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8
9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10 COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

11 EMA BELL,
12 Plaintiff,
13 v.
14 SELECT SPORT AMERICA, INC.,
15 Defendant.

Case No.: CGC-22-599673
CONSENT JUDGMENT
Judge: Richard B. Ulmer
Dept.: 302
Hearing Date: January 20, 2023
Hearing Time: 9:30 AM
Complaint Filed: 5/18/22

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1 **1. INTRODUCTION**

2 1.1 **The Parties.** This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Erna Bell acting
3 on behalf of the public interest (hereinafter “Bell”) and Select Sport America, Inc. (“Select Sport”
4 or “Defendant”) with Bell and Defendant collectively referred to as the “Parties” and each of them
5 as a “Party.” Bell is an individual residing in California that seeks to promote awareness of
6 exposures to toxic chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous
7 substances contained in consumer products. Select Sport is alleged to be a person in the course of
8 doing business for purposes of Proposition 65, Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 et seq.

9 1.2 **Allegations and Representations.** Bell alleges that Defendant has exposed
10 individuals to di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) from its sales of Select Coaches Match Day Ball
11 Bags, UPC#5703543990023, without providing a clear and reasonable exposure warning pursuant
12 to Proposition 65. DEHP is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of
13 California to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity.

14 1.3 **Notice of Violation/Complaint.** On or about January 6, 2022, Bell served Select
15 Sport, Anthem Sports, LLC, and various public enforcement agencies with documents entitled “60-
16 Day Notice of Violation” pursuant to Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d) (the “Notice”), alleging
17 that Defendant violated Proposition 65 for failing to warn consumers and customers that use of
18 Select Coaches Match Day Ball Bags, UPC#5703543990023, expose users in California to DEHP.
19 No public enforcer has brought and is diligently prosecuting the claims alleged in the Notice. On
20 May 18, 2022, Bell filed a complaint (the “Complaint”) in the matter.

21 1.4 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has
22 jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations contained in the Complaint filed in this matter, that
23 venue is proper in the County of San Francisco, and that this Court has jurisdiction to approve,
24 enter, and oversee the enforcement of this Consent Judgment as a full and final binding resolution
25 of all claims which were or could have been raised in the Complaint based on the facts alleged
26 therein and/or in the Notice.

1 1.5 Defendant denies the material allegations contained in Bell’s Notice and Complaint
2 and maintains that it has not violated Proposition 65. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be
3 construed as an admission by Defendant of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of law; nor
4 shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by
5 Defendant of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation of law, such being specifically
6 denied by Defendant. However, this section shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations,
7 responsibilities, and duties of Defendant under this Consent Judgment.

8 **2. DEFINITIONS**

9 2.1 **Covered Products.** The term “Covered Products” means Select Coaches Match
10 Day Ball Bags, UPC#5703543990023, that are manufactured, distributed and/or offered for sale in
11 California by Select Sport.

12 2.2 **Effective Date.** The term “Effective Date” means the date this Consent Judgment is
13 entered as a Judgment of the Court.

14 **3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: WARNINGS**

15 3.1 **Reformulation of Covered Products.** As of the date this Consent Judgment is
16 signed by both Parties, and continuing thereafter, Covered Products that Select Sport directly
17 manufactures, imports, distributes, sells, or offers for sale in California shall either: (a) be
18 Reformulated Products pursuant to § 3.2, below; or (b) be labeled with a clear and reasonable
19 exposure warning pursuant to §§ 3.3 and 3.4, below. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, a
20 “Reformulated Product” is a Covered Product that is in compliance with the standard set forth in §
21 3.2 below. The warning requirement set forth in §§ 3.3 and 3.4 shall not apply to any Reformulated
22 Product.

23 3.2 **Reformulation Standard.** “Reformulated Products” shall mean Covered Products
24 that contain concentrations less than or equal to 0.1% (1,000 parts per million (ppm)) of DEHP
25 when analyzed pursuant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency testing methodologies 3580A
26 and 8270C or other methodology utilized by federal or state government agencies for the purpose
27 of determining the phthalate content in a solid substance.

1 **3.3 Clear and Reasonable Warning.** As of the date this Consent Judgment is signed
2 by both Parties, and continuing thereafter, a clear and reasonable exposure warning as set forth in
3 this §§ 3.3 and 3.4 must be provided for all Covered Products that Defendant manufacturers,
4 imports, distributes, sells, or offers for sale in California that is not a Reformulated Product. There
5 shall be no obligation for Defendant to provide a warning for Covered Products that enter the stream
6 of commerce prior to the date this Consent Judgment is signed by both Parties. The warning shall
7 consist of either the **Warning** or **Alternative Warning** described in §§ 3.3(a) or (b), respectively:

8 (a) **Warning.** The “Warning” shall consist of the statement:

9 **⚠ WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including di(2-
10 ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), which is known to the State of California to cause
11 cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to
www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

12 (b) **Alternative Warning:** Select Sport may, but is not required to, use the alternative
13 short-form warning as set forth in this § 3.3(b) (“**Alternative Warning**”) as follows:

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

15 **3.4 A Warning or Alternative Warning** provided pursuant to § 3.3 must print the word
16 “**WARNING:**” in all capital letters and in bold font, followed by a colon. The warning symbol to
17 the left of the word “**WARNING:**” must be a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral
18 triangle with a black outline, except that if the sign or label for the Covered Product does not use
19 the color yellow, the symbol may be in black and white. The symbol must be in a size no smaller
20 than the height of the word “**WARNING:**”. The warning shall be affixed to or printed on the
21 Covered Product’s packaging or labeling, or on a placard, shelf tag, sign or electronic device or
22 automatic process, providing that the warning is displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared
23 with other words, statements, or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an
24 ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use. A warning may be contained
25 in the same section of the packaging, labeling, or instruction booklet that states other safety
26 warnings, if any, concerning the use of the Covered Product and shall be at least the same size as
27 those other safety warnings.

1 If Select Sport sells Covered Products via an internet website to customers located in
2 California, the warning requirements of this section shall be satisfied if the foregoing warning
3 appears either: (a) on the same web page on which a Covered Product is displayed and/or described;
4 (b) on the same page as the price for the Covered Product; or (c) on one or more web pages
5 displayed to a purchaser prior to purchase during the checkout process. Alternatively, a symbol
6 consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow or white equilateral triangle may appear adjacent
7 to or immediately following the display, description, price, or checkout listing of the Covered
8 Product, if the warning statement appears elsewhere on the same web page in a manner that clearly
9 associates it with the product(s) to which the warning applies. Select Sport shall instruct any third
10 party internet sellers to provide the warning as a condition of sale of the Products.

11 **3.5 Compliance with Warning Regulations.** Defendant shall be deemed to be in
12 compliance with this Consent Judgment by either adhering to §§ 3.3 and 3.4 of this Consent
13 Judgment or by complying with warning requirements adopted by the State of California's Office
14 of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") applicable to the product and the
15 exposure at issue after the Effective Date

16 **4. MONETARY TERMS**

17 **4.1 Civil Penalty.** Select Sport shall pay \$2,000.00 as a Civil Penalty pursuant to Health
18 and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), to be apportioned in accordance with California Health &
19 Safety Code § 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with 75% of these funds remitted to OEHHA and the
20 remaining 25% of the Civil Penalty remitted to Bell, as provided by California Health & Safety
21 Code § 25249.12(d).

22 **4.1.1** Within ten (10) days of the Effective Date, Select Sport shall issue two
23 separate checks for the Civil Penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$1,500.00; and
24 to (b) "Brodsky & Smith in Trust for Bell" in the amount of \$500.00. Payment owed to Bell
25 pursuant to this Section shall be delivered to the following payment address:

26 Evan J. Smith, Esquire
27 Brodsky & Smith
28 Two Bala Plaza, Suite 805
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

1 Payment owed to OEHHA (EIN: 68-0284486) pursuant to this Section shall be delivered directly
2 to OEHHA (Memo Line "Prop 65 Penalties") at one of the following address(es):

3 For United States Postal Service Delivery:

4 Mike Gyurics
5 Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
6 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
7 P.O. Box 4010
8 Sacramento, CA 95812-4010

9 For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:

10 Mike Gyurics
11 Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
12 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
13 1001 I Street
14 Sacramento, CA 95814

15 A copy of the check payable to OEHHA shall be mailed to Brodsky & Smith at the address set
16 forth above as proof of payment to OEHHA.

17 4.2 **Attorneys' Fees.** Within ten (10) days of the Effective Date, Select Sport shall pay
18 \$25,500.00 to Brodsky & Smith ("Brodsky & Smith") as complete reimbursement for Bell's
19 attorneys' fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, bringing this matter to Select Sport
20 attention, litigating and negotiating and obtaining judicial approval of a settlement in the public
21 interest, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

22 **5. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

23 5.1 This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between Bell acting
24 on her own behalf, and on behalf of the public interest, and Select Sport, and its parents,
25 shareholders, members, directors, officers, managers, employees, representatives, agents,
26 attorneys, divisions, subdivisions, subsidiaries, partners, sister companies, and affiliates, and their
27 predecessors, successors and assigns ("Defendant Releasees"), and all entities from whom they
28 obtain and to whom they directly or indirectly distribute or sell Covered Products, including but
not limited to manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, customers, licensors, licensees
retailers, franchisees, and cooperative members ("Downstream Releasees"), of all claims for
violations of Proposition 65 based on exposure to DEHP from use of the Covered Products as set

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forth in the Notice, with respect to any Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Select Sport prior to the Effective Date. It is the Parties' intention that this Consent Judgment shall have preclusive effect such that no other actions by private enforcers, whether purporting to act in his, her, or its interests or the public interest shall be permitted to pursue and/or take any action with respect to any violation of Proposition 65 based on exposure to DEHP that was alleged in the Complaint, or that could have been brought pursuant to the Notice against Select Sport and/or the Downstream Releasees of the Covered Products ("Proposition 65 Claims").

5.2 In addition to the foregoing, Bell, on behalf of herself, her past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, and successors and/or assignees, and *not* in her representative capacity, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases Select Sport, Defendant Releasees, and Downstream 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 exposure to DEHP from Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Select Sport, Defendant Releasees or Downstream Releasees. With respect to the foregoing waivers and releases in this paragraph, Bell 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 § 1542 of the California 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.

5.3 Select Sport waives any and all claims against Bell, her attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken, or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Bell and her attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of

1 investigating claims or otherwise seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against it in this matter,
2 and/or with respect to exposure to DEHP from Covered Products.

3 **6. INTEGRATION**

4 6.1 This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement of the Parties and all
5 prior negotiations and understandings related hereto shall be deemed to have been merged within
6 it. No representations or terms of agreement other than those contained herein exist or have been
7 made by any Party with respect to the other Party or the subject matter hereof.

8 **7. GOVERNING LAW**

9 7.1 The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of
10 California and apply within the State of California. If Proposition 65 is repealed or is otherwise
11 rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to Covered Products, then Defendant shall
12 have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment with respect to, and to the extent
13 that, Covered Products are so affected.

14 **8. NOTICES**

15 8.1 Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required to be provided
16 pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be in writing and personally delivered or sent by: (i) first-
17 class, (registered or certified mail) return receipt requested; or (ii) overnight courier on any party
18 by the other party at the following addresses:

19 For Defendant:

20 Thomas Thorup
21 Thomas Thorup Law
22 1629 K Street N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20006, USA

23 And

24 For Bell:

25 Evan Smith
26 Brodsky & Smith
27 9595 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 900
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

28 Any party, from time to time, may specify in writing to the other party a change of address to

1 which all notices and other communications shall be sent.

2 **9. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES**

3 9.1 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts and by facsimile, each of
4 which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and
5 the same document.

6 **10. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)/COURT**
7 **APPROVAL**

8 10.1 Bell agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health & Safety
9 Code § 25249.7(f) and to promptly bring a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment.
10 Defendant agrees it shall support approval of such Motion.

11 10.2 This Consent Judgment shall not be effective until it is approved and entered by the
12 Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved by the Court. In such case, the
13 Parties agree to meet and confer on how to proceed and if such agreement is not reached within 30
14 days, the case shall proceed on its normal course.

15 10.3 If the Court approves this Consent Judgment and is reversed or vacated by an
16 appellate court, the Parties shall meet and confer as to whether to modify the terms of this Consent
17 Judgment. If the Parties do not jointly agree on a course of action to take, the case shall proceed on
18 its normal course on the trial court's calendar.

19 **11. MODIFICATION**

20 11.1 This Consent Judgment may be modified only by further stipulation of the Parties
21 and the approval of the Court or upon the granting of a motion brought to the Court by either Party.

22 **12. ATTORNEY'S FEES**

23 12.1 A Party who unsuccessfully brings or contests an action arising out of this Consent
24 Judgment shall be required to pay the prevailing party's reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

25 12.2 Nothing in this Section shall preclude a Party from seeking an award of sanctions
26 pursuant to law.

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13. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

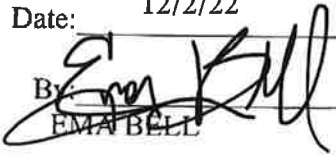
13.1 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement or modify the Consent Judgment.


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 certify 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: 12/2/22
By: 
EMABELL

Date: 12/9 - 2022
By: CEO 
SELECT SPORT AMERICA, INC.

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

Dated: _____

Judge of Superior Court