

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Via Facsimile & FedEx 717-845-1546 (fax)

March 30, 2010

we define the set

Mr. Albert G. Barnes, Esq. 40 East Philadelphia St. York, PA 17401

In Re: In the Matter of: Bessie D. Jones, Docket No. TSCA-03-2006-0290

Dear Mr. Barnes:

Please find enclosed a true and correct copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order that was filed today with the Regional Hearing Clerk in the matter referenced above. I understand that payment of the \$15,000 civil penalty has already been received by EPA.

I want to thank you and your client for helping to conclude this matter. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions via phone (215-814-2689), fax (215-814-2601), or email (<u>sharke.janet@epa.gov</u>).

Sincerely. OMAS

Janet E. Sharke Sr. Assistant Regional Counsel

cc: A. Skidmore

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

### REGULAR MAIL

Lori Weidner U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Cincinnati Finance Center 26 W. MLK Drive Cincinnati, OH 45268

Re: Accounts Receivable In the Matter of Bessie D. Jones <u>Consent Agreement and Final Order</u> EPA Docket No. TSCA-03-2006-0290

Dear Ms. Weidner:

Enclosed please find a true and correct copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order, and the Enforcement Accounts Receivable Control Number Form (EARCNF) filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk today in settlement of the above referenced subject matter.

Should you have any question or require further information, please feel free to call me at (215) 814-2474.

Sincerely,

Donzetta W. Thomas Sr. Asst. Regional Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Lydia Guy Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region III

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SUBJECT:	Bessie D. Jones	
	Docket No. TSCA-03-2006-0290	

FROM: Marcia. E. Mulkey (1) Regional Counsel (3RC00)

> Abraham Ferdas, Director Land and Chemicals Division (3LC00)

TO: Renée Sarajian Regional Judicial and Presiding Officer (3RC00)

We recommend that you sign the attached Final Order which accompanies the attached fully executed Consent Agreement. Upon filing, this CAFO will resolve alleged violations by Bessie D. Jones ("Respondent") of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 ("Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 4851 <u>et seq.</u>, and 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart F ("Disclosure Rule"), in connection with sale and/or leasing of several pre-1978 residential dwellings in York, Pennsylvania. The CAFO, which, when filed, requires that Respondent pay a civil penalty of \$15,000. The penalty was calculated by considering the factors set forth in Section 16 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615, and in accordance with EPA's December 20, 2007, "Section 1018 --Disclosure Rule Enforcement Response and Penalty Policy."

cc: Albert G. Barnes, Esq.

### BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

In the Matter of:	:
Bessie D. Jones	:
144 Lafayette Street	:
York, Pennsylvania 17403	:
Respondent,	:
412 South Pershing Avenue	:
York, Pennsylvania 17401	:
422 South Pershing Avenue	:
York, Pennsylvania 17401	
129 Edgar Street	
York, Pennsylvania 17403	:
169 West Maple Street	
York, Pennsylvania 17401	:
	:
Target Housir	ig. :

Docket No. TSCA-03-2006-0290

CONSENT AGREEMENT

#### CONSENT AGREEMENT

The Director of the Land and Chemicals Management Division (formerly, "Waste and Chemicals Management Division"), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, on behalf of the Associate Director for Enforcement of the Waste and Chemicals Management Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III ("Complainant"), and Bessie D. Jones ("Respondent") (collectively the "Parties"), wishing to settle Complainant's claims for civil penalties arising from the violations alleged by Complainant, have consented to the entry of this Consent Agreement ("CA") and the accompanying Final Order ("FO") (collectively "CAFO"), pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), ("TSCA"), and in accordance with the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/ Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

#### **Preliminary Statement**

1. Complainant initiated this proceeding on September 25, 2006, with the filing of a sixteencount Administrative Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("Complaint") against Respondent seeking the assessment of a civil penalty pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. 2615(a), and the *Consolidated Rules*, for violations of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4851 *et seq.* ("Act"), and the regulations promulgated thereunder, as set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart F ("Disclosure Rule"), which statutory and regulatory provisions are enforceable pursuant to Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689.

# I. General Provisions

- 2. For purposes of this proceeding only, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth in the Complaint
- 3. Respondent admits each of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth in the Complaint and incorporated by reference herein.
- 4. Respondent agrees not to contest EPA's jurisdiction with respect to the execution of this CA, the issuance of the attached FO, or the enforcement thereof.
- 5. For the purposes of this proceeding only, Respondent hereby expressly waives her right to a hearing on any issue of law or fact set forth in the Complaint and any right to appeal the accompanying FO.
- 6. Respondent consents t $\phi$  the issuance of this CAFO and agrees to comply with its terms.
- 7. Respondent agrees not to deduct for federal tax purposes the civil monetary penalty specified in this CAFO.
- 8. Respondent shall bear her own costs and attorney's fees, if any.
- 9. This CAFO constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties concerning settlement of the above-captioned action and there are no representations, warranties, covenants, terms or conditions agreed upon between the Parties other than those expressed herein.
- 10. Respondent certifies that she currently is in full compliance with the Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4851 *et seq.*, and the Disclosure Rule codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart F.
- 11. Nothing in this CAFO shall alter or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental statutes and regulations.
- 12. Nothing in this CAFO shall constitute or be construed as a release of Respondent from any claim, cause of action, or demand in law or equity by any person, firm, partnership, or corporation not bound by this CAFO for any liability relating in any way to the presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards at or in any Target Housing which is the subject of this CAFO.
- 13. This Consent Agreement and the accompanying Final Order resolve only EPA's claims for civil monetary penalties for the specific violations set forth in the Complaint and

incorporated by reference herein. EPA reserves the right to commence action against any person, including Respondent, in response to any condition which EPA determines may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health, public welfare, or the environment. In addition, this settlement is subject to all limitations on the scope of resolution and to the reservation of rights set forth in Section 22.18(c) of the *Consolidated Rules*. Further, EPA reserves any rights and remedies available to it under TSCA, the Act, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and any other federal laws or regulations for which EPA has jurisdiction, to enforce the provisions of this CAFO, following its filing with the EPA Regional Hearing Clerk.

# II. Hindings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

- 14. The Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 119 of the Complaint are incorporated into this Consent Agreement as if fully set forth herein.
- 15. Based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law incorporated herein, EPA concludes that Respondent violated the provisions of TSCA, the Act, and the Disclosure Rule.
- 16. As a result of EPA's conclusion that Respondent violated TSCA, the Act, and the Disclosure Rule, EPA has determined that Respondent is liable for a civil penalty.

# III. Civil Penalty

- 17. Respondent agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) in satisfaction of all civil claims for penalties which Complainant may have under Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), for the specific violations alleged in the Complaint. Such civil penalty shall become due and payable immediately upon Respondent's receipt of a true and correct copy of the CAFO. In order to avoid the assessment of interest, administrative costs and late payment penalties in connection with such civil penalty, Respondent must pay such civil penalty no later than thirty (30) calendar days after the date on which this CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to Respondent.
- 18. The aforesaid settlement amount is based upon Complainant's consideration of the factors set forth in Section 16(a)(2)(B) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a)(2)(B), which include the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations and the violator's ability to pay, ability to continue in business, history of prior violations, and degree of culpability, and other matters as justice may require.
- 19. Payment of the civil penalty as required by Paragraph 17, above, shall be made by either cashier's check, certified check, or electronic wire transfer, in the following manner:
  - a. All payments by Respondent shall reference Respondent's name and address, and the Docket Number of this action: TSCA-03-2006-0290.
  - b. All checks shall be made payable to "United States Treasury".

c. All payments made by check and sent by regular mail shall be addressed to:

U.S. EPA Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, Mo 63197-9000

Contact: Eric Volck 513-487-2105

d. All payments made by check and sent by overnight delivery service shall be addressed for delivery to:

U.S. Bank Government Lockbox U.S. EPA, Fines & Penalties 1005 Convention Plaza Mail Station SL-MO-C2-GL St. Louis, Mo 63101

Contact: 314-418-1028

e. All payments made by electronic wire transfer shall be directed to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York ABA = 021030004 Account No. = 68010727 SWIFT address = FRNYUS33 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045.

Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read "D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency"

f. All electronic payments made through automatic clearinghouse ("ACH"), also known as remittance express ("REX"), shall be directed to:

US Treasury REX/Cashlink ACH Receiver ABA = 05136706 Account 310006, Environmental Protection Agency CTX Format Transaction Code 22 - checking

Physical location of U.S. Treasury facility 5700 Rivertech Court Riverdale, MD 20737 Contact: Jessie White 301-887-6548 or REX, 1-866-234-5681

g. Online Payment Option:

WWW.PAY.GOV/paygov/

Enter sfo 1.1. in search field. Open and complete form.

h. Additional payment guidance is available at:

http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/finservices/payment

20. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a notice of such payment, including a copy of the check, EFT authorization or ACH authorization, as appropriate to:

Ms. Lydia Guy Regional Hearing Clerk (3RC00) U.S. EPA, Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029;

and

Janet E. Sharke Sr. Assistant Regional Counsel (3RC30) U.S. EPA, Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029.

- 21. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, EPA is entitled to assess interest, administrative costs and late payment penalties on outstanding debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the costs of processing and handling a delinquent claim, as more fully described below.
- 22. In accordance with 40 ¢.F.R. § 13.11(a), interest on any civil penalty assessed in a Consent Agreement and Final Order begins to accrue on the date that a true and correct copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondent. However, EPA will not seek to recover interest on any amount of such civil penalty that is paid within thirty (30) calendar days after the date on which such interest begins to accrue. Interest will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a).
- 23. The costs of the Agency's administrative handling of overdue debts will be charged and assessed monthly throughout the period a debt is overdue. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). Pursuant to Appendix 2 of EPA's *Resources Management Directives Cash*

*Management*, Chapter 9, EPA will assess a \$15.00 administrative handling charge for administrative costs on unpaid penalties for the first thirty (30) day period after the payment is due and an additional \$15.00 for each subsequent thirty (30) days the penalty remains unpaid.

- A late payment penalty of six percent per year will be assessed monthly on any portion of a civil penalty which remains delinquent more than ninety (90) calendar days. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c). Should assessment of the penalty charge on a debt be required, it shall accrue from the first day payment is delinquent. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d).
- 25. Payment of the penalty specified in Paragraph 17 herein shall constitute full and final satisfaction of Complainant's civil claims set forth in this CAFO.

### V. PARTIES BOUND

26. This Consent Agreement and the accompanying Final Order shall apply to and be binding upon EPA, Respondent, and Respondent's successors, agents and assigns.

### VI. <u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>

27. The effective date of this CAFO is the date on which it is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk after signature by the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator.

#### For Respondent, Bessie D. Jones:

Date: 10 MArch 2010

lessie D. Jones

#### For Complainant:

Date: 3/32/3010

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Janet E. Sharke Senior Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. EPA, Region III

After reviewing the foregoing Consent Agreement and other pertinent information, the Director of the Land and Chemicals Management Division, EPA Region III, recommends that the Regional Administrator or the Regional Judicial Officer issue the Final Order attached hereto.

Date: 3/29/10

Abraham Ferdas, Director Land and Chemicals Management Division U.S. EPA, Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

# BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

In the Matter of:	:	
	:	
Bessie D. Jones	:	
144 Lafayette Street	:	Docket No. TSCA-03-2006-0290
York, Pennsylvania 17403	:	
	:	
Respondent,	:	
	:	
412 South Pershing Avenue	:	
York, Pennsylvania 17401	:	
	:	
422 South Pershing Avenue	:	
York, Pennsylvania 17401	:	CONSENT AGREEMENT
-	:	
129 Edgar Street	:	
York, Pennsylvania 17403	:	
•	:	
169 West Maple Street	:	
York, Pennsylvania 17401	:	
, <u> </u>	:	
Target Housing.	:	

### FINAL ORDER

The Director of the Land and Chemicals Management Division (formerly, "Waste and Chemicals Management Division"), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, on behalf of Complainant, the Associate Director for Enforcement of the Waste and Chemicals Management Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, and Respondent, Bessie D. Jones, have executed a document entitled "Consent Agreement", which I hereby ratify as a Consent Agreement in accordance with the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/ Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules of Practice")*, published at 40 C.F.R. Part 22. The terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement are accepted by the undersigned and incorporated into this Final Order as if set forth fully herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE PURSUANT TO** Section 1018 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 ("Act"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4851 *et seq.*, and 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart F, which authorizes the assessment of a civil penalty under Section 16 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615, for violations of the Act, and the *Consolidated Rules of Practice*, and having determined, based on the representations of the parties to the attached Consent Agreement, that the agreed civil penalty payment required therein was based upon the factors set forth in Section 16(a)(2)(B) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a)(2)(B), **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent comply with the terms and conditions of the attached Consent Agreement and pay a civil penalty of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$ 5,000.00), as specified in the attached Consent Agreement. The effective date of this Final Order and of the accompanying Consent Agreement is the date on which the Final Order, signed by the Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, or the Regional Judicial Officer, is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III.

Date: 3/30/10

Server Larapian Renée Sarajian By:

Regional Judicial Officer United States Environmental Protection Agency Region III

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the date set forth below, I hand-delivered to the Regional Hearing Clerk of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order (Docket No. TSCA-03-2006-0290).

I further certify that on the date set forth below, I caused a true and correct copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order to be transmitted via facsimile and United Parcel Service to the following addressee:

> Albert G. Barnes, Esq. Attorney at Law 40 East Philadelphia Street York, PA 17401

-/10

Donzetta W. Thomas Senior Assistant Regional Counsel Office of Regional Counsel (3RC30) U.S. EPA, Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029