UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

DAVID FREIFELD, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

ASTRO AI INC. LLC,

Defendant.

Case No.: 1:25-cv-7125

CLASS ACTION JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, David Freifeld ("Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, respectfully submits the following Complaint against Defendant, Astro AI Inc. LLC ("Astro", "Astro Ai", or "Defendant"), and alleges upon personal knowledge as to himself and his own acts and experiences and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted by his attorneys.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff brings this class action lawsuit as an individual who purchased Defendant Astro Ai's 4-Liter/6-can mini-fridge (hereinafter "Products", or "mini-fridge") for normal household use.

2. The product was sold on Amazon along with the corporate website¹.

3. As such, these Astro Ai mini-fridges are distributed, marketed, and sold by

¹ <u>https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2025/AstroAI-Recalls-Minifridges-Due-to-Fire-and-Burn-Hazards-Two-Fires-Resulted-in-More-Than-360000-in-Reported-Property-Damages</u>

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Defendant to consumers across the United States.

4. Unfortunately, the Products are defective because it is susceptible of having a switch within its wiring system short circuit causing the mini-fridge to overheat during its use posing a burn hazard and fire risk to its users.

5. The Recall applies to 249,000 units that were manufactured between June 2019-June 2022, at an approximate price of \$40.²

6. The Product is defective because a switch for the mini-fridge can short circuit and malfunction.

7. Other manufacturers formulate, produce, and sell non-defective mini-fridges with production methods that do not cause the Products to overheat and potentially catch fire, which is evidence that the fire risk inherent with Defendant's Products is demonstrably avoidable.

8. Feasible alternative formulations, designs, and materials are currently available and were available to Defendants at the time the Products were formulated, designed, and manufactured.

9. Plaintiff purchased the Product, while lacking the knowledge that the Product could have its electrical switches and/or wiring system overheat creating a fire risk and exposing users to a possible burn hazard.

10. All consumers who purchased the worthless and dangerous Products have suffered losses.

11. As a result of the above losses, Plaintiff seeks damages and equitable remedies on behalf of himself and the putative class.

 2 Id.



PARTIES

12. Plaintiff David Freifeld is a resident and citizen of Vernon Hills, Illinois. Vernon Hills is located in Lake County.

13. Defendant Astro AI Inc., LLC. is a US corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Defendant's Registered Agent for service of process is located at 1201 Orange Street, Suite 600, One Commerce Center, Wilmington, Delaware 19808. Agents and Corporations Inc. is its Registered Agent.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

14. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under the Class Action Fairness Act, the relevant portion of which is codified at 28 U.S.C. §1332(d).

15. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant has purposefully availed itself to this District's jurisdiction and authority, given that the Defendant has conducted substantial business in this judicial district and in the State of Illinois.

16. Venue is proper in this judicial 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, given that the distribution and sale of the defective product occurred within this District.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

17. On June 18, 2025, the CPSC issued a recall for Astro Ai's 4-Litter/6-can minifridge.

18. Defendant has received reports of incidents involving the mini-fridge overheating. More specifically, the CPSC reports 70 known incidents of overheating including two fires causing significant fire damage³.

19. The Astro Ai mini-fridge was sold on Amazon and the Defendant's corporate website.

20. At this time, the Defendant is not offering a refund. Instead, it is offering a replacement product⁴.

21. Plaintiff purchased the Product as "new" and intended it for ordinary use.

³ Id.

⁴ https://www.astroai.com/product-recall

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22. Plaintiff reports purchasing the mini-fridge from Amazon.

Defendants' Misrepresentations and Omissions are Actionable

23. Plaintiff bargained for a Product that was safe to use. Defendant's Products were, and are, unsafe. As a result of the fire risk while using the mini-fridge, Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, were deprived the basis of their bargain given that the Defendant sold them a product that would not overheat exposing users and their guests to burn hazards during ordinary use. This dangerous fire risk inherent to the Products renders them unmerchantable and unfit for their normal intended use.

24. The Products are not fit for their intended use by humans as they expose consumers to a fire hazard. Plaintiff is further entitled to damages for the injury sustained in being exposed to such danger, damages related to the Defendants' conduct, and injunctive relief.

25. Plaintiff seeks to recover damages because the Products are adulterated, defective, worthless, and unfit for ordinary use due to the risk of catching fire.

26. The Defendant engaged in fraudulent, unfair, deceptive, misleading, and/or unlawful conduct stemming from its omissions surrounding the risk of catching fire affecting the Products.

27. Indeed, no reasonable consumer, including Plaintiff, would have purchased the Product had they known of the material omissions of material facts regarding the possibility of the Products overheating and catching on fire.

28. Plaintiff bought his mini-fridge for personal use.

29. Plaintiff intended to purchase a Product that would be safe for normal use but instead was sold a dangerous fire hazard.

30. If Plaintiff had been aware of the risk fire in the mini-fridge, they would not have

purchased the Product or would have paid significantly less.

31. As a result of the Defendant's actions, Plaintiff has incurred damages.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

32. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and as a class action for all others similarly situated, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a), 23(b)(2), and/or 23(b)(3). Specifically, the class and subclass are defined as follows:

All persons within the United States who purchased Astro Ai's 4-Litter/ 6-can Mini Fridge with Model Numbers LY0204A within the statute of limitations.

33. This Nationwide Class shall be referred to herein as the "Class."

34. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend the Class definition if further investigation and discovery indicate that the Class definitions should be narrowed, expanded, or otherwise modified.

35. Excluded from the Class are Defendant, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers and directors, and judicial officers and their immediate family members and associated court staff assigned to this case.

36. The particular members of the Class are capable of being described without difficult managerial or administrative problems. The members of the putative classes are also readily identifiable from the information and records in the possession or control of Defendant or its affiliates and agents and from major retail sellers.

37. Certification of Plaintiff's claims for class-wide treatment is appropriate because Plaintiff can prove the elements of his claims on a class-wide basis using the same evidence as would be used to prove those elements in individual actions alleging the same claims.

38. The proposed Class is so numerous that the joinder of all members is impracticable.

39. This action has been brought and may be properly maintained on behalf of the Class

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proposed herein under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23.

40. **Numerosity: Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(1)** – Upon information and belief, the Class is so numerous that the joinder of all members is impracticable. While the exact number and identities of individual members of the Classes are unknown at this time, such information is in the sole possession of Defendants and obtainable by Plaintiffs only through the discovery process. Preliminary estimates suggest that 249,000 units are subject to recall. Members of the Class may be notified of the pendency of this action by recognized, Court-approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. Mail, Electronic Mail, internet postings, social media, and/or published notice.

41. **Typicality: Fed R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3)** – Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class, because, inter alia, all Class Members have been injured through the uniform misconduct described above and were charged improper and deceptive fees as alleged herein. Moreover, Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class Members' claims because Plaintiff is advancing the same claims and legal theories on behalf of themselves and all members of the Class. In addition, Plaintiff is entitled to relief under the same causes of action and upon the same facts as the other members of the proposed Class and Sub-class.

42. Adequacy: Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4) – Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the members of the Class. Plaintiff and the members of the Class were all consumers of a defective product posing a fire hazard. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interest of the Class and has retained competent counsel experienced in complex litigation and class action litigation. Plaintiff has no antagonistic interest to those of the Class, and Defendant has no defenses unique to Plaintiff.

43. Predominance and Superiority: Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3) – A class action is

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superior to all other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of claims of Plaintiff and Class Members. There are questions of law and fact common to all Class Members that predominate over questions affecting only individual Class Members. The damages or other financial detriment suffered by individual Class is relatively small compared to the burden and expense that would be incurred by individual litigation of their claims against Defendant. It would be virtually impossible for a member of the Class, on an individual basis, to obtain effective redress for the wrongs committed against him or her. Further, even if the Class Members could afford such individualized litigation, the court system could not. Individualized litigation would create the danger of inconsistent or contradictory judgments arising from the same set of facts. Individualized litigation would also increase the delay and expense to all parties and the court system from the issues raised by this action. On the other hand, the class action device provides the benefits of adjudication of these issues in a single proceeding, economics of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court, and presents no management difficulties under the circumstances here.

44. Plaintiff seeks monetary damages, including compensatory damages on behalf of the Class, and other equitable relief on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, to enjoin and prevent Defendant from engaging in the acts described. Unless a Class is certified, Defendant will be allowed to profit from its unfair and unlawful practices, while Plaintiff and the members of the Class will have suffered damages. Unless a Class-wide injunction is issued, Defendant may continue to benefit from these alleged violations, and the members of the Class a may continue to be unfairly treated making final injunctive relief appropriate with respect to the Class as a whole.

45. Common Questions of Fact and Law: Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(4) – This action

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involves questions of law and fact common to the Classes. The common legal and factual questions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Whether an electric switch within the mini-fridge is susceptible to short circuiting;
- b. Whether Defendant's wrongful retention of Plaintiff and Class Members' payments was an act of conversion;
- c. Whether Defendant breached its contract with the Plaintiff by failing to refund Plaintiffs' payments upon the announcement of the recall;
- d. Whether Defendant's retention of Plaintiff and Class Members' payments was a violation of Defendant's duty of good faith and fair dealing;
- e. Whether Defendant was unjustly enriched as a result of retaining and refusing to refund Plaintiff and Class Members' payments upon the recall announcement;
- f. The proper method or methods by which to measure damages and/or restitution and/or disgorgement; and
- g. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief and the nature of that relief.

CAUSES OF ACTION

<u>COUNT I</u> UNJUST ENRICHMENT

46. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

47. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

48. Plaintiff, and the other members of the Class, conferred a monetary benefit upon Defendant by purchasing the defective mini-fridge either directly or through major online retail outlets. These payments were not gifts or donations but were made in exchange for products that

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were falsely represented as safe and reliable.

49. Defendant voluntarily accepted and retained these benefits. Defendant manufactured, marketed and distributed the defective mini-fridge without adequate warnings of the known defect.

50. The benefit was obtained unlawfully by Defendant distributing a Product prone to having the mini-fridge's electrical switch short circuit causing it to overheat during ordinary use. Retaining these profits without disclosing the defect or refunding consumers is unjust and inequitable.

51. The Defendant received revenues from the sales of these defective mini-fridges at the expense of Plaintiff and the Class, who would not have purchased the mini-fridges had they been aware of the defect. The labeling and marketing of the Products by Defendants were misleading and caused direct economic harm and risk of injury to Plaintiff and the Class.

52. Defendant has been unjustly enriched by retaining the revenues derived from the sales of these mini-fridges with defect circuits and wiring systems. Retention of these revenues is inequitable because Defendant failed to disclose the known risks associated with their products, thereby misleading consumers and endangering their safety.

53. Plaintiff and the members of the Classes seek restitution of the monies conferred upon Defendant as a result of their unjust enrichment. Defendant should be required to disgorge the profits obtained from the sale of the mini-fridge equipped with defective electrical switches and, as such, seek restitution to Plaintiff and the Classes, as ordered by the Court.

COUNT II BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

54. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in the previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

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55. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide (the "Class").

56. Plaintiff and each Member of the Class formed a contract with Defendant at the time they purchased the Products.

57. The terms of the contract included express warranties created by Defendant through affirmative representations, advertising, packaging, labeling, and marketing of the defective 4-Litter/6-Can mini-fridge.

58. Defendant, through these marketing and advertising efforts, expressly warranted that the Products were safe, effective, and fit for their intended purpose. These warranties became part of the basis of the bargain between Plaintiff, Class Members, and Defendant.

59. Defendant made these affirmations of quality and safety through product labeling, packaging, and marketing materials. Defendant reinforced and relied upon these warranties by advertising, displaying, and selling the Products to consumers, thereby making its own express representations of the Products' safety and fitness.

60. Plaintiff and the Class Members fulfilled all conditions precedent to Defendant's liability under this contract, including purchasing the Products in reliance on Defendant's representations.

61. Defendant breached its express warranties because the Products were defective, prone to having the electrical switch overheat, and presented a serious fire hazard contrary to their representations. The Products failed to conform to the express affirmations and promises made by the Defendant.

62. Plaintiff and Class Members would not have purchased the Products had they known the true nature of the risks, including the potential for fire hazards and burn injuries.

63. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach of express warranty, Plaintiff and Class Members suffered and continue to suffer financial damages, injury, and economic losses. They are entitled to compensatory damages, attorneys fees, interest, and any other relief deemed appropriate by the Court.

<u>COUNT III</u> BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY

64. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in the previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

65. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendants on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

66. Defendant is a merchant engaged in the business of manufacturing, distributing, warranting, and/or selling the Products.

67. The Products are goods under the relevant laws, and at all times relevant, Defendant knew or had reason to know of the specific use for which these Products were purchased.

68. Defendant entered into agreements with retailers to distribute and sell the Products to consumers, including Plaintiff and Class Members, for personal and household use.

69. The implied warranty of merchantability, which applies to all sales of goods, means that Defendant warranted that the Products were fit for their ordinary purpose-- namely, to safely provide a mini-fridge without posing unreasonable risks of harm.

70. However, Defendant breached the implied warranty of merchantability because the Products were defective, not fit for their intended use, and posed a risk of overheating during ordinary use creating a fire hazard. As a result, they were unfit for their ordinary purpose of safe transportation and play.

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71. This implied warranty applies to all purchasers of the Products, including Plaintiff and Class Members, because they reasonably relied on Defendant's status as merchants and sellers of safe, functional goods.

72. Privity of contract is not required, as Plaintiff and Class Members are the intended beneficiaries of Defendant's implied warranties. Defendant's warranties were created for the benefit of consumers, including Plaintiff and Class Members.

73. Defendant was on notice of the defects through consumer complaints, reports of overheating incidents, and the recall of the Products, yet failed to address these defects before selling the Products to consumers.

74. Had Plaintiff, Class Members, and other consumers known that the Products posed an overheating and fire risk, they would not have purchased them or would have paid significantly less.

75. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach of the implied warranty of merchantability, Plaintiff and Class Members suffered and continue to suffer financial harm, injury, and other damages. Plaintiff and the Classes seek all available damages, including compensatory damages, attorneys' fees, interest, and any other relief deemed appropriate by the Court.

COUNT IV BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY

76. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

77. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of themselves and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Classes").

78. Defendant is a merchant engaged in the sale of goods, including the defective minifridge, to Plaintiff and the Class.

79. There was a sale of goods from Defendant to Plaintiff and Class Members, thereby establishing a commercial relationship between Defendant and consumers.

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80. As the developer, manufacturer, marketer, distributor, and seller of the defective Products, Defendant impliedly warranted that the Products were merchantable and fit for their intended use.

81. However, contrary to these representations, the Products were defective and unfit for their ordinary use, as they posed a significant risk of having an electrical switch short circuit and cause the product to overheat while being used, which was not disclosed to consumers at the time of sale.

82. Defendant breached the implied warranty of merchantability by selling products that were inherently defective and not suitable for their ordinary and intended purpose.

83. Defendant was on notice of this breach, was aware of adverse health and safety risks caused by the mini-fridge overheating yet failed to take corrective action before selling the Products.

84. Plaintiff and Class Members did not receive the goods as bargained for, as the Products were not merchantable, did not conform to industry standards, and failed to meet the quality and safety expectations of similar goods.

85. Plaintiff and Class Members are intended beneficiaries of the implied warranties, as they reasonably relied on Defendant's expertise and reputation as merchants when purchasing the Products.

86. Plaintiff and Class Members did not alter the Products, and they used them in the ordinary and intended manner.

87. The Products were defective at the time they left the exclusive control of Defendant, meaning that Defendant bears responsibility for the defect.

88. The Products were defectively designed and/or manufactured, making them unfit

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for their intended purpose and rendering them non-merchantable under applicable laws.

89. Plaintiff and Class Members purchased the Products without knowing of the latent defect, which was undiscoverable at the time of purchase but existed when the Products left Defendant's control.

90. As a direct and proximate result of the defective Product, Plaintiff and Class Members suffered damages, including, but not limited to, the cost of purchasing the defective Product, loss of use, and other related damages.

91. Defendant attempted to limit or disclaim their implied warranties, but any such disclaimers are unenforceable and void, as a product that poses safety risks cannot be lawfully sold under the implied warranty of merchantability.

92. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial and are entitled to any incidental, consequential, and other damages and other legal and equitable relief, and all costs and attorneys' fees available under law.

<u>COUNT V</u> FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT

93. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in the previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

94. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

95. Defendant had a duty to disclose material facts to Plaintiff and Class Members given their relationship as contracting parties and intended users of the Products.

96. Defendant had superior knowledge about the defective nature of the product at issue, particularly the risk of overheating and catching fire, which made them unfit for ordinary

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use.

97. During this time, Plaintiff and Class Members were using the Product without knowing of these fire risks, reasonably believing that the Products were safe for use.

98. Defendant knew or should have known about the defect but failed to warn consumers, retailers, or regulators, and continued to sell the Product despite the defect, and either knew or should have known about the risk, particularly if the recall had already been issued.

99. Defendant failed to disclose these material facts with the intent to induce consumers into purchasing the Products, despite the latent defect. This failure constitutes fraudulent concealment as Defendant intentionally withheld critical safety information that, if disclosed, would have affected consumer purchasing decisions.

100. Plaintiff and Class Members reasonably relied on Defendant's failure to disclose, believing that the Products were safe when, in fact, they were not.

101. Had Plaintiff and Class Members known the true risks, they would not have purchased the Products or would have paid significantly less.

102. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's fraudulent concealment, Plaintiff and Class Members suffered financial losses, including the cost of purchasing defective Products, the risk of harm, and the devaluation of their purchases.

103. Because Defendant acted with willful and malicious intent, punitive damages are warranted to deter future misconduct and punish Defendants for knowingly concealing critical safety information from consumers.

<u>COUNT VI</u> STRICT LIABILITY – FAILURE TO WARN

104. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

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105. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

106. Defendant had a duty to warn Plaintiff and Class Members about the Defect and the true risks associated with the Products.

107. As the manufacturer, Defendant was in a superior position to know about the defective Products and their dangerous propensity to have the electrical switch short-circuit. However, Defendant failed to warn consumers, retailers, and regulatory agencies about the risks when it had the opportunity to do so.

108. Defendant failed to provide adequate warnings regarding the risks of the Product before or at the time of sale, particularly if it continued selling the Products despite knowledge of the recall or other safety concerns.

109. Defendant had access to critical safety information regarding the fire hazards associated with the Products, yet failed to warn Plaintiff and Class Members, leaving them unaware of the dangers.

110. Despite knowing the risks, Defendant did not strengthen their warnings or provide adequate safety disclosures before selling the Product. Instead, Defendant actively concealed or ignored the need for stronger warnings, prioritizing sales over consumer safety.

111. Plaintiff and Class Members would not have purchased, chosen, or paid for the Products had they known of the risk of a fire hazard during ordinary use caused by degradation of a connector within the toy's wiring system. Because Defendant failed to provide proper warnings, consumers were deprived of their right to make an informed purchasing decision.

112. The Defect proximately caused Plaintiff and Class Members' damages, as they purchased and used a Product that posed an unreasonable risk of harm without their knowledge.

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113. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial and are entitled to any incidental, consequential, and other damages and other legal and equitable relief, and all costs and attorneys' fees available under law.

<u>COUNT VII</u> STRICT LIABILITY – DESIGN DEFECT

114. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

115. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

116. The design of the recalled Astro Ai 4-Litter/6-Can mini-fridge was defective and unreasonably dangerous, making the Product unsafe for consumer use.

117. The fire risk associated with the circuitry and wiring system's defect while Plaintiff and Class Members used the Products caused exposure to a known burn hazard and posed a serious risk of injury.

118. The design defect rendered the Product not reasonably fit, suitable, or safe for their intended purpose, violating consumer safety expectations.

119. The risk of a burn hazard outweighed the benefits of the Product, making them unreasonably dangerous to consumers.

120. There were alternatives, safer mini-fridge designs available, including other minifridges that did not overheat or pose a similar fire risk, meaning Defendant had the ability to manufacture a safer product, but failed to do so.

121. Defendant could have implemented safer design modifications that would have reduced or eliminated the fire risk, such as improved thermal management systems, enhanced safety circuits, or better casing materials, but failed to do so.

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122. Because the Products were unreasonably unsafe and did not perform as an ordinary consumer would expect, they should not have been sold to consumers.

123. Defendant is strictly liable for selling the defective Product, as strict liability applies to all entities in the chain of distribution.

124. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial and are entitled to any incidental, consequential, and other damages and other legal and equitable relief, and all costs and attorneys' fees available under law.

<u>COUNT VIII</u> NEGLIGENT FAILURE TO WARN

125. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

126. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

127. Defendant owed Plaintiff and Class Members a duty of care to warn of any risks associated with the Products.

128. Defendant knew or should have known that the defective product posed a significant fire risk associated with its circuitry and wiring system but failed to warn Plaintiff and Class Members.

129. Defendant had a duty to warn consumers if it had knowledge or reason to know about the defect including through prior consumer complaints, product recalls, or other safety notices, but failed to provide adequate warnings before or at the time of sale.

130. Plaintiff and Class Members had no way of knowing about the Product's latent defect, as an ordinary consumer would not expect the Product to overheat during normal use.

131. Defendant's breach of its duty to warn caused Plaintiff and Class Members to suffer

economic damages and physical injuries.

132. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial and are entitled to any incidental, consequential, and other damages and other legal and equitable relief, as well as costs and attorneys' fees available under law.

COUNT IX NEGLIGENT DESIGN DEFECT

133. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in previous Paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.

134. Plaintiff brings this claim against Defendant on behalf of himself and the other Members of the Nationwide Class (the "Class").

135. Defendant owed Plaintiff and Class Members a duty of care to design, manufacture, and sell products that were safe for their intended use.

136. The design of the recalled Astro Ai 4-Litter/6-Can mini-fridge was defective and unreasonably dangerous, causing exposure to fire, smoke, and the risk of severe injury or property damage.

137. The design of the Products rendered them unfit, unsuitable, and unsafe for their intended purpose, as the fire hazard far outweighed any benefits of the Product.

138. There were alternative, safer ride-on toy designs available that did not have the electric switch short circuit causing the mini-fridge to overheat during ordinary use, meaning Defendant could have implemented a safer design but failed to do so.

139. Defendant had access to industry knowledge, safety reports, and consumer complaints that should have alerted them to the defective nature of the Products.

140. Defendant was negligent in selling the defective Products, as they either knew or should have known that the design was unreasonably dangerous, particularly if the recall had been

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issued or customer complaints had been received before further sales.

141. The negligent design of the Product was the proximate cause of Plaintiff and Class Members' damages, as it posed an inherent and foreseeable risk of harm that Defendant failed to address.

142. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial and are entitled to any incidental, consequential, and other damages and other legal and equitable relief, and all costs and attorneys' fees available under law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the other Members of the Class alleged herein, respectfully request that the Court enter judgment in their favor and against the Defendant as follows:

- A. For an order certifying the Class and naming Plaintiff as the representative for the Class and Plaintiff's attorneys as Class Counsel;
- B. For an order declaring that Defendant's conduct violates the causes of action referenced herein;
- C. For an order finding in favor of Plaintiff and the Class on all counts asserted herein;
- D. For compensatory, statutory, and punitive damages in amounts to be determined by the Court and/or jury;
- E. For prejudgment interest on all amounts awarded;
- F. For an order of restitution and all other forms of equitable monetary relief;
- G. For injunctive relief as pleaded or as the Court may deem proper;
- H. For an order awarding Plaintiff and the Class their reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses and costs of suit; and
- I. For an order providing for all other such equitable relief as may be just and proper.

Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

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Dated: June 26, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Paul J. Doolitte</u> Paul J. Doolittle #66490 **Poulin | Willey | Anastopoulo, LLC** 32 Ann Street Charleston, SC 29403 T: (803) 222 – 2222 E: paul.doolittle@poulinwilley.com cmad@poulinwilley.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Putative Class

ILND 44 (Rev. 08/23) Case: 1:25-cv-07125 Document & Q-Y ERS 105/25/25 Page 1 of 2 PageID #:23 The ILND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(See instructions on next page of this form.)*

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DAVID FREIFELD,	individually and or	h behalf of all	DEFENDANTS	DEFENDANTS		
others similarly situated,			ASTRO AI INC. LLC,			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (Except in U.S. plaintiff cases) Lake County, IL			County of Residence of First Listed Defendan New Castle County, DE (In U.S. plaintiff cases only) Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved.			
(c) Attorneys (firm name, add Poulin I Willey I Anastopo 32 Ann Street, Charlestor 29403 T: 803-222-2222	oulo, LLC		Attorneys (If Known)			
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Check <u>one</u> box, only.) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (For Diversity Cases Only.) (Check one box, only for plaintiff and one box, for defendant.)						
1 U.S. Government 3 Federal Question Plaintiff (U.S. Government not a party.)			$\begin{array}{c c} \text{PTF} & \text{DEF} \\ \text{Citizen of This State} & \blacksquare 1 \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c c} 1 \\ 1 \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c c} 1 \\ 1 \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c c} 1 \\ 1 \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c c} \text{Incorporated } or \text{Principal Place of } \\ \text{Business in This State} \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c c} \text{PTF} \\ \text{DEF} \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c c} \text{DEF} \\ \text{DeF} \\ \end{array}$			
2 U.S. Government Defendant	— •		Citizen of Another State 2	□ 2 Incorporated <i>and</i> Principal Place □ 5		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country 3	□ 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		P.C.	BDICOMED DETITIONS	LADOD	OTHED CTATUTES	
CONTRACT			PRISONER PETITIONS	LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards	OTHER STATUTES	
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	□ Sentence	Act	375 False Claims Act	
120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability	365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	☐ 530 General	720 Labor/Management	□ ³⁷⁶ Qui Tam (31 USC 3729 (a))	
130 Miller Act	□ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander □ 330 Federal Employers'	367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury	535 Death Penalty	Relations	400 State Reapportionment	
140 Marstichle Instances	Liability 340 Marine	Product Liability	Other:	☐ 740 Railway Labor Act	410 Antitrust	
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	☐ 345 Marine Product Liability	368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product	☐540 Mandamus & Other ☐550 Civil Rights	☐ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act	☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce	
& Enforcement of Judgment	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Product	Liability	555 Prison Condition	☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation ☐ 791 Employee Retirement	☐ 460 Deportation ☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced	
☐ 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	PERSONAL PROPERTY	□ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions		and Corrupt	
Student Loan (Excludes Veterans)	☐ 360 Other Personal Injury ☐ 362 Personal Injury - Medical	□ 370 Other Fraud	of Confinement	Income Security Act	Organizations 480 Consumer Credit	
□ 153 Recovery of Veteran's Benefits	Malpractice	371 Truth in Lending		PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyright	485 Telephone Consumer	
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits		380 Other Personal		□ 830 Patent	Protection Act (TCPA)	
190 Other Contract		Property Damage		835 Patent - Abbreviated	490 Cable/Sat TV	
□ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise		☐ 385 Property Damage Product Liability		New Drug Application 840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange ☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions	
	CIVIL DICUTS	DANIZDUDTCN/		Act of 2016 (DTSA)	891 Agricultural Arts	
REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	SOCIAL SECURITY S61 HIA (1395ff)	893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information	
220 Foreclosure	441 Voting	☐ 423 Withdrawal	of Property 21 USC 881	□ 862 Black Lung (923)	Act	
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment	28 USC 157	☐ 690 Other	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW	896 Arbitration	
240 Torts to Land	443 Housing/Accommodations			(405(g))	B99 Administrative Procedure	
 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property 	445 Amer. w/ Disabilities- Employment	IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization		 ☐ 864 SSID Title XVI ☐ 865 RSI (405(g)) 	Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision	
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	Application		FEDERAL TAXES	950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	Other	463 Habeas Corpus – Alien Detainee		870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	State Statutes	
	☐ 448 Education	(Prisoner Petition)		or Defendant		
		465 Other Immigration Actions		871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609		
V. ORIGIN (Check one box, only.)						
■1 Original □ 2 Removed from □ 3 Remanded from □ 4 Reinstated □ 5 Transferred □ 6 Multidistrict □ 8 Multidistrict						
Proceeding State Court Appellate Court or Reopened from Another Litigation - Litigation - District Transfer Direct File (specify)						
VIL DDEVIQUE DANKDUDTCV MATTEDS (The second se						
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Enter U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause.) 28 U.S.C. 1332(d) Class Action for Product Liability						
VIII. REQUESTED IN Check if this is a class action under Rule 23, Demand \$ CHECK Yes only if demanded in complaint:						
COMPLAINT:	F.R.CV.P.		\$5,000,000	Jury Demand:	-	
IX. RELATED CASE(S	S) IF ANY (See instructions):	Judge		Case Number		
X. Is this a previously dismissed or remanded case? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No If yes, Case # Name of Judge						
Date: 06/26/2025 Signature of Attorney of Record /s/ Paul J. Doolittle						

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below. United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box. Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment

to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: <u>Nature of Suit Code Descriptions</u>.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.