

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC.

AND

DOLLAR TREE STORES, INC. AND GREENBRIER INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Consumer Advocacy Group, Inc. (“CAG”), Dollar Tree Stores, Inc., and Greenbrier International, Inc. (Dollar Tree Stores, Inc. and Greenbrier International, Inc. are collectively referred to as “Dollar Tree”), (CAG and Dollar Tree collectively referred to as, the “Parties”) enter into this agreement (“Settlement Agreement”) for the purpose of avoiding prolonged and costly litigation to settle CAG’s allegations that Dollar Tree violated Proposition 65. The effective date of this Settlement Agreement shall be the date upon which it is fully executed by all Parties hereto (the “Effective Date”).

1.0 Introduction

1.1 CAG is a California-based entity that seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer and industrial products.

1.2 Dollar Tree previously manufactured, imported, distributed, and/or sold, at various times, Plastic Suction Cup Hooks identified as: “2 SUCTION CUP HOOKS,” UPC 6 39277 06654 1” (referred to throughout as the “Covered Product”).

The Covered Product is limited to such a product that is manufactured, imported, distributed, and/or sold by Dollar Tree only.

1.3 CAG alleges that the Covered Product contains Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (“DEHP”), also known as Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and that Dollar Tree did not provide a required warning in compliance with the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act (Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq. (“Proposition 65”)).

1.4 On January 1, 1988, the Governor of California added DEHP to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause cancer, and on October 24, 2003, the Governor added DEHP to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause developmental male reproductive toxicity. These additions took place more than twenty (20) months before CAG served its “Sixty-Day Notice of Intent To Sue For Violations Of The Safe Drinking Water And Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986” which is further described below.

1.5 DEHP is referred to hereafter as the “Listed Chemical.”

1.6 On or about August 29, 2018, CAG served Dollar Tree, and certain relevant public enforcement agencies with documents entitled “Sixty-Day Notice Of Intent To Sue For Violations Of The Safe Drinking Water And Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986” regarding Plastic Suction Cup Hooks allegedly containing the Listed Chemical (AG# 2018-01624).

1.7 The Sixty-Day Notice referred to in paragraph 1.6 (referred to as the “Notice”) alleged that Dollar Tree violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn consumers in California that use of the Covered Product exposes persons to the Listed Chemical.

1.8 The Parties enter into this Settlement Agreement to settle disputed claims between the Parties as set forth below concerning the Dollar Tree's and the Covered Product's compliance with Proposition 65 (the "Dispute").

1.9 By execution of this Settlement Agreement, the Parties do not admit any facts or conclusions of law, including, but not limited to, any facts or conclusions of law regarding any violation of Proposition 65, or any other statutory, regulatory, common law, or equitable doctrine. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as an admission by the Parties of any fact, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement, nor compliance with its terms, shall constitute or be construed, considered, offered, or admitted as evidence of an admission or evidence of fault, wrongdoing, or liability by Dollar Tree, its officers, directors, employees, or parents, subsidiaries or affiliated corporations, in any administrative or judicial proceeding or litigation in any court, agency, or forum. Except for the allegations settled and compromised, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense that CAG or Dollar Tree may have against one another in any other pending legal proceeding as to allegations unrelated to the Dispute or claims released herein.

2.0 Release

2.1 This Settlement Agreement is a full, final, and binding resolution between CAG, acting in its individual capacity, on the one hand, and Dollar Tree, and its owners, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, sister and related companies,

employees, shareholders, members, officers, directors, insurers, attorneys, predecessors, successors, and assigns (collectively “Releasees”) and all entities to whom Releasees directly or indirectly provide, distribute, or sell the Covered Product, including but not limited to distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisees, cooperative members, and licensees (“Downstream Releasees”), on the other hand, of any violation(s) or claimed violation(s) of Proposition 65 or any statutory or common law claim that has been, could have been or may in the future be asserted against the Releasees and Downstream Releasees regarding exposing persons to the Listed Chemical and the failure to warn about exposure to the Listed Chemical arising only in connection with the Covered Product manufactured, shipped, and/or otherwise distributed prior to the Effective Date, even if sold by Downstream Releasees after the Effective Date.

2.2 The Covered Product is limited to those manufactured, imported, distributed, and/or sold by Dollar Tree.

2.3 CAG, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives and releases with respect to the Covered Product all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action, including, without limitation, all actions, and causes of action, in law or in equity, suits, liabilities, demands, obligations, damages, costs, fines, penalties, losses, or expenses (including, but not limited to, investigation fees, expert fees, and attorneys’ fees) (collectively “Claims”), whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, against Releasees and/or Downstream Releasees that

arise under Proposition 65 or any other statutory or common law claims that were or could have been asserted with respect to any Covered Product sold up to the Effective Date, only to the extent that such Claims relate to Releasees' and/or Downstream Releasees' alleged exposure of persons to the Listed Chemical contained in the Covered Product or any failure by Releasees and Downstream Releasees to warn about exposures to the Listed Chemical contained in the Covered Product.

2.4 CAG acknowledges that it is familiar with Section 1542 of 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.

CAG, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees expressly waives and relinquishes any and all rights and benefits which it may have under, or which may be conferred on it by the provisions of Civil Code § 1542 as well as under any other state or federal statute or common law principle of similar effect, to the fullest extent that it may lawfully waive such rights or benefits pertaining to the released matters. The release in this Section shall have no force or effect until the full amount of payments set forth in Section 4.0 below are paid in full.

3.0 Dollar Tree's Duties

3.1 Dollar Tree agrees, promises, and represents that Dollar Tree shall reformulate any Covered Product manufactured sixty (60) days after the Effective Date and offered for sale in California to a point where the level of DEHP in the Covered Product does not exceed 0.1% by weight (1,000 parts per million). For the purpose of the Settlement Agreement only, the Parties agree that compliance with this provision shall constitute compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to alleged exposures to DEHP in the Covered Products.

3.2 Dollar Tree agrees, promises, and represents that, as of the Effective Date, to the extent it ships or sells any Covered Product in existing inventory that has not been reformulated, it will provide warnings on such Covered Product that comply with Proposition 65. The warnings shall be provided in such a conspicuous and prominent manner that will assure the message is made available and likely to be read, seen, or heard by the consumer prior to or at the time of the sale or purchase. The Parties agree that a warning at the point of display or on the product label stating that “**⚠️WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals, including DEHP, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information, go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov” or a warning that complies with the Proposition 65 warning regulations codified at 27 California Code of Regulations Sections 25600 *et seq.* shall constitute compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to the Listed

Chemical in the Covered Product for any Covered Product in Dollar Tree's existing inventory that has not been reformulated.

3.3 The reformulation and warning requirements described in this Section do not apply to any Covered Product that is no longer in Dollar Tree's possession and is already in the stream of commerce as of the Effective Date.

4.0 Payments

4.1 Dollar Tree agrees to pay a total of fifty-two thousand dollars (\$52,000.00) within ten (10) business days of receipt of notice that CAG has fulfilled its obligation to report this Settlement Agreement to the Attorney General's Office under Section 6.0 of this Settlement Agreement, by separate checks as delivered to CAG allocated in the amounts specified in sections 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 below.

4.1.1 Penalty: Dollar Tree shall issue two separate checks for a total amount of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00) as follows: (a) one check made payable to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) in the amount of nine thousand dollars, (\$9,000.00), representing 75% of the total penalty; and (b) one check to Consumer Advocacy Group, Inc. in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), representing 25% of the total penalty. OEHHA's check shall be delivered to Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, P.O. Box 4010, Sacramento, CA 95812-4010, Attn: Mike Gyurics. CAG's check shall be delivered to: Reuben Yeroushalmi, Yeroushalmi &

Yeroushalmi, 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 240W, Beverly Hills, California 90212. Additionally, two separate 1099s shall be issued for the above payments: The first 1099 shall be issued to OEHHA, P.O. Box 4010 Sacramento, CA 95812-4010, Attn: Mike Gyurics (EIN: 68-0284486) in the amount of \$9,000.00. The second 1099 shall be issued in the amount of \$3,000.00 to CAG and delivered to Yeroushalmi & Yeroushalmi, 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 240W, Beverly Hills, CA 90212.

4.1.2 Attorneys' Fees and Costs: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) of such payment shall be paid to Yeroushalmi & Yeroushalmi, as CAG's attorneys, for reasonable investigation fees and costs, attorneys' fees, and any other costs incurred as a result of investigating and bringing this matter to Dollar Tree's attention. The check shall be made payable to "Yeroushalmi & Yeroushalmi" and delivered to: Reuben Yeroushalmi, Yeroushalmi & Yeroushalmi, 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 240W, Beverly Hills, California 90212. By the Effective Date, Yeroushalmi & Yeroushalmi shall provide Dollar Tree with its Employer Identification Number.

5.0 Authority to Enter Into Settlement Agreement

5.1 CAG represents that its signatories to this Settlement Agreement has full authority to enter into and legally bind CAG to this Settlement Agreement.

5.2 Dollar Tree represents that its signatories to this Settlement Agreement have full authority to enter into and legally bind Dollar Tree to this Settlement Agreement.

6.0 Report of the Settlement Agreement to the Office of the Attorney General Of California

6.1 CAG shall report this Settlement Agreement to the California Attorney General's Office within five (5) days of the Parties' execution of this Settlement Agreement in compliance with the reporting requirements set forth in California Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(f). If for any reason the Attorney General's Office objects to this Settlement Agreement, CAG and Dollar Tree shall meet and confer about mutually agreeable steps the Parties can take to satisfy the Attorney General's Office.

7.0 Execution in Counterparts and Facsimile

7.1 This Settlement Agreement may be executed in counterparts, which taken together shall be deemed to constitute the same document. A facsimile or portable document format (PDF) signature shall be as valid as the original.

8.0 Entire Agreement

8.1 This Settlement Agreement contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof, and all related prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings. No other agreements, oral or otherwise, exist to bind any of the Parties.

9.0 Modification of Settlement Agreement

9.1 Any modification to this Settlement Agreement shall be in writing and executed by all Parties.

10.0 Application of Settlement Agreement

10.1 This Settlement Agreement shall apply to, be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, CAG, Dollar Tree, the Releasees, and Downstream Releasees identified in Section 2.1 above.

11.0 Enforcement of Settlement Agreement

11.1 Any party may file suit before the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, consistent with the terms and conditions set forth in paragraphs 11.2 and 11.3 of this Settlement Agreement, to enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Settlement Agreement. The prevailing party shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs associated with such enforcement.

11.2 No action to enforce this Settlement Agreement may be commenced or maintained, and no notice of violation related to the Covered Product may be served or filed against Dollar Tree by CAG, unless the party seeking enforcement or alleging a violation notifies the other party of the specific acts alleged to breach this Settlement Agreement at least sixty (60) days before serving or filing any action or Notice of Violation and the entity receiving the notice fails to comply with the requirements set forth in Section 11.3 below. Any notice to Dollar Tree must contain (a) the name of the product, (b) specific dates when the product was sold after the Effective Date in California without reformulation, (c) the store or

other place at which the product was available for sale to consumers, and (d) any other evidence or other support for the allegations in the notice.

11.3 Within thirty (30) days of receiving the notice described in Section 11.2, Dollar Tree shall either (1) send the store or other place at which the product was available for sale to the public a letter directing that the offending product be immediately removed from inventory and returned to Dollar Tree for full credit, including shipping costs, or (2) refute the information provided under Section 11.2. Should the Parties be unable to resolve the dispute, any party may seek relief under Section 11.1.

11.4 Notwithstanding the requirements in Sections 11.2 and 11.3, CAG may file suit to enforce the payment terms outlined in Section 4.0 upon Dollar Tree's failure to pay.

12.0 Notification Requirements

12.1 Any notice required or permitted hereunder shall be effective only if given in writing and delivered in person, certified or registered mail return receipt requested, or traceable overnight delivery service, to the following designees:

For Consumer Advocacy Group, Inc.
Reuben Yeroushalmi, Esq.
YEROUSHALMI & YEROUSHALMI
9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 240W
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

For Dollar Tree Stores, Inc. and Greenbrier International, Inc.
Peg Carew Toledo
Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
Three Embarcadero Center | 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111-4024

Any party may change its designee(s) for purposes of notification by providing written notice of such change pursuant to this Section.

13.0 Severability

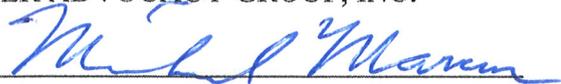
13.1 If, subsequent to the execution of this Settlement Agreement, any of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement are held by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions remaining shall not be adversely affected.

14.0 Governing Law

14.1 The terms of this Settlement Agreement 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, preempted or is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to the Listed Chemical and/or the Covered Product, then Dollar Tree shall provide written notice to CAG 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 Covered Product is so affected.

CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC.

Dated: 03/18/19

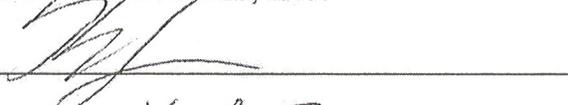
By: 

Printed Name: Michael Marcus

Title: Director

DOLLAR TREE STORES, INC.

Dated: 3/15/19

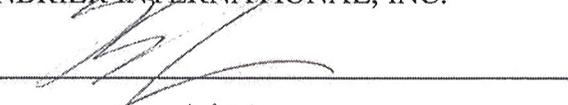
By: 

Printed Name: Keith Zanni

Title: Asst. Gen. Counsel, Compliance

GREENBRIER INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Dated: 3/15/19

By: 

Printed Name: Keith Zanni

Title: Asst. Gen. Counsel, Compliance