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Michael DiPirro

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9 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
10 **FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**  
11 **UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION**

12 MICHAEL DIPIRRO,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 EVERGREEN ENTERPRISES OF VIRGINIA,  
LLC; AND DOES 1-150,

16 Defendant.

Case No. 24 CV 093285

**[PROPOSED] AMENDED CONSENT  
JUDGMENT**

(Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 *et seq.*)

1. **INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Parties**

This Consent Judgment (“Consent Judgment”) is entered into by and between plaintiff, Michael DiPirro (“DiPirro”), and Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC (“Defendant”). DiPirro and Defendant are individually referred to as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties.”

**1.2 Plaintiff**

DiPirro is an individual residing in California who seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals and improve human health by reducing or eliminating hazardous substances contained in consumer products.

**1.3 Defendant**

Defendant employs ten or more persons and is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 *et seq.* (“Proposition 65”).

**1.4 General Allegations**

DiPirro alleges that Defendant manufactures or sells, PVC Bottle Openers in the State of California, which exposes consumers to Diethylhexyl phthalate (“DEHP”), a toxic chemical, without first providing the clear and reasonable exposure warnings required by Proposition 65. DEHP was listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical that is known to the State of California to cause cancer on January 1, 1988, and has been subject to the warning requirements since January 1, 1989.

**1.5 Product Description**

The products covered by this Consent Judgment are PVC Bottle Openers that are sold, or distributed for sale in California by Defendant, including, but not limited to the Cheesehead PVC Bottle Opener (the “Products”).

**1.6 Notices of Violation**

On or about May 28, 2024, DiPirro served Defendant and certain requisite public enforcement agencies with a “60-Day Notice of Violation” (“Notice”), a document that informed the recipients of DiPirro’s allegation that Defendant violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn its

1 customers and consumers in California that the Products expose users to DEHP. To the best of the  
2 Parties' knowledge, no public enforcer has commenced and is diligently prosecuting the  
3 allegations set forth in the Notice.

4 **1.7 Complaint**

5 On or about September 25, 2024, DiPirro filed the instant action against Defendant for the  
6 alleged violations of Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 that are the subject of the Notice.

7 **1.8 No Admission**

8 Defendant denies the material, factual, and legal allegations contained in the Notices and  
9 contends that it sells Products to California residents in accordance with applicable state laws and  
10 requirements. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Defendant  
11 of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law; nor shall compliance with  
12 this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by Defendant of any fact,  
13 finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law, the same being specifically denied by  
14 Defendant. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Defendant's obligations,  
15 responsibilities, and duties under this Consent Judgment.

16 **1.9 Consent to Jurisdiction**

17 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has  
18 jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations in the Complaint, that venue is proper in Alameda  
19 County, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter and enforce the provisions of this Consent  
20 Judgment.

21 **1.10 Effective Date**

22 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term "Effective Date" shall mean the date of  
23 entry of this Consent Judgment by this Court.

24 **2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: PROPOSITION 65 WARNINGS**

25 **2.1** Within thirty days of the Effective Date (a.k.a. the "Warning Date"), as to all  
26 Products that contain DEHP (the "Listed Chemical") and are directly sold by and shipped to a  
27 California address for sale by Defendant (as opposed to any third party) thereafter, Defendant shall  
28 provide a clear and reasonable warning on the label of each Product as set forth below in Section

2.3. In the event that the Products are distributed to third party retailers and are manufactured with DEHP, Defendant shall inform such retailers of the warning requirements by providing a warning on the product label or labeling that satisfies Section 25249.6 of the Act, or by providing a written notice directly to the authorized agent of the third-party retailer, per Title 27, California Code of Regulations section 25600.2(b). Each warning shall be prominently placed with such conspicuousness as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions before purchase or use. Each warning shall be provided in a manner such that the consumer or user understands to which specific Product the warning applies, so as to minimize the risk of consumer confusion. Defendant's compliance with the warning requirements set forth in Sections 2.1 through 2.3 or the warning requirements of Proposition 65 and related regulations, as may be amended from time to time, shall be deemed compliance with this Consent Judgment. Defendant acknowledges that the OEHHA amended Title 27, California Code of Regulations section 25603, effective as of January 1, 2025, to provide three years for businesses to transition to new short-form language content. Defendant further acknowledges that compliance with the new short-form language as prescribed by section 25603(b) is required by January 1, 2028 for all products manufactured after that time.

**2.2 Internet Warnings.** In addition to the warning specified in Section 2.1 above, for all Products that Defendant offers for sale directly to consumers in California via the internet on or after the Warning Date, Defendant shall provide a warning for such Products by including the warning set forth below in Section 2.3 on one or more of the following: (a) on the same web page on which a Product is displayed; (b) on the same web page as the order form for a Product; (c) on the same web page as the price for any Product; or (d) on one or more web pages displayed to a purchaser during the checkout process. The internet warning described above can also be delivered through a hyperlink using the word "[California Prop 65] WARNING" (language in brackets optional).

**2.3 Text of the Warning.** The text of the warning shall be printed in black ink on a light background, in a font that is easy to read and legible, but in no case less than a size 6 font.

Defendant shall use the warning language as set forth below in 2.3(a) or 2.3(b) for Products containing DEHP, which shall include a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline as shown below (the symbol may be black or white if the color yellow is otherwise not used on the Product's packaging).

**a. Full Warning.**



**WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Diethylhexyl 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](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).**

**b. Short-Form Warning.**



**WARNING: Cancer and Reproductive Harm.<sup>1</sup>**

**Foreign Language Requirement.** ]Where a product sign, label or shelf tag used to provide a warning includes consumer information in a language other than English, the Warning must also be provided in that language in addition to English.

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

**3.1** Civil Penalty Payment Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b). The Defendant shall make a civil penalty payment of \$4,000 as a component of this settlement. The penalty payment will be allocated by DiPirro's counsel in accordance with California Health & Safety Code § 25249.12(c)(1) & (d), with 75% of the penalty funds remitted to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and the remaining 25% of the penalty remitted to DiPirro.

**4. REIMBURSEMENT OF FEES AND COSTS**

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<sup>1</sup> In the event that Defendant continues to distribute the Products on or after January 1, 2028, Defendant agrees to comply with 27 C.C.R. § 25603 on and after that date, and will utilize the following Short-Form Warning:

**a. Short Form Warning.**

 **WARNING: Risk of cancer and reproductive harm from exposure to Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)[www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).**

1 The parties acknowledge that DiPirro and his counsel offered to resolve this dispute  
2 without reaching terms on the amount of fees and costs to be reimbursed to them, thereby leaving  
3 this fee issue to be resolved after the material terms of the agreement had been settled. The  
4 Defendant then expressed a desire to resolve the fee and cost issue shortly after the other  
5 settlement terms had been finalized. The parties then attempted to (and did) reach an accord on the  
6 compensation due to DiPirro and his counsel under general contract principles and the private  
7 attorney general doctrine codified at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work  
8 performed through the mutual execution of this agreement. The Defendant shall pay a total of  
9 \$61,000 for fees and costs incurred as a result of investigating, working with toxicology experts,  
10 bringing this matter to the Defendant's attention, document preparation, and negotiating a  
11 settlement in the public interest.

12 **5. PAYMENT AND FORM 1099**

13 **5.1 Payment.** The complete settlement payment in the amount of \$65,000 shall be  
14 delivered within five business days of the Effective Date, to the bank account of Jeremy Fietz,  
15 Attorney at Law (via wire transfer, or ACH payment; number provided upon request) or by  
16 physical check to the office of Jeremy Fietz, Attorney at Law, 4241 Montgomery Drive, #123,  
17 Santa Rosa CA 95405, and for the latter option shall be in the form of a check made payable to:  
18 "Jeremy Fietz, Attorney at Law". For any payment that is returned for any reason, including  
19 insufficient funds, a payment must be made by CTM in form of a cashier's check within three (3)  
20 calendar days of notification of insufficient funds, plus a 10% service fee paid to DiPirro's  
21 attorneys. Any payment that is not actually received by the due date will also be subject to a 10%  
22 late fee.

23 **5.2 Issuance of 1099 Form.** The Defendant shall provide DiPirro's counsel, Jeremy  
24 Fietz, Attorney-at-Law, with one 1099 form for the entire settlement amount. Such 1099 shall be  
25 made on the Form 1099 MISC with the amount reported in box 10 ("Gross proceeds paid to an  
26 attorney"). The Defendant acknowledges that 1099 shall NOT be issued under form 1099 NEC. A  
27 W9 shall be provided by Jeremy Fietz, Attorney-at-Law after this Agreement has been fully  
28 executed by the Parties to this agreement.

1 **6. CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED**

2 **6.1 DiPirro's Public Release of Proposition 65 Claims**

3 DiPirro, acting on his own behalf and in the public interest, releases Defendant, any  
4 persons or entities identified on any of the Notices as an alleged violator, retailer, manufacturer, or  
5 distributor (collectively, "Noticed Parties"), and each of the respective officers, directors,  
6 shareholders, employees, attorneys, representatives, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, parents,  
7 divisions, successors, assigns, insurers, dealers, distributors, retailers, and customers of Defendant  
8 (collectively, "Affiliates"), and any other person or entity to whom Defendant directly or  
9 indirectly distributes or sells the Products collectively with Defendant, and Affiliates, (the  
10 "Releasees"), from all claims for or based upon violations of Proposition 65 up through the  
11 Effective Date based on exposures to any Listed Chemical from the use of any Products (as set  
12 forth in the Notices and the Complaint) to the extent the Product was (i) manufactured; and (ii)  
13 sold or distributed by Plaintiff before the Effective Date. Compliance with the terms of this  
14 Consent Judgment constitutes compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to exposures to Listed  
15 Chemical from the use of the Products sold by Defendant after the Effective Date, as set forth in  
16 the Notices. This release does not incorporate any claims against third-party retailers who receive  
17 the warning concerning the Product from Defendant pursuant to Section 2.1 of this Consent  
18 Judgment but subsequently fail to provide the warning to consumers.

19 **6.2 DiPirro's Individual Release of Claims**

20 In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, DiPirro, not in  
21 his representative capacity, but on behalf of himself and his past and current agents,  
22 representatives, attorneys, successors, and assigns, hereby waives all rights to institute or  
23 participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action, and releases any and all actions,  
24 causes of action, obligations, costs, expenses, fees, attorneys' fees, fines, penalties, damages,  
25 losses, claims, suits, liabilities, and demands that he has or may have against Defendant and/or any  
26 other Releasee, of any nature, character, or kind, whether known or unknown, suspected or  
27 unsuspected, arising out of alleged or actual exposures to any Listed Chemicals from the use of  
28 any of the Products sold or distributed for sale in the State of California before the Warning Date.

1 DiPirro, in his individual capacity and not in his representative capacity, waives and relinquishes  
2 all rights and benefits of California Civil Code section 1542 with respect to any and claims  
3 relating to the Products and/or the Notices, and does so understanding and acknowledging the  
4 significance and consequence of specifically waiving section 1542. California Civil Code § 1542  
5 states as follows:

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

12 Thus, notwithstanding the provisions of section 1542, DiPirro expressly acknowledges this  
13 Consent Judgment is intended to include in its effect, without limitation, all claims relating to the  
14 Products and/or the Notices that DiPirro does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time  
15 of signing this Consent Judgment, and that this Consent Judgment contemplates the  
16 extinguishment of any such claims.

### 17 **6.3 Defendant's Release of DiPirro**

18 Defendant, on its own behalf and on behalf of its past and current agents, representatives,  
19 attorneys, successors, and assignees, hereby waives any and all claims that it may have against  
20 DiPirro and his attorneys and other representatives, for any and all actions taken or statements  
21 made (or those that could have been taken or made) by DiPirro and his attorneys and other  
22 representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims, otherwise seeking to enforce  
23 Proposition 65 against it in this matter, or with respect to the Products.

## 24 **7. COURT APPROVAL**

25 **7.1** DiPirro agrees to comply with the requirements set forth in California Health &  
26 Safety Code § 25249.7(f) and to promptly bring a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment.  
27 Defendant agrees it shall support approval of such Motion.

28 **7.2** This Consent Judgment shall not be effective until it is approved and entered by the  
Court and shall be null and void if, for any reason, it is not approved by the Court within one year



1 after it has been fully executed by all parties. In such case, the Parties agree to meet and confer on  
2 how to proceed.

3       **7.3**     If the Court approves this Consent Judgment and is reversed or vacated by an  
4 appellate court, the Parties shall meet and confer as to whether to modify the terms of this Consent  
5 Judgment.

6       **8.       SEVERABILITY**

7       If, subsequent to the execution of this Consent Judgment, any provision of this Consent  
8 Judgment is held by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not  
9 be adversely affected.

10      **9.       GOVERNING LAW**

11       The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of  
12 California and apply within the State of California. In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed or  
13 is otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to the Products, then  
14 Defendant may move the Court for modification of this Consent Judgment, with respect to, and to  
15 the extent that, the Products are so affected. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be interpreted  
16 to relieve Defendant from any obligation to comply with any pertinent state or federal toxics  
17 control laws.

18      **10.     NOTICES**

19       Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notices required to be provided pursuant to this  
20 Consent Judgment shall be both by email and in writing and sent by: (i) personal delivery; (ii)  
21 first-class, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested; or (iii) a recognized overnight  
22 courier:

23       For Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC::

24       Jeffrey M. Goldman  
25       troutman pepper  
26       350 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 3400  
27       Los Angeles, CA 90071

28       For Plaintiff DiPirro:

1       Jeremy Fietz, Attorney-at-Law  
2       4241 Montgomery Drive, #123  
3       Santa Rosa CA 95405

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

6       **11.     ENTIRE AGREEMENT; COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE SIGNATURES**

7       This Consent Judgment contains the entire and only agreement between the Parties and any  
8       and all prior negotiations and understandings related hereto shall be deemed to have been merged  
9       within it. There are no representations or terms of agreement made by any Party with respect to the  
10      subject matter hereof or the other Party except for those contained in this Consent Judgment. This  
11      Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts, and by facsimile or portable document format  
12      (PDF) signature, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together,  
13      shall constitute one and the same document.

14      **12.     POST EXECUTION ACTIVITIES**

15      DiPirro agrees to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in Health &  
16      Safety Code § 25249.7(f). The Parties further acknowledge that, pursuant to Health & Safety Code  
17      § 25249.7(f), a noticed motion is required to obtain judicial approval of the settlement. In  
18      furtherance of obtaining such approval, DiPirro and Defendant agree to mutually employ their best  
19      efforts, and that of their counsel, to support the entry of this agreement as a Consent Judgment,  
20      and to obtain judicial approval of the settlement in a timely manner.

21      **13.     MODIFICATION**

22      This Consent Judgment may be modified only by: (i) a written agreement of the Parties and upon  
23      entry of a modified consent judgment by the Court thereon; or (ii) upon a successful motion or  
24      application of any Party and the entry of a modified consent judgment by the Court.

25      Notwithstanding the foregoing, if DiPirro, the Attorney General, or any public enforcer  
26      represented by Jeremy Fietz or Law Office of David Bush agree to terms in a judicially entered  
27      consent judgment with any manufacturer of products (as defined by California Health and Safety  
28      Code section 109900) that is/are substantially similar to the Products, and those terms differ  
significantly from the terms in this Consent Judgment, the Parties agree that Defendant shall have

1 the right to move for modification of this Consent Judgment. DiPirro agrees not to oppose any  
2 such motion.

3 **14. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

4 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement and enforce the terms of this  
5 Consent Judgment under Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6.

6 DiPirro shall have the exclusive right to enforce the provisions of this Consent Judgment.  
7 DiPirro represents and warrants neither he nor his agents or attorneys have assigned or otherwise  
8 transferred, or attempted to assign, or transfer, any claim or claims against Defendant. DiPirro  
9 further warrants that neither he nor his agents or attorneys are aware of any other potential private  
10 enforcer or attorney who intends to bring litigation based on the 60-Day Notice.

11 **15. AUTHORIZATION**

12 The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their respective  
13 Parties and have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this Consent  
14 Judgment.

15 AGREED TO:

AGREED TO:

16 Date: July 3, 2025

Date: July 11, 2025

17  
18 By:  \_\_\_\_\_

MICHAEL DIPIRRO

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia LLC

Print Name: Christopher R. Wornom

Title: CFO

23 SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

24 DATED:

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
28