

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Parties. This Settlement Agreement is entered into by and between Ema Bell (“Bell”) and WK Kellogg Co (“WKKC”). Together, Bell and WKKC are collectively referred to as the “Parties.” Bell is alleged to be an individual who resides in the State of California, and seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and to improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer products. Bell alleges that WKKC is alleged to be a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, *et seq.* (“Proposition 65”).

1.2 General Allegations. Bell alleges that WKKC exposed individuals in California to lead from its sales of *WKKC*® Special K red berries without first providing users and consumers of the product with a clear and reasonable health hazard exposure warning as required pursuant to Proposition 65. Lead is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

1.3 Product Description. The products covered by this Settlement Agreement are *Kellogg*® Special K red berries, UPC # 038000200748 (the “Products”) that have been manufactured, imported, distributed, offered for sale and/or sold in California by WKKC or its affiliates.

1.4 Notice of Violation. On July 28, 2023, Bell served Family Dollar Stores, LLC, Kellogg Company, and various public enforcement agencies with a document entitled “Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, *et seq.*” (the “Notice”). On October 2, 2023, WKKC spun-off from the Kellogg Company (now known as Kellanova). For purposes of this Settlement Agreement only, WKKC stipulates that the Notice provided alleged that WKKC was in violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6, for failing to warn California consumers and customers that use of the Products will expose them to lead. No public enforcer has diligently prosecuted the allegations set forth in the Notice.

1.5 No Admission. This Settlement Agreement resolves claims that are denied and disputed. WKKC enters into this Settlement Agreement merely to avoid the cost and uncertainty

inherent in litigation. WKCC denies each and every material allegation contained in the Notice and maintains that, all products, including but not limited to the Products, have been and are in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, standards, guidance and requirements, and are safe for human consumption. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as an admission by WKCC of any fact, finding, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with this Settlement Agreement constitute or be construed as an admission by WKCC of any fact, finding, conclusion, issue of law or violation of law, such being specifically denied by WKCC.

1.6 Effective Date. For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, the term “Effective Date” shall mean the date this Agreement is last executed by the Parties.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION AND/OR WARNINGS

2.1 Reformulation of Products. Commencing within sixty (60) days after the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, Products that WKCC directly manufactures, imports, distributes, sells, or offers for sale in California shall either be: (a) reformulated Products pursuant to § 2.2, below; or (b) labeled with a clear and reasonable exposure warning pursuant to §§ 2.3 - 2.4, below. For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, a “Reformulated Product” is a Product that is in compliance with the standard set forth in § 2.2, below. The warning requirement set forth in §§ 2.3 - 2.4 shall not apply to any Reformulated Product. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all Products manufactured prior to the Effective Date shall be deemed a “Reformulated Product” and sold as-packaged as of the Effective Date.

2.2 Reformulation Standard. “Reformulated Products” shall mean Products that expose a person to an exposure level of less than 0.5 micrograms of lead per serving size. For the purpose of this Agreement, the amount shall be based on the micrograms of lead, if any, per gram of Product, multiplied by grams of Product per serving size of the Product (using the largest serving size appearing on the Product label). If the label contains no recommended daily servings, then the number of recommended daily servings shall be one. WKCC shall be entitled to rely on Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (“ICP-MS”) and other validated methodologies.

2.3 Clear and Reasonable Warning. Commencing within 60 days after the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, a clear and reasonable exposure warning as set forth in this §§ 2.3 and 2.4 must be provided for all Products that WKKC manufacturers, imports, distributes, sells, or offers for sale in California that is not a Reformulated Product. There shall be no obligation for WKKC to provide an exposure warning for Products that entered the stream of commerce within 60 days after the Effective Date.

(a) The warning shall consist of the following as applicable:

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

or

WARNING: Cancer and Reproductive Harm - www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food.

(b) Alternatively, WKKC may use any form of “safe harbor” warning set forth in Proposition 65 regulations applicable to the Products and the exposures that are adopted at the time it places the Products in the stream of commerce.

2.4 A warning provided pursuant to § 2.3(a) must print the word “**WARNING:**” in all capital letters and in bold font, followed by a colon. The warning shall be affixed to or printed on the Products’ packaging or labeling, or on a placard, shelf tag, sign or electronic device or automatic process, provided that the warning is displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use. The warning may be contained in the same section of the packaging, labeling, or instruction booklet that states other safety warnings, if any, concerning the use of the Product and shall be at least the same size as those other safety warnings. Where the **Warning** or **Alternative Warning** is provided on the food product label, it must be set off from other surrounding information, and WKKC shall enclose the **Warning** or **Alternative Warning** in a black box and comply with the content requirements specified in Section 25607.2. If “consumer information,” as that term is defined in Title 27, California Code of Regulations, Section 25600.1(c) as it may be amended from time to time, is provided in a foreign language, WKKC shall provide the

warning in the foreign language in accordance with applicable warning regulations adopted by OEHHA.

In addition to affixing the warning to the Product's packaging or labeling, the warning shall be posted on websites where WKKC offers Products for sale to consumers in California. The requirements of this Section shall be satisfied if the warning, or a clearly marked hyperlink using the word "**WARNING**," appears on the product display page, or by otherwise prominently displaying the warning to the purchaser prior to completing the purchase. To comply with this Section, WKKC shall (a) post the warning on its own website and, if it has the ability to do so, on the websites of its third-party internet sellers; and (b) if it does not have the ability to post the warning on the websites of its third-party internet sellers, provide such sellers with written notice in accordance with Title 27, California Code of Regulations, Section 25600.2.

2.5 Compliance with Warning Regulations. The Parties agree that WKKC shall be deemed to be in compliance with this Settlement Agreement by either adhering to § 2 of this Settlement Agreement or by complying with warning requirements adopted by the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") applicable to the Product and the exposure at issue within 60 days after the Effective Date.

3. PENALTIES PURSUANT TO HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(b)

In settlement of all the claims referred to in this Settlement Agreement, WKKC shall pay \$2,000.00 as a Civil Penalty in accordance with this Section. The Civil Penalty payment shall be allocated in accordance with California Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with 75% of the Penalty remitted to OEHHA and the remaining 25% of the Penalty remitted to Bell. The Civil Penalty payment(s) shall be delivered to the addresses identified in § 3.2, below

3.1 Civil Penalty. Within fifteen (15) business days of the Effective Date, WKKC shall issue two (2) separate checks for the Civil Penalty payment to (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$1,500.00; and to (b) "Ema Bell" in the amount of \$500.00. The Civil Penalty payment(s) shall be delivered to the addresses identified in § 3.2, below.

3.2 Payment Procedures.

(a) Issuance of Payments. Payments shall be delivered as follows:

(i) All payments owed to Bell, pursuant to § 3.1 shall be delivered to the following payment address:

Evan J. Smith, Esquire
Brodsky Smith
Two Bala Plaza, Suite 805
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

(ii) All payments owed to OEHHA (EIN: 68-0284486), pursuant to § 3.1 shall be delivered directly to OEHHA (Memo Line “Prop 65 Penalties”) at the following addresses:

For United States Postal Service Delivery:

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

For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:

Mike Gyurics
Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

(b) Copy of Payments to OEHHA. WKKC agrees to provide Bell’s counsel with a copy of the checks payable to OEHHA, simultaneous with its penalty payments to Bell, to be delivered to the address provided in § 3.2(a)(i), as proof of payment to OEHHA.

(c) Tax Documentation. WKKC agrees to provide a completed IRS 1099 for its payments to, and Bell agrees to provide IRS W-9 forms for, each of the following payees under this Settlement Agreement:

(i) “Ema Bell” whose address and tax identification number shall be provided within five (5) days after this Settlement Agreement is fully executed by the Parties;

(ii) “Brodsky Smith” (EIN: 23-2971061) at the address provided in Section 3.2(a)(i); and

(iii) “Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment” 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

4. REIMBURSEMENT OF FEES AND COSTS

The Parties acknowledge that Bell and her counsel offered to reach preliminary agreement on the material terms of this dispute before reaching terms on the amount of fees and costs to be reimbursed to them. The Parties thereafter reached an accord on the compensation due to Bell and her counsel under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine and principles codified at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution of this agreement. Under these legal principles, WKKC shall reimburse Bell’s counsel for fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating and bringing this matter to the attention of WKKC, and negotiating a settlement in the public interest. Within fifteen (15) business days of the Effective Date, WKKC shall issue a check payable to “Brodsky Smith” in the amount of \$23,000.00 for delivery to the address identified in § 3.2(a)(i), above.

5. RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

5.1 Release of WKKC and Downstream Customers and Entities. This Settlement Agreement is a full, final and binding resolution between Bell, acting on her own behalf, and WKKC, of any violation of Proposition 65 that was or could have been asserted by Bell or on behalf of her past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assigns (“Releasers”) for failure to provide warnings for alleged exposures to lead from use of the Products, and Releasers hereby release any such claims against WKKC, the Kellogg Company, Kellanova and their parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities, owners, shareholders, members, marketplaces, directors, officers, agents, employees, attorneys, predecessors, successors and assignees, , and each entity to whom WKKC, the Kellogg Company and Kellanova directly or indirectly distributes or sells the Products, including but not limited to, downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, including but not limited to Family Dollar Stores, LLC, its respective subsidiaries, affiliates and parents,

franchisees, cooperative members and licensees (collectively, the "Releasees"), from all claims for violations of Proposition 65 through 60 days after the Effective Date based on exposure to lead from use of the Products.

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, and for the payments to be made pursuant to §§ 3 and 4 above, Bell, on behalf of herself, her past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, hereby covenants not to sue and waives any right to institute, participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases all claims that she may have, including without limitation, all actions and causes of action in law and in equity, all obligations, expenses (including without limitation all attorneys' fees, expert fees, and investigation fees, and costs), damages, losses, liabilities and demands against any of the Releasees of any nature, character, or kind, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, limited to and arising out of the alleged or actual exposure to lead from use of the Products.

5.2 WKKC's Release of Bell. WKKC, on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and/or assignees, hereby 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/or her attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against it in this matter or with respect to exposure to lead from the Products.

5.3 California Civil Code § 1542. It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties arising out of the facts alleged in the Notice and relating to the Products will develop or be discovered. Bell on behalf of herself only, on one hand, and WKKC, on the other hand, acknowledge that this Agreement is expressly intended to cover and include all such claims up through 60 days after the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefor. The Parties acknowledge that the claims released in §§ 5.1 and 5.2, above, may include unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code § 1542 as to any such unknown claims. California Civil Code § 1542 reads as follows:

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

Bell and WKKC each acknowledge and understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code § 1542.

5.4 Deemed Compliance with Proposition 65. The Parties agree that compliance by WKKC with this Settlement Agreement constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposure to lead from use of the Products.

6. SEVERABILITY

If, subsequent to the execution of this Settlement Agreement, any of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement 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 Settlement Agreement being contrary to the intent of the Parties in entering into this Settlement Agreement.

7. GOVERNING LAW

The terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State of California and apply within the State of California. The rights to enforce the term of this Settlement Agreement are exclusively conferred on the Parties hereto. In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed or its regulations applicable to the Products are repealed, or are otherwise rendered inapplicable or invalid, including but not limited to by reason of law generally, due to federal preemption, or the First Amendment commercial speech rights of the U.S. Constitution, as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction of an agency of the federal government, then WKKC shall provide written notice to Bell of any asserted change in the law, and shall have no further obligations pursuant to this Settlement Agreement with respect to, and to the extent that, a Product is so affected.

8. NOTICES

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required to be provided pursuant to this Settlement Agreement shall be in writing and personally delivered or sent by: (i) first-class

(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 WKKC:

Bao M. Vu
Stoel Rives LLP
1 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

For Bell:

Evan J. Smith
Brodsky Smith
Two Bala Plaza, Suite 805
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

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. COUNTERPARTS: SIGNATURES

This Settlement Agreement 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. COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(f)

Bell agrees to comply with the reporting requirements referenced in Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f).

11. MODIFICATION

This Settlement Agreement shall be modified by written agreement of the Parties upon a showing of good cause, so long as such modification is sent to the Office of the California Attorney General in advance and the Attorney General has a reasonable opportunity to review, comment thereon, and object. Should there be objection by any Party or the Attorney General to a modification, the dispute shall be submitted to a California court with competent jurisdiction over the Parties. A showing of technical infeasibility or commercial unreasonableness in meeting the requirements of Sections 2.1 and 2.2 with respect to the Products shall be deemed to constitute good cause for a modification.

12. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement 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.

13. AUTHORIZATION

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


AGREED TO:

AGREED TO:

Date: 7/11/24

Date: 6/25/24

By: 
Erna Bell

By: 
WK Kellogg Co
Kenneth Odza
U.P. Litigator, Regulatory &
Crises