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CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UTCV 705 JAH (CMB)

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DEPUTY

### BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

IN RE PET FOODS PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

No. MDL DOCKET NO. 1850

PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF THEIR MOTION FOR TRANSFER OF ACTIONS TO THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR CONSOLIDATED OR COORDINATED PRETRIAL PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §1407

Plaintiff Dawn Howe in the Central District of California action, Howe v. Menu Foods Limited, et al, No. CV07-02060 GHK (AJWx), plaintiffs Dennis Lee Townsend and Glenna Townsend in the Central District of California action, Townsend v. Menu Foods Limited, et al, No. ED CV07-398 GHK (AJWx), plaintiff Alexander Nunez in the District of New Jersey action, Nunez v. Menu Foods Limited, No. 07CV1490 (NLH), plaintiff Richard Chamberlain in the Central District Court of California action, Chamberlain v. Nestle S.A., No. CV07-2476 FMG (SSx), and plaintiff Mark Golding in the District of New Jersey action, Golding v. Menu Foods Limited, et al, No. 07CV01521 (NLH), (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), respectfully move the Panel for an Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1407 to transfer the pending cases identified in the schedule of actions filed concurrently, as well as any cases subsequently filed involving similar facts or claims, to the United States District Court for the Central District of California, and to consolidate and coordinate the cases for pretrial proceedings before the Honorable George H. King, to whom the low numbered case is assigned in the Central District of California.

#### I. BACKGROUND

Defendants Menu Foods and Nestle Purina, as well as other pet food manufacturers, (collectively, the "Pet Food Manufacturers"), produced and sold contaminated dog and cat food which caused serious illness and death to household pets. Many of the pet foods manufactured by the Pet Food Manufacturers and sold by retailers such as Wal-Mart, Petsmart, and Giant, are part of nationwide recalls, which lists continue to grow. *See* Exhibits A-I. The piecemeal, ever-expanding recalls leave concerned pet owners confused and uncertain of which products are safe for their pets to consume.

Plaintiffs brought their respective actions on behalf of all persons in the United States who purchased contaminated dog or cat food manufactured by Menu Foods and/or Nestle Purina, which were recalled or will be recalled. These products caused serious illness or death in many pets, including Plaintiffs' pets.

At least sixty-four cases, to the best of Plaintiffs' knowledge, have been filed against the Pet Food Manufacturers, in both state and federal courts, alleging similar causes of actions and seeking similar relief as Plaintiffs. The related actions all arise from the same or similar nucleus of operative facts as Plaintiffs' cases. Each action will involve substantially similar discovery, with the same or similar documents and witnesses. Discovery has not commenced in Plaintiffs' cases or any of the related actions.

Since these cases require same or similar questions of law and facts to be determined by a court of law, prompt action by the Panel to transfer and consolidate these actions will promote their just and efficient prosecution and judicial economy and serve the convenience of the parties.

#### II. ARGUMENT

## A. Transfer And Consolidation Of All Actions Is Appropriate Under 28 U.S.C. §1407

28 U.S.C. §1407 provides for transfer of actions to one district for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings where actions pending in different districts involve one or more common questions of fact. 28 U.S.C. §1407(a). The Panel authorizes consolidation where transfers will promote the convenience of the parties and witnesses, and the just and efficient conduct of the action. *Id.* The purpose of the multidistrict litigation process is to "eliminate the potential for contemporaneous pretrial rulings by coordinate district and appellate courts in multidistrict related civil actions." *In re Multidistrict Private Civ. Treble Damage Litig.*, 298 F. Supp. 484, 491-92 (J.P.M.L. 1968). Consolidation is especially important in class actions where the "potential for conflicting, disorderly, chaotic" action is greatest. *Id.* at 493. Transfer of related actions to a single district for pretrial proceedings avoids conflicting pretrial discovery and ensures uniform and expeditious treatment in the pretrial procedures. *In re Phenylpropanolamine (PPA) Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 460 F.3d 1217, 1230 (9th Cir. 2006).

Transfer is appropriate here because many common questions of fact and law exist. The cases listed in the schedule of actions (the "Actions") all arise from the same or similar nucleus of operative facts, and each seeks determination of, among other things:

- whether the contaminated pet foods manufactured by the Pet Food Manufacturers
   were materially defective in design and formulation;
- 2. whether the Pet Food Manufacturers failed to properly test the contaminated pet food products prior to market entry;
- whether the Pet Food Manufacturers negligently, recklessly, or intentionally delayed initiating recalls of the contaminated pet foods;

- 4. whether the Pet Food Manufacturers breached their duty of care to Plaintiffs and other Class members;
- 5. whether the Pet Food Manufacturers breached any contract or warranty, express or implied, relating to their sale of contaminated pet food;
- 6. whether the contaminated pet food manufactured by the Pet Food Manufacturers caused Plaintiffs' and other Class members' pets to fall ill or die;
- 7. whether the Pet Food Manufacturers were unjustly enriched as a result of their wrongful conduct;
- 8. whether Plaintiffs and other Class members are entitled to compensatory damages; and
- 9. whether Plaintiffs and other Class members are entitled to punitive damages.

Determination of these and other commons issues in a single district will benefit the parties and witnesses, and promote the just and efficient prosecution of the Actions. Without transfer and consolidation of the Actions, the danger of inconsistent rulings exists, and judicial inefficiency, overlapping discovery, and unnecessary expense will certainly result. Transfer and coordination is especially appropriate as formal discovery has not yet commenced in any of the Actions. As such, transfer and consolidation of the Actions to a single district is appropriate for the just and efficient prosecution of the actions and the convenience of the parties and witnesses.

### B. The Central District of California Is The Appropriate Forum For Transfer And Consolidation

In determining the most appropriate transferee forum, the Panel will consider, among other things, the number of actions pending in the district, the location of witnesses and documents, the stage of pretrial proceedings, whether a related government investigation or action is pending, whether the district is in an accessible metropolitan area, the status of the civil docket, and the experience of the transferee judge in handling multidistrict litigation. See e.g., In re Educ. Testing Serv. Plt 7-12 Test Scoring Litig., 350 F. Supp. 2d 1363, 1365 (J.P.M.L. 2004) (Panel found district appropriate where four of thirteen actions were already pending in the district, the district provided an accessible, metropolitan location, the district had favorable caseload conditions, and the judge had experience managing multidistrict litigation); In re Wheat Farmers Antitrust Class Action Litig., 366 F. Supp. 1087, 1088 (J.P.M.L. 1973) (Panel considered the conveniences of the parties and witnesses, location of relevant documents, stage of pretrial proceedings, and the status of civil dockets); In re Peruvian Road Litig., 380 F. Supp. 796, 798 (J.P.M.L. 1974) (while both districts were appropriate, Panel chose the District of Idaho because of the judge's familiarity with the issues raised by defendants and because of the significantly lighter civil action docket of that court); In re Tri-State Crematory Litig., 206 F. Supp. 2d 1376, 1378 (J.P.M.L. 2002) (in selecting the transferee court, the Panel considered the location of the crematory central to the allegations, the criminal investigation, the likely location of relevant documents, witnesses and other evidence, and where the actions were filed); In re Foundry Resins Antitrust Litig., 342 F. Supp. 2d 1346, 1347 (J.P.M.L. 2004) (Panel considered, among other things, the presence of a government investigation in choosing the transferee district).

Transfer of the Actions to the Central District of California for consolidated pretrial proceedings is appropriate here because transfer will serve the convenience of the parties and promote just and efficient conduct of the Actions. The Central District of California is particularly appropriate because a number of the Actions are currently pending in this district.

Defendant Nestle's U.S. headquarters, as well as manufacturer Nutro Products, Inc., which has been named a defendant in other Actions, are located in this district. Thus, witnesses and documents are likely located in this district as well. Additionally, the Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and California Department of Health Services are conducting investigations into a hog farm confirmed to have received contaminated pet food scraps in California. Consolidation of the Actions in the Central District of California will thus aid in the coordination of efforts likely to occur between the government investigations and the Actions. The Central District of California also provides a metropolitan location, easily accessible to all parties and witnesses, both domestic and foreign.

The Central District of California is also appropriate because of the status of its civil dockets. The median time to disposition in the Central District was 7.2 months last fiscal year, while the District of New Jersey, where some similar Actions have been filed, averaged 8.2 months. See Exhibits J-K. The median time to trial in the Central District of California was 21.3 months, while it took nearly a year longer in the District of New Jersey, at approximately 33.0 months. Because a case is more likely to be expeditiously handled in the Central District of California, transfer of the Actions to the Central District is appropriate.

The Honorable George H. King, to whom the low numbered case, Sexton v. Menu Foods, is assigned, has considerable experience managing class actions and complex litigation matters. See, e.g., In re Nat'l Golf Props. Secs. Litig., No.: CV 02-1383-GHK (complex securities class action) and Dagher v. Saudi Ref., Inc., No. CV-99-06114(GHK) (complex anti-trust action). Judge King's twelve years of experience on the bench and reputation for expeditious handling of matters makes the Central District of California as the forum for transfer and consolidation for pretrial proceedings all the more appropriate. On the other hand, the Honorable Noel L. Hillman, to whom the low numbered case in the District of New Jersey is assigned, has been on the bench for less than a year, and thus, does not have the experience and expertise Judge King has amassed over the years in presiding over complex matters such as this one.

#### III. CONCLUSION

At least sixty-four cases have been filed against Menu Foods, Nestle Purina, and other pet food manufacturers alleging defendants manufactured and sold contaminated pet food products which caused illness or death in household pets. These Actions all arise out of the same or similar nucleus of operative facts, allege similar claims, and seek similar relief. Without transfer and coordination of the Actions, judicial inefficiency, overlapping discovery, and unnecessary expense will certainly result, and the danger of inconsistent rulings may arise. As such, plaintiffs Howe, the Townsends, Nunez, Chamberlain, and Golding respectfully request transfer and consolidation or coordination of the Actions to the Central District of California, in order to promote just and efficient prosecution of the Actions and serve the convenience of the parties.

DATED: April 27, 2007

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Counsel for Plaintiffs: Dawn Howe, Dennis Lee Townsend, Glenna Townsend, Alexander Nunez, Richard Chamberlain, and Mark Golding.

# Before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation MDL-1850 - In re Pet Foods Products Liability Litigation

#### **SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS**

Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Kirby Cooper  Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota, Inc., Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	W.D. Arkansas	4:2007cv04036	Harry F. Barnes
Plaintiffs: Charles Ray Sims and Pamela Sims  Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, menu Foods South Dakota Inc., Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc.	W.D. Arkansas	5:2007cv05053	Jimm Larry Hendren
Plaintiffs: Richard Scott and Barbara Widen  Defendants: Menu Foods, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Gen Par Limited, Menu Foods Limited Partnership, Menu Foods Operating Partnership, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota; Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	W.D. Arkansas	5:2007cv05055	Robert T. Dawson

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Sandra L. Gray, Nick Jackson and Deena Jackson	W.D. Arkansas	5:2007cv05065	Robert T. Dawson
Defendants: Menu Foods, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Gen Par Limited, Menu Foods Limited Partnership, Menu Foods Operating Partnership, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota; Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development Co. Ltd.			
Plaintiffs: Shirley Sexton  Defendants: Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation,	C.D. California	2:2007cv01958	George H. King
Suzhou Textile Import and Export Company, Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development			
Plaintiffs: Paul Randall Johnson and Tammy Navarrete	C.D. California	2:2007cv01987	George H. King
Defendants: Menu Foods Inc., and Menu Foods Income Fund			
Plaintiffs:	C.D.	2:2007cv02253	Dean D.
Defendants: Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Midwest Corp., Menu Foods Operating Limited Partnership, Menu Foods, Inc., Nutro Products, and Petco Animal Supplies, Inc.	California		Pregerson

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Kelly Finestone	C.D. California	2:2007cv02338	Christina A. Snyder
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods Inc., Petco Animal Supplies Inc., and The IAMS Company			
Plaintiffs: Dawn Howe	C.D. California	CV 07-2060 GHK (AJWx)	George H. King
Defendants: Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods South Dakota, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc. and Menu Foods Operating Trust			
Plaintiffs: Dennis Townsend and Glenna Townsend	C.D. California	ED CV 07-398 GHK (AJWx)	George H. King
Defendants: Chemnutra Inc., Menu Foods Holdings Inc., Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota Inc., Nestle Holdings Inc. Nestle Purina Petcare Co., Nestle SA, Nestle USA Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Richard Chamberlain	C.D. California	2:07-cv-02476- FMC-SS	Florence- Marie Cooper
Defendants: Chemnutra Inc., Nestle Holdings Inc. Nestle Purina Petcare Co., Nestle SA, Nestle USA Inc. and Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development Company Ltd.			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Sherry Ingles	N.D. California	3:2007cv01809	Maxine M. Chesney
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota Inc., Menu Foods, Inc.,			
Plaintiffs: Robert Payne and Steve Bartilucci	S.D. California	3:2007cv00705	John A. Houston
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., The Proctor & Gamble Company, Petco Animal Supplies, Inc., and Safeway, Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Diane Swarberg	S.D. California	3:2007cv00706	Barry Ted Moskowitz
Defendants: The Iams Company, and Menu Foods Holding Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Emily Tompkins	D. Colorado	1:2007cv00736	John L. Kane
Defendants: Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., The Procter & Gamble Company, The Iams Company, Safeway Inc., The Kroger Co., Petco Animal Supplies, Inc., Petco Animal Supplies Stores, Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Lauri A. Osborne	D. Connecticut	3:2007cv00469	Robert N. Chatigny
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc.			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Maria Teresa Ferrarese	M.D. Florida	2:2007cv00235	John E. Steele
Defendants: Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund and Menu Foods Limited	·		
Plaintiffs: Satoru Waldhauer	N.D. Florida	3:2007cv00131	M. Casey Rodgers
Defendants: Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund and Wal-Mart Corporation			
Plaintiffs: Christina Troiano	S.D. Florida	0:2007cv60428	James I. Cohn
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc. and Menu Foods Income Fund			
Plaintiffs: Stephen Donnelly and Jennifer Hirni	S.D. Florida	1:2007cv20955	Joan A. Lenard
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Chemnutra Inc., Chemnutra LLC, Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development Company Ltd., Suzhou Textile Import and Export Company			
Plaintiffs: Larry Klimes, Paul Lavoie and Richard Mueller	D. Idaho	1:2007cv00160	Mikel H. Williams
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Dawn Majerczyk	N.D. Illinois	1:2007cv01543	Wayne R. Anderson
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods, Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Mara Brazilian	D. Maine	2:2007cv00054	George Z. Singal
Defendants: Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation			
Plaintiffs: Lidia Rodrigues	D. Massachusetts	1:2007cv10745	Edward R. Harrington
Defendants: Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund and Menu Foods Limited			
Plaintiffs: Stephanie Rozman	D. Minnesota	0:2007cv01808	Ann D. Montgomery
Defendants: ChemNutra, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Nutro Products, Inc., PetsMart, Inc., and Petco Animal Supplies Stores, Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Marion Streczyn	D. Nevada	3:2007cv00159	Larry R. Hicks
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, and Menu Foods, Inc.,			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Jared Workman, and Mark and Mona Cohen	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01338	Noel L. Hillman
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., and Menu Foods Midwest Corporation			
Plaintiffs: Suzanne Thomson and Robert Trautman	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01360	Noel L. Hillman
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods Income Fund and Menu Foods Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Larry Wilson	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01456	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., Menu food Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods, Inc., Suzhou Textile Import and Export Company			
Plaintiffs: Paul Richard and Jennifer Richard, Charles Kohler and Alicia Kohler	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01457	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Holidings, Inc., Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota, Inc., ABC Partnerships, XYZ Corporations			
Plaintiffs: Linda Tinker	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01468	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Chemnutra, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods, Inc.			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Janice Bonier, Guy Britton, Tammy Matthews	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01477	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Funds, Menu Foods, Inc. and Menu Foods Midwest Corporation			
Plaintiffs: Julie Hidalgo	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01488	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Alexander Nunez	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01490	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods South Dakota, Inc. and Menu Foods Holdings, Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Mark Golding	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01521	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods South Dakota, Inc. and Menu Foods Holdings, Inc.			
<b>Plaintiffs:</b> Troy Gagliardi	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01522	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Kami Turturro	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01523	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Peggy Schneider	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01533	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Limited and Menu Foods Midwest Corporation			
Plaintiffs: Leslie Berndl and Jim and Terri Moses	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01553	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Funds, and Menu Foods Midwest Corporation	·		
Plaintiffs: Jayme Pittsonberger	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01561	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund and Menu Foods Limited			
Plaintiffs: David Carter	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01562	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund and Menu Foods Limited			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action	Judge
		No.	
Plaintiffs:	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01579	Noel L.
Jim Bullock			Hillman
Defendants:			
Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest			
Corporation, Menu Foods Income Fund and			
Menu Foods Limited			
Plaintiffs:	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01610	Noel L.
Christina Johnson			Hillman
Defendants:		,	
Menu Foods, Inc.			
Plaintiffs:	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01623	Noel L.
James Conner and Frances Nash			Hillman
Defendants:			
Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income			
Funds, and Menu Foods Midwest			
Corporation			
Corporation			
Plaintiffs:	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01624	Noel L.
Matt Long		•	Hillman
Defendants:			 
Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods			
Limited, Menu Foods Holidings, Inc., Menu			
Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest			
Corporation, Chemnutra, Inc.			
Plaintiffs:	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01638	Noel L.
Chantelle Conti and Cheri Cutler			Hillman
Defendants:			
Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., and			
Menu Foods Midwest Corporation		·	
			·

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Steven Freeman	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01646	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Karen Pirches and Dinitrise Hicks	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01685	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota, Inc., Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Food Limited			
Plaintiffs: Diana Diedrich	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01700	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Todd Sokolwski	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01709	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foodds, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, and The Iams Company			
Plaintiffs: Michele McCullough	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01710	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods, Inc, Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., and Menu Foods Midwest Corporation			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Steve Colquitt and Marianna Cutter	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01738	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Luke deBarathy	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01739	Noel L. Hillman
Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods, Inc, Menu Foods Holdings, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development Company Ltd., Suzhou Textile Import and Export Company			
Plaintiffs: Loren and Kay Byers, and Camilla Brankov  Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Food Limited, Menu Foods Operating Limited Partnership and Menu Foods South Dakota Corporation	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01747	Noel L. Hillman
Plaintiffs: Lynne Carestio  Defendants: Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods, Inc., and Menu Foods Midwest Corporation	D. New Jersey	1:2007cv01762	Noel L. Hillman
Plaintiffs: Gregory Boehm	N.D. Ohio	1:2007cv01018	Peter C. Economus
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Genpar Limited (aka Menu Foods Limited) and Menu Foods Income Fund			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Carol Brown	D. Rhode Island	1:2007cv00115	Mary M. Lisi
Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation and Menu Foods South Dakota Inc.			
Plaintiffs: Lizajean Holt, donna Lefebvre, Debra LeRoy and Kim Leonard	E.D. Tennessee	3:2007cv00094	Thomas W. Phillips
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods, Inc.		·	
Plaintiffs: Barbara Light	E.D. Tennessee	3:2007cv00098	Thomas W. Phillips
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods Income Fund			
Plaintiffs: Tom Whaley	W.D. Washington	2:2007cv00411	Ricardo S. Martinez
Defendants: Menu Foods, The Iams Company, Dog Food Producers Numbers 1-50 and Cat Food Producers Numbers 1-50			
Plaintiffs: Stacey Heller, Toinette Robinson, David Rapp, and Cecily and Terrence Mitchell	W.D. Washington	2:2007cv00453	John C. Coughenour
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods			
Plaintiffs: Audrey Kornelius and Barbara Smith	W.D. Washington	2:2007cv00454	Marsh J. Pechman
<b>Defendants:</b> Menu Foods			

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Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Suzanne F. Johnson and CraigR. Klemann	W.D. Washington	2:2007cv00455	John C. Coughenour
Defendants:			
Menu Foods			
Plaintiffs:	W.D.	2:2007cv00457	Ricardo S.
Michele Suggett and Don James	Washington		Martinez
Defendants:			
Menu Foods, The Iams Company,			
Eukanuba, Dog Food Producers Numbers 1-			
50 and Cat Food Producers Numbers 1-50			

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**EXHIBIT "A"** 

PRESS RELEASE

### MENU FOODS INCOME FUND

Menu Foods Income Fund

X: MEW.UN

Stock Quote Stock Chart

**Other Recent News** 

March 16, 2007

#### Menu Foods Income Fund Announces Precautionary Dog and Cat Food Recall

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(CCNMatthews - March 16, 2007) -

NOT FOR RELEASE OVER US NEWSWIRE SERVICES

Attention Business/Financial Editors

Menu Foods Income Fund (the "Fund") (TSX:MEW.UN) today announced the precautionary recall of a portion of the dog and cat food it manufactured between December 3, 2006 and March 6, 2007. The recall is limited to "cuts and gravy" style pet food in cans and pouches manufactured at two of the Fund's United States facilities. These products are both manufactured and sold under private-label and are contract-manufactured for some national brands.

Over the past several days, the Fund has received feedback in the United States (none in Canada) raising concerns about pet food manufactured since early December, and its impact on the renal health of the pets consuming the products. Shortly after receipt of the first complaint, the Fund initiated a substantial battery of technical tests, conducted by both internal and external specialists, but has failed to identify any issues with the products in question. The Fund has, however, discovered that timing of the production associated with these complaints, coincides with the introduction of an ingredient from a new supplier. The Fund stopped using this ingredient shortly after this discovery and production since then has been undertaken using ingredients from another source.

At the same time, the Fund's largest customer, for which it manufactures on a contract basis, received a small number of consumer complaints and has initiated its own recall. Furthermore, for the time being, the customer has put future orders for cuts and gravy products on hold. This customer's cuts and gravy purchases in 2006 represented approximately 11% of the Fund's annual revenue.

"We take these complaints very seriously and, while we are still looking for a specific cause, we are acting to err on the side of caution" said Paul K. Henderson, President and CEO, Menu Foods. "We will do whatever is necessary to ensure that our products maintain the very highest quality standards."

While the number of complaints has been relatively small, Menu is taking this proactive step out of an abundance of caution, because the health and well-being of pets is paramount to the Fund.

In addition to changing suppliers, for production after March 6, the Fund has increased testing of all raw materials and finished goods. It is also working closely with regulatory authorities and its customers to learn more and will take whatever additional actions are appropriate. The Fund estimates that based on currently available information, this recall could cost between \$30 million and \$40 million, which will be financed from a combination of internally generated cash flow and bank credit facilities. Furthermore, the Fund is aggressively producing product, utilizing a different supplier for the ingredient in question, to replenish customers as quickly as possible.

In order to determine whether cat and dog food in their possession is subject to recall, consumers should refer to the list of brand names ("listed products") at <a href="https://www.menufoods.com/recall">www.menufoods.com/recall</a>. This will be available by 6 a.m. Saturday March 17, 2007. Products not identified on the website can continue to be used.

Menu is the leading North American private-label/contract manufacturer of wet pet food products sold by supermarket retailers, mass merchandisers, pet specialty retailers and other retail and wholesale outlets. In 2006, the Fund produced more than one billion containers.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Menu Foods Income Fund

Menu Foods Income Fund Consumers 1-866-895-2708

Website: www.menufoods.com

**EXHIBIT "B"** 



**PRESS RELEASE** 

### MENU FOODS INCOME FUND

#### Menu Foods Income Fund

MEW.UN

INDUSTRY: Financial Services - Personal Finance, Retail - Consumer Interest

MARCH 24, 2007 - 14:09 ET

#### Menu Foods Initiates Market Withdrawal of All Varieties of Recalled Wet Pet Food to Ensure **Consumer Protection**

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(CCNMatthews - March 24, 2007) - As a result of reports from the FDA and various media outlets that some recalled lots of "cuts and gravy" style wet pet food remain on store shelves. Menu Foods has asked all retail outlets to immediately remove all impacted varieties of wet pet food posted at www.menufoods.com, regardless of the date code.

Menu Foods remains concerned that consumers are able to purchase recalled items.

There is no known risk from items not listed on the recall list but an abundance of caution is called for in this situation. FDA has been apprised of this action.

CONTACT INFORMATION

**EXHIBIT "C"** 

#### All Menu Foods pet food with ChemNutra wheat gluten voluntarily recalled

TORONTO, April 5 /PRNewswire/ - In response to a news release - issued by ChemNutra Inc. during the evening of April 3, 2007 - Menu Foods today voluntarily expanded its pet food recall for selected "cuts and gravy" pet food products, manufactured back to November 8, 2006.

ChemNutra Inc., a former supplier of wheat gluten to Menu Foods, announced a recall of all wheat gluten it imported from Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development Co. in Wangdien, China. As a result, Menu Foods today announced an expansion of its recall to include all products manufactured with wheat gluten purchased from ChemNutra Inc. which Menu Foods' records show was first used on November 8, 2006 and last used on March 6, 2007.

As a result of actions previously taken by Menu Foods, the vast majority of the products affected by this expansion are already off retailers' shelves. No new brands have been added. A total of 20 varieties have been added to the recall list and the additional varieties are listed below. All Menu Foods products not made with the recalled wheat gluten are safe to consume.

A complete and updated list of recalled products is available at the Menu Foods website at http://www.menufoods.com.

#### **Cat Food**

	Look For This Date The Bottom of Can or				
Brand	Back of Pouch	Variety Description	Can or Pouch	Size	UPC

**Authority** 

N. (00/00	Adult Sliced Chicken/Sauce		0	07057 07050	
Nov/20/09	Formula 3oz	Can	3oz	37257-37359	
Nov/21/09					

### Nutro Max Cat Gourmet Classics

Nov/21/08 Nov/22/08	Pouch Kitten Chicken/Tomato 3oz	Pouch	3oz	79105-36263
Nov/21/08 Nov/22/08	Pouch Senior Whitefish/Crab 3oz	Pouch	3oz	79105-36265

#### Pet Pride

Nov/21/09 Nov/22/09	Flaked Tuna 3oz	Can	3oz	11110-80472
Nov/20/09	Sliced Chicken/Heart/Liver 3oz	Can	3oz	11110-86261

1	Nov/21/09					
ſ	Nov/20/09	Sliced Turkey/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	11110-86257	
	Nov/21/09					
Γ	Nov/20/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	11110-86264	
	Nov/21/09	<u>-</u>				

Sophistacat

u					
	Nov/21/09	Flaked Chicken/Tuna 3oz	Can	3oz	37257-01287
L	Nov/22/09				
	Nov/20/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	37257-01243
	Nov/21/09	•			
		Sliced Chicken/Heart/Liver			
1	Nov/20/09	3oz	Can	3oz	37257-01285
	Nov/21/09				
	Nov/20/09	Sliced Salmon/Chicken 3oz	Can	3oz	37257-01286
Ì	Nov/21/09				

Science Diet Feline Savory Cuts Can (Hill's Pet Nutrition April 5, 2007 Comment on Industry News)

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,			The state of the s
Γ,	Jun/19/08	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	52742-44120
L ,	Jun/20/08				
,	Jun/19/08	Sliced Chicken/Grvy 3oz	Can	3oz	52742-44110
Ι,	Jun/20/08	_			
		Sliced Oceanfish/Sauce			
╽,	Jun/19/08	3oz	Can	3oz	52742-44010
	Jun/20/08				
		Sliced Senior			
,	Jun/19/08	Chicken/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	52742-46000
1,	Jun/20/08	•			

### **Dog Food**

	Look For This Date				
	The Bottom of Can or				
Brand	Back of Pouch	Variety Description	Can or Pouch	Size	UPC

**Grreat Choice** 

Nov/14/09	London Grill Cuts 13.2oz	Can	13.2oz	37257-37002	
Nov/15/09					

et Pride		Pouch Chicken			
	Nov/28/08 Nov/29/08	Teriyaki/Gravy 5.3oz	Pouch	5.3oz	11110-84172
Ī	Dec/01/08	Pouch With Stew 5.3oz	Pouch	5.3oz	11110-88124

Dec/02/08

Springfield Prize

Chicken Cuts/Gravy
Nov/14/09 13.2oz Can 13.2oz 41380-13901
Nov/15/09

**Stater Brothers** 

Chicken Cuts/Gravy
Nov/14/09 13.2oz Can 13.2oz 74175-12240
Nov/15/09

**EXHIBIT "D"** 

#### Menu Foods voluntarily recalls additional pet food made with ChemNutra wheat gluten

TORONTO, April 10 /PRNewswire/ - Prompted by reports from the US Food and Drug Administration as to the presence of melamine in cans of cuts and gravy pet food produced in Menu Foods' Canadian production facility, Menu Foods undertook an accounting of all recalled wheat gluten supplied by ChemNutra Inc. to Menu Foods in the United States.

As the result of that review, Menu Foods has identified a single interplant transfer of the ChemNutra supplied wheat gluten, shipped from Menu Foods' plant in Emporia, Kansas, to its plant in Streetsville, Ontario. This wheat gluten was subsequently used in the production of pet food in December, 2006 and January, 2007, which is being recalled by Menu Foods.

The new varieties in the United States and Canada have been added to the recall list. The latest recall group is listed below, and a complete list of recalled products, including the new items can be reviewed at <a href="http://www.menufoods.com">http://www.menufoods.com</a>.

#### **Cat Food**

	Look For This				
}	Date On The	·			
İ	Bottom of Can or		Can /		
Brand	Back of Pouch	Variety Description	Pouch	Size	UPC

Americas Choice, Preferred Pet

Jan/2/10 Flaked Tuna 3oz	Can 3d	
--------------------------	--------	--

#### **Your Pet**

Dec/19/09 Jan/24/10	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	72036-29026
Nov 06 09	Sliced Variety Pack 3oz	Can	3oz	72036-40013

#### **Pet Pride**

Dec/19/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	11110-86264
Jan/24/10				
Nov 06 09	Sliced Variety Pack 3oz	Can	3oz	11110-86003
Dec 05 09				
Dec 06 09				
Jan 23 10				
Jan 24 10				

Laura Lyn	ın				
	Jan/2/10	Flaked Tuna 3oz	Can	3oz	86854-02407
	Dec/19/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	86854-02406
Nutriplan	•				
· [	Dec/19/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	41130-06755
Price Cho	pper				
	Dec/19/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	41735-12828
Publix _					
	Jan/2/10	Flaked Tuna 3oz	Can	3oz	41415-08327
	Dec/19/09 Jan/2/10 Jan/24/10	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	41415-08827
Stop & Sh	nop Companior	1			
	Jan/2/10	Flaked Tuna 3oz	Can	3oz	88267-00286
Winn Dix <u>i</u>	e				
	Dec/19/09	Sliced Beef/Gravy 3oz	Can	3oz	21140-19419

### Nutro Products

All Dates	Chicken Cacciatore 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-35205
All Dates	Orleans Seafood Jambalaya 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-35206
All Dates	Beef Ragout 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-35207
All Dates	Alaskan Halibut/Rice 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-35221
All Dates	Kitten Chicken/Lamb 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-35202
All Dates	California Chicken 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30011
All Dates	Lamb/Turkey Cutlets 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30014
All Dates	Salmon/Whitefish 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30013
All Dates	Beef/Egg 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30015
All Dates	Turkey/Chicken Liver 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30016
All Dates	Seafood/Tomato/Bisque 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30017
All Dates	Hunters Stew with Duck 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30018
All Dates	Hunters Stew with Venison 3oz	Can	3oz	79105-30019

**EXHIBIT "E"** 

#### April 17, 2007

#### **Menu Foods Refines Recall List**

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(April 17, 2007) - Menu Foods

Attention Business/Financial Editors

Menu Foods has previously recalled wet cat and dog food produced with adulterated wheat gluten supplied by ChemNutra Inc. Over the past several days, Menu Foods continued a detailed analysis of production records at its Emporia, Kansas, plant as part of the US Food and Drug Administration's ongoing investigation of this adulterated wheat gluten. As a result of this work, Menu Foods advises the public:

- One additional item has been added to the recall list and is shown below
- Two additional production dates of eight varieties of pet food have been added to the recall list. These eight varieties of pet food had previously been withdrawn from the market and should already be off the retailer shelves.

An updated list of the recalled products, including this addition, is available at the Menu Foods website at <a href="http://www.menufoods.com">http://www.menufoods.com</a>.

#### **Dog Food**

Brand	Look For This Date On The Bottom of Can or Back of Pouch	Variety Description	Can / Pouch	Size	UPC
Natural Life	Nov/22/09	Vegetarian 13.2oz	Can	13.2oz	12344-07114

Menu Foods Consumers 1-866-895-2708

Website: www.menufoods.com

**EXHIBIT "F"** 







# Purina to voluntarily withdraw Mighty Dog® 5.3 ounce pouch products in response to Menu Foods recall

#### No other Purina products affected

St. Louis, Missouri, March 16, 2007

Nestlé Purina PetCare Company today announced that as a precautionary measure, it is voluntarily withdrawing its 5.3 ounce Mighty Dog® brand pouch products that were produced by Menu Foods, Inc. from December 3, 2006\*\* through March 14, 2007. This withdrawal is in response to the recall initiated earlier today by Menu Foods, a contract manufacturer that does limited business with Purina as well as with other pet food manufacturers. Only Mighty Dog 5.3 ounce pouch products are being withdrawn by Nestlé Purina, including those pouches contained in multi-packs. Importantly, no Mighty Dog canned products, or any other Purina products are affected by Menu's recall.

While Purina has no indication of any product quality or safety issues specifically related to our Mighty Dog pouch products, Purina is taking this proactive action out of an abundance of caution in response to the Menu Foods recall.

Consumers who have the indicated Mighty Dog 5.3 ounce pouch products should discontinue feeding them to their dogs and can receive the full replacement value of the withdrawn products by calling 1-800-551-7392.

The Mighty Dog pouch products and pouches in multi-pack cartons have code dates of 6312 through 7073, followed by the plant code 1798. This information should be checked on the bottom or back panel of the individual pouches. Specifically, if the code following the "Use By" date begins with four numbers from 6312 to 7073 followed by the plant code 1798, then the pouch is included in this voluntary withdrawal.

Purina regrets any inconvenience and apologizes for any concern caused by this product withdrawal. The Company will continue to take any and all actions necessary to ensure the quality and safety of our products.

\*\* On April 5, 2007, Menu Foods amended its recall to include all cuts and gravy pet food products produced by Menu from November 8, 2006, through March 14, 2007. This amendment does not affect Nestlé Purina's voluntary recall of Mighty Dog brand pouch products, as directions previously given by Nestlé Purina were to remove all Mighty Dog pouch products from retail shelf, regardless of date code.

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**EXHIBIT "G"** 







# An Update from Nestlé Purina PetCare Company About the Menu Foods Recall

March 23, 2007

We at Nestlé Purina PetCare Company know the reports of pet food recalls and withdrawals over the past week have been very concerning and at times confusing for pet owners, who want to ensure the safety of the food they are feeding their beloved pets.

We want to take this opportunity to reassure you that Mighty Dog pouch products are the ONLY Purina® brand products affected by Menu Foods' recall. Nestlé Purina stands behind the high-quality of our pet foods, and all Purina brand cat food products and all other Purina brand dog food products, including Mighty Dog canned products, can continue to be fed to your pets with complete confidence.

On Friday, March 16, Nestlé Purina PetCare issued its <u>press release</u> announcing the voluntary withdrawal of our *Mighty Dog*® brand pouch-packaged products that were produced by Menu Foods from Dec. 3, 2006\*\*, through March 14, 2007. While we had no indication of any product quality or safety issues specifically related to our *Mighty Dog* pouch products at that time, we are proactively withdrawing these products as a precautionary measure, because the well-being of pets and the safety and efficacy of our products are our top priorities.

We also want to apologize for any difficulty you may have had in reaching us by phone this week. While we have dedicated numerous additional phone lines, people and other resources exclusively for this purpose, we understand that the volume of calls still has occasionally exceeded our system capacity.

We have prepared some <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> that may be helpful to your understanding of this situation, and we will update these questions as more information becomes available. If you have other questions or concerns, please continue to call our Office of Consumer Affairs directly at 1-800-551-7392.

Linking Policy | Privacy Policy | Terms & Conditions

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**EXHIBIT "H"** 





⊠ CLOSE

# Alpo® Brand Prime Cuts In Gravy Canned Dog Food Voluntary Nationwide Recall

### No Dry Purina Products Involved

St. Louis, Missouri, March 30, 2007

Nestlé Purina PetCare Company today announced it is voluntarily recalling all sizes and varieties of its ALPO® Prime Cuts in Gravy wet dog food with specific date codes. The Company is taking this voluntary action after learning today that wheat gluten containing melamine, a substance not approved for use in food, was provided to Purina by the same company that also supplied Menu Foods. The contamination occurred in a limited production quantity at only one of Purina's 17 pet food manufacturing facilities.

Earlier today the FDA announced the finding of melamine in products related to the March 16 Menu Foods recall, and advised Purina of the source of the contaminated supply. Purina then determined that it had received some quantity from the suspect supplier. The company proactively notified the FDA and immediately began this recall process

Purina is confident that the contaminated wheat gluten has been isolated to this limited production quantity of ALPO Prime Cuts canned products.

The recalled 13.2-ounce and 22-ounce ALPO Prime Cuts cans and 6-, 8-, 12- and 24-can ALPO Prime Cuts Variety Packs have four-digit code dates of 7037 through 7053, followed by the plant code 1159. Those codes follow a "Best Before Feb. 2009" date.\*\* This information should be checked on the bottom of the can or the top or side of the multi-pack cartons.

Purina's 5.3-ounce Mighty Dog® pouch products, manufactured by Menu Foods, were previously withdrawn from the market as a precaution on March 16 as part of the Menu Foods recall. ONLY Mighty Dog pouch products and specific date codes of ALPO Prime Cuts canned dog food are being recalled.

Importantly, no Purina brand dry pet foods are affected by the recall - including ALPO Prime Cuts dry. In addition, no other Purina dog food products, no Purina cat food products, Purina treat products or Purina Veterinary Diet products are included in this recall, nor have been impacted by the contaminated wheat gluten supply.

Consumers should immediately stop feeding ALPO Prime Cuts products with the above-listed date codes to their dogs and consult with a veterinarian if they have any health concerns with their pet.

Purina guarantees all of its products, and consumers can receive the full replacement value of the recalled products. Consumers can visit us at <a href="https://www.purina.com">www.purina.com</a> or call 1-800-218-5898 to receive more information.

Purina is fully cooperating with the FDA and made the decision to voluntarily recall this product in consultation with the FDA.

At Purina, nothing is more important to us than the health and well-being of the pets whose nutrition has been entrusted to us by their owners, and we deeply regret this unfortunate situation. We will continue to take any and all actions necessary to ensure the quality and safety of our products

\*\* Due to a product name change in early 2007, this voluntary recall also covers one item with the same date code labeled as ALPO® Prime Entrees in Gravy with Chicken, Rotini Pasta & Vegetables.

Recall questions? View our FAQ page

Press Release - March 13, 2007 Press Release - March 16, 2007

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**EXHIBIT "I"** 

### Del Monte Pet Products Voluntarily Withdraws Specific Product Codes of Pet Treats and Wet Dog Food Products in the United States

#### » Recalled Products in Canada Click Here

April 6, 2007—As a precautionary measure, Del Monte Pet Products is voluntarily recalling select product codes of its pet treat products sold under the Jerky Treats®, Gravy Train® Beef Sticks and Pounce Meaty Morsels® brands as well as select dog snack and wet dog food products sold under private label brands. A complete list of affected brands and products is below.

No other Del Monte Pet Products treats, biscuits or wet dog food products are impacted by this recall, and no Del Monte dry cat food, dry dog food, wet cat food or pouched pet foods are subject to this voluntary recall.

The Company took this voluntary recall action immediately after learning from the FDA that wheat gluten supplied to Del Monte Pet Products from a specific manufacturing facility in China contained melamine. Melamine is a substance not approved for use in food. The FDA made this finding as part of its ongoing investigation into the recent pet food recall. Del Monte Pet Products has proactively engaged and fully cooperated with the FDA since the start of its investigation.

Del Monte Pet Products has not used wheat gluten from this manufacturing facility in China in any other pet products except those described below. The adulterated ingredients were used in a limited production quantity over the last three months for those items identified by specific product codes below. This recall removes all Del Monte Pet Products with wheat gluten procured from this manufacturing facility from retail shelves. Del Monte did not use product from this supplier prior to the recall period in question and has since discontinued sourcing product from this manufacturing facility.

Consumers should discontinue feeding the products with the Product Codes detailed below to their pets.

Del Monte Pet Products are 100% guaranteed and all voluntarily recalled products will be refunded.

Del Monte Pet Products customers can contact our Consumer Hotline at (800) 949-3799 for further information about the recall and for instructions on obtaining a product refund. Consumers can also click on the "Contact Us" button and submit the Contact Us form, including UPC number, product name, Best By Date, and manufacturing code information (located under the Best By date). Consumers may also write to us at:

Del Monte

P.O. Box 80

Pittsburgh PA 15230-0080

#### Following is a COMPLETE and UPDATED list of Del Monte Pet Products and Best Buy Dates that have been voluntarily recalled in the United States. **BRANDED Production Code/Best By Date**

Jerky Treats Beef Flavor Dog Snacks*
* Jerky Treats No Wheat Beef (production code TP7B06) is not
nort of the recall

TP7R06 TP7B07

**TP7B08** 

TP7809 TP7B10 Best By: Aug 06 08 Aug 07 08 Aug 08 08 Aug 09 08 Aug 10 08

**Gravy Train Beef Sticks Dog Snacks** 

Code: TP7B15

Code:

Code:

TP7816

TP7CO5 **TP7C06** 

Best By: Aug 15 08 Aug 16 08 Sep 02 08 Sep 03 08

TP7B19

Best By: Aug 19 08 Aug 20 08

**TP7B20** 

Code: TP7C12

Best By: Sep 09 08

Pounce Meaty Morsels Moist Chicken Flavor Cat Treats

Ol' Roy Beef Flavor Jerky Strips Dog Treats         Code:         TP7B06         TP7B07         TP7B08         TP7C05         TP7C06           Best By:         Aug 06 08         Aug 07 08         Aug 08 08         Sep 02 08         Sep 03 08           Code:         TP7C07         TP7C08         TP7C08         TP7C08         TP7C08
Code: TP7C07 TP7C08
Best By: Sep 04 08 Sep 05 08
Ol' Roy Beef Flavor Snack Sticks Dog Treats Code: TP7B19 TP7B20 TP7B21 TP7C08 TP7C09
Best By: Aug 19 08 Aug 20 08 Aug 21 08 Sep 05 08 Sep 06 08
Code: TP7C10
Best By: Sep 07 08
Ol' Roy with Beef Hearty Cuts in Gravy Dog Food Code: BC6M21
Best By: Dec 21 09
Ol' Roy with Beef Hearty Strips in Gravy Dog Food Code: BC7A19
Best By: Jan 19 10
Ol' Roy Country Stew Hearty Cuts in Gravy Dog Food Code: BC6M15
Best By: Dec 15 09
Dollar General Beef Flavored Jerky Strips Dog Treats Code: TP7C05 TP7C06 TP7C07 TP7C08
Best By: Sep 02 08 Sep 03 08 Sep 04 08 Sep 05 08
Dollar General Beef Flavored Beef Sticks Dog Treats Code: TP7B20 TP7B21 TP7C08 TP7C09 TP7C10
Best By: Aug 20 08 Aug 21 08 Sep 05 08 Sep 06 08 Sep 07 08
Happy Tails Beef Flavor Jerky Strips Code: TP7B08 TP7B09
Best By: Aug 08 08 Aug 09 08
Happy Tails Meaty Cuts with Beef in Gravy Dog Food Code: BC7A29
Best By: Jan 29 10
Happy Tails Beef Flavor Beef Sticks Code: TP7C08 TP7C09
Best By: Sep 05 08 Sep 06 08

#### **Recalled Products in Canada**

## DLM Foods Canada Corp. Voluntarily Withdraws *Jerky Treats* Dog Snacks Beef Flavour with the Best Before Date of 16.08.08

TORONTO, April 2, 2007 - As a precautionary measure, DLM Foods Canada Corp. is voluntarily withdrawing *Jerky Treats®* Dog Treats Beef Flavour with the best before date of 16.08.08. Consumers should discontinue feeding this product and return affected products to their store for a refund. No other DLM Foods Canada Corp. products are subject to this voluntary withdrawal.

The Company took this voluntary withdrawal action after learning from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) that wheat gluten supplied to DLM Foods Canada Corp. from a specific manufacturing facility in China contained melamine. Melamine is a substance not approved for use in food in the United States. The FDA made this finding as part of its ongoing investigation into the recent pet food recall in the United States. DLM Foods Canada Corp. conferred with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency today to coordinate the details of this voluntary withdrawal as it applied to the Canadian market.

The adulteration occurred in a limited production quantity indicated by the one best before date of *Jerky Treats* Dog Treats Beef Flavour product line mentioned above. This withdrawal removes all DLM Foods Canada Corp. pet products

with wheat gluten procured from this manufacturing facility from retail shelves.

No other DLM Foods Canada Corp. products are subject to this voluntary withdrawal. The affected products comprise less than one-tenth of one percent of DLM Foods Canada Corp. annual pet food and pet treat production.

DLM Foods Canada Corp. has not used wheat gluten from this manufacturing facility in China in any other pet products except those described above.

DLM Foods Canada Corp. products are 100% guaranteed and all returned product will be refunded. For further information about DLM Foods Canada Corp. consumers can contact our Consumer Affairs at 1-866-657-6929.

As part of the pet community, we value the health and well-being of pets, and we deeply regret this situation. We will continue to take any and all actions necessary to ensure the quality and safety of our products.

**EXHIBIT "J"** 

## U.S. DISTRICT COURT - JUDICIAL CASELOAD PROFILE

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			12-MO							
<b></b>		<u></u>		SEPTEM	IBER 3	<i>,</i>		<del></del>	<del></del> 1	
	CALIFORNIA CI	2006 2005		2004	2003	2002	2001	l	nerical Inding	
	Fil	ings*	12,909	14,630	16,938	14,720	15,440	15,342	U.S.	Circuit
OVERALL	Term	inations	13,680	16,173	15,269	15,800	16,936	16,906		
CASELOAD	Pe	12,401	13,180	14,720	13,129	14,525	16,142			
STATISTICS	Of Change in Total Ellings	Over Last Year		-11.8					83	13
	% Change in Total Filings	Over Earlier Year	's		-23.8	-12.3	-16.4	-15.9	81	13
	Number of Judge	ships	28	28	28	28	27	27		
	Vacant Judgeship M	53.9	24.8	2.3	23.6	63.9	57.3			
	FILINGS	Total	461	523	605	526	572	568	36	7
		Civil	397	450	515	451	490	521	18	4
		Criminal Felony	36	45	60	49	58	47	84	14
ACTIONS PER		Supervised Release Hearings**	28	28	30	26	24	-	30	11
JUDGESHIP	Pendi	443	471	526	469	538	598	26	7	
	Weighte	518	565	651	590	584	557	24	6	
	Term	489	578	545	564	627	626	32	7	
1	Trials (	12	13	12	14	12	14	79	11	
MEDIAN	F P':	Criminal Felony	12.4	10.3	8.2	9.4	8.6	9.1	82	14
TIMES	From Filing to Disposition	Civil**	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.9	7.1	10	2
(months)	From Filing to 7	Frial** (Civil Only)	21.3	20.5	17.8	21.2	20.0	21.0	29	4
	Civil Cases Over 3 Years	Number	1,240	809	624	609	650	541		
	Old**	Percentage	11.6	7.2	5.0	5.4	5.2	3.8	79	14
OTHER	Average Number of Felor	y Defendants Filed Per Case	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5		
		Avg. Present for Jury Selection	64.08	47.33	49.01	49.49	54.63	61.75		
	Jurors	Percent Not Selected or Challenged	55.7	48.3	49.4	51.6	55.5	58.8		

2006 CIVIL	AND CRI	MIN	AL FI	ELONY	FIL	INGS	BY 1	NATUE	RE OI	SUIT	AND (	OFF	ENSE
Type of	TOTAL	A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I	J	K	L
Civil	11104	994	211	2833	274	58	754	1330	497	1425	1188	80	1460
Criminal*	999	3	151	234	88	228	54	46	43	43	25	35	49

<sup>\*</sup> Filings in the "Overall Caseload Statistics" section include criminal transfers, while filings "By Nature of Offense" do not.
\*\* See "Explanation of Selected Terms."

**EXHIBIT "K"** 

## U.S. DISTRICT COURT - JUDICIAL CASELOAD PROFILE

		-MON	ТН РЕ	RIOD (BER :	ENDI						
NEW JERSEY					2006 2005 2004 200		2002	2001	l .	merical anding	
Filings*					7,567	7,270	7,555	6,972	U.S.	Circuit	
OVERALL	Term	inations	7,480	7,605	7,373	6,998	7,125	7,057			
CASELOAD	Pe	nding	6,855	6,987	6,986	6,765	6,538	6,101			
STATISTICS	% Change in Total Filings	Over Last Year		-3.5					43	3	
	% Change in Total Fillings	Over Earlier Years			-3.9	.1	-3.7	4.3	45	4	
	Number of Judge	ships	17	17	17	17	17	17			
	32.3	27.8	12.0	11.0	47.8	7.5					
FUNG		Total		444	446	428	445	410	46	3	
	FILINGS	Civil		387	390	370	387	369	29	3	
		Criminal Felony		48	46	48	49	41	70	3	
ACTIONS PER		Supervised Release Hearings**		9	10	10	9		85	3	
JUDGESHIP	Pendi	403	411	411	398	385	359	38	4		
	Weighte	d Filings**	481	493	500	486	482	463	33	2	
	Term	ninations		447	434	412	419	415	48	3	
	Trials (	Completed	11	10	10	10	12	11	86	6	
MEDIAN	From Filing to Disposition	Criminal Felony	12.1	10.0	9.8	9.0	9.4	8.0	81	5	
TIMES	Profit Prining to Disposition	Civil**	8.2	7.3	7.6	7.9	8.4	7.5	21	3	
(months)	From Filing to 7	Trial** (Civil Only)	33.0	36.7	33.4	33.8	30.0	33.0	68	4	
	Civil Cases Over 3 Years	Number	306	346	252	236	231	179			
	Old**	Percentage	5.2	5.7	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.3	41	3	
OTHER	Average Number of Felor	ny Defendants Filed Per Case	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2			
		Avg. Present for Jury Selection	88.98	75.41	40.79	51.72	41.77	51.55			
	Jurors	Percent Not Selected or Challenged	39.2	38.3	24.1	40.3	37.7	38.9			

2006 CIVIL	AND CRIM	IINAI	_ FEL	ONY	FILI	NGS E	Y <u>N</u> A	TURE	OF S	UIT A	ND C	FFE	ENSE
Type of	TOTAL	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I	J	K	L
Civil	6274	240	343	904	82	26	845	1031	721	377	869	39	797
Criminal*	862	3	268	48	124	176	53	39	19	22	27	28	55

<sup>\*</sup> Filings in the "Overall Caseload Statistics" section include criminal transfers, while filings "By Nature of Offense" do not.
\*\* See <u>"Explanation of Selected Terms."</u>

### **DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL**

I, the undersigned, declare:

- 1. That declarant is and was, at all times herein mentioned, employed in the County of Los Angeles, over the age of 18 years, and not a party to or interest in the within action; that declarant's business address is One California Plaza, 300 South Grand Avenue, Suite 3900, Los Angeles, California 90071-3149.
- 2. That on April 27, 2007, declarant served the PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF THEIR MOTION FOR TRANSFER OF ACTIONS TO THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR CONSOLIDATED OR COORDINATED PRETRIAL PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §1407 by depositing a true copy thereof in a United States mailbox at Los Angeles, California in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the parties listed on the attached Service List.
- 3. That there is a regular communication by mail between the place of mailing and the places so addressed.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 27th day of April, 2007, at Los Angeles, California.

ANN MARIE GENOVESE

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Bonier v. Menu Foods 1:07-cv-01477-NLH-AMD D. New Jersey

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Gagliardi v. Menu Foods 1:07-cv-01522-NLH-AMD D. New Jersey

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1:07-cv-01018-PCE

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Brown v. Menu Foods

D. Rhode Island

1:07-cv-00115-ML-LDA

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