

PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Parties

This Settlement Agreement (“**Agreement**”) is entered into by and between Keep America Safe and Beautiful (“**KASB**”) and Spongellé LLC (“**Spongellé**”), with KASB and Spongellé each individually referred to as a “**Party**” and, collectively, the “**Parties.**” KASB is a California-based non-profit organization proceeding in the public interest pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d) to ensure that chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm are disclosed in or eliminated from consumer products sold in California. Spongellé is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.11(b).

1.2 Consumer Product Description

KASB alleges that Spongellé manufactures, imports, sells, and distributes for sale in California vinyl cases containing di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (“**DEHP**”) including, but not limited to, *Spongellé Body Wash Infused Buffer Travel Case, Black*, without providing the health hazard warning that KASB alleges is required by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 *et seq.* (“**Proposition 65**”). Vinyl cases are referred to hereinafter as the “**Products.**” DEHP 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 Notice of Violation

On February 22, 2024, KASB served Spongellé, the California Attorney General, and the requisite public enforcement agencies with a 60-Day Notice of Violation (“**Notice**”), alleging Spongellé violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn its customers and consumers in California that its Products can expose users to DEHP. No public enforcer has commenced and is diligently prosecuting an action to enforce the allegations in the Notice.

1.4 No Admission

Spongellé denies the factual and legal allegations contained in the Notice and maintains that all products it has sold or distributed for sale in California, including the Products, have been, and are, in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute or be construed as, nor shall compliance with this Agreement constitute or be construed as, an admission by Spongellé of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Spongellé's obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Agreement.

1.5 Effective Date

For purposes of this Agreement, "**Effective Date**" shall mean the date this Agreement is fully executed by all Parties.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION

2.1 Reformulation Commitment

Commencing on the Effective Date and continuing thereafter, all Products Spongellé manufactures, imports, sells, ships, or distributes for sale in or into California, directly or through one or more third party retailers or e-commerce marketplaces, shall meet the Reformulation Standard for Reformulated Products, as defined by Section 2.2.

2.2 Reformulation Standard

For purposes of this Agreement, "Reformulated Products" are defined as Products which, if they contain di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate ("DEHP"), di-n-butyl phthalate ("DBP"), diisononyl phthalate ("DINP"), butyl benzyl phthalate ("BBP"), di-isodecyl phthalate ("DIDP") or di-n-hexyl phthalate ("DnHP"), contain any or all such chemicals each in a maximum concentration of less than 0.1 percent (1,000 parts per million) when analyzed by a laboratory certified or accredited by the State of California, the United States Food and Drug Administration/Environmental Protection Agency, the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, or a member accreditation body of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation ("ILAC"). For purposes of compliance with this reformulation

standard, testing samples shall be prepared and extracted using Consumer Product Safety Commission (“CPSC”) methodology CPSC-CH-C1001.09.3 and analyzed using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency methodology 8270D, or other methodologies utilized by federal or state government agencies to determine phthalate content in a solid substance.

2.3 Certification to Compliance with Reformulation Standard

On or before the Effective Date an officer of Spongellé shall provide Seven Hills LLP with a written attested declaration stating, as of the Effective Date, and continuing thereafter, any and all Products manufactured or imported by Spongellé for sale to (a) consumers in California directly including through its own website, affiliated websites or a third party website, to consumers located in California, and (b) customers with nationwide distribution and e-commerce websites, are Reformulated Products as defined by Section 2.2. Along with its attested declaration, Spongellé shall provide a recent test result performed after the date of the Notice, showing the Products were tested and analyzed according to the parameters set forth in the preceding Section 2.2 and are Reformulated Products. Failure to comply with this section shall render this agreement null and void.

2.4 Customer Notification

No later than the Effective Date, Spongellé shall send a letter, electronic or otherwise (“**Notification Letter**”) to: (1) each customer in California to which it supplied Products between February 22, 2023 and February 22, 2024; and (2) any other customer that is a retailer or distributor that has any inventory of Products, which Spongellé supplied between February 22, 2021 and February 22, 2024, for sale to consumers in California. The Notification Letter shall advise the recipient that the Products contain DEHP, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. The Notification letter shall inform the recipient that all Products must either (1) be returned to Spongellé for a full refund or (2) have a label, attached to the packaging of each Product before it is sold in the California market or to a customer in California, expressly referring to the Product with the following warning statement:

⚠WARNING: This product can expose you to di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), 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.

The foregoing warning must print the word “**WARNING:**” in all capital letters and in bold font. The warning symbol to the left of the word “**WARNING:**” must be a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a black outline. The entire warning shall appear in at least 6-point type and no smaller than the largest type size used for other consumer information on the Products. The Notification Letter shall enclose a shipping label with the return address and postage paid by Spongellé. If the customer is a retailer or distributor of the Products, the Notification Letter shall include a sheet of white background, adhesive stickers with the foregoing warning statements.

3. MONETARY SETTLEMENT TERMS

3.1 Civil Penalty

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(b), Spongellé agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$2,000 within five (5) business days of the Effective Date. Spongellé’s civil penalty payment will be allocated according to Health and Safety Code §§ 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with seventy-five percent (75%) of the penalty paid to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“**OEHHA**”), and the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) retained by KASB. Spongellé shall issue its payment in two checks made payable to: (a) “**OEHHA**” in the amount of \$1,500; and (b) “**Seven Hills LLP in Trust for Keep America Safe and Beautiful**” in the amount of \$500. KASB’s counsel shall deliver to OEHHA and KASB their respective portion of the penalty payment.

3.2 Reimbursement of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs

KASB and its counsel offered to resolve the allegations in the Notice without reaching terms on the amount of reimbursement of attorneys’ fees and costs. Shortly after the Parties finalized the other material settlement terms, they negotiated and reached an accord on the amount of reimbursement to be paid to KASB’s counsel, under general contract principles and

the private attorney general doctrine, codified at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution and reporting of this Agreement to the Office of the California Attorney General.

Spongellé shall pay a total sum of \$13,000 for all fees and other costs incurred investigating, bringing this matter to Spongellé's attention, negotiating a settlement in the public interest, and reporting its terms to Office of the California Attorney General pursuant to Section 9. The attorneys' fees and costs payments shall be made as detailed in subsection (a) and shall be deposited according to the schedule detailed there and subject to its terms.

(a) Attorneys' Fees & Costs: Installment Agreement Terms & Timing

Spongellé agrees to provide all attorneys' fees and costs payments due under this Agreement within five (5) business days of the Effective Date. The Parties agree the payment of attorneys' fees and costs, totaling \$13,000, shall be broken into two equal installment payments of \$6,500. All payments under this Section shall be made in the form of individual checks payable to "Seven Hills LLP" and delivered to the address below, in Section 3.3. Seven Hills LLP will deposit the initial payment of \$6,500 upon receipt. Seven Hills LLP agrees to hold the remaining installment payment and deposit it roughly 30 days after the initial payment is deposited.

Spongellé agrees and understands, should any installment payment due under this Section or this Agreement fail due to insufficient funds, KASB shall advise Spongellé in the manner set forth in Section 7, and will provide Spongellé ten (10) business days, calculated from the date notice is provided, to cure any non-compliance under this Agreement, pursuant to this Section, before any remaining payments become due and payable. In the event Seven Hills LLP incurs fees for any returned checks, Spongellé agrees to reimburse KASB's counsel for such fees.

Spongellé acknowledges that, until the last installment payment is deposited and clears with sufficient funds, KASB reserves the right to institute a proceeding under Proposition 65, including the filing of a complaint based on the allegations in the Notice, a suit based on

breach of or failure to perform under a contract, or any other remedy allowable under law. In the event any such action is brought, Spongellé retains all defenses and does not hereby waive any potential defenses.

3.3 Payments

All payments payable and due under this Agreement shall be delivered to KASB's counsel at following address:

Seven Hills LLP
Attn: Kimberly Gates Johnson
4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94111

4. CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED

4.1 KASB's Release of Spongellé

This Agreement is a full, final and binding resolution between KASB, as an individual and *not* on behalf of the public, and Spongellé, of any violation of Proposition 65 that was or could have been asserted by KASB on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, against Spongellé, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities under common ownership including: directors, officers, employees, attorneys, and each entity to whom Spongellé directly or indirectly distributes or sells Products, including, but not limited to, downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisees, cooperative members, and licensees (collectively, "**Releasees**"), based on their failure to warn under Proposition 65 about alleged exposures to DEHP contained in the Products that were manufactured, distributed, sold and/or offered for sale by Spongellé in California before the Effective Date, as alleged in the Notice.

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, KASB as an individual and *not* on behalf of the public, on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives all of KASB's rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases all claims that KASB may have, including, without limitation, all actions, and causes of action, in law or in

equity, suits, liabilities, demands, obligations, damages, costs, fines, penalties, losses, or expenses including, but not exclusively, investigation fees, expert fees, and attorneys' fees arising under Proposition 65 with respect to DEHP in the Products manufactured, distributed, sold and/or offered for sale by Spongellé, before the Effective Date (collectively, "**Claims**"), against Spongellé and Releasees.

The Parties further understand and agree that this Section 4.1 release shall neither extend (a) upstream to any entities that manufactured the Products or any component parts thereof, or any distributors or suppliers who sold the Products or any component parts thereof to Spongellé, nor (b) to Releasees who have been instructed by Spongellé pursuant to Section 2.4 to provide a warning on Products that are not Reformulated Products and have failed to do so. Nothing in this Section affects KASB's right to commence or prosecute an action under Proposition 65 against a Releasee that does not involve Spongellé's Products.

4.2 Spongellé's Release of KASB

Spongellé, on behalf of itself, its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and assignees, hereby waives any and all claims against KASB and its attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements made (or those that could have been taken or made) by KASB and its attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against it in this matter with respect to the Products.

5. SEVERABILITY

If, subsequent to the execution of this Agreement, any provision of this Agreement is deemed by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be adversely affected.

6. GOVERNING LAW

The terms of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California and apply within California. In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed, preempted, or is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to the Products, then Spongellé may

provide KASB with written notice of any asserted change in the law, and shall have no further injunctive obligations pursuant to this Agreement, with respect to, and to the extent that, the Products are so affected. Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted to relieve Spongellé from its obligation to comply with any pertinent state or federal law or regulation.

7. NOTICE

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notice required by this Agreement shall be in writing and sent by: (i) first-class registered or certified mail, return receipt requested; or (ii) a recognized overnight courier to any Party by the other at the following addresses:

For Spongellé:

Gina Binder, General Counsel
Spongellé LLC
9673 Topanga Canyon Place
Chatsworth, CA 91311

For KASB:

Kimberly Gates Johnson, Partner
Seven Hills LLP
4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94111

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

8. COUNTERPARTS, FACSIMILE AND PDF SIGNATURES

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and by portable document format (pdf) signature, each of which shall be deemed an original and, all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document.

9. COMPLIANCE WITH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

KASB and its counsel agree to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in California Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(f).

10. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof, and any and all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, or understandings related thereto, if any, are hereby merged herein and therein. There are no warranties, representations, or other agreements between the Parties except as expressly set forth herein. No representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than

those specifically referred to in this Agreement have been made by any Party hereto. No other agreements not specifically contained or referenced herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties hereto.

11. MODIFICATION

This Agreement may be modified only by a written agreement of the Parties.

12. AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understood, and agreed to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

AGREED TO:

Date: 12/23/2024

By: 
Lance Nguyen, CEO
Keep America Safe and Beautiful

AGREED TO:

Date: 12/20/2024

By: 
Yelena Popovsky, CEO
Spongellé LLC