

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Parties

This Settlement Agreement is entered into by and between the CENTER FOR ADVANCED PUBLIC AWARENESS, INC. ("CAPA") on the one hand and MiWorld Accessories, LLC ("MIWORLD"), with MIWORLD and CAPA each individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

1.2 Introduction and General Allegations.

1.2.1 CAPA is a not-for profit corporation duly organized and existing in the State of California, which seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and to improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances used in consumer products.

1.2.2 CAPA alleges that MIWORLD employs ten or more persons, and CAPA alleges that MIWORLD is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 *et seq.* ("Proposition 65").

1.2.3 CAPA alleges that MIWORLD imported, sold, and/or distributed for sale in California Covered Products, as defined below, that contain Di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate ("DEHP"), a chemical pursuant to Proposition 65 listed by the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity. CAPA further alleges that MIWORLD failed to provide the health hazard warning required by Proposition 65 for exposures to DEHP from the Covered Products.

1.3 Product Description.

The products covered by this Settlement Agreement are the Pom Pom String Lights, which were imported, sold and/or distributed for sale in California by MIWORLD with UPC No. 400250167599 ("Covered Products").

1.4 60 Day Notice of Violation and Exchange of Information.

On January 28, 2019 CAPA served MIWORLD, Rue 21, Inc., and the requisite public enforcement agencies with a 60-Day Notice of Violation ("Notice"), related to the Covered Products, alleging that MIWORLD violated Proposition 65. The Notice alleged that MIWORLD had failed to warn its customers and consumers in California of the health hazards associated with exposures to DEHP from its import, sale and/or distribution of the Covered Products.

CAPA subsequently provided MIWORLD with test results in CAPA's possession concerning its allegations. MIWORLD provided CAPA with sales data related to the Covered Products. To the best of the Parties' knowledge, no public enforcement action has commenced nor is any public enforcement agency diligently investigating or prosecuting the allegations set forth in the Notice.

1.5 No Admission.

The Parties enter into this Settlement Agreement to settle disputed claims between the Parties as set forth below concerning the Parties' and the Covered Products' compliance with Proposition 65. Specifically, CAPA alleges that MIWORLD imported, manufactured, sold or distributed for sale in the state of California, Covered Products which contained DEHP without first providing the clear and reasonable exposure warning required by Proposition 65. MIWORLD denies that such a warning is required under Proposition 65 or any otherwise applicable law.

MIWORLD further denies the material, factual, and legal allegations contained in the Notice and maintains that all of the products that it has imported, manufactured and/or sold and distributed in California, including the Covered Products, have been, and are, in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as an admission by MIWORLD of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, nor shall compliance with this Settlement Agreement constitute or be construed as an admission by MIWORLD of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, such being specifically denied by MIWORLD. This Section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect MIWORLD's obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Settlement Agreement.

1.6 Effective Date.

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

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATED PRODUCTS

2.1 Reformulation Standard. Commencing on the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, Covered Products that MIWORLD imports, manufactures, ships to be sold or offers for sale or purchase in or into California, or sells in California shall be deemed to comply with Proposition 65, and be exempt from any Proposition 65 warning requirements with respect to DEHP if the Products meet the standard of "Reformulated Products." "Reformulated Products" shall mean Covered Products containing less than or equal to 1,000 parts per million (0.1%) DEHP in each Accessible Component, as hereinafter defined, when analyzed pursuant to Environmental Protection Agency testing methodologies 3580A and 8270C, CPSC-CH-C1001-09.3 or equivalent methodologies utilized by federal or state agencies for the purpose of determining DEHP content in a solid substance ("Reformulation Standard"). Covered Products, currently in the channels of distribution with distributors and retailers may continue to be sold-through. However, as of the Effective Date, MIWORLD may not distribute or sell new Covered Products in California that are not Reformulated Products or do not contain the warnings set forth in Paragraph 2.3

2.2 Warning Option. Covered Products that do not meet the Reformulation Standard set forth in Section 2.1 above shall be accompanied by a warning as described in Section 2.3 below. This warning shall only be required as to Covered Products that are sold or shipped out to consumers, retailers, or distributors after the Effective Date. No Proposition 65 warning for DEHP shall be required as to any Covered Products that are already in the stream of commerce as of the Effective Date.

2.3 Warning Language. Commencing on the Effective Date, MIWORLD shall ensure that any unreformulated Covered Products that it ships to California retailers or for sale in

California include a clear and reasonable warning. The warning shall be affixed to the packaging or labeling using language similar to the warnings below:

⚠ WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (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

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

The warning shall be prominently displayed 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, MIWORLD shall be entitled to use, at its discretion, such other warning text and/or methods of transmission without being deemed in breach of this Agreement

2.4 Accessible Component. The term "Accessible Component" shall mean any component of the Covered Product that could be touched by a person during reasonably foreseeable use.

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

MIWORLD shall pay a civil penalty of \$500 to be apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code §§25249.12(c) & (d), with 75% of these funds remitted to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining 25% of the penalty remitted to CAPA. MIWORLD shall issue two separate checks for the penalty payment: (a) one check made payable to "Kawahito Law Group in Trust for OEHHA" in the amount of \$375 representing 75% of the initial civil penalty and (b) one check to "Kawahito Law Group in Trust for Center for Advanced Public Awareness, Inc.," in the amount of \$125, representing 25% of the initial civil penalty. Two separate 1099s shall be issued for the above payments: The first 1099 shall be issued to OEHHA, P.O. Box 4010,

Sacramento, CA 95814 (EIN: 68-0284486). The second 1099 shall be issued to Kawahito Law Group APC, who shall furnish a W-9 for both payees. The payments shall be delivered within five business days of the Effective Date, or receipt of form W-9, whichever is later, to the following address:

James Kawahito, Esq.
Kawahito Law Group APC
222 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. Suite 2222
El Segundo, CA 90245

4. REIMBURSEMENT OF FEES AND COSTS

The Parties acknowledge that CAPA and its counsel offered to resolve this dispute without reaching terms on the amount of fees and costs to be reimbursed to them, thereby leaving any fee reimbursement issue to be resolved after the material terms of the agreement had been settled. The parties reached an accord on the compensation due to CAPA and its counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine codified at California Code of Civil Procedure (CCP) § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution of this agreement. More specifically, MIWORLD shall pay the total amount of \$16,000 for fees and costs incurred by CAPA as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to the attention of MIWORLD, and negotiating a settlement. MIWORLD shall make the check payable to "Kawahito Law Group APC." CAPA shall provide MIWORLD with a completed IRS Form W-9 for the Kawahito Law Group APC. Payment shall be made within five business days of the Effective Date, or receipt of form W-9, whichever is later, and delivered to the following address:

James Kawahito, Esq.
Kawahito Law Group APC
222 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. Suite 2222
El Segundo, CA 90245

5. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

5.1 Full, Final and Binding Resolution of Proposition 65 Allegations.

CAPA, on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, releases MIWORLD, of any violation of Proposition 65 that was or

could have been asserted by CAPA against MIWORLD its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities that are under common ownership, directors, officers, employees, agents, principals, insurers, accountants, representatives, attorneys, predecessors, successors, assignees, licensors, each manufacturer or other entity supplying MIWORLD with the Covered Products, and each entity to which MIWORLD directly or indirectly distributes, ships or sells the Covered Products, including, but not limited to its downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisees, cooperative members, and licensees, including but not limited to rue21, Inc., New rue21, LLC, and each of their owners, directors, officers, employees, agents, principals, insurers, accountants, representatives, attorneys, predecessors, successors, and assignees (collectively "Releasees") for any and all claims based on their alleged or actual failure to warn about alleged exposures to DEHP contained in the Covered Products that were allegedly manufactured, imported, distributed, sold and/or offered for sale by MIWORLD (either directly or through the Releasees) in California before the Effective Date. The Release shall also cover any Covered Products that were in the stream of commerce prior to the Effective Date. However, as of the Effective Date, no new Products shall be shipped to or distributed in California that are not Reformulated Products or contain the warnings set forth in Sections 2.2 and 2.3. This release is provided in CAPA's individual capacity and is not a release on behalf of the public.

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, CAPA on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, also hereby waives all of its rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases all claims against MIWORLD and Releasees that it or they may have including, without limitation, all actions, and causes of action, suits, liabilities, demands, obligations, damages, costs, fines, penalties, losses, expenses, investigative fees, expert fees, and attorneys' fees for any and all claims arising under Proposition 65, and regarding the alleged or actual failure to warn about exposures to DEHP in the Covered Products allegedly manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale before the Effective Date by MIWORLD or Releasees.

5.2 MIWORLD's Release of CAPA.

MIWORLD on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives any and all claims against CAPA, its attorneys and

other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made by CAPA and its attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against it in this matter with respect to the Covered Products.

6. ENFORCEMENT OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

6.1 Any party may file suit before the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles 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. A Party may enforce any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement only after that Party first meets and confers as provided below in an open and good faith manner.

6.2 **Notice of Violation.** Prior to bringing any proceeding to enforce the terms of this Agreement, CAPA shall provide a written notice of violation ("NOV") to MiWorld that includes information sufficient for MiWorld to be able to understand and correct the violation, including but not limited to: (a) the date the Product that is the subject of this Agreement was purchased in California, (b) 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, including all test data obtained by CAPA regarding the Product.

6.3 **Response to NOV.** Within 30 days of receiving an NOV, MiWorld shall respond to the NOV. The parties shall then attempt to resolve any dispute in good faith, which may include providing CAPA with the shipping date for the specific Product at issue, the exchange of test results or other information, the exchange of samples to be sent to a third party for additional testing, the removal of Products from retailers, etc.

6.4 **Resolution of NOV.** CAPA will not take further action on an NOV under the following conditions:

6.4.1 The Product was manufactured or purchased by MiWorld before 90 days after the Effective Date.

6.4.2 Third-party laboratory testing establishes that the Product meets the reformulation standard of Section 2.1.

6.4.3 The Product failed to comply with Section 2 despite MiWorld taking good faith steps to comply with Section 2, and MiWorld corrects the alleged violation by either instructing its customers to remove unlabeled Products from sale in California or by taking steps to ensure that such Products are sold with warnings that comply with Section 2.

7. SEVERABILITY

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

8. GOVERNING LAW

The terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California and apply within the State of California.

9. NOTICE

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notice required to be provided pursuant to this Settlement Agreement shall be in writing and sent by: (a) personal delivery; (b) first-class, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested; or (c) a recognized overnight courier on any Party by the other at the following addresses:

For MIWORLD:	Martin Erani MiWorld Accessories, LLC 1 East 33rd Street, 11th Floor New York, NY 10016
with a copy to:	Jeffrey Margulies Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP 555 South Flower Street, Forty-First Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071
For CAPA:	James K. Kawahito Kawahito Law Group APC Attn. CAPA v. MiWord, LLC. 222 N. Pacific Coast Hwy., Suite 2222 El Segundo, CA 90245

with a copy to: Center for Advanced Public Awareness, Inc.
2342 Shattuck Ave. #347
Berkeley, CA 94704

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

10. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

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

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

CAPA and its attorneys agree to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in California Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(f).

12. MODIFICATION

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

13. AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understand, and agreed to all of the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement.

AGREED TO:

AGREED TO:

Date: 5/23/19

Date: _____

By: 
Center for Advanced Public Awareness, Inc.

By: _____
MiWorld, LLC

with a copy to:

Center for Advanced Public Awareness, Inc.
2342 Shattuck Ave. #347
Berkeley, CA 94704

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The undersigned are authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understand, and agreed to all of the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement.


AGREED TO:

Date: _____

By: _____
Center for Advanced Public Awareness, Inc.

AGREED TO:

Date:  7/9/19 _____

By:  _____
MiWorld, LLC