|                                      | Case 2:16-cv-04707  | Document 1  | Filed 06/28/16        | Page 1 of 16            | Page ID #:1              |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8 | BETSY C. MANIFO<br>manifold@whafh.com<br>RACHELE R. RICKH<br>rickert@whafh.com<br>BRITTANY N. DEJC<br>dejong@whafh.com<br><b>WOLF HALDENST</b><br><b>FREEMAN &amp; HE</b><br>750 B Street, Suite 27<br>San Diego, CA 92101<br>Telephone: 619/239-<br>Facsimile: 619/234-4<br><i>Counsel for Plaintiff a</i> | ERT (190634<br>DNG (258766<br><b>EIN ADLE)<br/>RZ LLP</b><br>70<br>4599<br>4599 | -)<br>5)<br>R         |                         |                          |  |  |  |
| 9<br>10                              | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  |   |                       |                         |                          |  |  |  |
| 11                                   | CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  |   |                       |                         |                          |  |  |  |
| 12                                   | WESTERN DIVISION  |   |                       |                         |                          |  |  |  |
| 13                                   | LAUREL BIRMING  | HAM,  | ) Case No.:           |                         |                          |  |  |  |
| 14                                   | individually and on be  | ehalf of all  |                       |                         |                          |  |  |  |
| 15                                   | others similarly situat   | ed, ) <u>CLASS</u>  |                       | SACTION                 |                          |  |  |  |
| 16                                   | Plaintif  | <b>,</b>  | /                     | AINT FOR:               |                          |  |  |  |
| 17                                   | v.  |   | , , ,                 | ACH OF EXH<br>RANTY;    | PRESS                    |  |  |  |
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| 19                                   | EDGEWELL PERSO<br>COMPANY, EDGEV  |   | ,                     | RANTY;<br>JST ENRICH    | IMFNT•                   |  |  |  |
| 20                                   | PERSONAL CARE B   |   | , , ,                 |                         | CAL. UNFAIR              |  |  |  |
| 21                                   | LLC, and EDGEWE   |   |                       | <b>IPETITION</b>        |                          |  |  |  |
| 22                                   | PERSONAL CARE, 2  | LLC,  | , , ,                 | ATION OF (<br>AL REMEDI | CAL. CONSUMERS<br>ES ACT |  |  |  |
| 23                                   | Defenda   | ants.   | )                     |                         |                          |  |  |  |
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Plaintiff Laurel Birmingham ("Plaintiff") brings this action on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated against Edgewell Personal Care Company; Edgewell Personal Care Brands, LLC; and Edgewell Personal Care, LLC (collectively, "Edgewell" or "Defendant"). Plaintiff makes the following allegations pursuant to the investigation of her counsel and based upon information and belief, except as to the allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based on personal knowledge.

#### **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is a class action against Defendant for falsely and misleadingly advertising that its Banana Boat Kids Tear-Free Sting-Free Lotion (the "Product") is Sun Protection Factor ("SPF") 50 when, in fact, it is SPF 8. On the Product's packaging, it clearly and boldly states on the front of the packaging "50" and "Broad Spectrum SPF 50." This representation is false.

2. Independent laboratory testing reveals that the Product is not SPF 50. In fact, the SPF has been found to be 8, a much lower rating that makes it much less effective than advertised.<sup>1</sup>

3. SPF is a rating system that measures the fraction of the Sun's ultraviolet ("UV") rays that reach the surface of the skin. As a result, for SPF 50,  $1/50^{\text{th}}$  of the UV rays of the Sun reach the skin past the sunscreen. At SPF 8, a much higher fraction,  $1/8^{\text{th}}$ , do.

4. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's false and misleading advertising claims and marketing practices, Plaintiff and the members of the Class, as defined herein, purchased the Product and paid more for the Product because they

<sup>1</sup> See Suncreens: What's really working and what's not, CBS NEWS, http://www.cbsnews.com/news/consumer-reports-which-sunscreens-live-up-toproduct-claims-keep-skin-safe/ (last visited June 10, 2016).

were deceived into believing that the Product was SPF 50. Because the Product is, in fact, SPF 8, Plaintiff and Class members have suffered an ascertainable and out-of-pocket loss.

5. Plaintiff seeks relief in this action individually and on a class-wide basis for breach of express and implied warranties, negligent misrepresentation, fraud, unjust enrichment, and for violations of the California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 *et seq.*, and the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civil Code §§ 1750 *et seq.* 

#### **THE PARTIES**

6. Plaintiff Laurel Birmingham is domiciled in Los Angeles County, California. Plaintiff Birmingham purchased the Product on May 9, 2016, in Studio City, California. She paid approximately \$13 for the Product. In purchasing the Product, Plaintiff read and relied on the prominent representation on the front of the Product label – that the Product is "SPF 50." Plaintiff reasonably understood this representation to mean that the Product is of a high SPF that is highly effective in blocking UV rays. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Product, or would not have paid as much for the Product, had she known that the "SPF 50" representation is false and misstates the amount, percentage, and quality of UV ray blockage provided by the Product. Plaintiff suffered an injury in fact and lost money as a result of Defendant's deceptive, misleading, false, unfair, and fraudulent practices, as described herein.

7. Defendant Edgewell Personal Care Company is a Delaware corporation with headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. Defendant develops, manufactures, distributes, sells, and advertises its Banana Boat Kids Tear-Free Sting-Free Lotion nationwide, including in California and in this District. Defendant has been and still is engaged in the business of distributing, marketing, and selling Banana Boat Kids Tear-Free Sting-Free Lotion throughout the United States. On July 1, 2015 Energizer Holdings spun off its household products division as Energizer Holdings

while retaining its personal care products (including the Banana Boat brand) under the new name of Edgewell Personal Care Company.<sup>2</sup>

Defendant Edgewell Personal Care Brands, LLC is a Delaware Limited 8. Liability Corporation with its headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. Defendant Edgewell Personal Care Brands, LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of and/or 100% controlled by Edgewell Personal Care Company.

Defendant Edgewell Personal Care, LLC is a Delaware Limited 9. Liability Corporation with its headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. Defendant Edgewell Personal Care, LLC is a wholy-owned subsidiary of and/or 100% controlled by Edgewell Personal Care Company.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because there are more than 100 Class members, the aggregate amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest, fees, and costs, and at least one Class member is a citizen of a state different from the Defendant.

16 11. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this District as Defendant does business throughout this District, including selling and distributing the products at issue in this District.

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## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS

12. Consumers purchasing Defendant's Product are presented with a prominent marketing claim on Defendant's Product packaging. Defendant proclaims /// ///

See Edgewell Personal Care Company, Quarterly Report (Form 10-Q) (Aug. 27 10, 2015). 28

the Product is "Broad Spectrum SPF 50." The packaging also shows a prominent red shield that says "50", indicating an SPF of 50. Further, the Product's packaging states that it provides "UVA/UVB Protection."



13. Plaintiff and other consumers rely on Defendant's claims that the Product provides a Sun Protection Factor of at least 50. They reasonably interpret and understand the claims to mean that the Product is of a high SPF that is 'highly effective' in blocking the sun's ultraviolet rays.

14. However, Defendant's claims are untrue. Defendant's Product does not provide a Sun Protection Factor of 50. In fact, independent laboratory testing reveals that the Product provides a Sun Protection Factor of  $8^3$  meaning that the Product allows  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  of the sun's radiation through its protection, rather than  $1/50^{\text{th}}$ .

<sup>3</sup> See Ratings: Sunscreen Lotions, Sprays, and Sticks, CONSUMER REPORTS, July 2016, at 28.

15. Consumer Reports states that its "Tested SPF" ratings are "based on the average results for each sunscreen, not how close a sunscreen comes to meeting its SPF claim, and is used to calculate [its] UVB scores." Further, "[t]o test for UVA, we smear sunscreen on plastic plates and pass UV light through and measure the amount of UVA and UVB rays that are absorbed. That information is then used to calculate our UVA score." *Id*.

16. This tested SPF rating of 8 is far below that recommended by the American Academy of Dermatology, which recommends all people use a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30.<sup>4</sup>

17. Further, Defendant specifically markets this sunscreen for children, saying on its website, "This lotion spray is so gentle, it won't irritate your child's eyes or skin. Plus, the white lotion lets Mom see where she's applied it – no more missed spots!"<sup>5</sup>

18. Defendant's false advertising is not limited to its Product's labels. For example, Defendant has represented on its website and in store displays that the Product is SPF 50. *Id.* 

19. Defendant continues to make this false and misleading labeling claim regarding the quality of its Product. In doing so, Defendant has misled and continues to mislead consumers throughout the United States and is able to charge more for its Product than it otherwise could.

<sup>5</sup> See Kids & Baby, BANANA BOAT, http://www.bananaboat.com/products/kids-tear-free-sunscreen (last visited June 13, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Sunscreen FAQs, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY, https://www.aad.org/media/stats/prevention-and-care/sunscreen-faqs (last visited June 13, 2016).

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## **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

20. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 on behalf of all persons in the United States who, within the relevant statute of limitations period, purchased the Product (the "Class").

21. Plaintiff seeks to represent a subclass defined as all members of the Class who purchased the Product in California (the "California Subclass").

22. Excluded from the Class and California Subclass are the Defendant, the officers and directors of the Defendant at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns and any entity in which Defendant has or had a controlling interest.

23. Also excluded from the Class and California Subclass are persons or entities that purchased the Product for purposes of resale.

24. Plaintiff is a member of the Class and California Subclass she seeks to represent.

25. The Class and California Subclass are so numerous that joinder of all members is impractical. Although Plaintiff does not yet know the exact size of the Class, the Product is sold in retail locations throughout the United States, and on information and belief, members of the Class number in the hundreds of thousands.

26. The Class and California Subclass are ascertainable because their members can be identified by objective criteria – the purchase of Defendant's Product in the United States during the statute of limitations period. Individual notice can be provided to Class members "who can be identified through reasonable effort." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(2)(B).

27. There are numerous questions of law and fact common to the Class which predominate over any individual questions or issues, including but not limited to whether the labeling and marketing of the Product was false and misleading.

27 28. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class
28 as all members of the Class are similarly affected by Defendant's wrongful conduct.

Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to the interests of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff and all members of the Class have sustained economic injury arising out of Defendant's violations of common and statutory law as alleged herein.

29. Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class because her interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class members she seeks to represent, she has retained counsel that is competent and experienced in prosecuting class actions, and she intends to prosecute this action vigorously. The interests of the Class members will be fairly and adequately protected by Plaintiff and her counsel.

30. The class mechanism is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of Plaintiff and Class members. Each individual Class member may lack the resources to undergo the burden and expense of individual prosecution of the complex and extensive litigation necessary to establish Defendant's liability. Individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and multiplies the burden on the judicial system presented by the complex legal and factual issues of this case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. In contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court on the issue of Defendant's liability. Class treatment of the liability issues will ensure that all claims are consistently adjudicated.

## **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF** (Breach of Express Warranty)

31. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

32. Plaintiff brings this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the Class and California Subclass.

7 33. In connection with the sale of the Product, Defendant issued express8 warranties that the Product was of SPF 50.

34. Defendant's affirmations of fact and promises made to Plaintiff and the Class and the California Subclass on the Product labels became part of the basis of the bargain between Defendant on the one hand, and Plaintiff and the Class and California Subclass members on the other, thereby creating express warranties that the Product would conform to Defendant's affirmations of fact, representations, promises, and descriptions.

35. Defendant breached its express warranties because the Product is not, in fact, SPF 50, but is in fact of a much lower SPF.

36. As the manufacturer of the Product, Defendant had actual knowledge of the breach. Additionally, the results of independent laboratory tests revealed that the Product was SPF 8, which was made public prior to the filing of this Complaint. Plaintiff served notice upon Defendant Edgewell Personal Care LLC and Defendant Edgewell Personal Care Brands LLC of their breach on June 20, 2016. A copy of the letter is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

37. Plaintiff and Class and California Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach because: (a) they would not have purchased the Product or would not have paid as much for the Product if they had known the true facts; (b) they purchased and paid more for the Product due to the mislabeling; and (c) the Product did not have the characteristics, quality, or value as promised.

## **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## (Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability)

38. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

39. Plaintiff brings this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the Class and California Subclass.

40. Defendant, as the designer, manufacturer, distributor, and seller,
8 impliedly warranted that the Product was fit for its intended purpose in that the

Product was SPF 50. Defendant did so with the intent to induce Plaintiff and proposed Class and California Subclass members to purchase the Product.

41. Defendant breached its implied warranties because the Product does not have the characteristics or benefits as promised, as described herein.

42. As the manufacturer of the Product, Defendant had actual knowledge of the breach. Additionally, the results of independent laboratory tests revealed that the Product was SPF 8, which was made public prior to the filing of this Complaint. Plaintiff served notice upon Defendant Edgewell Personal Care LLC and Defendant Edgewell Personal Care Brands LLC of their breach on June 20, 2016. A copy of the letter is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

43. Plaintiff and proposed Class and California Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach because: (a) they would not have purchased the Product or would not have paid as much for the Product if they had known the true facts; (b) they purchased and paid more for the Product due to the implied warranties; and (c) the Product did not have the quality or value as impliedly warranted.

## THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## (Unjust Enrichment)

44. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

45. Plaintiff brings this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the Class and California Subclass.

46. Plaintiff and members of the Class and California Subclass conferred benefits on Defendant by purchasing the Product.

47. Defendant has been unjustly enriched in retaining revenues derived from
Plaintiff's and Class and California Subclass members' purchases of the Product.
Retention of that revenue under these circumstances is unjust and inequitable
because Defendant misrepresented facts concerning the characteristics, qualities, and

value of the Product and caused Plaintiff and Class and California Subclass members to purchase the Product and to pay more for the Product, which they would not have done had the true facts been known.

48. Because Defendant's retention of the non-gratuitous benefits conferred on it by Plaintiff and members of the Class and California Subclass is unjust and inequitable, Defendant must pay restitution to Plaintiff and members of the Class and California Subclass for its unjust enrichment, as ordered by the Court.

## FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## (California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 *et seq.*) (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)

49. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

50. The Unfair Competition Law, California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* (the "UCL"), prohibits any "unlawful," "unfair," or "fraudulent" business act or practice and any false or misleading advertising.

51. In the course of conducting its business, Defendant committed unlawful business practices by, *inter alia*, making the representations (which also constitute advertising within the meaning of § 17200) and omissions of material facts, as set forth more fully herein, and violating Cal. Civil Code §§ 1750, *et seq.*, and the common law.

52. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of other California Subclass members, reserves the right to allege other violations of law which constitute other unlawful business acts or practices. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.

5 53. Defendant's actions constitute "unfair" business acts or practices 6 because, as alleged above, *inter alia*, Defendant engages in deceptive and false 7 advertising, and misrepresents and omits material facts regarding its products, and 8 thereby offends an established public policy, and engages in immoral, unethical,

oppressive, and/or unscrupulous activities that are substantially injurious to consumers. This conduct constitutes violations of the unfair prong of Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq*.

54. Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, also prohibits any "fraudulent business act or practice."

55. Defendant's actions, claims, nondisclosures, and misleading statements, as alleged in this Complaint, also constitute "fraudulent" business practices in violation of the UCL because, among other things, they are false, misleading, and/or likely to deceive reasonable consumers within the meaning of Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq*.

56. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendant's legitimate business interests other than the conduct described herein.

57. As a result of Defendant's pervasive false marketing, including deceptive and misleading acts and omissions as detailed in this Complaint, Plaintiff and other members of the California Subclass have in fact been harmed as described above. If Defendant had not misrepresented the Product as being of a higher SPF level than it was, Plaintiff would not have purchased Defendant's Product or would not have paid as much for it as she did.

58. As a result of Defendant's unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices, Plaintiff and the other California Subclass members have suffered injury in fact and lost money.

59. As a result of its deception, Defendant has been able to reap unjust revenue and profit in violation of the UCL.

60. Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendant will continue to engage in the above-described conduct. Accordingly, injunctive relief is appropriate for Plaintiff and the California Subclass.

61. As a result of Defendant's conduct in violation of the UCL, Plaintiff and members of the California Subclass have been injured as alleged herein in amounts

to be proven at trial because they purchased the Product without full disclosure of the material facts discussed above.

62. As a result, Plaintiff individually, and on behalf of the California Subclass, and the general public, seeks restitution and disgorgement of all money obtained from Plaintiff and the members of the California Subclass collected by Defendant as a result of unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent conduct, and seeks injunctive relief, and all other relief this Court deems appropriate, consistent with Business & Professions Code section 17203.

## FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## (California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civil Code §§ 1750, *et seq*.) (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)

63. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

64. This cause of action is brought pursuant to the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civil Code §§ 1750, *et seq.* (the "CLRA"). Plaintiff is a consumer as defined by California Civil Code section 1761(d). The affected products are goods within the meaning of the CLRA.

65. Defendant violated and continues to violate the CLRA by engaging in the following practices proscribed by California Civil Code section 1770(a) in transactions with Plaintiff and the California Subclass which were intended to result in, and did result in, the sale of the affected products:

- (5) Representing that [the products] have . . . characteristics, . . . uses [or] benefits . . . which they do not have;
- (7) Representing that [the products] are of a particular standard, quality, or grade ... if they are of another; and
- (9) Advertising goods . . . with intent not to sell them as advertised.

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66. Defendant violated the CLRA by marketing and advertising the affected products in the manner described herein, when it knew, or should have known, that the labeling and advertisements were deceptive, false and misleading.

67. Defendant was in a position to know, both from its own product knowledge and independent testing that the Sun Protection Factor of the Product fell far short of its advertised levels.

68. Defendant intended that Plaintiff and members of the California Subclass would rely on the false and misleading representations, and any reasonable consumer would deem the false and misleading representations material to the purchase of the Product.

69. California Civil Code section 1780(a)(2) permits any court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin practices that violate California Civil Code section 1770.

70. On June 20, 2016, Plaintiff sent to Defendant a letter demanding that Defendant rectify the problems listed herein. If Defendant has failed to rectify or agree to rectify the problems associated with the actions detailed above and give notice to all affected consumers with thirty (30) days of the written notice pursuant to section 1782 of the CLRA, then Plaintiff will further seek to recover actual or statutory compensatory/monetary damages as authorized by California Civil Code section 1780(a)(1), restitution as applicable and authorized under California Civil Code section 1780(a)(3), and punitive damages as authorized by California Civil Code section 1780(a)(4), which are appropriate in this case in light of Defendant's knowing, intentional, fraudulent and unconscionable conduct, Defendant's reckless disregard of its legal obligations to Plaintiff and the members of California Class, and/or as otherwise recoverable under California Civil Code section 1780(a)(4). A copy of the letter is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

71. Pursuant to section 1780(d) of the CLRA, attached hereto as Exhibit B
is an affidavit showing that this action has been commenced in the proper forum.
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### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

A.

Determining that this action is a proper class action;

B. For an order declaring that the Defendant's conduct violates the statutes referenced herein;

C. Awarding compensatory and punitive damages in favor of Plaintiff, members of the Class and the California Subclass against Defendant for all damages sustained as a result of Defendant's wrongdoing, in an amount to be proven at trial, including interest thereon;

D. Awarding injunctive relief against Defendant to prevent Defendant
from continuing its ongoing unfair, unconscionable, and/or deceptive acts and
practices;

3 E. For an order of restitution and/or disgorgement and all other forms of
4 equitable monetary relief;

F. Awarding Plaintiff and members of the Class and California Subclass their reasonable costs and expenses incurred in this action, including counsel fees and expert fees; and

G. Awarding such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

## JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all claims so triable in this action.

Dated: June 28, 2016

#### WOLF HALDENSTEIN ADLER FREEMAN & HERZ LLP

By: <u>/s/ Rachele R. Rickert</u> RACHELE R. RICKERT

> BETSY C. MANIFOLD manifold@whafh.com RACHELE R. RICKERT rickert@whafh.com BRITTANY N. DEJONG dejong@whafh.com 750 B Street, Suite 2770

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| 3        |                    |            | Counsel fo             | or Plaintiff and                               | the [Proposed] Class |
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# **EXHIBIT** A

EXHIBIT A Page 16

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WOLF HALDENSTEIN ADLER FREEMAN & HERZ LLP

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June 20, 2016

#### VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Edgewell Personal Care LLC Edgewell Personal Care Brands LLC 1350 Timberlake Manor, Suite 300 St. Louis, MO 63017

Dear Sir/Madam:

We represent Ms. Laurel Birmingham, a purchaser of a product that we understand was manufactured, marketed and/or sold by Edgewell Personal Care LLC and/or Edgewell Personal Care Brands LLC ("Edgewell" or the "Company"). Our client is a citizen of California and she believes that the Company is engaging in, *inter alia*, unfair methods of competition and deceptive and misleading consumer practices in connection with the marketing and sale of Edgewell products, specifically, its Banana Boat Kids Tear-Free Sting-Free Lotion ("Banana Boat Sunscreen" or "Product").

The Company has affirmatively represented that the Product provides a Sun Protection Factor (or "SPF") of 50. However, recent testing indicates that the Product actually only has an SPF of 8.

We believe that the Company has been aware of this discrepancy during all or part of the time it has sold the product and has nonetheless persisted with its false representations. Accordingly, we submit that the Company has violated and continues to violate: (1) Cal. Civil Code §§ 1750, *et seq.* (the "CLRA"), which provides that "unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices undertaken by any person in a transaction intended to result or which results in the sale or lease of goods or services to any consumer are unlawful" (CLRA § 1770); (2) Cal. Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et. seq.* (the "UCL"), which prohibits any "unlawful," "unfair" or "fraudulent" business act or practice and any false or misleading advertising; and (3) Cal. Business and Professions Code §§ 17500, *et seq.* Misrepresenting that

WOLF HALDENSTEIN ADLER FREEMAN & HERZ LLP

Edgewell Personal Care, LLC Page 2 June 20, 2016

its products have an SPF factor of 50 when they do not violates California Civil Code section 1770(a) in particular by:

- Representing that [the] goods have ... approval, characteristics, ... uses [or] benefits which they do not have;
- Representing that [the] goods ... are of a particular standard, quality or grade ... if they are of another; and
- Advertising goods ... with intent not to sell them as advertised.

In addition, we believe that the misrepresentations made by the Company constitute a breach of an express warranty from Edgewell to our client and other consumers that the Product has an SPF factor of 50 as well as the implied warranty of merchantability. We believe that Edgewell, at all relevant times, had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations it made regarding the product. While we do not believe notice is required in these circumstances, this letter nonetheless constitutes statutory notice pursuant to California Uniform Commercial Code § 2-607(3)(A) (as well as under applicable laws of all other states that have codified and adopted substantially similar language) of the Company's breach of express warranty. The Company breached its warranties with Ms. Birmingham and all others similarly situated by providing them with sunscreen that was not of the quality or grade that the Company represented it to be.

This letter is being served on behalf of our client and all similarly situated consumers, pursuant to CLRA § 1782(a), who hereby demand that the Company: (1) engage in corrective advertising concerning the unfair and/or deceptive acts or practices alleged herein; (2) cease and desist from the unlawful conduct described herein; and (3) reimburse our client and all other similarly situated consumers for the amount that they paid for these products that were sold using unfair and/or deceptive acts or practices. Please comply with this demand within 30 days. We stand ready to discuss a reasonable resolution of this matter on terms acceptable to our client and similarly situated consumers.

If you have any questions, require any additional information or would like to discuss these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Kachele R. Rickert

Rachele R. Rickert

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# **EXHIBIT B**

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|---|---|--|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|--|--|
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9 | BETSY C. MANIFC<br>manifold@whafh.co<br>RACHELE R. RICK<br>rickert@whafh.com<br>BRITTANY N. DEJ<br>dejong@whafh.com<br><b>WOLF HALDENS'</b><br><b>FREEMAN &amp; HH</b><br>750 B Street, Suite 2<br>San Diego, CA 9210<br>Telephone: 619/239<br>Facsimile: 619/234 | ERT (190634)<br>ONG (258766)<br><b>FEIN ADLER</b><br>E <b>RZ LLP</b><br>770<br>1<br>-4599<br>-4599 |                |                 |                      |  |  |
| 10  | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  |  |                |                 |                      |  |  |
| 11  |   | CENTRAL D  | ISTRICT OF (   | CALIFORN        | IA                   |  |  |
| 12  | WESTERN DIVISION  |  |                |                 |                      |  |  |
| 13  | LAUREL BIRMING  |  | ) Case No.:    |                 |                      |  |  |
| 14  | individually and on bothers similarly situated  |  | )<br>) AFFIDAV | <b>TT PURSU</b> | ANT TO               |  |  |
| 15  |   |  |                |                 | L CODE § 1780(d)     |  |  |
| 16  | Plainti   | tf,  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 17  | v.  |  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 18  | EDGEWELL PERSO  | ONAL CARE  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 19  | COMPANY, EDGE   |  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 20  | PERSONAL CARE   |  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 21  | LLC, and EDGEWE<br>PERSONAL CARE,   |  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 22  |   | 1  | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 23  | Defend  | lants.   | )              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 24<br>25                                  |   |  | ′              |                 |                      |  |  |
| 25<br>26                                  |   |  |                |                 |                      |  |  |
| 26<br>27                                  |   |  |                |                 |                      |  |  |
| 27<br>28                                  |   |  |                |                 |                      |  |  |
| 28  |   |  |                |                 |                      |  |  |
|   |   |  |                |                 | EXHIBIT B<br>Page 20 |  |  |

1 I, LAUREL BIRMINGHAM, hereby declare that:

BANANABOAT:23015

1. I am a plaintiff in the above-captioned action. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below, and if called as a witness I could and would testify competently thereto. I make this affidavit as required by California Civil Code § 1780(d).

2. My Complaint filed in this matter contains a cause of action for violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act against Edgewell Personal Care Company, Edgewell Personal Care Brands, LLC, and Edgewell Personal Care, LLC (collectively, "Edgewell"), Delaware corporations doing business nationwide with their headquarters located in St. Louis, Missouri.

3. The Complaint in this action is filed in a proper place for the trial of this action because I am domiciled in Los Angeles County, California and because defendant Edgewell is doing business in Los Angeles County.

4. The Complaint in this action is further filed in a proper place for the trial of this action because a substantial portion of the transactions that are the subject of the action occurred in Los Angeles County.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed by me in Los Angeles, California, on June 2, 2016.

LAUREL BIRMINGHAM