State of California - Department of Justice - Attorney General's Office - Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting

FORM JUS 1501 (03-01)

Attention: Prop 65 Coordinator, 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000, Oakland, CA 94612

PRIVATE ENFORCEMENT FILING - Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(e) and (f)

REPORT OF SETTLEMENT

| Please | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | ☐ Original Filing ☐ Supplem | ental Filing | |
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| | PLAINTIFF(S) | | | |
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| | DEFENDANT(S) INVOLVED IN SETTLEMENT | Г | | |
| PARTIES TO THE ACTION | | | | |
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| | INJUNCTIVE RELIEF | | | |
| REPORT INFO | SUBMITTED TO COURT? COURT, RI Yes No MUST BE | PAYMENT: ATTORNEYS FEES TER ENTRY OF JUDGMENT BY EPORT OF ENTRY OF JUDGMENT SUBMITTED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL TTTI EMENIT MIIS | <u> </u> | For Internal Use Only |
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| FILER INFO | NAME OF CONTACT ORGANIZATION ADDRESS | | | TELEPHONE NUMBER () FAX NUMBER |
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FILING INSTRUCTIONS: This form can be completed online and printed. If electronic filing is not available, mail the completed form with a copy of the settlement to the attention of the Prop 65 Coordinator at the address shown above. If you need additional space to complete this form please use an attachment.

| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 | | awfirm.com |
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| 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 | SHEFA LMV, INC., Plaintiff, vs. GINSEY INDUSTRIES, INC., Defendant. |) Case No. 19STCV23409) (PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT AS TO GINSEY INDUSTRIES, INC.) Action Filed: July 3, 2019) |
| | [PROPOSED] CONSE | ENT JUDGMENT AS TO DEFENDANT |

GINSEY INDUSTRIES, INC.

1. INTRODUCTION

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1.1 **Parties**

This consent judgment ("Consent Judgment") is entered into by and between plaintiff Shefa LMV, Inc. ("Shefa" or "Plaintiff") and Ginsey Industries, Inc. ("Defendant," with Shefa and **Defendant** individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties").

Plaintiff 1.2

Shefa is a public benefit, non-profit corporation that seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and to improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer products.

1.3 **Settling Defendant**

Defendant employs ten (10) or more persons and is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code §25249.6 *et seq.* ("**Proposition 65**").

1.4 **Products Covered**

The products covered by this Consent Judgment are plastic organizer products, including, but not limited to, UPC: 047968481175 Arm & Hammer Collapsible Shoe Box, UPC: 047968481199 Arm & Hammer Sweater Organizer, and UPC: 047968481106 Arm & Hammer 12-Compartment Underbed Organizer, that are manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale in California by Defendant that contain Di-[2-Ethylhexyl] Phthalate ("**DEHP**") (collectively, the "**Covered** Products").

1.5 **General Allegations**

Shefa alleges that Defendant manufactures, imports, sells, or distributes, for sale in the state of California, the Covered Products without first providing a clear and reasonable warning required by Proposition 65. DEHP (CAS # 68515-48-0) is a chemical listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity.

1.6 **Notice of Violation**

On February 1, 2019, Shefa served Defendant and the requisite public enforcement agencies

with a 60-Day Notice of Violation (the "**Notice**") alleging that Defendant violated Proposition 65 when it failed to warn its customers and consumers in California that the Covered Products expose users to DEHP. To the best of the Parties' knowledge, no public enforcer has commenced and is diligently prosecuting the allegations set forth in the Notice.

1.7 Complaint

On July 3, 2019, Shefa filed the instant complaint in the Superior Court in and for the County of Los Angeles against Defendant and DOES 1-100, alleging violations of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, based on exposures to DEHP contained in the Covered Products sold in the State of California (the "Complaint").

1.8 No Admission

Defendant denies the material, factual, and legal allegations contained in the Notice and Complaint and maintains that all the products it has manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale in California, including the Covered Products, have been, and are, in compliance with all laws.

Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Defendant of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by Defendant of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law, the same being specifically denied by Defendant. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Defendant's obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Consent Judgment.

1.9 Consent to Jurisdiction

For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations in the Complaint, that venue is proper in the County of Alameda, the Defendant agrees that it employs or has employed ten or more persons during time periods relevant to the Complaint and that this Court has jurisdiction over the Parties to enter and enforce the provisions of this Consent Judgment pursuant to Proposition 65.

1.10 Effective Date

For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term "Effective Date" shall mean the date the

Consent Judgment is approved and entered by the Court.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: COMPLIANT PRODUCTS AND WARNINGS

2.1 Reformulation Standards

As of the Effective Date, Defendant shall not manufacture for sale in California any Covered Products unless such Covered Products contain DEHP in concentrations less than or equal to 1000 parts per million ("**ppm**") when analyzed pursuant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agencyapproved testing methodologies or any other scientifically reliable methodology for determining the concentration of DEHP in the Covered Products.

2.2 Warning Standards

Defendant agrees, promises, and represents that, as of the Effective Date, to the extent it ships or sells Covered Products in California that do not meet the reformulation standards set forth above in Section 2.1, Defendant will provide warnings on such Covered Products that comply with Proposition 65. The warnings shall be provided in a conspicuous and prominent manner such that they will be likely to be read or seen by the consumer prior to or at the time of the sale or purchase. The Parties agree that the warning set forth below shall constitute compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to any Covered Products that are not reformulated:

- (a) the text, "WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including DEHP, which is 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." accompanied by and placed to the right of a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline sized to be no smaller than the word, "WARNING" as provided by regulations adopted on or about August 30, 2016; or
- (b) the text, "WARNING Cancer and Reproductive Harm www.P65Warnings.ca.gov." accompanied by and placed to the right of a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline sized to be no smaller than the word, "WARNING" as provided by regulations adopted on or

about August 30, 2016.

The triangular warning symbol specified in Section 2.2(a) and 2.2(b) may be printed in black and white if the Covered Product label is not printed using the color yellow.

2.3 Covered Products in the Stream of Commerce.

Any Covered Products that have been distributed, shipped, or sold by Defendant prior to the Effective Date, shall not be subject to the requirements of Sections 2.1 or 2.2.

3. MONETARY SETTLEMENT TERMS

- **3.1 Payment from Defendant**. Within fifteen (15) business days following the Effective Date, Defendant shall make the Total Settlement Payment of \$23,750.00.
- **3.2 Allocation of Payments.** The Total Settlement Payment shall be paid in three (3) separate checks made payable and allocated as follows:
- 3.2.1 Civil Penalty. Defendant shall pay \$4,000.00 as a civil penalty pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b). The civil penalty shall be apportioned in accordance with Health & Safety Code § 25249.12 (25% to Shefa and 75% to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA")). Accordingly, the OEHHA portion of the civil penalty payment in the amount of \$3,000.00 shall be made payable to OEHHA and associated with taxpayer identification number 68-0284486. This payment shall be delivered as follows:

For United States Postal Service Delivery:

Attn: Mike Gyurics
Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
P.O. Box 4010, MS #19B
Sacramento, CA 95812-4010

For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:

Attn: Mike Gyurics Fiscal Operations Branch Chief Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment 1001 I Street, MS #19B Sacramento, CA 95814

The Shefa portion of the civil penalty payment in the amount of \$1,000.00 shall be made payable to Shefa LMV, Inc. and associated with taxpayer identification number 81-0907002. This payment shall be delivered to the Law Office of Daniel N. Greenbaum, 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave, Suite 320, Van Nuys, CA 91406. Separate 1099s shall be issued for each of these payments and delivered to the same addresses as each respective payment.

3.2.2 Attorney's Fees and Costs. A reimbursement of Shefa's attorney's fees and costs in the amount of \$19,750.00 payable to the "Law Office of Daniel N. Greenbaum," and associated with taxpayer identification number 46-4580172. This payment shall be delivered to the Law Office of Daniel N. Greenbaum, 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave, Suite 320, Van Nuys, CA 91406. This payment shall be complete reimbursement for any and all attorney's fees, expert and investigative fees and related costs, and any and all other costs and expenses associated with this matter, the Notice or this Consent Judgment. Other than the payment required under this Section 3, each Party bears its own attorney's fees and costs.

4. CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED

4.1 Public Release

This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between Shefa and Defendant of any violation of Proposition 65 that was or could have been asserted by Shefa, acting on behalf of itself and in a representative capacity in the public interest under Health & Safety Code § 25249.7, against Defendant, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities, manufacturers, suppliers, directors, officers, employees, agents, shareholders, partners, attorneys, and each of their predecessors, successors, and assigns (collectively "Releasees"), and each entity to whom any Releasee directly or indirectly exports, distributes or sells the Covered Products, including, without limitation, distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisees, cooperative members, licensors, dealers,

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and licensees, and each of their owners, purchasers, officers, directors, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, agents, employees, and sister and parent entities, including but not limited to Bed Bath & Beyond, Inc., (collectively "Downstream Releasees"), for all claims that have been asserted for, could have been asserted for, or that arise out of alleged or actual violations of Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations for alleged exposures to DEHP in Covered Products prior to and including the Effective Date. Defendant, Releasees and Downstream Releasees are hereby collectively referred to as the "Released Parties." Shefa, on behalf of itself and in the public interest, hereby discharges and releases Released Parties from any and all claims, 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, fees of attorneys, experts, and others) of any nature whatsoever, whether known or unknown, fixed or contingent, asserted for, that could have been asserted for, or that arise out of alleged exposures to DEHP from Covered Products sold, manufactured or distributed by any Released Party in California, or the failure of any Released Party to provide clear, accurate and reasonable warnings under Proposition 65, Business and Professions Code §17200, et seq., or any other applicable law about exposure to DEHP, predicated or based on a violation of Proposition 65, arising from the sale, distribution, or use of any Covered Products sold, manufactured or distributed by any Released Party in California (collectively "Claims"). Compliance with the Consent Judgment by any Released Party shall constitute compliance with Proposition 65 by all Released Parties with respect to the presence of DEHP in the Covered Products on and after the Effective Date. Plaintiff agrees that any and all Claims are resolved with prejudice by this Consent Judgment. The release in this Section 4.1 applies to all Covered Products that Defendant manufactured, distributed, or sold prior to the Effective Date, regardless of the date any other Released Party may distribute or sell the Covered Products.

4.2 Shefa's Individual Release of Claims

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, Shefa, on its own

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behalf and on behalf of its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action, and discharges and releases the Released Parties from any and all Claims arising under Proposition 65 for unwarned exposures to DEHP from Covered Products manufactured, sold, or distributed for sale by Defendant prior to the Effective Date. The releases in Section 4.2 are provided in Shefa's individual capacity and are not releases on behalf of the public.

4.3 **Defendant's Release of Shefa**

Defendant, on its own behalf and on behalf of its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and assignees, hereby waives any and all claims that it may have against Shefa and its attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made by Shefa and its attorneys and other representatives in the course of investigating the claims set forth in the Complaint or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against it in this matter with respect to the Covered Products.

Release of Unknown Claims 4.4

It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties arising out of the facts contained in the Notice, or alleged in the Complaint, relating to the Covered Products, will hereafter be discovered or developed. Shefa, on behalf of itself only, acknowledges that this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and include all such claims through and including the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefor. Shefa acknowledges that the claims released in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 may include unknown claims, and nevertheless Shefa intends to release such claims, and in doing so waives California Civil Code § 1542 (and any other state, federal, or international law of similar import), which reads 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.

Shefa understands and acknowledges that the significance and consequence of this waiver of California Civil Code § 1542 is that even if Shefa suffers future damages arising out of or resulting from, or related directly or indirectly to, in whole or in part, any claims arising from any violation of Proposition 65 or any other statutory or common law regarding the Covered Products, including but not limited to any actual or alleged exposure to, or failure to warn with respect to exposure to, the Covered Products, Shefa will not be able to make any claim for those damages, penalties or other relief against the Released Parties.

5. COURT APPROVAL

This Consent Judgment is not effective until it is approved and entered by the Court.

6. GOVERNING LAW

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 the Covered Products, then Defendant may provide written notice to Shefa of any asserted change in the law, and with the exception of Sections 3.1 and 3.2 above, shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment, with respect to, and to the extent that, the Covered Products are so affected. None of the terms of this Consent Judgment shall have any application to Covered Products sold outside of the State of California.

7. NOTICE

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

| To Defendant: | To Shefa: |
|---------------|-----------|
| | |

| Jeffrey M. Goldman, Esq. | Daniel N. Greenbaum |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pepper Hamilton LLP | Law Office of Daniel N. Greenbaum |
| 4 Park Plaza Suite 1200 | 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave., Suite 320 |
| Irvine, California 92614 | Van Nuys, CA 91406 |
| | |

With a copy to:

AnnMarie Sanford, Esq. Pepper Hamilton LLP Suite 1800 | 4000 Town Center Southfield, Michigan 48075-1505

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

8. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE AND PDF SIGNATURES

This Consent Judgment 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.

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

Plaintiff agrees to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f).

10. POST EXECUTION ACTIVITIES

The Parties acknowledge that, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f), Shefa is obligated to file a noticed motion to obtain judicial approval of this Consent Judgment.

Upon the Parties' execution of this Consent Judgment, Shefa promptly shall proceed to submit this Consent Judgment to the Court with a motion seeking Court approval.

11. MODIFICATION

This Consent Judgment may only be modified by a written instrument executed by the Party or Parties to be bound thereby, and after approval by the Court upon a noticed motion. Any motion to modify shall be served on all Parties and the Office of the Attorney General.

12. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

If Shefa determines at a future date that a violation of this Consent Judgment has occurred, Shefa shall provide notice to Defendant. Prior to bringing any action to enforce any requirement of this Consent Judgment, the party alleging a violation of this Consent Judgment shall provide the

| 1 | other party with written notice of the grounds for such allegation together with all supporting | | | |
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| 2 | information as well as a complete demand for the relief sought. The Parties shall then meet and | | | |
| 3 | confer regarding the basis for the allegation to resolve the matter informally, including providing | | | |
| 4 | the party alleged to be in violation with a reasonable opportunity of at least thirty (30) days to cure | | | |
| 5 | any alleged violation. Should such attempt at informal resolution fail, the party alleging a violation | | | |
| 6 | may file its lawsuit seeking the proposed relief. | | | |
| 7 | 13. AUTHORIZATION | | | |
| 8 | The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their | | | |
| 9 | respective Parties and have read, understood, and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this | | | |
| 10 | Consent Judgment. | | | |
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| 12 | AGREED TO: AGREED TO: | | | |
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| | [PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT AS TO DEFENDANT | | | |

GINSEY INDUSTRIES, INC.

| 1 | [PROPOSED] JUDGMENT | | |
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| 2 | Please note that on, 2019 at 8:30am, Plaintiff Shefa LMV Inc.'s ("Plaintiff") | | |
| 3 | Motion for Court Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Judgment as to | | |
| 4 | Defendant Ginsey Industries, Inc. came for hearing before this Court in Department , the | | |
| 5 | Honorable presiding. Counsel for Plaintiff did [not] appear; counsel for Defendant | | |
| 6 | did [not] appear. | | |
| 7 | After full consideration of the points and authorities and related pleadings submitted, the | | |
| 8 | Court GRANTED Plaintiff's Motion pursuant to and in accordance with Health & Safety Code | | |
| 9 | §25249.7(f)(4). The Court reviewed the above Settlement Agreement and makes the following | | |
| 10 | findings pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f)(4): | | |
| 11 | a. The injunctive relief required by the Settlement Agreement complies with Health & | | |
| 12 | Safety Code § 25249.7; | | |
| 13 | b. The reimbursement of fees and costs to be paid pursuant to the Settlement | | |
| 14 | Agreement is reasonable under California law; and | | |
| 15 | c. The civil penalty amount to be paid pursuant to Settlement Agreement is reasonable. | | |
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| 17 | IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED. | | |
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| 19 | Data Judga of the Superior Court | | |
| 20 | Date Judge of the Superior Court | | |
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