Tasty One, LLC v.	Earth Smarte Water, LLC	Doc.
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1	LOSEDU A. CUZUEDDEZ ESO	
1	JOSEPH A. GUTIERREZ, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 9046	
2	JEAN-PAUL HENDRICKS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10079	
3	MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES	
4	8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue   Las Vegas, Nevada 89148	
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900 Facsimile: (702) 629-7925	
	E-mail: <u>jag@mgalaw.com</u>	
6	jph@mgalaw.com	
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant Tasty One, d/b/a Earth Smarte Water of Las Vegas	, LLC
8	a by a Barri Smarre Water of Eas Vegas	
9		
10	UNITED STATES D	ISTRICT COURT
11	DISTRICT O	F NEVADA
12		
13	TASTY ONE, LLC d/b/a EARTH SMARTE WATER OF LAS VEGAS, Foreign Limited-	Case No.: 2:20-cv-01625-APG-NJK
14	Liability Company;	JOINT PRETRIAL ORDER
15	Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,	
	vs.	
16	EARTH SMARTE WATER, LLC d/b/a	
17	DENCOH20, LLC, an Arizona company; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I	
18	through X, inclusive,	
19	Defendant/Counter-Claimant.	
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21	Following pretrial proceedings in this case pursuant	to LR 16-3 and LR 16-4,
22	IT IS SO ORDERED:	
23	I.	
24	STATEMENT OF THE NATURE OF	
25	IDENTIFICATION AND CONT	ENTIONS OF THE PARTIES
26	A. <u>Plaintiff's view</u> :	
27	This action involves the breach of a Territ	tory License Agreement ("Agreement") between
28	Plaintiff and Counter-Defendant Tasty One, LLC d/	b/a/ Earth Smarte Water of Las Vegas ("Plaintiff"
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or "Tasty One"), and Defendant and Counter-Claimant Earth Smarte Water, LLC d/b/a DencoH20 ("Defendant" or "ESWLLC"). Tasty One and ESWLLC entered into the Agreement on January 4, 2016, granting Tasty One exclusive license to sell ESWLLC's PhSmarte 1000 water system in Clark County, Nevada, for a period of seven years.

Pursuant to the Agreement, Tasty One began selling ESWLLC's products in Las Vegas and paid substantial sums in advertising and other set up costs to drive customers to the Earth Smarte Water website and branding itself as the exclusive dealer of ESWLLC's products in Clark County, Nevada. Over the next three years, Tasty One sold and installed hundreds of ESWLLC water systems in the Las Vegas area.

In addition to exclusive rights, the Agreement provided that ESWLLC could only increase prices charged to Tasty One if the systems cost more for ESWLLC to produce, and then only the direct amount of the cost increase, if any, known as a "pass through" increase. Between 2017 and 2020, ESWLLC raised its prices to Tasty One two times under the Agreement. ESWLLC represented to Tasty One that both of these price increases were "pass through" increases as permitted by the Agreement. However, Tasty One learned through its vendor, Nelson Corporation, the same vendor that supplied ESWLLC with the components for its systems, that the price increases were more than tariff increases as ESWLLC claimed.

In fact, Tasty One ordered many of the same parts from Nelson Corporation that ESWLLC did, including but not limited to identical mineral tanks and mineral valves. During the same time period, Tasty One had price increases on the products it purchased directly from Nelson Corporation of approximately \$20. Inexplicably, the increases ESWLLC "passed on" to Tasty One were \$80 to \$100, much more than the \$20 tariff increases. Tasty One later learned that these price increases also included increases for modifications and upgrades made to the systems in violation of the Agreement.

On March 25, 2020, ESWLLC unexpectedly informed Tasty One in writing of its imminent closure and dissolution due to the financial insolvency. In April, 2020, ESWLLC rescinded its earlier threat of dissolution and informed Tasty One that it was continuing operation but that Tasty One no longer had exclusive right to the Clark County, Nevada area because it had failed to meet a 12-unit quota under the Agreement, labeling Tasty One an "unauthorized dealer" of ESWLLC products. It is

important to note here that the Agreement and the addendum thereto called for Tasty One to sell 8 units per month, not 12. Even if Tasty One did not meet its 8 unit per month quota, the sole remedy for ESWLLC under the Agreement was to remove the exclusive right to sell and continue on this basis for the remainder of the contract, not label Tasty One as an "unauthorized dealer" or attempt to terminate the contract.

Based on ESWLLC's actions, the relationship between Tasty One and ESWLLC continued to deteriorate over the next weeks and months until ESWLLC informed Tasty One that it would no longer have access to the ESWLLC ordering portal. Throughout the parties' contract, ESWLLC had required that any order for equipment be paid in full prior to shipment of the merchandise. When ESWLLC announced that it was insolvent, would cease operations, and then rescinded this threat, this requirement became untenable because Tasty One was concerned that it would be charged and not receive any merchandise. In an attempt to remedy this situation, Tasty One offered to pay Nelson Corporation directly for all purchases making them a de facto escrow agent that would send the product to Tasty One and ESWLLC's profits to ESWLLC; ESWLLC flatly refused.

Since that time, ESWLLC has nearly cut off all communications and put in place multiple unnecessary barriers when Tasty One has attempted to request customer support or warranty service. From January, 2017 when the contract was signed, until mid-2020 when ESWLLC cut off access to the ordering portal, Tasty One continued to meet each and every one of its obligations under the contract, including providing warranty service to its customers, notwithstanding the fact that ESWLLC was actively and improperly trying to terminate the contract.

Tasty One filed its Complaint on July 17, 2020, asserting claims against ESWLLC for (1) declaratory relief; (2) breach of the Agreement; (3) breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied in the Agreement; and (4) injunctive relief. ESWLLC only sought to refute and produce evidence against one allegation – that it did not increase contract prices for reasons other than "pass through tariff increases." To that end, ESWLLC produced correspondence from its manufactures detailing when the tariff increases occurred and the corresponding price increase on each unit; however, ESWLLC later admitted that it increased the prices for tariff increases <u>and</u> product upgrades, expressly violating the Agreement.

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On June 9, 2022, this Court filed an Order granting Tasty One's motion for summary judgment on ESWLLC's counterclaims and request for punitive damages because there was no evidence that Tasty One breached the agreement or intentionally interfered with a business relationship, or that ESWLLC was damaged as a result, and the Agreement waives the parties' right to seek punitive damages against each other. *See* Order (ECF No. 84).

Consistent with this Court's order granting partial summary judgment in favor of Tasty One, the claims proceeding to trial are Tasty One's claims for (1) breach of contract; (2) breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing; and (3) declaratory relief. *Id.* Tasty One is seeking all allowable civil damages, including restitution damages, special/consequential damages, and attorneys' fees and costs, as well as declaratory relief regarding the parties' rights and responsibilities under the Agreement. ESWLLC denies that it breached the Agreement and the covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied in the Agreement, and it denies that Plaintiff is entitled to recover any damages.

#### B. <u>Defendant's view</u>:

Consistent with this Court's June 9, 2022 Order granting partial summary judgment, Tasty One's claims, as addressed in the Complaint, in the Motion for Summary Judgment, and reiterated above, are now limited in scope. This Court has already held, as a matter of law that a majority of Tasty One's claims fail as a matter of law. Because the Court, in its purview, has already established that these claims fail as a matter of law, those claims cannot not proceed to a trier of fact. Based upon the ruling in the June 9, 2022 Order, and a recital of the vertically identical facts that this Court reviewed in reaching its decision, Tasty One's claims which should proceed to trial under questions of material fact over whether some of ESWLLC's actions breached the agreement and whether Tasty One was damaged as a result, are limited to the following claims:

#### 1) Price Increases

Whether price increases resulting from technology improvements are direct increases or are otherwise allowed as a pass through under the Agreement. Tasty One needs to establish evidence justifying its argument that the Agreement defines a "direct increase" as one that is only outside of ESWLLC's control.

The Court, in its June 9, 2022 Order indicates that Tasty One has the burden of proof in establishing the definition of what is a "direct increase". Tasty One has not, to date, produced any evidence or expert testimony on this issue and as such, will not likely met the burden of proof needed.

#### 2) Premature Termination

Whether ESWLLC's attempt to terminate the Agreement by insolvency violates the Agreement, whether the Agreement was terminated, and whether Tasty One was damaged as a result.

The Agreement was not terminated, and therefore no breach occurred. Additionally, because Earth Smarte provided reasonable assurances that it was an ongoing concern with the ability to meet Tasty One's future Orders, tasty One has no damages. Tasty One has presented no evidence, other than its tax returns, from which damages could be calculated. Earth Smarte will object to the introduction of any reference to tax returns as the June 9, 2022 Order held that as a matter of law, that tasty One has not established that the alleged losses established in the tax returns are causally connected to any of ESWLLC's alleged breaches.

Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 403, "The court may exclude relevant evidence if its probative value is substantially outweighed by a danger of one or more of the following: unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, misleading the jury, undue delay, wasting time, or needlessly presenting cumulative evidence."

Even if Tasty One is able to establish that the Agreement was terminated, and that there was a breach, it cannot present any evidence of damages necessary to sustain the cause of action as Arizona law requires that the elements of (1) the existence of a contract, (2) breach, and (3) resulting damages. See First Am. Title Ins. Co. v. Johnson Bank, 372 P.3d 292, 297 (Ariz. 2016) be present for a breach of contract claim.

#### 3) Good Faith and Fair Dealing

Whether the claimed misrepresentation(s) regarding Earth Smarte's insolvency violates the covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

The Court, in its June 9, 2022 Order has already concluded, as a matter of law, that Tasty

2 One's remaining claims fail. As the Court noted in the June 9, 2022, Order, Arizona law governs the 3 parties' disputes arising under the Agreement. Under Arizona law, the elements of a breach of contract claim are: (1) the existence of a contract, (2) breach, and (3) resulting damages. See First Am. Title 4 5 Ins. Co. v. Johnson Bank, 372 P.3d 292, 297 (Ariz. 2016). Contract interpretation is a question of law for the court. Hadley v. Sw. Props., Inc., 570 P.2d 190, 193 (Ariz. 1977) (en banc). "Where the 6 language of the contract is clear and unambiguous, it must be given effect as it is written." Id. But if 8 the language is ambiguous and it is necessary to consider the circumstances in determining its meaning, then determining those circumstances is a question for the trier of fact. Ash v. Egar, 541 10 P.2d 398, 401 (Ariz. Ct. App. 1975). (ECR #83, pg. 7, lns. 5-13). Because the Court determined as a matter of contract interpretation that at least one of the three necessary elements are missing, the 12 following issues fail as matter of law and do not need to be tried: 13 14 15 16

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#### 1) Price Increases

The Court held that no evidence was presented which would indicate that Tasty One sold an ESWLLC product at the increased price within 60 days of the newsletter, so it does not demonstrate that ESWLLC breached the Agreement or damaged Tasty One in this way.

The Court, within its purview, has already determined that under Arizona law, the elements of (2) breach, and (3) resulting damages, are missing. See First Am. Title Ins. Co. v. Johnson Bank, 372 P.3d 292, 297 (Ariz. 2016). Therefore, this claim does not need to proceed to a trier of fact as the claim does not exist as a matter of law.

#### 2) "Unauthorized Dealer" Label

The Court has held that Tasty One did not demonstrate that ESWLLC's "unauthorized dealer" label breached the Agreement. Tasty One also has not demonstrated that it was damaged by ESWLLC's label. It does not demonstrate what, if any, consequences flowed from ESWLLC's email or that it lost credibility or goodwill from customers.

The Court, within its purview, has already determined that under Arizona law, the elements of (2) breach, and (3) resulting damages, are missing. See First Am. Title Ins. Co. v. Johnson Bank, 372

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claim does not exist as a matter of law.

#### 3) Online Product Portal

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Tasty One <u>does not identify the Agreement provision</u> requiring ESWLLC to maintain an online sales portal, and it <u>does not demonstrate that it lost customers' sales</u> as a result of losing access to the portal. Though Kaplan testified that he was reluctant to email sales directly to ESWLLC after it closed its portal, Tasty One presented <u>no evidence that closing the portal actually caused lost sales</u>. And though Tasty One presents its tax returns showing a decrease in gross sales and a net loss for the first time in 2020, Tasty One <u>has not causally connected</u> those to any of ESWLLC's alleged breaches.

P.3d 292, 297 (Ariz. 2016). Therefore, this claim does not need to proceed to a trier of fact as the

The Court, within its purview, has already determined that under Arizona law, the elements of (1) agreement, and (3) resulting damages, are missing. *See First Am. Title Ins. Co. v. Johnson Bank*, 372 P.3d 292, 297 (Ariz. 2016). Therefore, this claim does not need to proceed to a trier of fact as the claim does not exist as a matter of law.

#### 4) Warranty Services

Tasty One <u>has not demonstrated ESWLLC breached the Agreement</u> by failing to provide warranty services <u>or</u> that Tasty One was <u>damaged as a result.</u> Tasty One's claims that it was damaged as a result of by failing to provide warranty services the <u>no evidence substantiating its claim</u> that it suffered \$12,500 in unreimbursed warranty expenses.

The Court, within its purview, has already determined that under Arizona law, the elements of (2) breach, and (3) resulting damages, are missing. *See First Am. Title Ins. Co. v. Johnson Bank*, 372 P.3d 292, 297 (Ariz. 2016). Therefore, this claim does not need to proceed to a trier of fact as the claim does not exist as a matter of law.

#### 5) Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing

The Court has held that Tasty One's argument that because ESWLLC breached the Agreement, it also breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. As a matter of law, the Court has held that Tasty One's conclusion does not follow from Arizona law. See Wells Fargo

1	Bank, 38 P.3d at 30 ("A party may breach an express covenant of the contract without breaching the
2	implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.")
3	6) <u>Declaratory Relief</u>
4	The Court has previously ruled that Tasty One's request for declaratory relief is duplicative of its
5	contractual claims. Cf. Swartz v. KPMG LLP, 476 F.3d 756, 766 (9th Cir. 2007) (request for a declaration
6	of defendants' liability for damages that were sought for plaintiff's other causes of action was properly
7	dismissed).
8	Additionally, Tasty One materially breached the contract first which relieved Earth Smarte from
9	any further duties under the contract.
10	II.
11	STATEMENT OF JURISDICTION
12	Jurisdiction in this case is based on diversity of citizenship under Title 28 U.S.C. § 1332.
13	Plaintiff is a New Mexico limited liability company doing business in Clark County, Nevada.
14	Defendant is an Arizona limited liability company doing business in Maricopa County, Arizona. The
15	amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000.00.
16	<b>Earth Smarte's Position:</b> Based upon the June 9, 2022, ruling the amount in controversy
17	does not exceed \$75,000.00.
18	Venue is proper in this District pursuant to Title 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), as a substantial part
19	of the events giving rise to the claims in this action occurred in this District. See also Order Denying
20	Motion to Transfer Venue (ECF No. 15).
21	III.
22 23	THE FOLLOWING FACTS ARE ADMITTED BY THE PARTIES AND REQUIRE NO PROOF:
24	1. On January 4, 2017, Tasty One and ESWLLC entered into a Territory Licensing
25	Agreement granting Tasty One exclusive license to sell ESWLLC's PhSmarte 1000 water system in
26	Clark County, Nevada, for a period of seven (7) years.
27	2. Excerpted Key Terms of the Agreement:
28	3. Term and Renewal This Agreement shall expire seven (7) years following the Effective

Date....

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#### 4.2 Currently Supplied Product Pricing

.... Prices are subject to change from time to time with advance notification to Licensee of a minimum of 60 days. Such price increases shall only be a "pass through" of the direct increase in costs of material or components.

#### 5. Authorized Products and Other Services

Licensor does not restrict other business activity or other equipment lines offered within Licensee's Protected Territory. In no case may "competitive" products and/or services sold within the Licensee's Protected Territory be contracted on forms associated with EarthSmarte Water, LLC....

#### 10.2 Post Sale Services

Licensee will be responsible for providing labor cost associated with preventative, remedial and/or Warranty services of PhSmarte 1000 units. Equipment replacement costs under the terms of the manufacturer's warranty (Earth Smarte Water, LLC) is paid for by Licensor.

#### 17.1 Restriction on Use of Confidential Information

.... You will never copy, reproduce, divulge or use any Confidential Information for the benefit of any- other person. Business Entity, or other entity, nor will you directly or indirectly permit the disclosure of imitate or aid any such third party to imitate any of the Confidential Information. "Confidential Information" is defined as information, knowledge, trade secrets or know-how relating to the Licensor and the business of marketing the PhSmarte 1000 or concerning the Licensor's Systems of operation, program, services, products, customers' materials, books...We acknowledge that, except to the extent required to comply with our obligations under Licensor warranties or to effect product recalls, we have no right to require you to share or otherwise disclose to us the identity of your customers.

#### Minimum Sales Performance Guarantee

Within the terms and conditions of this Agreement under the Evaluation of Sales Performance section it is agreed that my Protective Territory will be expected to meet a minimum of Eight (8) sales per month. ...Failure to meet the minimum within the terms and conditions of this Agreement will forfeit exclusivity to the protected territory under the terms and conditions within this Agreement.

3. On September 1, 2018, ESWLLC issued a newsletter entitled "Waterflow" to its dealers notifying them of price increases. The newsletter notified dealers that price increases from our suppliers on imported descaler parts. The increase was effective October 2018 and was alleged to cover price increases on tariffs. Said increases were \$20 on all units.

#### IV.

## THE FOLLOWING FACTS ARE ALLEGED BY THE PARTIES, WILL BE CONTESTED AT TRIAL, AND WILL REQUIRE EVIDENCE OF PROOF AT TRIAL:

#### A. PLAINTIFF'S FACTS:

- 4. In or around October 2017, Tasty One, in compliance with Section 4.3 of the Agreement, sought prior approval for its advertisements. These requests were approved by Terry Denton, CEO of ESWLLC in October 2017 and July 2018.
- 5. On August 28, 2019, ESWLLC sent correspondence to Tasty One revoking its status as an authorized dealer for failure to meet its monthly sales quota of 12 units per month. This email was factually inaccurate because the Minimum Sales Performance Guarantee provision in the Agreement set the minimum monthly sales quota at 8 units.
- 6. Pursuant to that provision, the sole remedy if Tasty One did not meet its sales quota was forfeit its status as exclusive dealer in the Clark County area.
- 7. On August 30, 2019, Tasty One responded to ESWLLC's Unauthorized Dealer Email and listed several grievances. Tasty One argued that ESWLLC (1) had no right to label it as an unauthorized dealer pursuant to Section 11.2 of the Agreement; (2) ESWLLC had been overcharging beyond the pass through increases contemplated by the Section 4.2 of the Agreement; and (3) ESWLLC had failed to respond to customer warranty issues. This correspondence also requested a refund of all overcharges.
- 8. On September 14, 2019, Tasty One sent an email to ESWLLC requesting it honor warranty claims of three customers.
- 9. On February 20, 2020, Tasty One sent a second formal request for refund. Specifically, Tasty One noted that ESWLLC had increased the price beyond pass through increases which was in no way sufficient to justify its increase of \$105.00 per unit for model #948 and \$50.00 per unit for model #1252. This email initiated a dialogue between the parties regarding tariff increases, verification requests directly from ESWLLC's manufacturers, and the desire to return to civility as the business relationship had soured.
- 10. ESWLLC admitted that price increases resulted from not only tariff increase but that ESWLLC decided to add additional technology to the units.

- 11. By Tasty One's calculation, it was overcharged \$24,215.00 as of February 2020.
- 12. Shortly thereafter, on March 25, 2020, ESWLLC through its counsel Martin W. Saltzman, P.C. informed Tasty One that, effective immediately, ESWLLC would be closing for business, and dissolving as it had no assets. The letter also informed Tasty One that its online dealer ordering portal would now be closed. This notice of dissolution was patently false as ESWLLC remains operational.
- 13. In response, on April 10, 2020, counsel for Tasty One sent a written request that ESWLLC immediately remedy the situation as the Agreement had no provision which allowed for ESWLLC to terminate its contractual obligations based on its own dissolution.
- 14. A series of correspondence ensued between counsel, each outlining its clients' rights and remedies under the terms of the Agreement as well as proposed solutions.
- 15. During this time, an email was sent from Terry L. Denton, ESWLLC's CEO, admitting to Tasty One that ESWLLC had not yet dissolved as a corporation.
- 16. In its first year of operations, 2017, Tasty One's gross revenue for the sale of ESWLLC product was \$736,482 and a net profit or loss of \$48,851. In 2018, Tasty One's revenue increased to \$902,337, nearly a 20% increase with a net profit or loss of \$4,792. Revenue increased again in 2019 to \$1,110,897 and a net profit or loss of \$338,377, which was again a nearly 20% increase in revenue and a significant increase in profit.
- 17. In late 2019 and early 2020, ESWLLC attempted to declare itself insolvent, notified Tasty One that it did not meet an arbitrary and inflated quota, and cut off Tasty One's access to the online ordering portal. Plaintiff's revenue in 2020 subsequently fell to \$535,237 and its net profit or loss was \$12,878.
- 18. There are no components or configuration of water filtration systems that are proprietary to any one company because all components are designed by or in some cases patented by third party manufacturers who sell these products to companies like ESWLLC and Tasty One on the wholesale market.
- 19. To date, ESWLLC has not refunded Tasty One for the overcharges related to price increases beyond "pass through" increases contemplated under the Agreement.

#### B. <u>Defendant's Facts</u>:

- 20. The September 2018 "Waterflow" newsletter also advised the dealers of the opportunity to improve the PhSmarte 1000 with a new innovative water distributor system (The Vortech). The newsletter advised that this distribution system would improve the effectiveness of the cleaning cycle and make the system last much longer and treat water much better. The newsletter stated that the Vortech option also included stainless steel hoses for installation. Finally, the newsletter indicated that Earth Smarte would let its dealers vote on the Vortech Distributor improvement option, advised how to vote, and that results will be posted in the October WaterFlow Newsletter.
- 21. In the October 2018, "Waterflow" newsletter, Earth Smarte notified it's of the price increase for the tariffs from the stainless steel jackets, descaler parts & Vortech upgrades. The increase was effective November 2018 and was to cover price increases on tariffs. Said increases were \$88.00 on Model 948 and \$108.00 for Model 1252.
- 22. In an April 2020 correspondence, Tasty One was provided "reasonable assurances" that Earth Smarte Water could and would continue operations and meet Tasty One's need.
- 23. Based on Tasty One's order history beginning in late 2019 and early 2020, Tasty One was not buying any product.
  - 24. In August 2019, Tasty One had not ordered any of Earth Smarte Water's product.
  - 25. In November 2019, Tasty One did not order any of Earth Smarte Water's product.
- 26. In June, October, and December 2019, Tasty One only order five (5) units, below the quota amounts.
- 27. Tasty One had not ordered any of Earth Smarte Water's product in January or February 2020, months before the "insolvency" letter was sent.
- 28. Tasty One still ordered one unit in March 2020 and one in April 2020, despite Earth Smarte Water's alleged "insolvency."
- 29. Tasty One materially breached the contract first, thereby relieving Earth Smarte from any further performance.

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V.

2 THE FOLLOWING FACTS, THOUGH NOT ADMITTED, WILL NOT BE CONTESTED 3 AT TRIAL BY EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY: 1. None at this time. 4 5 VI. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ISSUES OF FACT TO BE TRIED AND DETERMINED 6 7 **UPON TRIAL:** 8 **PLAINTIFF'S PROPOSED ISSUES OF FACTS:** A. 9 Whether ESWLLC increased the prices of its products fewer than 60 days after 1. 10 ESWLLC issued a newsletter to its dealers notifying them of price increases. 11 Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already reviewed this fact and made 12 the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. 13 This should not be a fact presented at trial. Whether Tasty One sold an ESWLLC product at the increased price within 60 days of 14 2. 15 ESWLLC sending the newsletter notice. 16 Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already reviewed this fact and made 17 the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. 18 This should not be a fact presented at trial. 19 3. Whether Tasty One and ESWLLC intended for improvements to technology to 20 constitute "direct increases in costs of material or components" or otherwise "pass through" increases at the time of entering the Agreement, when the parties did not include "improvements to technology" 21 22 in the provision on allowable pass through increases. 23 4. Whether ESWLLC breached the Agreement when it changed the technology of the 24 unit and increased its price to dealers as a "pass through" increase because of the technology change. 25 5. Whether ESWLLC breached the Agreement when it labeled Tasty One as an "unauthorized dealer," when the addendum states that if Tasty One fails to meet the minimum sales 26 27 requirement, it will "forfeit exclusivity" to Clark County. 28 Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already reviewed this fact and made

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11	\$535,237, resulting in a
12	and profit increases from
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23	services to Tasty One
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25	ESWLLC was to pay to
26	warranty," and ESWLL
27	Earth Sr
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the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. This should not be a fact presented at trial.

6. Whether ESWLLC breached the Agreement when it revoked Tasty One's access to ESWLLC's online sales portal, when the addendum states that if Tasty One fails to meet the minimum sales requirement, it will "forfeit exclusivity" to Clark County.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already reviewed this fact and made the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. This should not be a fact presented at trial.

7. Whether Tasty One suffered damages through lost sales as a result of ESWLLC denying it access to the online sales portal in 2020, when Tasty One's revenue subsequently fell \$535,237, resulting in a suffered loss of \$12,878, despite its consistent near 20% revenue increases and profit increases from 2017 through 2019.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already reviewed this fact and made the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. This should not be a fact presented at trial.

8. Whether ESWLLC breached the Agreement when it failed to maintain its online sales portal, when Tasty One's ability to sell ESWLLC products depends on its ability to access the online sales portal.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already reviewed this fact and made the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. This should not be a fact presented at trial.

9. Whether the parties intended for ESWLLC to be responsible for providing warranty services to Tasty One's customers when the Agreement states that although Tasty One was "responsible for providing labor cost[s] associated with . . . [w]arranty services of ESWLLC's units," ESWLLC was to pay for "[e]quipment replacement costs under the terms of the manufacturer's warranty," and ESWLLC is the party that was required to fulfill Tasty One's warranty requests.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already reviewed this fact and made the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists.

This should not be a fact presented at trial.

10. Whether Tasty One suffered damages as a result of ESWLLC's barriers to servicing the warranty, when Tasty One subsequently suffered \$12,500 in unreimbursed warranty expenses.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already reviewed this fact and made the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. This should not be a fact presented at trial.

- 11. Whether ESWLLC intentionally and fraudulently misrepresented to Tasty One that it was insolvent.
- 12. Whether ESWLLC attempted to prematurely terminate the Agreement when it misrepresented to Tasty One that it was insolvent.
- 13. Whether Tasty One was damaged as a result of ESWLLC's attempt to prematurely terminate the Agreement by intentionally and fraudulently misrepresenting its insolvency and closing access to the online dealer portal, when Tasty One was forced to expend time and resources to correspond with ESWLLC's counsel and CEO to find out that ESWLLC had not actually dissolved, and when Tasty One could no longer make further orders for equipment or parts through the online dealer portal.

Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already partially reviewed this fact and made the determination, as a matter of law by virtue of its June 9, 2022 Order, that no claim exists. The only genuine fact that should be presented is "Whether Tasty One was damaged as a result of ESWLLC's attempt to prematurely terminate the Agreement by stating it was insolvent."

#### B. <u>Defendant's proposed issues of fact</u>:

- 1. Whether the price increases resulting from technology improvements are direct increases or are otherwise allowed as a pass through under the Agreement.
- 2. Whether technology improvements are costs of material or components.
- 3. Whether Tasty One can establish its definition that "direct increase" is one that is outside of ESWLLC's control.
- 4. Whether Earth Smarte Water represented insolvency in order to preliminarily and

1		improperly terminate the Agreement.
2	5.	Whether the April 2020 letter provided reasonable assurances that Earth Smarte Water
3		was still an ongoing concern and had the ability to meet Tasty One's sales.
4	6.	Whether Tasty One's sales were below the quota minimum or non-existent in the
5		months leading up to the March 2020 alleged "insolvency" letter.
6	7.	If the so-called "insolvency" letter was a breach of the Agreement.
7	8.	If the so-called "insolvency" letter was an alleged breach, what, if any, are the extent
8		of Tasty One's damages.
9	9.	Whether the Agreement was terminated.
10	10.	. Whether Tasty One materially breached the contract first and relieved Earth Smarte of
11		any further performance.
12		VII.
13	THE FOL	LOWING ARE THE ISSUES OF LAW TO BE TRIED AND DETERMINED UPON TRIAL:
14	<b>A.</b>	STIPULATED ISSUES OF LAW:
15	1.	The Agreement is a valid and existing contract.
16	В.	PLAINTIFF'S PROPOSED ISSUES OF LAW:
17	1.	Which provisions in the Agreement are enforceable, and which provisions are not
18	enforceable?	The state of the s
19	2.	What are the parties' rights and responsibilities under the Agreement?
20	3.	Whether ESWLLC was permitted, pursuant to the Agreement, to change the
21	technology of	the unit and increase its price to its dealers as a "pass through" increase because of the
22	technology ch	
23		Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already held that as a matter of law:
24	The A	Agreement does not unambiguously prohibit price increases that resulted from
25		vements to technology. At a minimum, there is a <b>question of fact</b> about whether price
26	_	ses resulting from technology improvements are direct increases or are otherwise
27		d as a pass through under the Agreement. Tasty One presents no evidence justifying its
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argument that the Agreement defines "direct increase" as one that is outside of ESWLLC's control. (ECF #83, pg. 8, lns 8-12).

4. Whether price increases that result from improvements to technology constitute "direct increase in costs of material or components" and/or "pass through" increases under the Agreement.

Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already held that as a matter of law: The Agreement does not unambiguously prohibit price increases that resulted from improvements to technology. At a minimum, there is a **question of fact** about whether price increases resulting from technology improvements are direct increases or are otherwise allowed as a pass through under the Agreement. Tasty One presents no evidence justifying its argument that the Agreement defines "direct increase" as one that is outside of ESWLLC's control. (ECF #83, pg. 8, lns 8-12).

5. Whether the Addendum to the Agreement re: Minimum Sales Quota provides that the sole remedy to ESWLLC in the event Tasty One fails to meet the minimum sales requirement is that Tasty One would "forfeit exclusivity" to Clark County.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already held that as a matter of law: The Agreement states that if Tasty One fails to meet the minimum sales requirements it will "forfeit exclusivity to" Clark County. *Id.* at 30. The Agreement does not unambiguously state that this is the sole remedy for this particular breach. (ECF #83, pg. 9, lns 6-8).

6. Does ESWLLC labelling Tasty One as an "unauthorized dealer" constitute a breach of the Agreement if the addendum only provides that in the event Tasty One fails to meet the minimum sales requirement, it will "forfeit exclusivity" to Clark County?

Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already held that as a matter of law: Tasty One therefore has not demonstrated that ESWLLC's "unauthorized dealer" label breached the Agreement. Tasty One also has not demonstrated that it was damaged by ESWLLC's label. It does not demonstrate what, if any, consequences flowed from ESWLLC's email or that it lost credibility or goodwill from customers. (ECF #83, pg. 9, lns 8-12).

7. Does ESWLLC's refusal to maintain the online sales portal constitute a breach of the Agreement when the addendum states that if Tasty One fails to meet the minimum sales requirement,

it will only "forfeit exclusivity" to Clark County?

Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already held that as a matter of law: Tasty One does not identify the Agreement provision requiring ESWLLC to maintain an online sales portal, and it does not demonstrate that it lost customers' sales as a result of losing access to the portal. Though Kaplan testified that he was reluctant to email sales directly to ESWLLC after it closed its portal, Tasty One presented no evidence that closing the portal actually caused lost sales. And though Tasty One presents its tax returns allegedly showing a decrease in gross sales and a net loss for the first time in 2020, Tasty One has not causally connected those to any of ESWLLC's alleged breaches. (ECF #83, pg. 9, lns 13-19).

8. Whether the Agreement requires ESWLLC to provide warranty services to Tasty One's customers when the Agreement states that although Tasty One was "responsible for providing labor cost[s] associated with . . . [w]arranty services of ESWLLC's units," ESWLLC was to pay for "[e]quipment replacement costs under the terms of the manufacturer's warranty."

Earth Smarte Water's Response: The Court has already held that as a matter of law: The Agreement provides that Tasty One was "responsible for providing labor cost[s] associated with . . . [w]arranty services of' ESWLLC's units, while ESWLLC was to pay for "[e]quipment replacement costs under the terms of the manufacturer's warranty (Earth Smarte Water, LLC)." *Id.* at 8. The Agreement unambiguously states that ESWLLC must pay for equipment replacement costs under the manufacturer's warranty. But the Agreement is ambiguous as to which party is responsible for facilitating customers' warranty claims. Therefore, Tasty One has not demonstrated that ESWLLC's actions breached the Agreement. And though Tasty One argues that ESWLLC's barriers to servicing the warranty damaged Tasty One, Tasty One presents no evidence substantiating its claim that it suffered \$12,500 in unreimbursed warranty expenses. (ECF #83, pg. 10, lns 6-15)

9. Whether ESWLLC's attempt to prematurely terminate the Agreement by intentionally and fraudulently misrepresenting its insolvency prior to the 7-year expiration date of the Agreement constitutes a breach of the Agreement, when the Agreement provides that ESWLLC can terminate the Agreement upon Tasty One's dissolution but does not provide for ESWLLC's ability to terminate the

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Agreement based on its own dissolution.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already held that as a matter of law: Tasty One has not met its burden to identify where the Agreement provides that an attempt to terminate the Agreement through insolvency breaches the Agreement. Questions of fact remain, including whether ESWLLC's attempt to terminate the Agreement in this way violates the Agreement, whether the Agreement was terminated, and whether Tasty One was damaged as a result. (ECF #83, pg. 11, lns 2-8)

10. Whether ESWLLC's attempt to terminate the Agreement by intentionally and fraudulently misrepresenting its insolvency well before the expiration date of the Agreement constitutes a termination of the Agreement.

**Earth Smarte Water's Response:** The Court has already held that as a matter of law: Tasty One has not met its burden to identify where the Agreement provides that an attempt to terminate the Agreement through insolvency breaches the Agreement. Questions of fact remain, including whether ESWLLC's attempt to terminate the Agreement in this way violates the Agreement, whether the Agreement was terminated, and whether Tasty One was damaged as a result. (ECF #83, pg. 11, lns 2-8).

#### C. **DEFENDANT'S PROPOSED ISSUES OF LAW:**

- Defendant addresses issues of law on pages 4-8 above, including price increases, 1. premature termination, good faith and fair dealing regarding alleged insolvency, "unauthorized dealer" label, online product portal, warranty services, breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, and declaratory relief.
- 2. As addressed throughout this Joint Proposed Pretrial, the issues of law directly on point in this matter have already been decided by virtue of the June 9, 2022 Order, ECF #83. Trial should proceed on those issues of fact, this Court could not rule on directly from a review of the Agreement and evidence presented. The remaining issues are those of fact for the trier of fact.
- 3. Is Tasty One's material breach such that Earth Smarte would be excused from any further performance under the contract?

The parties may be filing various motions in limine. As the motions in limine are filed, this

section of the Joint Pretrial Order will be amended accordingly.

#### VIII.

#### **EXHIBITS**

# A. The following exhibits are stipulated into evidence in this case and may be so marked by the clerk:

The parties have conferred on multiple occasions regarding stipulations, and they anticipate that the Territory License Agreement and many other exhibits will be admitted into evidence by stipulation. The parties will continued to work together in good faith to eliminate exhibits that will be unnecessary in light of evidentiary stipulations.

# B. <u>As to the following additional exhibits, the parties have reached the stipulations stated:</u>

#### 1. Set forth stipulations as to Plaintiff's exhibits.

Exhibit			Date		Date
Number	Bates No.	Exhibit Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted
1,011	PLTF000001	Correspondence dated March 25, 2020 to all Dealers from Law Office of Martin W. Saltzman P.C. in regards to DENCOH20, Inc. & Earth Smarte Water, LLC closing for business	0110101	Stipulate	
	PLTF000150	EarthSmarte Water Advertisement ("Deliver After March 12th")		Stipulate	
	PLTF000152	Certificate of Liability Insurance, dated April 28, 2020		Stipulate	
	PLTF000410 - PLTF000438	EarthSmarte Water Territory License Agreement		Stipulate	
	PLTF001215 - PLTF001382	Various EarthSmarte Water of Las Vegas, and Pure Water Technology Ads		Stipulate	
	PLTF002141 - PLTF002182	Various EarthSmarte Water of Las Vegas Advertising Agreements with The Home Mag		Stipulate	
	PLTF002189 - PLTF002190	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated September 9, 2019		Stipulate	

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1 2	PLTF002191	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated September 1, 2016	Stipulate
3	PLTF002192	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated September 1, 2017	Stipulate
4 5	PLTF002193	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated September 1, 2018	Stipulate
6	PLTF002194	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated December 5, 2019	Stipulate
7 8	PLTF002195	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated December 11, 2019	Stipulate
9	PLTF002196	Certificate of Liability Insurance dated May 24, 2021	Stipulate
10	PLTF002197 - PLTF002203	Ad Approval Emails and Attached Ads	Stipulate
11   12	PLTF002204 -	Refund Correspondence	Stipulate
13	PLTF002213 PLTF002214	Tasty One Email to Terry Denton, dated September 24,	Stipulate
14	PLTF002215 PLTF002216	2019 Email exchange Terry Denton	Stipulate –
15	- PLTF002219	and Adam Kaplan September 11, 2019	see comment
16 17	PLTF002232 - PLTF002233	Email from Tasty One to Terry Denton re: "Leaking Valve Issue," dated	Stipulate
18	PLTF002234	November 6, 2017 Email from Tasty One to Terry Denton re: "Descalers	Stipulate
19	PLTF002236	and Valve need warranty repair work" dated September	
20	PLTF002237	Email Correspondence	Stipulate
21	PLTF002250	Between Terry Denton and Earth Smarte Water of Las Vegas, dated December 8,	per comments
22	PLTF002255	2017 Email Correspondence re:	Stipulate
23	PLTF002256	"Dealer agreement," dated January 16, 2018	Supulate
24   25	PLTF002260	Email Correspondence re: "RED light," dated May 22,	Stipulate
26	PLTF002263 PLTF002264	2018 Email Correspondence re:	Stipulate
27	PLTF002271	Warranty Repair Work, dated September 14, 2019	
28	PLTF002272 - PLTF002274	Email Correspondence re: "Revised ad approval,' dated July 18, 2019	Stipulate
		July 10, 4017	<u> </u>

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1	PLTF002275	Email Correspondence re:	Stipulate
2	PLTF002276	"Revised ads for review," dated October 27, 2017	
3	PLTF002277	Email Correspondence re: "Teresa Togo Descaler Pic	Stipulate
4	PLTF002278	and Serial Number," dated December 8, 2017	
5	PLTF002279	Email Correspondence re:	Stipulate
	PLTF002284	"UPS Delivery Notification," dated December 29, 2017	
6	PLTF002285	Email Correspondence re: "Warranty Card," dated	Stipulate
7	PLTF002286	December 27, 2017	
8	PLTF002287	Email Correspondence re: "Zepeda Descaler Pix and	Stipulate
9	PLTF002288	serial number," dated December 8, 2017	
	PLTF002296	Various Ad Approval Emails with Ad Attachments	Stipulate
	PLTF002301	with Ad Attachments	
1	PLTF002291	Email Correspondence	Stipulate
2	PLTF002295	Between Terry Denton and Earth Smarte Water of Las	
3		Vegas, dated December 11, 2017	
4	ESW0053 – ESW0055	Waterflow Newsletter, dated September 1, 2018	Stipulate
5	ESW0085 – ESW0086	Unauthorized Dealer Email, dated August 28, 2019	Stipulate
6	ESW0087 – ESW0098	Email Correspondence re: Warranty Repair Work, dated September 14, 2019	Stipulate
7	N/A	Defendant's Responses to Plaintiff's First Set of	Stipulate
8		Requests for Admission to	
9		Defendant Earth Smarte Water, LLC D/B/A	
$0 \mid \mid 0$	N/A	DencoH20, LLC Defendant's Amended	Stipulate
1		Responses to Plaintiff's First Set of Requests for	
2		Production of Documents to Defendant Earth Smarte	
3		Water, LLC D/B/A DencoH20, LLC	
4	N/A	Defendant's Responses to Plaintiff's First Set of	Stipulate
5		Interrogatories to Defendant Earth Smarte Water, LLC	
5	PLTF 2254	D/B/A DencoH20, LLC Email dated January 16, 2018	Stipulate
7		between Denton and A. Kaplan	
$8 \parallel$			
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## 2. Set forth stipulations as to Defendant's exhibits.

Exhibit			Date		Date
Number	Bates No.	Exhibit Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted
	ESW0031	Letter dated September 18,		Stipulate	
		2018, regarding the			
		impending price			
		increase from Krystal Clear			
		Water to Terry Denton at			
		Earth Smarte Water			
	ESW0032	Undated letter from Krystal		Stipulate	
		Clear Water explaining the			
		\$20.00 price increase on the			
		Descaler product due to the			
		tariffs placed on imported			
		products from China			
	ESW0053-	DenCoH20 Waterflow		Stipulate	
	0054	Newsletter for September			
		2018			
	ESW0056-	DenCoH20 Waterflow		Stipulate	
	0058	Newsletter for October 10,			
		2018			
	ESW0060	March 13, 2020, letter from		Stipulate	
		Nelson Corporation regarding			
		price increases due to tariffs			
		and Vortech technology			
	ESW0061	Email dated March 9, 2020,		Stipulate	
		from Royal Metal regarding			
		price increases due to tariffs			
	ESW0062-	March 30, 2020 letter from		Stipulate	
	0063	Terry Denton to Mike Kaplan			
	ESW0069-	Letter dated May 2, 2020,		Stipulate	
	0071	from Earth Smarte's former			
		attorney Saltzman to Tasty			
		One's attorney regarding the			
		low order numbers			
	N/A	Defendant's Amended		Stipulate	
		Answers to Tasty One, LLC			
		dba Earth Smart Water of Las			
		Vegas' Second Set of			
		Requests for Production of			
		Documents (8/16/2021)			
	N/A	Defendant's Answers to		Stipulate	
		Plaintiff's First Set of		_	
		Interrogatories (3/8/2021)			

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N/A	Defendant's Answers to	Stipulate
	Plaintiff's First Set of	
	Requests for Admission	
	(2/11/2021)	
N/A	Defendant's Answers to Tasty	Stipulate
	One, LLC dba Earth Smart	
	Water of Las Vegas' Second	
	Set of Requests for	
	Production of Documents	
	(7/16/2021)	
N/A	Defendant's Answers to	Stipulate
	Plaintiff's First Set of	
	Requests for Production of	
	Documents (3/8/2021)	

# C. The parties intend to offer the following exhibits into evidence in this case, subject to the objections of the parties (as stated below):

		1	1 _		
Exhibit			Date		Date
Number	Bates No.	Exhibit Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted
	PLTF000002 – PLTF000004	Correspondence dated April 10, 2020 to the Law Office of Martin W. Saltzman P.C. and DENCOH20, Inc. & Earth Smarte Water, LLC from Maier Gutierrez & Associates in regards to dissolution of contractual relationship	0110101	Object: Relevance Hearsay Settlement discussion	
	PLTF000036 - PLTF000038	Correspondence dated April 21, 2020 to Maier Gutierrez & Associates from the Law Office of Martin W. Saltzman P.C. in regards to agreement		Object: Relevance Hearsay Settlement discussion	
	PLTF000039 – PLTF000044	Correspondence dated April 23, 2020 to the Law Office of Martin W. Saltzman P.C. and DENCOH20, Inc. & Earth Smarte Water, LLC from Maier Gutierrez & Associates in regards to email to Mike Kaplan on April 17, 2020		Object: Relevance Hearsay Settlement discussion Incomplete document	

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PLTF000078  PLTF000078  Correspondence dated May 1, 2020 to the Law Office of Martin W. Saltzman P.C. and DENCOH20, Inc. & Earth Smarte Water, LLC from Maier Gutierrez & Associates in regards to resolution proposal  PLTF002183 - PLTF002188  PLTF0022188  PLTF002252 - PLTF002253  PLTF002304 - PLTF002307  PLTF002307  PLTF002307  Correspondence dated May 1, 2020 to the Law Office of Martin W. Saltzman P.C. and Hearsay Settlement discussion Incomplete document resolution proposal  Relevance Hearsay Authenticati On/ foundation  Relevance Hearsay Authenticati On/ foundation  Relevance PLTF002252 - Email Correspondence re: upset customer, dated April 19, 2018  PLTF002304 - Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 – 2020  Foundation Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence 403 –						
DENCOH20, Inc. & Earth Smarte Water, LLC from Maier Gutierrez & Associates in regards to resolution proposal  PLTF002183 - Various EarthSmarte Water of Las Vegas Advertising Agreements with HomeConcepts  PLTF002252 - PLTF002253 - Email Correspondence re: upset customer, dated April 19, 2018  PLTF002304 - PLTF002307	_	00078 1, 2020 to	the Law Office of			
Smarte Water, LLC from Maier Gutierrez & Associates in regards to resolution proposal  PLTF002183 — Various EarthSmarte Water of Las Vegas Advertising Agreements with HomeConcepts  PLTF002252 — PLTF002253  PLTF002253 — Email Correspondence re: upset customer, dated April 19, 2018  PLTF002304 — PLTF002307  Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 — 2020  Giscussion Incomplete document Relevance Hearsay Relevance Relevance Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence		Martin W	. Saltzman P.C. and			
Maier Gutierrez & Incomplete document  PLTF002183 - Various EarthSmarte Water of Las Vegas Advertising Agreements with HomeConcepts  PLTF002252 - PLTF002253 - PLTF002253 - PLTF002304 - PLTF002307  PLTF002304 - PLTF002307  PLTF002307 - Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 - 2020  Maier Gutierrez & Incomplete document  Relevance Hearsay Authenticati on/ foundation Relevance  Relevance  Relevance  Relevance  Relevance  Relevance  Federal Rules of Evidence						
Associates in regards to resolution proposal  PLTF002183 - Various EarthSmarte Water of Las Vegas Advertising Agreements with HomeConcepts  PLTF002252 - PLTF002253 - PLTF002253 - PLTF002304 - PLTF002307  PLTF002304 - PLTF002307  PLTF002307 - Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 - 2020  Associates in regards to document documen						
PLTF002183 - Various EarthSmarte Water PLTF002188		Maier Gu	tierrez &			
PLTF002188					document	
PLTF002188 of Las Vegas Advertising Agreements with HomeConcepts authenticati On/ foundation  PLTF002252 - PLTF002253 Email Correspondence re: upset customer, dated April 19, 2018  PLTF002304 - PLTF002307 Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 - 2020  Federal Rules of Evidence	PLTF00				Relevance	
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HomeConcepts  PLTF002252 — Email Correspondence re: upset customer, dated April 19, 2018  PLTF002304 — PLTF002307  PLTF002307  Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 – 2020  Foundation Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence						
PLTF002252 - PLTF002253				-		
PLTF002252 - PLTF002253   Email Correspondence re: upset customer, dated April 19, 2018   PLTF002304 - PLTF002307   Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 - 2020   Foundation Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence   Evidence   Evidence   Federal Rules of Evide			, or pass			
PLTF002253 upset customer, dated April 19, 2018  PLTF002304 — Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 — 2020  Foundation Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence	PLTF00	02252 – Email Cor	respondence re:			
PLTF002304 – PLTF002307 Tasty One Schedule C tax forms 2017 – 2020 Foundation Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence		02253 upset cust				
Relevance Federal Rules of Evidence	PLTF00	02304 – Tasty One	Schedule C tax		Hearsay	
Federal Rules of Evidence	PLTF00	02307   forms 201	7 - 2020		Foundation	
Rules of Evidence					Relevance	
Evidence					Federal	
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403 _					Evidence	
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Unfair					Unfair	
Prejudice					Prejudice	
E. Allan Horner CWS-VI, CI Relevance		E. Allan H	Horner CWS-VI, CI		Relevance	
Expert Report Hearsay		Expert Re	port			
Competence						
Foundation					Foundation	

## 1. Defendant's Exhibits with Plaintiff's Objections:

	1	1	T	T	T
Exhibit	D ( N	F 1114 B	Date	01. 4	Date
Number	Bates No.	Exhibit Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted
	ESW0001-	Territory Licensing		Objection:	
	0030	Agreement dated January 4,		incomplete	
		2017		document	
	ESW0033-	Invoices from Krystal Klear		Objection:	
	0050	Water Enterprises from		Relevance	
		March 26, 2018;		401 (a)(b),	
		August 29, 2018; October 9,		authenticity,	
		2018; November 19, 2018;		foundation.	
		January 15, 2019; and			
		January 30, 2019 showing			
		the \$20.00 manufacturing			
		increase beginning in			
		November 2018			
	ESW0051-	DenCoH20 Waterflow		Objection -	
	0052	Newsletter for August 2018		Relevance	
				401 (a)(b),	

1	ESW0068	1 '	Objection -
		from Tracy Lavenant	Relevance
2		regarding	401 (a)(b),
3		Las Vegas' low order	authenticity, foundation.
3		numbers for 2019	Toundation.
4	ESW0083	1	Objection:
	0086	between Terry Denton to	not properly
5		Adam Kaplan	disclosed
_			under FRCP
6			26(a); Relevance
7			401 (a)(b),
/	ESW0087	7- September 14, 2019 email	Objection:
8	0095	correspondence between	not properly
0		Terry Denton to Adam	disclosed
9		Kaplan with photos	under FRCP
		1	26(a)
10	ESW0096	1	Objection:
	0101	between Terry Denton to	not properly
11		Adam Kaplan with photos	disclosed
10			under FRCP
12	ESW0102	2- March 14, 2020 email	26(a) Objection:
13	0103	correspondence between	not properly
13		Terry Denton to Adam	disclosed
14		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	under FRCP
		Kaplan	26(a);
15			Relevance
			401 (a)(b),
16	ESW0104		Objection:
17	0106	One's unauthorized use of	not properly
1/		Earth Smarte's order forms	disclosed under FRCP
18			26(a);
10			Relevance
19			401 (a)(b)
	ESW0111	l- Email correspondence	Objection:
20	0112	between Terry Denton to	not properly
		Judy Stallings	disclosed
21			under FRCP
22	ESW0107	7 Fohmsoms 11 2021 letter	26(a)
22			Objection: not properly
23	0110	from Nelson Corporation	disclosed
23		regarding Tasty One's orders	under FRCP
24		for 2020	26(a)
	ESW0113	3- Tasty One's unapproved	Objection:
25	0166	advertising	not properly
			disclosed
26			under FRCP
27			26(a);
41			Relevance
28		1	401 (a)(b),
20			

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1	ESW0167-	Certificate of Insurance	Objection:
	0168		not properly
2			disclosed
			under FRCP
3	E011/01/0	D 1 1 1	26(a)
4	ESW0169-	Documents regarding leads	Objection:
4	0259	sent to Tasty One from Earth	not properly disclosed
5		Smarte's national website	under FRCP
3			26(a);
6			Relevance
			401 (a)(b)
7	ESW0260-	Documents regarding	Objection:
	0281	advertising or promotion of	not properly
8	0281	"Counter-claimants national	disclosed
			under FRCP
9		website"	26(a);
10	ESW0282-	Chart of Dealer issues	Objection:
10	0283		not properly
11			disclosed
11			under FRCP
12	777770201		26(a);
12	ESW0284-	August 6, 2021 letter from	Objection:
13	0285	Krystal Klear Water to Terry	not properly
10		Denton	disclosed
14			under FRCP 26(a)
	ESW0286	Undated letter from Krystal	Objection:
15	L5 W 0200	Klear Water to Terry Denton	not properly
		Rical Water to Terry Denton	disclosed
16			under FRCP
17			26(a);
1 /			Relevance
18			401 (a)(b),
10			authenticity,
19	E9W0207	0 1 5 20101 11	foundation.
	ESW0287	September 5, 2018 letter	Objection:
20		from Krystal Klear Water to	not properly disclosed
		Earth Smarte Water	under FRCP
21			26(a);
22			Relevance
22			401 (a)(b),
23			authenticity,
23			foundation.
24	ESW0288-	September 18, 2018 letter	Objection:
-	0289	Krystal Klear Water to Terry	not properly
25		Denton	disclosed
			under FRCP
26			26(a); Relevance
_			401 (a)(b),
27			authenticit,
20			foundation.
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ESW0290-	Documents regarding the	Objection:
1053	purchases of components, equipment, and/or materials used in the manufacture of DenCo water filtration systems	not properly disclosed under FRCP 26(a); Relevance 401 (a)(b), authenticity, foundation.
ESW1054- 1553	Documents related to all dealers or licensees of the Earth Smarte Water	Objection: not properly disclosed under FRCP 26(a); Relevance 401 (a)(b), authenticity, foundation.
PLTF 2222- 2227	Email from Mike Kaplan	Objection: 2222 Attorney client privilege

Tasty One has the burden of proof to establish that:

- 1) The Agreement defines a "direct increase" as one that is only outside of ESWLLC's control; and
- 2) Tasty One sustained damages that can be calculated by other documents than its taxes returns as this Court has already held that the tax returns did not establish damages causally related to any alleged breach.

To date, no evidence has been presented that establishes Tasty One will be able to meet its burden of proof on these two issues. Earth Smarte anticipates motion practice on these two issues, including Motion in Limines will be necessary.

#### **D.** <u>ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE</u>:

- 1. Plaintiff does not anticipate presenting evidence in electronic form at this time. Plaintiff's counsel will utilize trial presentation software and/or the courtroom evidence display equipment system (overhead projector) to display paper exhibits to the jury during trial. Plaintiff's counsel's office will contact the Courtroom Administrator prior to Calendar Call consistent with Judge Andrew P. Gordon's Order Regarding Trial (standing order).
  - 2. Defendant does not anticipate presenting evidence in electronic form at this

1	time.	Defen	dant's counsel will utilize trial presentation software and/or the courtroom evidence
2	displa	y equip	oment system (overhead projector) to display paper exhibits to the jury during trial
3	Defen	dant's	counsel's office will contact the Courtroom Administrator prior to Calendar Cal
4	consis	tent wi	th Judge Andrew P. Gordon's Order Regarding Trial (standing order).
5		E.	<u>DEPOSITIONS</u> :
6		The p	arties anticipate using live witness testimony in lieu of deposition testimony unless
7	witnes	ss is, or	becomes, unavailable.
8		F.	OBJECTIONS TO DEPOSITIONS:
9		The p	arties reserve all objections to the use of depositions testimony at trial at this time.
10			IX.
11	THI	E FOL	LOWING WITNESSES MAY BE CALLED BY THE PARTIES UPON TRIAL:
12		A	<u>Plaintiffs' Witnesses</u> :
13 14		1.	NRCP 30(b)(6) witness and/or designee Tasty One, LLC d/b/a Earth Smarte Water of Las Vegas c/o Jean-Paul Hendricks, Esq.
15			Joseph A. Gutierrez, Esq. MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES 8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue Las Vagas, Navada 80148
16 17			Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 (702) 629-7900
18		2.	Adam Kaplan c/o Jean-Paul Hendricks, Esq. Joseph A. Gutierrez, Esq.
19 20			MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES 8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
21			(702) 629-7900
22		3.	Mike Kaplan c/o Jean-Paul Hendricks, Esq.
23			Joseph A. Gutierrez, Esq. MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES
24			8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
25			(702) 629-7900
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1	4.	NRCP 30(b)(6) witness and/or designee Earth Smarte Water, LLC d/b/a DENCOH20
2		c/o John P. Aldrich, Esq.
3		ALDRICH LAW FIRM, LTD. 7866 W. Sahara Avenue
5		Las Vegas, Nevada 89117
4		(702) 853-5490
5	5.	Walt Kemmer
6		c/o Jean-Paul Hendricks, Esq. Joseph A. Gutierrez, Esq.
		MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES
7		8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue
8		Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 (702) 629-7900
9		(702) 029-7900
10	6.	Mackenzie Davis
10		c/o Jean-Paul Hendricks, Esq. Joseph A. Gutierrez, Esq.
11		Maier Gutierrez & Associates
12		8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue
13		Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
		(702) 629-7900
14	7.	E. Allen Horner
15		c/o Jean-Paul Hendricks, Esq.
16		Joseph A. Gutierrez, Esq. MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES
		8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue
17		Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
18		(702) 629-7900
19	В.	The following witnesses will be called at trial by Defendant in its case in chief:
20	1.	Terry Denton
		c/o Aldrich Law Firm, Ltd. 7866 West Sahara Avenue
21		Las Vegas, Nevada 89117
22	2.	Adam Kaplan
23	2.	c/o Maier Gutierrez & Associates
		8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue
24		Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
25	4.	Mike Kaplan
26		c/o Maier Gutierrez & Associates
27		8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
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1	4.	Person(s) Most Knowledgeable for Royal Metal Building Components 2031 Amistad Drive
2		San Benito, TX 78586 (956) 399-2271
3	5.	Tracy Lavenant
4	J.	Nelson Corporation
5		3250 Barber Road Norton, OH 442030
6		800-362-9686
7	6.	Person(s) Most Knowledgeable for Krystal Klear Water Enterprises 8829 Main Street
8		Williamsville NY 14221
9		716-332-4400
10		х.
11		PROPOSED TRIAL SETTINGS
12	Given	multiple scheduling conflicts between the parties due to travel, trials, prescheduled
13	vacations for p	parties and/or witnesses, and in order to allow adequate time for the parties to participate
14	in a settlemen	t conference, and receive rulings on pretrial motions, the parties propose the following
15	trial dates:	
16		1. Monday June 26, 2023
17		2. Monday July 17, 2023
18		3. Monday August 21, 2023
19	It is ex	pressly understood by the undersigned that the Court will set the trial of this matter on
20	one (1) of the	agreed-upon dates if possible; if not, the trial will be set at the convenience of the Court's
21	calendar.	
22	The pa	rties anticpate that based on the anticipated motion practice on the issues and the Motion
23	in Limines, th	at it will not be ready for Trial until June 2023.
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XI. 1 2 PROPOSED TRIAL LENGTH It is estimated that the trial herein will take a total of 5 days. 3 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT: 4 DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022. DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022. 5 6 MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES ALDRICH LAW FIRM, LTD. /s/ Jean Paul Hendricks /s/ John P. Aldrich 7 JOSEPH A. GUTIERREZ, ESQ. JOHN P. ALDRICH, ESQ. 8 Nevada Bar No. 9046 Nevada Bar No. 68777866 West Sahara Avenue JEAN-PAUL HENDRICKS, ESQ. 9 Las Vegas, Nevada 89117 Nevada Bar No. 10079 Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimants/Third-Party 8816 Spanish Ridge Avenue 10 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 Plaintiffs Earth Smarte Water, LLC d/b/a Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant DENCOH20, LLC 11 Tasty One, LLC d/b/a Earth Smarte Water of Las Vegas 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

XI. 1 2 **ACTION BY THE COURT** 3 This case is set for Bench Trial on the June 26, 2023 trial stack at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 6C. 4 Calendar call shall be held on June 23, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 6C. 5 An original and two (2) copies of each trial brief shall be submitted to the Clerk on or (b) 6 before \_\_\_\_ 7 <del>(c)</del> Jury trials: 8 (1)An original and two (2) copies of all instructions requested by either party 9 shall be submitted to the Clerk for filing on or before \_\_\_\_\_ 10 An original and two (2) copies of all suggested questions of the parties to be (2)11 asked of the jury panel by the Court on voir dire shall be submitted to the 12 Clerk for filing on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_. 13 (d) Court trials: Proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law shall be filed on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_. 14 15 The foregoing pretrial order has been approved by the parties to this action as evidenced by the signatures of their counsel hereon, and the order is hereby entered and will govern the trial of this 16 17 case. This order shall not be amended except by order of the Court pursuant to agreement of the 18 parties or to prevent manifest injustice. 19 DATED this 7th day of November, 2022. 20 21 U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE 22 23 24 25 26 27 28