomsen sells Covered Products via its own proprietary internet website to customers located in California, the warning requirements of this section shall be satisfied if the foregoing warning appears either: (a) on the same web page on which a Covered Product is displayed and/or described; (b) on the same page as the price for the Covered Product; or (c) on one or more web pages displayed to a California purchaser prior to completion of the checkout process. Alternatively, a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow or white equilateral triangle may appear adjacent to or immediately following the display, description, price, or checkout listing of the Covered Product, if the warning statement appears elsewhere on the same web page in a manner that clearly associates it with the product(s) to which the warning applies

3.5 **Compliance with Warning Regulations.** Defendant and the Covered Products shall be deemed to be in compliance with this Consent Judgment by either adhering to §§ 3.2, or 3.3 and 3.4 of this Consent Judgment or by complying with warning requirements adopted by OEHHA and in effect after the Effective Date.

#### 4. MONETARY TERMS

- 4.1 **Civil Penalty.** August Thomsen shall pay \$2,000.00 as a Civil Penalty pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(b), to be apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25192, with 75% of the Civil Penalty remitted to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining 25% of the Civil Penalty remitted to Ferreiro, as provided by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(d).
- 4.1.1 Within ten (10) days of the Effective Date, August Thomsen shall issue two separate checks for the Civil Penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$1,500.00; and to (b) "Brodsky & Smith, LLC in Trust for Ferreiro" in the amount of \$500.00. Payment owed to Ferreiro 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.

4.2 **Attorneys' Fees.** Within ten (10) days of the Effective Date, August Thomsen shall pay \$20,000.00 to Brodsky & Smith, LLC ("Brodsky Smith") as complete reimbursement for Plaintiff Ferreiro's attorneys' fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to August Thomsen's attention, litigating and negotiating and obtaining judicial approval of a settlement in the public interest, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

# 5. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

5.1 This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between Ferreiro acting in the public interest, and August Thomsen, and its parents, shareholders, divisions, subdivisions, subsidiaries, partners, sister companies, and affiliates, and their predecessors, successors and assigns ("Defendant Releasees"), and all entities from whom they obtain and to whom they directly or indirectly distribute or sell Covered Products, including but not limited to The Webstaurant Store, Inc., manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, customers, licensors, licensees, retailers, marketplace hosts, franchisees, and cooperative members ("Downstream Defendant Releasees"), of all claims for violations of Proposition 65 based on exposure to BPA from Covered Products, with respect to any Covered Product either manufactured, distributed, sold or offered for sale by August Thomsen prior to the Effective Date. Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment by Defendant constitutes compliance with Proposition 65

with regard to the Covered Products on and after the Effective Date. This Consent Judgment shall have preclusive effect such that no other person or entity, whether purporting to act in his, her, or its interests or the public interest shall be permitted to pursue and/or take any action with respect to any violation of Proposition 65 that was alleged in the Notice or Complaint, or that could have been brought pursuant to the Notice against August Thomsen or any Defendant Releasee or the Downstream Defendant Releasees of the Covered Products.

5.2 In addition to the foregoing, Ferreiro, on behalf of himself, his past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, and successors and/or assignees, and <u>not</u> in his representative capacity, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases any August Thomsen, Defendant Releasees, and Downstream Defendant Releasees from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, claims, demands, rights, suits, obligations, debts, contracts, agreements, promises, liabilities, damages, charges, losses, costs, expenses, and attorneys' fees, of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, in law or equity, fixed or contingent, now or in the future, with respect to any alleged violations of Proposition 65 related to or arising from Covered Products manufactured distributed or sold by August Thomsen or Defendant Releasees or Downstream Defendant Releasees. With respect to the foregoing waivers and releases in this paragraph, Ferreiro hereby specifically waives any and all rights and benefits which he now has, or in the future may have, conferred by virtue of the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

5.3 August Thomsen waives any and all claims against Ferreiro, his attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made by Ferreiro and his attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against it in this matter, and/or with respect to Covered Products up through the Effective Date.

#### 6. INTEGRATION

6.1 This Consent Judgment 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

7.1 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 Covered Products, then Defendant shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and to the extent that, Covered Products are so affected.

#### 8. NOTICES

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

#### For Defendant:

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

Jeffrey Schneider and Douglas Schneider President and Vice President August Thomsen Corp. 36 Sea Cliff Avenue Glen Cove, New York 11542.

#### For Ferreiro:

Evan Smith Brodsky & Smith, LLC 2 Bala Plaza, Suite 510 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

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.

# 9. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

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

# 10. <u>COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)/COURT</u> <u>APPROVAL</u>

- 10.1 Ferreiro agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f) and to promptly bring a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment and Defendant agrees it shall not oppose approval of such Motion.
- 10.2 This Consent Judgment shall not be effective until it is approved and entered by the Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved by the Court. In such case, the Parties agree to meet and confer on how to proceed and if such agreement is not reached within 30 days, the case shall proceed on its normal course.
- 10.3 If the Court approves this Consent Judgment and is reversed or vacated by an appellate court, the Parties shall meet and confer as to whether to modify the terms of this Consent Judgment. If the Parties do not jointly agree on a course of action to take, the case shall proceed on its normal course on the trial court's calendar.

## 11. MODIFICATION

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

# 12. <u>ATTORNEY'S FEES</u>

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