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# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO, EX REL. DAVE YOST Plaintiff

Case No: CV-21-948479

Judge: NANCY R MCDONNELL

B A LIZARDS FOR PEACE KETTH ERICKSON D
Defendant

**JOURNAL ENTRY** 

92 DEFAULT - FINAL

THE COURT GRANTS PLAINTHT'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO THE TERMS OF THE ATTACHED ORDER, 0.S.J.

COURT COST ASSESSED TO THE DEFENDANT(S).

PURSUANT TO CIV.R. 58(B), THE CLERK OF COURTS IS DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS JUDGMENT IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY CIV.R. 5(B). THE CLERK MUST INDICATE ON THE DOCKET THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL PARTIES, THE METHOD OF SERVICE, AND THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS SERVICE.

THIS ENTRY TAKEN BY JUDGE TIMOTHY J MCGINTY.

Judge Signature

RECEIVED
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OHIO

OCT 2 2 2021

CONSUMER PROTECTION SECTION PUBLIC INSPECTION FILE

## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO, ex rel.	) CASE NO. CV-21-948479
ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVE YOST,	)
	) JUDGE NANCY R. MCDONNELL
Plaintiff,	)
	) JUDGMENT ENTRY GRANTING
v,	) DEFAULT JUDGMENT AGAINST
	) <u>DEFENDANT KEITH ERICKSON</u>
KEITH ERICKSON,	) d/b/a LIZARDS FOR PEACE
d/b/a LIZARDS FOR PEACE	)
	)
Defendant	)

This cause came to be heard upon Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment against

Defendant Keith Erickson d/b/a Lizards for Peace ("Defendant") pursuant to Civ. R. 55(A).

Defendant was properly served in this matter, has failed to file an answer to Plaintiff's

Complaint, and has failed to defend against this motion or otherwise appear before the Court.

Defendant is not an active duty military, reservist in active Federal service, or National

Guardsmen in active service. The Court finds the Plaintiff's motion well-taken and hereby grants and sustains Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment. The Court, based on that motion and Plaintiff's Complaint, hereby renders the following Default Judgment Entry and Order:

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- Defendant Keith Erickson is an individual residing at 2501 N. Long Rd., Avon, Ohio 44011.
- 2. Defendant operated an online business known as Lizards for Peace.
- In early 2020 Defendant rapidly acquired significant volumes of certain products such as hand sanitizers and respirator masks, for resale.

- By rapidly acquiring these products, Defendant exacerbated the increasing shortage
  of these products in the marketplace.
- 5. Between February 10, 2020 20 March 16, 2020 Defendant sold thousands of units of various brands and types of hand sanitizer products and respirator masks at significantly inflated prices of up to 353.7% over what he charged for these products in January of that year.
- Defendant charged prices greatly in excess of what these products cost in the
  marketplace, to the detriment of consumers and the public interest, and as a one-sided
  benefit to himself.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter, issues and parties to this action and venue is proper.
- The business practices of Defendant, as described herein and in Plaintiff's Complaint, are governed by the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.01 et seq.
- 3. The Ohio Attorney General, acting on behalf of the citizens of Ohio, and in the best interest of this state, is the proper party to commence this action under the authority of the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.07, and by virtue of his authority to protect the interests of the citizens of the State of Ohio.
- 4. Defendant is a "supplier," as that term is defined in R.C. 1345.01(C), as he engaged in the business of effecting "consumer transactions" by advertising and selling goods via ecommerce platforms to consumers which were primarily for personal, family or household purposes, within the meaning specified by R.C. 1345.01(A) and (D).

- Defendant has committed unfair and deceptive acts or practices in violation of the Consumer Sales Practice Act, R.C. 1345.02(A), by charging excessive prices for consumer goods which could have been bought elsewhere.
- Defendant has committed unfair and deceptive acts or practices in violation of R.C.
   1345.03(A) by requiring consumers to enter into consumer transactions on terms which
   Defendant knew were substantially one-sided in favor of himself.
- 7. These acts or practices have been previously determined by Ohio courts to violate the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.01 *et seq.* Defendant committed said violations after such decisions were available for public inspection pursuant to R.C. 1345.05(A)(3).

#### WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- Plaintiff's request for Declaratory Judgment is GRANTED, and it is therefore
   DECLARED that the acts and practices set forth above violate the Consumer Sales

   Practices Act in the manner set forth therein.
- 2. Defendant, under his own name or any other names, his agents, representatives, salespeople, employees, successors and assigns, and all persons acting on behalf of them directly or indirectly, through any corporate or private device, partnership or association, are PERMANENTLY ENJOINED from engaging in the acts or practices of which Plaintiff complains and from further violating the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.01 et seq. and the Substantive Rules enacted thereunder.
- 3. Defendant is **ORDERED** to pay, a civil penalty of \$25,000 pursuant to R.C. 1345.07(D).
- 4. This Court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcement of this Order.
- 5. Defendant shall pay Plaintiff's costs of collecting on this judgment as permitted by

statute.

6. Defendant is ORDERED to pay all court costs of this action.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

JUDGE NANCY R. MCDONNELL

 $\frac{15/14/21}{\text{DATE}}$ 

cc:

Plaintiff

Defendant

Submitted by:

**DAVE YOST**OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

/s/ Rebecca F. Schlag

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