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10
11 Attorney for Defendant,
12 HU PRODUCTS, LLC

13 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

14 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

15 BERJ PARSEGHIAN,

Case No.: 22STCV32049

16 Plaintiff,

[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT AS
17 TO HU PRODUCTS, LLC

v.

18 HU PRODUCTS, LLC

(Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 *et. seq.* and
19 Code Civ. Proc. § 664.6)

Defendant.

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1 **1. INTRODUCTION**

2 **1.1 The Parties**

3 This [Proposed] Consent Judgment is hereby entered into by and between BERJ
4 PARSEGHIAN, acting on behalf of the public interest (hereinafter "PARSEGHIAN") and HU
5 PRODUCTS, LLC (hereinafter "HU PRODUCTS"). Collectively Parseghian and HU
6 PRODUCTS shall be referred to hereafter as the "Parties" and each of them as a "Party." Parseghian
7 is an individual residing in California who seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic
8 chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in
9 consumer products. For the purposes of this Consent Judgment, the Parties agree that HU
10 PRODUCTS is a person in the course of doing business within the meaning of Proposition 65, Cal.
11 Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 et seq.

12 **1.2 Allegations and Representations**

13 Parseghian alleges that Defendant has offered for sale in the State of California and has sold in
14 California, Grain-Free Cookies, which contain lead and expose consumers to this chemical at a level
15 requiring a Proposition 65 warning. Lead is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the
16 State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. Defendant denies
17 the allegations and contends that there is no exposure requiring a warning and no violation under
18 Proposition 65 for an alleged failure to warn.

19 **1.3 Covered Products Description**

20 The products that are covered by this Consent Judgment are defined as: Hu - Grain-Free
21 Cookies, including but not limited to: "Hu - Grain-Free Cookies - Snickerdoodle; UPC #: 8 50009
22 64799 3." All such items shall be referred to herein as the "Covered Products."

23 **1.4 Notice of Violation/Complaint**

24 1.4.1 On or about December 14, 2021, Parseghian served HU PRODUCTS and various
25 public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "60-Day Notice of Violation" pursuant to
26 Health and Safety Code §25249.7(d) (the "Notice"), alleging that HU PRODUCTS was in violation of
27 Proposition 65 for failing to warn consumers and customers that the Covered Products exposed users

1 in California to lead. No public enforcer diligently prosecuted the claims threatened in the Notice
2 within sixty days plus service time relative to the provision of the Notice to them by Parseghian.

3 1.4.2 On September 30, 2022, Parseghian, acting in the interest of the general public in the
4 State of California, filed a complaint in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County alleging
5 violations of Health & Safety Code §25249.6 (the “Complaint”) based on the alleged failure to
6 warn of exposures to lead contained in Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by HU
7 PRODUCTS.

8
9 **1.5 Effective Date and Application of this Consent Judgment**

10 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term “Effective Date” shall mean the date this
11 Consent Judgment is entered as a judgment of the Court. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the
12 term “Compliance Date” shall mean one-hundred and twenty (120) days after the Effective Date.

13 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term “Execution Date” shall mean the date this
14 Consent Judgment is signed by all parties in Clause 16 below. This Consent Judgment may apply to,
15 be binding upon, and benefit the Parties and their respective officers, directors, shareholders,
16 employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, franchisees, licensees, customers,
17 distributors, wholesalers, retailers, predecessors, successors, and assigns. This Consent Judgment shall
18 have no application to any Covered Products that HU PRODUCTS distributes or sells exclusively
19 outside the State of California.

20
21 **2. STIPULATION TO JURISDICTION/NO ADMISSION**

22 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has
23 jurisdiction over HU PRODUCTS as to the allegations contained in the complaint filed in this
24 matter, that venue is proper in the County of Los Angeles, and that this Court has jurisdiction to
25 approve, enter, and oversee the enforcement of this Consent Judgment as a full and final binding
26 resolution of all claims which were or could have been raised in the Complaint based on the facts

1 alleged therein and/or in the Notice.

2 Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by HU PRODUCTS
3 of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment
4 constitute or be construed as an admission by HU PRODUCTS of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue
5 of law, or violation of law, such being specifically denied by HU PRODUCTS, including, but not
6 limited to, any admission related to exposure of failure to warn. However, this section shall not
7 diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities, and duties of HU PRODUCTS under
8 this Consent Judgment.

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10 **3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS, REFORMULATION AND TESTING**

11 **3.1** Beginning on the Compliance Date, HU PRODUCTS shall be permanently enjoined
12 from manufacturing for sale in the State of California, "Distributing into the State of California," or
13 directly selling in the State of California, any Covered Product that expose a person to a "Daily Lead
14 Exposure Level" of more than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day, unless it meets the warning
15 requirements under Section 3.2.

16 **3.1.1** As used in this Consent Judgment, the term "Distributing into the State of California"
17 shall mean to directly ship a Covered Product into California for sale in California or to sell a
18 Covered Product to a distributor that HU PRODUCTS knows or has reason to know will sell the
19 Covered Product in California. The injunctive relief in Section 3 does not apply to any Covered
20 Product that was packaged, distributed, shipped or sold by HU PRODUCTS prior to the
21 Compliance Date. All claims as to such Covered Product are released in this Consent Judgment.

22 **3.1.2** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the "Daily Lead Exposure Level" shall be
23 measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula: micrograms of lead per
24 gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the product (using the largest serving
25 size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings of the product per day (using the largest
26 size appearing on the product label).

1 number of recommended daily servings appearing on the label), which equals micrograms of lead
2 exposure per day. If the label contains no recommended daily servings, then the number of
3 recommended daily servings shall be one.

4 **3.2 Clear and Reasonable Warnings**

5 If HU PRODUCTS is required to provide a warning pursuant to Section 3.1, one of the
6 following warnings must be utilized ("Warning"):

7 **Option 1:**

8 **WARNING:** Consuming this product can expose you to chemicals including lead,
9 which is known to the State of California to cause [cancer and], birth defects or other
10 reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food

11 **Option 2:**

12 **WARNING:** [Cancer and] Reproductive Harm – <http://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/food>

13 HU PRODUCTS shall use the phrase "cancer and" in the Warning if HU PRODUCTS has
14 reason to believe that the "Daily Lead Exposure Level" is greater than 15 micrograms of lead.

15 The Warning shall be provided to California consumers in manner that complies with 27
16 C.C.R. §25602(a). In addition, for any Covered Product sold over the internet by HU PRODUCTS,
17 the Warning shall appear prior to checkout on the primary product page, or as a pop-up when a
18 California zip code is input into the shipping instructions, or on the checkout page in full text or
19 through a clearly marked hyperlink using the word "**WARNING**" in all capital and bold letters when a
20 California delivery address is indicated for any purchase of any Covered Product. If a hyperlink is
21 used, the hyperlink must go directly to a page prominently displaying either the Option 1 Warning or
22 the Option 2 Warning without content that detracts from the Warning. An asterisk or other
23 identifying method must be utilized to identify which products on the checkout page are subject to the
24 Warning.
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26 The Warning shall be at least the same size as the largest of any other health or safety
27 warnings also appearing on the website or on the label and the word "**WARNING**" shall be in all
28

1 capital letters and in bold print. No statements intended to or likely to have the effect of diminishing
2 the impact of the Warning on the average lay person shall accompany the Warning. Further, no
3 statements may accompany the Warning that state or imply that the source of the listed chemical has
4 an impact on or results in a less harmful effect of the listed chemical. For the Option 2 Warning, a
5 symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black
6 outline shall be placed to the left of the text of the Warning, in a size no smaller than the height of the
7 word "**WARNING.**"

8 **HU PRODUCTS** must display or direct consumers to the above Warning with such
9 conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements or designs on the label, or on its website,
10 if applicable, to render the Warning likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under
11 customary conditions of purchase or use of the product.

12 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term "label" means a display of written, printed or
13 graphic material that is printed on or affixed to a **Covered Product** or its immediate container or
14 wrapper.

15 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, when **HU PRODUCTS** is required to provide a
16 warning for a **Covered Product** pursuant to Section 3.1, **HU PRODUCTS** may satisfy the warning
17 requirement by providing the required information in compliance with 27 C.C.R. § 25600.2 (2020) to
18 any business that is subject to Proposition 65 to which it is selling or transferring the **Covered Product**.
19 If subsequently enacted changes to Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations require the use of
20 additional or different information on any warning, the Parties agree that the new safe harbor warning
21 may be utilized in place of the warnings set forth in this Section.

22 If Parseghian alleges that any **Covered Products** fail to adhere to this Consent Judgment, then
23 Parseghian shall inform **HU PRODUCTS** in a reasonably prompt manner of its test results, including
24 information sufficient to permit **HU PRODUCTS** to identify the **Covered Products** at issue and
25 investigate. **HU PRODUCTS** shall, within thirty (30) days following such notice, provide Parseghian
26 with testing information demonstrating **HU PRODUCTS'** compliance with the Consent Judgment, or
27 proof that omission of the Warning was due to the **Covered Products** being sold, manufactured or

1 distributed up to the Compliance Date. The Parties shall first attempt to resolve the matter prior to
2 Parseghian taking any further legal action.

3 **4. PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(b)**

4 With regard to all claims that have been raised or which could be raised with respect to failure
5 to warn pursuant to Proposition 65 with regard to lead in the Covered Products, HU PRODUCTS
6 shall pay a civil penalty of \$4,000.00 pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), to be
7 apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25192, with 75% of these funds
8 remitted to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the
9 remaining 25% of the penalty remitted to Parseghian, as provided by California Health & Safety Code
10 § 25249.12(d) and the instructions directly below.

11 HU PRODUCTS shall issue two separate checks for the penalty payment: (a) one check
12 made payable to "OEHHA" (tax identification number: 68-0284486) in an amount representing 75%
13 of the total penalty (i.e., \$3,000.00 and (b) one check in an amount representing 25% of the total
14 penalty (i.e., \$1,000.00 made payable directly to Parseghian. HU PRODUCTS shall mail these
15 payments within ten (10) business days following the Effective Date, at which time such payments
16 shall be mailed to the following addresses respectively:

17 All payments owed to Plaintiff shall be delivered to the following payment address:
18 **KJT LAW GROUP LLP**
19 **230 N. Maryland Avenue, Suite 306**
Glendale, CA 91206

20 All payments owed to OEHHA shall be delivered directly to OEHHA at the following
21 addresses:

22 For United States Postal Delivery:

23 Mike Gyurics
24 Senior Accounting Officer -- MS 19-B
25 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
P.O. Box 4010
26 Sacramento, CA. 95812-0410

27 For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:

28 Mike Gyurics
Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

1 1001 I Street
2 Sacramento, CA 95814

3 **5. REIMBURSEMENT OF FEES AND COSTS**

4 The parties reached an accord on the compensation due to Parseghian and his counsel under
5 the private attorney general doctrine and principles of contract law. Under these legal principles, HU
6 PRODUCTS shall reimburse Parseghian's counsel for fees and costs, incurred as a result of
7 investigating, bringing this matter to HU PRODUCTS attention, and negotiating a settlement in the
8 public interest. HU PRODUCTS shall pay Parseghian's counsel \$36,000.00 for all attorneys' fees,
9 expert and investigation fees and related costs associated with this matter and the Notice. HU
10 PRODUCTS shall mail a check payable to "KJT Law Group," via certified mail to the address for
11 Parseghian's counsel referenced above within ten (10) business days following the Execution Date.
12 Other than the payment required hereunder, each side is to bear its own attorneys' fees and costs.

13 **6. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

14 **6.1 Parseghian's Release of HU PRODUCTS, Releasees, and Downstream Releasees**

15 As to those matters raised in the Complaint and in the Notice of Violation, Parseghian, on
16 behalf of herself, and on behalf of the public interest, hereby waives and releases any and all claims
17 against HU PRODUCTS its parent companies, corporate affiliates, subsidiaries, predecessors,
18 successors and assigns (collectively "Releasees") and each of its distributors, wholesalers, licensors,
19 licensees, auctioneers, retailers, including but not limited to Nowhere Partners Corp, franchisees,
20 dealers, customers, owners, purchasers, users (collectively "Downstream Releasees") and their
21 respective officers, directors, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, agents, and employees, and
22 sister and parent entities for injunctive relief or damages, penalties, fines, sanctions, mitigation, fees
23 (including fees of attorneys, experts, and others), costs, expenses, or any other sum incurred or
24 claimed, for the alleged failure of HU PRODUCTS, Releasees or Downstream Releasees to provide
25 clear, accurate and reasonable warnings under Proposition 65 about exposure to lead arising from the
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1 sale, distribution, or use of any Covered Products sold, manufactured or distributed by HU
 2 PRODUCTS, Releasees or Downstream Releasees in California prior to the Compliance Date.
 3 Compliance with the Consent Judgment by HU PRODUCTS or a Releasee shall constitute
 4 compliance with Proposition 65 by that HU PRODUCTS, Releasee, or Downstream Releasee with
 5 respect to the presence of lead in the Covered Products. Plaintiff agrees that any and all claims in the
 6 Complaint are resolved with prejudice by this Consent Judgment.

7
 8 In addition to the foregoing, Parseghian, on behalf of herself, her past and current agents,
 9 representatives, attorneys, and successors and/or assignees, and not in her representative capacity,
 10 hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and
 11 releases any other Claims that he could make against HU PRODUCTS, Releasees or Downstream
 12 Releasees arising up to the Compliance Date with respect to violations of Proposition 65 based upon
 13 the Covered Products. With respect to the foregoing waivers and releases in this paragraph,
 14 Parseghian hereby specifically waives any and all rights and benefits which he now has, or in the
 15 future may have, conferred by virtue of the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code,
 16 which provides as follows:

17
 18 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE
 19 CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS FAVOR
 20 AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY
 HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTION HIS OR HER
 SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

21 **6.2 HU PRODUCTS's Release of Parseghian**

22 HU PRODUCTS waives any and all claims against Parseghian, her attorneys and other
 23 representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken
 24 or made) by Parseghian and her attorneys and other representatives, in the course of investigating
 25 claims or otherwise seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against them in this matter, and/or with
 26 respect to the Covered Products.

27 **7. SEVERABILITY AND MERGER**

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

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.

8. 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. Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment resolves any issue, now or in the future, as to the requirements of Proposition 65 with respect to alleged exposures to lead arising from the Covered Products. 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 HU PRODUCTS shall provide written notice to Parseghian of any asserted change in the law, and shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and to the extent that, the Covered Products are so affected.

9. NOTICES

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 HU PRODUCTS, LLC:

Abhishek K. Gurnani
Amin Talati Wasserman, LLP
100 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 2000
Chicago, IL 60606

1 Telephone: 312.327.3325
2 Email: abhishek@amintalati.com and

3 For Parseghian:

4 Tro Krikorian, Esq.
5 **KJT LAW GROUP, LLP**
6 230 N. Maryland Ave. Suite 306
7 Glendale, CA 91206
8 Phone: 818-507-8528
9 Fax: 818-507-8588

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

12 10. DRAFTING

13 The terms of this Consent Judgment have been reviewed by the respective counsel for each
14 Party prior to its signing, and each Party has had an opportunity to fully discuss the terms and
15 conditions with legal counsel. The Parties agree that, in any subsequent interpretation and
16 construction of this Consent Judgment, no inference, assumption, or presumption shall be drawn,
17 and no provision of this Consent Judgment shall be construed against any Party, based on the fact that
18 one of the Parties and/or one of the Parties' legal counsel prepared and/or drafted all or any portion
19 of the Consent Judgment. It is conclusively presumed that all of the Parties participated equally in the
20 preparation and drafting of this Consent Judgment.

21 11. COUNTERPARTS; EMAIL OR FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

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

25 12. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)/COURT APPROVAL

26 Parseghian agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health & Safety
27 Code §25249.7(f) and to promptly bring a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment and HU
28 PRODUCTS shall not oppose approval of such Motion.

1 This Consent Judgment shall not be effective until it is approved and entered by the Court
2 and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved and entered by the Court within twelve
3 months after it has been fully executed by the Parties.

4 **13. MODIFICATION**

5 This Consent Judgment may be modified only by further stipulation of the Parties and the
6 approval of the Court or upon the granting of a motion brought to the Court by either Party. In the
7 event that Proposition 65 is repealed or preempted as to food products, then HU PRODUCTS shall
8 have no further obligation pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and to the extent that
9 the Covered Products are so affected.

10 **14. ATTORNEY'S FEES**

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

16 **15. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

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

19 **16. AUTHORIZATION**

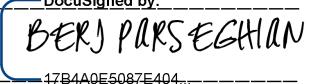
20 Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the Party
21 he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment.

1 **STIPULATED AND AGREED TO:**

2 Date: 11/30/2022

3 By: _____

DocuSigned by:


BERJ PARSEGHIAN
47B4A0E5087E404

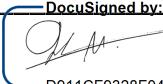
4 BERJ PARSEGHIAN

5 **APPROVED AS TO FROM:**

6 Date: 11/30/2022

7 By: _____

DocuSigned by:


D911CF0328F0472

8 **TRO KRIKORIAN, ESQ.**
9 ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF,
10 BERJ PARSEGHIAN

11 **IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:**

12 Dated: _____

13 Date: 11/23/2022

14 By: _____

DocuSigned by:
Mark Ramadan
ACC2B03E646EAB5

15 Mark Ramadan

16 [print name]
17 HU PRODUCTS, LLC

18 Date: 11/29/2022

19 By: 

20 **JENNIFER ADAMS, ESQ.**
21 ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT,
22 HU PRODUCTS, LLC

23 _____
24 Judge of the Superior Court

KJT LAW GROUP LLP
Ji Valagian | Thomasssian