## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBYN LIPETZ and SHANNON KEENER, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNILEVER UNITED STATES, INC., and CONOPCO, INC. d/b/a UNILEVER HOME & PERSONAL CARE USA,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2:20-cv-06350-CFK

## CONSENT ORDER TRANSFERRING ACTION TO THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

THIS MATTER having been presented to the Court through the undersigned counsel upon the consent of Plaintiffs Robyn Lipetz and Shannon Keener (collectively, "<u>Plaintiffs</u>") and Defendants Unilever United States, Inc. and Conopco, Inc. d/b/a Unilever Home & Personal Care USA (collectively, "<u>Defendants</u>," and together with Plaintiffs, the "<u>Parties</u>"):

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs filed the above-captioned action (this "<u>Action</u>") on December 17, 2020;

WHEREAS, substantially similar actions have been filed in other jurisdictions, specifically: (i) *Castillo v. Unilever United States, Inc., et al.*, No. 1:20-cv-06786, filed on November 16, 2020, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (the "<u>First-Filed Action</u>"); (ii) *Libbey v. Unilever United States, Inc., et al.*, No. 4:20-cv-08075-JSW, filed on November 16, 2020, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California; and (iii) *Arroyo v. Unilever United States, Inc., et al.*, No. 2:21-cv-00302, filed on



January 7, 2021, in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (collectively, the "Related Actions");

WHEREAS, the Plaintiffs in this Action and the plaintiffs in the Related Actions are represented by overlapping counsel;

WHEREAS, this Action and the Related Actions involve the same Defendants and are asserted on behalf of nationwide putative classes of purchasers of the same products manufactured by Defendant Unilever United States, Inc.;

WHEREAS, this Action and the Related Actions involve substantially similar issues of fact and law;

WHEREAS, litigating this Action and the Related Actions in separate jurisdictions would be inefficient and present the risk of inconsistent results, and would be inconvenient to the Parties and witnesses alike;

WHEREAS, having this Action and the Related Actions proceed before the same Court will eliminate the potential for inconsistent rulings on critical pretrial motions, including class certification, eliminate the burden of duplicative discovery on common issues, prevent unnecessary use of judicial resources, and reduce the overall costs and burdens for all parties;

WHEREAS, the Parties jointly seek to transfer this Action to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, the jurisdiction in which the First-Filed Action was filed, which would serve the convenience of the Parties and witnesses, and the interests of justice, as contemplated by 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a);

WHEREAS, the parties to the Related Actions have agreed to consolidation in the Northern District of Illinois, where Plaintiffs have agreed to file a consolidated amended complaint to supersede the Complaint in this Action and the Complaints in the Related Actions,



and to avoid burdening the Court, and the Parties have further agreed to adjourn Defendants' need to answer or move with respect to the current complaints until such time as Plaintiffs file that consolidated amended complaint, and filed a motion in the *Castillo* Action pending in the Northern District of Illinois to this effect on February 17, 2021 [Dkt. No. 17]; and

WHEREAS, the parties to the remaining Related Actions have sought, or will soon seek, to transfer such actions to the Northern District of Illinois.

IT IS on this <u>5th\_day of March</u> 2021, hereby:

ORDERED, upon good cause shown, that this Action is transferred to the Northern District of Illinois pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404; and

ORDERED that the stay provided under Local Civil Rule 3.2 shall not apply to this Order.

SO ORDERED:	/s/ Chad F. Kenney	DATE: March 5, 2021
	Hon. Chad F. Kenney, U.S.D.J.	

We hereby consent to the form and entry of the within Order.

Dated: February 19, 2021 s/Jonathan Shub

Jonathan Shub (SBN 53965)

Kevin Laukaitis

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February 19, 2021