1	George Rikos (State Bar No. 204864)				
2	LAW OFFICES OF GEORGE RIKOS 555 West Beech Street, Suite 500				
3	San Diego, California 92101 Telephone: (858) 342-9161				
4	Facsimile: (858) 724-1453 Email: george@gerorgerikoslaw.com				
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff,				
6	Blue Water Cosaint, LLC				
7					
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO				
9					
10	BLUE WATER COSAINT, LLC, a limited	Case No. 37-2023-00020396-CU-MC-CTL			
11	liability company	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT			
12	Plaintiff, v.				
13	ISLAND SNACKS, Inc. a California corporation;				
14	and DOES 1 through 10				
15	DEFENDANT.				
16					
17	1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>				
18		nent ("Consent Judgment") is entered into by			
19		("PLAINTIFF") and Island Snacks,			
20	Inc.("DEFENDANT"). Together, PLAINTIFF an	d DEFENDANT are collectively referred to as			
21	the "Parties." PLAINTIFF is person pursuant to Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, et seq. and				
22	seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and to improve human health by				
22	reducing or eliminating hazardous substances cont	ained in consumer products. DEFENDANT is			
23 24	a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic				
24 25	Enforcement Act of 1986, Cal. Health & Safety Co	ode § 25249.6, et seq. ("Proposition 65").			
<i>_J</i>					

1.2 General Allegations. PLAINTIFF allege that Lead is listed pursuant to Proposition65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm.

PLAINTIFF alleges DEFENDANT has exposed individuals to Lead from its sales of Island Snacks Chili Mango without first providing users and consumers of the product with a clear and reasonable cancer warning as required pursuant to Proposition 65.

1.3 Product Description. The products covered by this Consent Judgment are Island Snacks Chili Mango, including, without limitation, all varieties and pack sizes of Island Snacks Chili Mango (the "Products") that have been manufactured, imported, distributed, offered for sale, and/or sold in California by DEFENDANT or its affiliates.

8 1.4 Notice of Violation, Complaint, and Jurisdiction. On October 12, 2022 9 PLAINTIFF served DEFENDANT and various public enforcement agencies with a document 10 entitled "Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq." (the "Notice"). 11 The Notice provided DEFENDANT and such others, including public enforcers, with notice that 12 alleged that DEFENDANT was in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn California 13 consumers and customers that use of the Products will expose them to lead. No public enforcer 14 has diligently prosecuted the allegations set forth in the Notice. On May 12, 2023, based on the 15 Notice and the absence of any authorized public prosecutor of Proposition 65 having filed a suit 16 based on the allegations contained therein, PLAINTIFF filed a complaint in the Superior Court of 17 and for San Diego County (the "Court"), Case No. 37-2023-00020396-CU-MC-CTL (the 18 "Action"). For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the Parties stipulate the Court has jurisdiction 19 over the allegations in the Complaint and personal jurisdiction over DEFENDANT, that venue is 20 proper in the County of San Diego, and that the Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent 21 Judgment as a full and final resolution of the claims and allegations which were or could have been 22 raised in the Action based on the facts alleged therein and/or in the Notice.

- 1.5 No Admission. This Consent Judgment resolves claims that are denied and
 disputed. The Parties enter into this Consent Judgment as a full and final resolution of any and all
 claims between the Parties for the purpose of avoiding prolonged litigation. DEFENDANT denies
 each and every material allegation contained in the Notices and the Action and maintains that it
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has not violated Proposition 65 and/or is not subject to that law. 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 1.5 shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities, and duties of DEFENDANT under this Consent Judgment.

1.6 Effective Date. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term "Effective Date"
shall mean the date this Consent Judgment has been approved by the Court and PLAINTIFF have
provided notice to DEFENDANT that it has been entered in the Court's records as a consent
judgment. As for the Injunctive Relief as described in Section 2 of this Consent Judgment,
Defendant shall have 90 days following the Effective Date to either achieve the Reformulation
Level or comply with Proposition 65 Warning Regulations.

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INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

14 2.1 Reformulation or alternatively Compliance with Proposition 65 Warning 15 Regulations.

As of 90 days following the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, any Products
Defendant elects to manufacture, import, distribute, sell, or offer for sale in California
manufactured after the Effective Date shall not exceed the "Daily Lead Exposure Level" of more
than 0.5 micrograms of Lead per day. ("Reformulation Level"). This shall be based on the single
serving size of 28 grams as identified on the package of the Product.

Alternatively to achieving the Reformulation Level, as of 90 days following the Effective
Date, and continuing thereafter, a clear and reasonable exposure warning as set forth in this §§
2.1 and 2.2 must be provided for the Products at issue in this lawsuit that Island Snacks
manufacturers, imports, distributes, sells, or offers for sale in California. There shall be no
obligation for such an exposure warning to be provided for Products that entered the stream of
commerce prior to the Effective Date. The warning shall consist of either the Warning or

Alternative Warning described in §§ 2.1(a) or (b), respectively:

(a) Warning. The "Warning" shall consist of the statement:

WARNING: Consuming this product can expose you to Lead which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to <u>www.P65Warnings.ca.gov</u>/food;

(b) Alternative Warning: Island Snacks may, but are not required to, use the alternative short-form warning as set forth in this § 2.3(b) ("Alternative Warning") as follows:
 WARNING: Cancer & Reproductive Harm - <u>www.P65Warnings.ca.gov</u>/food.

9 2.2 A Warning or Alternative Warning provided pursuant to $\S 2.1$ must have the 10 term "WARNING:" printed in all capital letters and in bold font. The warning symbol to the left 11 of the word "WARNING:" must be a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle 12 with a black outline, except that if the label for the Products does not use the color yellow, the 13 symbol may be in black and white. The symbol must be in a size no smaller than the height of 14 the word "WARNING:". The warning shall be affixed to or printed on the Products' packaging 15 or labeling and must be set off from other surrounding information, enclosed in a box, and 16 displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, or designs as to 17 render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions 18 of purchase or use. Where a specific food product sign, label, or shelf tag used to provide a 19 warning includes consumer information in a language other than English, the warning must also 20 be provided in that language in addition to English.

2.3 Compliance with Warning Regulations. Defendant shall be deemed to be in
22 compliance with this Settlement Agreement by either adhering to §§ 2.1 and 2.2 of this
23 Settlement Agreement or by complying with warning requirements adopted by the State of
24 California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") that are applicable
25 to this product and the chemicals at issue here. In the event that the Office of Environmental
26 Health Hazard Assessment promulgates one or more regulations requiring or permitting warning

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2 entitled to use, at its discretion, such other warning text and/or method of transmission without 3 being deemed in breach of this Agreement. If regulations or legislation are enacted or issued 4 providing that a Proposition 65 warning for the product no longer is required, the Defendants 5 may seek a modification of the consent judgment from the court which may be done by way of 6 stipulation with forty-five days notice to the California Attorney General's Office. 7 Alternative to Warning. For Product not packaged by Defendants but 2.4. 8 sold in bulk, Defendant may as the manufacturer of the Product, provide a written 9 notice directly to the authorized agent for a distributor or retail seller who is subject 10

to Section 25249.6 of the Act, which: (1) States that the product may result in an 11 exposure to one or more listed chemicals; (2) Includes the exact name or description of 12 the product or specific identifying information for the product such as a Universal 13 Product Code or other identifying designation; (3) Includes all necessary warning 14 materials such as labels, labeling, shelf signs or tags, and warning language for products 15 sold on the Internet, that satisfies Section 25249.6 of the Act; (4) Be renewed annually 16 during the period in which the product is sold in California,

text and/or methods of transmission different than those set forth herein, Defendant shall be

17 If Defendants are providing a written notice pursuant to this subsection, receipt of 18 the notice must be received electronically or in writing from the authorized agent to 19 whom Defendants sent the notice.

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2.5 **Internet Warnings**

If, after the Effective Date, Defendant sells Products, via the internet, through its 22 own website, affiliated websites or a third party website, to consumers located in California 23 or to customers with nationwide distribution and e-commerce websites, Defendant shall 24 provide warnings for each Product both on the Product label in accordance with Section 2, 25 and by prominently displaying, or requiring the warning to be prominently displayed on 26 affiliated websites, third party websites or by retail customers, to the consumer during the

CONSENT JUDGMENT

1 purchase of the Products without requiring customers to seek out the warning. The warning 2 or a clearly marked hyperlink to the warning using the word "WARNING" given in 3 conjunction with the sale of the Products via the internet shall appear either: (a) on the 4 same web page on which the Products are displayed; (b) on the same web page as the 5 virtual cart displaying the Products; (c) on the same page as the price for the Products; or 6 (d) on one or more web pages displayed to a purchaser during the checkout process. The 7 warning shall appear in any of the above instances adjacent to or immediately following 8 the display, description, or price of the Products for which it is given in the same type size 9 or larger than other consumer information provided for the Products. To the extent that the 10 current Proposition 65 requirements for Internet Warnings are changed, Defendant may 11 elect to adhere to any such changes in lieu of that which is set forth herein. Where 12 Defendant sells, ships, or distributes Products to third-party retailers or e-commerce 13 marketplaces, Defendant will advise them, in writing, of the internet Warning requirements 14 under this Agreement as a condition of sale of the Products.

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CONSENT JUDGMENT PAYMENTS

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3.1 Civil Penalties

17 DEFENDANT shall pay \$4,500 as a civil penalty, allocated in accordance with Cal. Health 18 & Safety Code §§ 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with 75% of the penalty to be remitted to the California 19 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining 25% of the 20 Penalty remitted to PLAINTIFF no later than ten (10) business days following the Effective Date. 21 More specifically, DEFENDANT shall issue two separate checks for the civil penalty payment to 22 (a) "Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment" in the amount of \$3,375 (75%); and to 23 (b) "Law Offices of George Rikos in Trust" in the amount of \$1,125 (25%). Within ten (10) 24 business days of the Effective Date, DEFENDANT shall deliver these payments as follows:

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(i) The penalty payment owed to PLAINTIFF shall be delivered to the following address:

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George Rikos 1 Law Offices of George Rikos 555 West Beech, Suite 500 2 San Diego, CA 92101 3 The penalty payment owed to OEHHA (EIN: 68-0284486) shall be (ii) 4 delivered directly to OEHHA (Memo Line "Prop 65 Penalties") at the following address: 5 Mike Gyurics **Fiscal Operations Branch Chief** 6 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment Attn. Prop 65 Penalties – PLAINTIFF v. DEFENDANT Consent Judgment 7 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 8 9 DEFENDANT shall provide PLAINTIFF's counsel with a copy of the check it sends to OEHHA 10 with its penalty payment to PLAINTIFF. In association with the issuance of the payments under 11 this Consent Judgment, DEFENDANT will issue IRS 1099 forms as appropriate given the payees. 12 3.2 **Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs** 13 Within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date, DEFENDANT shall reimburse 14 PLAINTIFF' counsel \$34,000 for fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating and bringing 15 this matter to DEFENDANT's attention, negotiating a Consent Judgment in the public interest, 16 and obtaining the Court's approval of the Consent Judgment and its entry as a consent judgment. 17 DEFENDANT shall issue a check for this amount payable to "Law Offices of George Rikos" and 18 deliver it to the address identified in Section 3.1 above. DEFENDANT's payment obligations 19 shall be tolled until it receives an IRS W-9 form for this payee. 20 4. MATTERS COVERED BY THIS CONSENT JUDGMENT 21 4.1 Release of DEFENDANT and Downstream Customers and Entities. This 22 Consent Judgment is a full, final and binding resolution between PLAINTIFF, acting on his own 23 behalf and in the public interest, and DEFENDANT of any violation of Proposition 65 that was or 24 could have been asserted by PLAINTIFF or on behalf of his past and current agents, 25 representatives, attorneys, predecessors, successors, and/or assigns (collectively, "Releasors") for 26 failure to provide warnings for alleged exposures to lead contained in the Products, and Releasors

1 hereby release any such claims against DEFENDANT and their parents, shareholders, members, 2 directors, officers, managers, employees, representatives, agents, attorneys, divisions, 3 subdivisions, subsidiaries, partners, sister companies, and affiliates, and their predecessors, 4 successors, and assigns (collectively, "DEFENDANT Releasees"), and each entity to whom 5 DEFENDANT directly or indirectly distributes or sells the Products, including but not limited to, 6 downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, and retailers, and their respective subsidiaries, 7 affiliates and parents, franchisees, cooperative members, and licensees (collectively, "Downstream 8 Releasees"), from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 with respect to any Products 9 manufactured, distributed, and/or sold by DEFENDANT prior to the Effective Date based on 10 failure to warn of alleged exposure to the chemical lead from the Products.

4.2 DEFENDANT' Release of PLAINTIFF. DEFENDANT, on behalf of
themselves, their past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees,
hereby waives any and all claims against PLAINTIFF, their attorneys, and other representatives,
for any and all actions taken or statements made by PLAINTIFF and/or his attorneys and other
representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce
Proposition 65 against it in this matter.

17 4.3 Deemed Compliance with Proposition 65. Compliance by DEFENDANT with
 18 this Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposure to lead
 19 from the Products. Products distributed by DEFENDANT prior to the Effective Date may be sold
 20 through as previously manufactured and labeled.

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ENTRY OF CONSENT JUDGMENT

The Parties hereby request that the Court promptly enter this Consent Judgment as a consent judgment based on the motion for its approval PLAINTIFF will be making pursuant to Section 10 below. Upon entry of the Consent Judgment as a consent judgment, PLAINTIFF and DEFENDANT waive their respective rights to a hearing or trial on the allegations contained in the Complaint.

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6. <u>SEVERABILITY</u>

If, subsequent to the execution of this Consent Judgment, any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are deemed by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions remaining shall not be adversely affected but only to the extent the deletion of the provision deemed unenforceable does not materially affect, or otherwise result in the effect of the Consent Judgment being contrary to, the intent of the Parties in entering into this Consent Judgment.

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GOVERNING LAW/ENFORCEMENT

10 The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the law of the State of California 11 and apply within the State of California. The rights to enforce the terms of this Consent Judgment 12 are exclusively conferred on the Parties hereto. Any Party may, after providing sixty (60) days' 13 written notice and meeting and conferring within a reasonable time thereafter to attempt to resolve 14 any issues, by motion or application for an order to show cause before this Court, enforce the terms 15 and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. In the event that Proposition 65 or its 16 regulations applicable to the Products are repealed, or are otherwise rendered inapplicable or 17 invalid, including but not limited to by reason of law generally, due to federal preemption, or the 18 First Amendment commercial speech rights of the U.S. Constitution, as determined by a court of 19 competent jurisdiction of an agency of the federal government, then DEFENDANT shall provide 20 written notice to PLAINTIFF of any asserted repeal or determination. Upon DEFENDANT's 21 written notice, DEFENDANT shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Consent Judgment 22 to the extent such repeal or determination affects DEFENDANT's obligations with respect to the 23 Product.

24 8. <u>NOTICES</u>

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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

CONSENT JUDGMENT

(registered or certified mail) return receipt requested; or (ii) overnight or two-day courier on any

Party by the other Party to the following addresses:

For DEFENDANT:

Samuel Yu, Esq. Kahana Field 2603 Main Street, Suite 900 Irvine, CA 92614

For PLAINTIFF:

George Rikos, Esq. Law Offices of George Rikos 555 West Beech, Suite 500 San Diego, CA 92101

Either 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. <u>COUNTERPARTS: SIGNATURES</u>

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

10. <u>COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)</u>

PLAINTIFF agrees to comply with the reporting requirements referenced in Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7(f) and to seek, by formal and properly noticed motion (including with service to the Office of the California Attorney General being fully effectuated at least forty-five (45) days prior to a requested hearing thereon), approval of this Consent Judgment's terms pursuant to Proposition 65 and its associated entry as a consent judgment by the Court.

11. MODIFICATION

Unless otherwise provided for herein, this Consent Judgment may be modified only by a written agreement of the Parties and the approval of the Court or upon a duly noticed motion of either Party for good cause shown. Any proposed modification shall be sent to the Office of the California Attorney General in advance of its submission to the Court such that the Attorney General has a reasonable opportunity to review and comment thereon.

12. <u>ENTIRE AGREEMENT</u>

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. This Consent Judgment shall have no effect if it is not approved by the Court and entered as a consent judgment.

13. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Date:	Date: July 16, 2024
By: George Rikos Counsel to PLAINTIFF	By: Samuel Yu Samuel Yu Counsel for DEFENDANT
AGREED TO:	AGREED TO:
Date:	_ Date:
By:	By:
By: PLAINTIFF Blue Water Cosaint, LLC	By: DEFENDANT Island Snacks, Inc.
	ND DECREED THAT THE CONSENT SHALL PROMPTLY BE ENTERED AS A
CONSENT JUDGMENT BY THIS C	
DATED:	
	JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
	NSENT JUDGMENT
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General has a reasonable opportunity to review and comment thereon.

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12	APPROVED AS TO FORM:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
13	Date: 7/16/24	Date: July 16, 2024	
14	- 0 0.1	JIM	
15	By: George Rikos George Rikos	By: Samuel Yu	
16	Counsel to PLAINTIFF	Counsel for DEFENDANT	
17	AGREED TO:	AGREED TO:	
18	Date: 7/16/22 Da	ate:	
19	0 0 1 1 7		
20		y:	
21	PLAINTIFF // Blue Water Cosaint, LLC	DEFENDANT Island Snacks, Inc.	
22		•	
23	IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT THE CONSENT JUDGMENT SET FORTH ABOVE SHALL PROMPTLY BE ENTERED AS A		
24	CONSENT JUDGMENT BY THIS COURT:		
25	DATED:		
26	π	JDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT	
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28	CONSENT	JUDGMENT	
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Date:

By:

Date:

George Rikos By: Counsel to PLAINTIFF

Samuel Yu Counsel for DEFENDANT

AGREED TO:

AGREED TO:

Date:

By:

Date: 7/15/24 By: NISIM BARA

PLAINTIFF Blue Water Cosaint, LLC

DEFENDANT Island Snacks, Inc.

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT THE CONSENT JUDGMENT SET FORTH ABOVE SHALL PROMPTLY BE ENTERED AS A CONSENT JUDGMENT BY THIS COURT:

DATED:

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

CONSENT JUDGMENT