

1 Joseph R. Manning, Jr., Esq. (Bar No. 223381)
p65@manninglaw.com
2 **MANNING LAW, APC**
26100 Towne Center Drive
3 Foothill Ranch, CA 92610
4 *Tel: (949) 200-8755*
Fax: (866) 843-8308

5 *Attorney for Plaintiff*
6 *Keep America Safe and Beautiful, Inc.*

7
8 Kristin Larson, Esq. (Bar No. 218716)
Tellus Law Group
9 351 Paseo Nuevo, 2nd Floor
10 Santa Barbara, CA 93101
11 *Tel: 805-285-7758*
klarson@telluslawgroup.com

12
13 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

14 **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

15
16 KEEP AMERICA SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL,
17 INC., a California non-profit corporation,

18 Plaintiff,

19 v.

20
21 VIKING CUE MANUFACTURING, a
Wisconsin Limited Liability Company; and
22 DOES 1 to 10,

23 Defendant.
24
25
26
27
28

Case No.: 23TRCV01082

[PROPOSED] STIPULATED
CONSENT JUDGMENT

(Health & Safety Code § 24249, et seq.)

Complaint filed: April 7, 2023

Trial Date: None

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **1.1 The Parties.** This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between Keep
3 America Safe and Beautiful, Inc. (“KASB” or “Plaintiff”), a California non-profit corporation,
4 and Qco, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and successor-in-interest to Viking Cue
5 Manufacturing (“Viking” or “Defendant”), a Wisconsin Limited Liability Company
6 (collectively, the “Parties”).

7 **1.2 General Allegations.** On April 7, 2023, KASB initiated this action by filing a
8 Complaint for Civil Penalties and Injunctive Relief (the “Complaint”) pursuant to Health &
9 Safety Code § 24249.5 *et seq.* (“Proposition 65”) against Viking. In this action, KASB alleges
10 that Viking’s “Divider Case” (the “Covered Products”) contains Di(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate
11 (DEHP), diisononyl phthalate (DINP) and di-n-butyl phthalate (DBP), which are chemicals
12 listed under Proposition 65 as carcinogens and reproductive toxins. KASB alleges that the
13 Covered Products expose consumers to DEHP, DINP and DBP at levels requiring a Proposition
14 65 warning. KASB alleges that Viking qualifies as a “Person” within the meaning of Proposition
15 65, and that Viking manufactures, distributes, and/or offers for sale in the State of California the
16 Covered Products.

17 **1.3 Notice of Violation.** The Complaint is based on allegations contained in KASB’s
18 Notice of Violation dated January 11, 2022 (the “Notice”), that was served on the California
19 attorney General, other public enforcers, and Viking. A true and correct copy of the Notice is
20 attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by reference. More than 60 days have passed
21 since the Notice was served on the Attorney General, public enforcers, and Viking; no designated
22 governmental entity has filed a Complaint against Viking with regard to the Covered Product or
23 the alleged violations.

24 **1.4** KASB’s Notice and Complaint allege that the use of the Product by California
25 consumers exposes them to DEHP, DINP and DBP without first receiving a clear and reasonable
26 warning from Viking, which is a violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6. Viking
27 denies all material allegations contained in the Notice and Complaint.

28

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1 **1.5** The Parties have entered into this Consent Judgment in order to settle,
2 compromise, and resolve disputed claims and thus avoid prolonged and costly litigation. Viking
3 denies the material, factual, and legal allegations in the Notice and Complaint and maintains that
4 all of the products, including the Covered Product, that it sold and/or distributed for sale in
5 California have been and are in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Consent Judgment nor
6 compliance with this Consent Judgment shall constitute or be construed as an admission by
7 Viking or by any of their respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent
8 companies, subsidiaries, divisions, affiliates, franchisees, licensees, customers, suppliers,
9 distributors, wholesalers, or retailers of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law, or violation
10 of law, such specifically denied by Viking. This Section shall not, however, diminish or
11 otherwise affect Viking’s obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Consent Judgment.

12 **1.6** Except as expressly set forth herein, nothing in this Consent Judgment shall
13 prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have in any
14 current or future legal proceeding unrelated to this proceeding.

15 **1.7 Effective Date.** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the “Effective Date”
16 shall be the date the Consent Judgment has been approved and entered as a judgement of the
17 Court.

18 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

19 **2.1** For purposes of this Consent Judgment and any further court action that may
20 become necessary to enforce this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has
21 subject matter jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint and
22 personal jurisdiction over the Parties as to the matters set forth in the Complaint.


23 **2.2** For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that venue is
24 proper in Los Angeles County, California, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this
25 Consent judgment as a full and final resolution of all claims up through and including the
26 Effective Date that were or could have been asserted in this action based on the facts alleged in
27 the Notice and Complaint.

1 **III. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**


2 **3.1 Clear and Reasonable Warnings** Except as otherwise provided herein,
3 beginning on the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, Viking shall not sell in California, or
4 distribute for sale in California, Covered Products containing non-compliant levels of DEHP,
5 DINP and DBP, unless accompanied by warnings pursuant to Proposition 65 as generally
6 described in Section 3.2. As used in this Section 3.1, “distribute for sale in California” means to
7 directly ship any Covered Product into California, or to sell Covered Products to a distributor
8 Viking knows will sell in California.

9 **3.2 Warning Requirements.** A clear and reasonable warning for any Covered
10 Product shall consist of a warning affixed to the packaging, label, tag, or directly to each Covered
11 Product shipped for Sale in California by Viking that contains one of the following statements:


12 (A)

13
14  **WARNING:** This product can expose you to Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP),
15 diisononyl phthalate (DINP) and di-n-butyl phthalate (DBP) which are known to the
16 State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For
more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

17 (B)

18  **WARNING:** This product can expose you to [SELECT ONE OF THE
19 FOLLOWING Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), diisononyl phthalate (DINP) or di-
20 n-butyl phthalate (DBP)] which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and
21 birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to
www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

22 (C)

23  **WARNING:** Cancer and Reproductive Harm—www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

24
25 Viking shall affix a warning to the Covered Product label or otherwise directly on
26 Covered Product or on the Covered Product’s immediate container, wrapper, or packaging for
27 those Covered Products provided for sale to consumers located in California and, where
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1 appropriate to customers with retail outlets in California. For purposes of this Agreement,
2 “Product label” means a display of written, printed or graphic material printed on or affixed to
3 each of the Products or its immediate container or wrapper. A warning provided pursuant to
4 section 3.2 must print the word “WARNING:” in all capital letters and in bold font. The warning
5 symbol to the left of the word “WARNING:” must be a black exclamation point in a yellow
6 equilateral triangle with a black outline, except, if the labeling does not use the color yellow, the
7 symbol may be in black and white.

8 **3.4 Warnings for Internet Sales.** For any Covered Product sold over the internet
9 where it will be shipped to California, the warning shall be displayed as follows: (A) on the
10 primary display page for a Covered Product; (B) as a clearly marked hyperlink using the word
11 “WARNING” in all capital and bold letters on the Covered Product’s primary display page, so
12 long as the hyperlink goes directly to a page prominently displaying the warning; (C) on the
13 checkout page or any other page in the checkout process when a California delivery address is
14 indicated for the purchase of the Covered Product and with the warning clearly associated with the
15 Covered Product to indicate that the Covered Product is subject to the warning; or (D) by
16 otherwise prominently displaying the warning to the purchaser prior to completing the purchase
17 of the Covered Product. The warning is not prominently displayed if the purchaser must search
18 for it in the general content of the website.

19 **3.5 Warning Prominence.** Viking agrees that to the extent required by Proposition
20 65, each warning shall be prominently placed with such conspicuousness, as compared with the
21 other words, statements, designs, or devices, as to render it likely to be read and understood by
22 an ordinary individual under customary conditions before purchase.

23 **3.6 Compliance with Clear and Reasonable Warning.** Viking shall be deemed to
24 be in compliance with this Consent Judgment after the Effective Date by (A) adhering to
25 Paragraphs 3.1 through 3.5, or (B) by complying with any future warning requirements adopted
26 by the State of California’s Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”). If
27 regulations, legislation, or judicial rulings are enacted or issued providing that a Proposition 65
28

1 warning for the Covered Product is no longer required, a lack of warning as set forth in this
2 Consent Judgment will not thereafter be a breach of this Consent Judgment.

3 **3.7 Sell-through Period for Existing Inventory.** The injunctive requirements of
4 Section III shall not apply to any Covered Products placed into the stream of commerce on or
5 before the 60th day following the Effective Date, which Covered Products are expressly subject
6 to the releases provided in Section V.

7 **3.10 Entry of Consent Judgment.** Upon execution of this Consent Judgment by the
8 Parties, KASB shall notice a Motion for Court Approval and, within ten (10) days of approval
9 of the Consent Judgment by the Court, comply with the requirements set forth in California
10 Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f).

11 **3.11 Attorney General Objection.** If the California Attorney General objects to any
12 term in this Consent Judgment, the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the concern in a
13 timely manner, and if possible, prior to the hearing on the motion.

14 **3.12 Void if Not Approved.** If this Consent Judgment is not entered as a judgement
15 by the Court, it shall be void and have no force or effect.

16 **IV. MONETARY TERMS**

17 **4.1 Total Settlement Amount.** In full satisfaction of all potential civil penalties,
18 additional settlement payments, attorney fees, and costs, Viking shall make a total payment of
19 Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) (the “Total Settlement Amount”), apportioned into a
20 Civil Penalty, and Attorney Fees and Costs as set forth in Paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3, below.

21 **4.2 Civil Penalty Payment.** Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code
22 § 25249.7(b)(2) and in settlement of all claims alleged in the Notice and Complaint, Viking
23 agrees to pay One Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$1,800.00) in Civil Penalties. The Civil
24 Penalty payment will be apportioned in accordance with California Health & Safety Code §§
25 25249(c)(1), (d), with seventy-five (75) percent of these funds remitted to OEHHA, and the
26 remaining twenty-five (25) percent of the funds retained by KASB. Within fourteen (14) days of
27 the Effective Date, Viking shall issue a check to “OEHHA” in the amount of One Thousand
28

1 Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,350.00), with “Prop 65 Penalties” written in the Memo
2 Line; and Viking shall, pursuant to the instructions below, wire to KASB the amount of Four
3 Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$450.00).

4 All payments made to OEHHA (EIN: 68-0284486) pursuant to this Paragraph shall be
5 delivered directly to OEHHA at the following address:

6 For United States Postal Delivery Service:

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

10 For Non-United States Postal Delivery Service:

11 Mike Gyurics
12 Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
13 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
14 1001 I Street MS #19B
Sacramento, CA 95814

15 All penalty payments owed to KASB shall be sent via wire to:

16 **Wire & ACH Instructions:**

17 Account Name: The Law Offices of Joseph R. Manning

18 Bank Name: J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

19 Bank Address: 270 Park Ave. New York, NY. 10017

20 ACH Routing / ABA Number: 322271627

21 Wire Routing / ABA Number: 021000021

22 Account Number: 802922919

23 For further benefit of: Civil Penalty Payment Case No. 23TRCV01082

24 **4.3 Attorney Fees and Costs.** Within fourteen (14) days of the Effective Date, Viking
25 agrees to pay Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$16,200.00) to KASB and its counsel of
26 record for all fees and costs incurred in investigating, bringing this matter to the attention of
27

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Keep America Safe and Beautiful, Inc. v. Viking Cue Manufacturing, Case No. 23TRCV01082

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[PROPOSED] STIPULATED CONSENT JUDGMENT

1 Viking, litigating, negotiation, and obtaining judicial approval of a settlement in the public
2 interest.

3
4 **Wire & ACH Instructions:**

5 Account Name: The Law Offices of Joseph R. Manning

6 Bank Name: J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

7 Bank Address: 270 Park Ave. New York, NY. 10017

8 ACH Routing / ABA Number: 322271627

9 Wire Routing / ABA Number: 021000021

10 Account Number: 802922919

11 For further benefit of: Attorney's Fees Case No. 23TRCV01082

12 **4.4** In the event that Viking fails to remit the Total Settlement Amount or any portion
13 thereof owed under Paragraphs 4.1 through 4.3 of this Consent Judgment before the due date,
14 Viking shall be deemed to be in material breach of its obligations under this Consent Judgment.
15 KASB shall provide written notice of delinquency to Viking via electronic mail to Viking's
16 counsel of record. If Viking fails to deliver any portion of or all of the Total Settlement Amount
17 within five (5) days from the written notice, the Total Settlement Amount shall accrue interest at
18 the statutory judgment interest rate provided in California Code of Civil Procedure § 685.010.

19 Additionally, Viking agrees to pay KASB's reasonable attorney fees and costs for any
20 efforts to collect the payment due under this Consent Judgment.

21 **V. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

22 **5.1** This Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter to enforce, modify, or terminate
23 this Consent Judgment.

24 **VI. BINDING EFFECT, CLAIMS COVERED, CLAIMS RELEASED**

25 **6.1** This Consent Judgment shall have no application to any Covered Product that is
26 distributed or sold exclusively outside the State of California. . Nothing in this Consent Judgment
27 is intended to apply to any occupational or environmental exposures arising under Proposition 65,
28 nor shall it apply to any other Viking products other than the Covered Products.

1 **6.2 Binding Effect.** This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution
2 between KASB, on behalf of itself and its respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees,
3 agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, and affiliates and on behalf of the public
4 interest, and Qco, LLC and its respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents,
5 parent companies (including without limitation Seybert’s Billiards Corporation), subsidiaries,
6 divisions, affiliates, franchisees, licensees, customers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, or
7 retailers, and all other upstream and downstream entities in the manufacture or distribution chain
8 of the Covered Product and the predecessors, successors, and assigns of any of them (collectively,
9 “Released Parties”).

10 **6.3** Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed to constitute
11 compliance with Proposition 65 by any of the Released Parties regarding alleged exposures to the
12 Covered Product.

13 **6.4 KASB Release of Viking.** KASB, on behalf of itself and its respective officers,
14 directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, and
15 affiliates and on behalf of the public interest fully releases and discharges Released Parties from
16 any and all claims, actions, cause of action, suits, demands, liabilities, damages, penalties, fees
17 costs, and expenses asserted, or that could have been asserted based on or related to the handling,
18 use, sale, distribution, or consumption of the Covered Products in California, as to any alleged
19 violation of Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations, based on a failure to provide
20 Proposition 65 warning on the Covered Product with respect to DEHP, DINP and DBP as set
21 forth in the Notice and Complaint.

22 **6.5** KASB on its own behalf only, and Viking on its own behalf only, further waive
23 and release any and all claims they, their attorneys, or their representatives may have against each
24 other for all actions or statements made or undertaken in the course of seeking or opposing
25 enforcement of Proposition 65 in connection with the Notice and Complaint up through and
26 including the Effective Date, provided, however, that nothing in this Section shall affect or limit
27 any Party’s right to seek to enforce the terms of the Consent Judgment.

1 **6.6 California Civil Code Section 1542.** It is possible that other claims not known to
2 the Parties, arising out of the facts alleged in the Notice and Complaint, and relating to the
3 Covered Product, will develop or be discovered. KASB on behalf of itself only, and VIKING on
4 behalf of itself only, acknowledge that this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and
5 include all Such claims up through and including the Effective Date, including all rights of action
6 therefore. KASB and Viking acknowledge that the claims released in Section VII above may
7 include unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code § 1542 as to any such
8 unknown claims. California Civil Code § 1542 reads as follows:

9
10 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE
11 CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO
12 EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR, AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE
13 RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE
14 MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE
15 DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

14 **VII SEVERABILITY**

15 In the event that any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court of
16 competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, the validity of the remaining enforceable provisions
17 shall not be adversely affected.

18 **VIII. GOVERNING LAW**

19 The terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by and construed in
20 accordance with the laws of the State of California.

21 **IX. PROVISION OF NOTICE**

22 All notices required to be given to either Party to this Consent Judgment by the other shall
23 be in writing and sent to the following agents listed below via first-class mail or electronic mail.
24 Any Party may modify the person/entity or address to whom the notice is to be sent by sending
25 the other Party notice by certified mail, return receipt requested. Said change shall take effect on
26 the date the return receipt is signed by the Party receiving the change.
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1 Notice for KASB shall be sent to:

2 Joseph R. Manning, Jr.
3 26100 Towne Center Drive
4 Foothill Ranch, CA 92610
5 Tel: Office (949) 200-8757 Fax: (866) 843-8309
6 p65@manninglawoffice.com

7 Notice for Viking shall be sent to:

8 Kristin Larson
9 Tellus Law Group
10 351 Paseo Nuevo, 2nd Floor
11 Santa Barbara, CA 93101
12 Tel: 805-285-7758
13 klarson@telluslawgroup.com

14 **X. EXECUTED IN COUNTERPARTS**

15 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts, which taken together shall be
16 deemed to constitute one document. A facsimile or .PDF signature page shall be construed to be
17 as valid as the original signature.

18 **XI. DRAFTING**

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

27 **XII. GOOD FAITH ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DISPUTES**

28 If a dispute with respect to either Party's compliance with the terms of this Consent
Judgment entered by the Court, the Parties shall meet and confer in person, by telephone, by
video conference, and/or in writing and endeavor to resolve the dispute in an amicable manner.

1 No action or motion may be filed with the Court in the absence of such a good faith attempt to
2 resolve the dispute beforehand.

3 **XIII. ENTIRE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZATION**

4 **15.1** This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding
5 of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter herein, including any and all prior
6 discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related thereto. No representations,
7 oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have been made by any
8 party. No other agreements, oral or otherwise, unless specifically referred to herein, shall be
9 deemed to exist or to bind any Party.

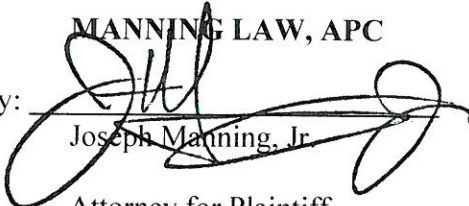
10 **15.2** Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully authorized
11 by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment.

12 **XIV. REQUEST FOR FINDINGS, APPROVAL, AND ENTRY.**

13 This Consent Judgment has come before the Court upon the request of the Parties. The
14 Parties request the Court to fully review this Consent Judgment and, being fully informed
15 regarding the matters which are the subject of this action, make the findings pursuant to
16 California Health and Safety Code § 25249(f)(4) and approve this Consent Judgment.


17
18 **IT IS SO STIPULATED.**

19
20 DATED: August 2, 2023

21 **MANNING LAW, APC**
22 By: 
23 Joseph Manning, Jr.
24 Attorney for Plaintiff
25 Keep America Safe and Beautiful, Inc.

26 **KEEP AMERICA SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL, INC.**

27 DATED: 20 July, 2023

28 By: 
My Nguyen, CEO
Keep America Safe and Beautiful, Inc.

1 DATED: _____, 2023

TELLUS LAW GROUP

2
3 By: _____
Kristin Larson

4 Attorney for Defendant
5 Qco, LLC as successor-in-interest to Viking
6 Cue Manufacturing, LLC

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9 **QCO, LLC, AS SUCCESSOR-IN-
10 INTEREST TO VIKING CUE
11 MANUFACTURING, LLC**

12 DATED: _____, 2023

13 By: _____
Marko Nikolic, Chairman

14 Qco, LLC

15
16 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, pursuant to *Health & Safety*
17 *Code* § 25249.7(f)(4) and *Code of Civil Procedure* § 664.6, judgment is hereby entered.

18 Dated: _____

19 _____
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

1 DATED: July 25, 2023


TELLUS LAW GROUP

2
3 By: 
Kristin Larson

4 Attorney for Defendant
5 Qco, LLC as successor-in-interest to Viking
6 Cue Manufacturing, LLC

7
8
9 QCO, LLC, AS SUCCESSOR-IN-
10 INTEREST TO VIKING CUE
MANUFACTURING, LLC

11 DATED: July 25, 2023

12 By: 
13 Marko Nikolic, Chairman

14 Qco, LLC

15
16 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, pursuant to *Health & Safety*
17 *Code* § 25249.7(f)(4) and *Code of Civil Procedure* § 664.6, judgment is hereby entered.

18 Dated: _____

19 _____
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT