

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Parties. This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Anthony Ferreiro acting on behalf of the public interest (hereinafter “Ferreiro”) and Vacu-Vin Innovations Ltd. (“Vacu-Vin” 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. Vacu-Vin is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of Proposition 65, Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 et seq.

1.2 General Allegations. Ferreiro alleges that Defendant has exposed individuals to Bisphenol A (BPA) from Tomorrow’s Kitchen marinators 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.

1.3 Notices of Violation. On or about October 18, 2019, Ferreiro served Vacu-Vin 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 the polycarbonate tumblers exposed users in California to BPA. No public enforcer has brought and is diligently prosecuting the claims alleged in the Notice.

1.4 No Admission. Defendant denies the material allegations contained in Ferreiro’s Notice and maintains that it has not violated Proposition 65. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission 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 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.

1.5 Effective Date. The term “Effective Date” means the date this Consent Judgment

is entered as a Judgment of the Court.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Covered Products. The term “Covered Products” means Tomorrow’s Kitchen marinators that are manufactured, distributed and/or offered for sale in California by Vacu-Vin, and that contain BPA.

3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS

3.1 Commencing ninety (90) days after the Effective Date, Vacu-Vin agrees to manufacture, import, or purchase for sale in California only (a) reformulated Covered Products pursuant to Section 3.2, or (b) Covered Products that are accompanied by either of the following warnings:

“WARNING: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause [cancer,] birth defects or other reproductive harm.”

Or

“WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Bisphenol A (BPA), 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.”

The bracketed text may, but is not required to be used. Vacu-Vin and its downstream retailers shall have no obligation to reformulate or label Covered Product that entered the stream of commerce prior to the Effective Date or within ninety (90) days after the Effective Date. For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, a “Reformulated Covered Product” is Covered Product that meets the standard set forth in Section 3.2, below.

3.2 “Reformulated Covered Product” shall mean Covered Product that is BPA-Free when analyzed pursuant to ATS 367 Rev. 0 by LC/MS/MS.

3.3 The warning provided pursuant to § 3.1 above shall be affixed to or printed on the Covered Product’s packaging or labeling. The warning shall be prominently affixed to or printed on the packaging or labeling and 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.

4. MONETARY TERMS

4.1 Civil Penalty. Vacu-Vin shall pay a Civil Penalty of \$500.00 pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), to be apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25192, with 75% of these funds remitted to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the remaining 25% of the penalty remitted to Ferreiro, as provided by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(d).

4.1.1 Within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date, Vacu-Vin shall issue two separate checks for the Civil Penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$375.00; and (b) "Brodsky & Smith, LLC in Trust for Ferreiro" in the amount of \$125.00. 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 805
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 Attorney Fees. Vacu-Vin shall pay \$14,000.00 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 Vacu-Vin’s attention, litigating and negotiating and obtaining judicial approval of a settlement in the public interest, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5. Payment shall be made within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date and sent to the address for Brodsky & Smith set forth in § 4.1.1, above.

4.3 Vacu-Vin shall pay the Civil Penalty and attorney fees in §§ 4.1 and 4.2 within ten (10) days of the Effective Date.

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 Vacu-Vin, 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 Bed Bath & Beyond, 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 as set forth in the Notice, with respect to any Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Vacu-Vin prior to ninety (90) days after the Effective Date. Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with regard to 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 *not* in his representative capacity, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases any Vacu-Vin, 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 Vacu-Vin or Defendant Releasees. With respect to the foregoing waivers and releases in this paragraph, Ferreiro hereby specifically waives any and all rights and benefits which she 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 WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

5.3 Vacu-Vin waives any and all claims against Ferreiro, his attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or 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.

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, (registered or certified mail) return receipt requested; or (ii) overnight courier on any party by the other party at the following addresses:

For Defendant:

Barbara R. Adams
Clark Hill PLC
One Embarcadero Center, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94111

And

For Ferreiro:

Evan Smith
Brodsky & Smith, LLC
2 Bala Plaza, Suite 805
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. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)/COURT APPROVAL

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 support 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. ATTORNEY'S FEES

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.

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

13. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

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

14. AUTHORIZATION

14.1 The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this document and certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the Party he or she represents to execute

the Consent Judgment on behalf of the Party represented and legally bind that Party. Except as explicitly provided herein each Party is to bear its own fees and costs.

Agreed To:

Agreed To:

Date: 9-16-2020

Date: 9/15/2020

By: Anthony Ferreiro
Anthony Ferreiro

By: Susan Horton
Vacu-Vin Innovations Ltd.