

Lawrence C. Hersh
Attorney at Law
17 Sylvan Street
Suite 102B
Rutherford, New Jersey 07070
Tel: (201) 507-6300
Fax: (201) 507-6311
lh@hershlegal.com

Of Counsel
Theodore F. Shiells
Texas State Bar No. 00796087
Shiells Law Firm P.C.
1201 Main Street – Suite 2470
Dallas, Texas 75202
Tel: (214) 979-7312
Fax: (214) 979-7301
tfshiells@shiellslaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff Simon Nicholas Richmond

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

_____)	
SIMON NICHOLAS RICHMOND,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No.
)	
SEARS ROEBUCK & CO.)	_____
)	MLC-DEA
)	
Defendant.)	
_____)	

SEVERED FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

SEVERED FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff Simon Nicholas Richmond (“Richmond” or “Plaintiff”), for his claims against Defendant Sears Roebuck & Co., (“Sears Roebuck” or “Defendant”) makes and files this Complaint and alleges as follows:

1. STATEMENT OF RELATED CASES AND PRIOR PROCEEDINGS

This case is related to *Simon Nicholas Richmond v. Winchance Solar Fujian Technology Co. ltd., et al.*, 13-cv-1959 (MLC-DEA), and alleges infringement of the same United States Patents that are at issue in the aforementioned case, i.e., United States Patent Nos. D554,284. This case is further related to case docket nos. 13-cv-1944 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1949 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1950 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1951 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1952 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1953 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1954 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1957 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1959 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-1960 (MLC-DEA), 13-cv-2916 (MLC-DEA), all of which have been consolidated with *Simon Nicholas Richmond v. Lumisol, et al.*, 13-cv-1944 (MLC-DEA).

The allegations contained in this Complaint against Defendant were originally filed in *Simon Nicholas Richmond v. Winchance Solar Fujian Technology Co. ltd., et al.*, 13-cv-1959 (MLC-DEA). In an Order dated July 3, 2014, the claims against Defendant Sears Roebuck were severed, and Plaintiff was

ordered to file a severed complaint against each individual defendant in Case No. 13-cv-1959 (MLC-DEA) by August 1, 2014. (Case No. 13-cv-1944, Dkt. 122, p.10).

2. THE PARTIES

A. Plaintiff Richmond.

1. Plaintiff Richmond is an individual and a resident of New Jersey.

B. Defendant.

2. Sears Roebuck & Co. (Sears Roebuck) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, having a principal place of business at 3333 Beverly Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179. Sears Roebuck may be served through its agent for service of process at The Corporation Trust Company, 1209 Orange Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.

3. Service of the prior Original and First Amended Complaints in 13-cv-1959 (MLC-DEA) was previously properly effectuated on Defendant.

3. SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

4. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code, including 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 and 281-285. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331

and 1338(a).

4. PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND VENUE

A. General.

5. Personal jurisdiction over Defendant is proper pursuant to New Jersey Long-Arm Statute, N.J. CT. R. 4:4-4 and principles of due process.

6. Sears Roebuck has sufficient minimum contacts with New Jersey and this district and the maintenance of this suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

B. Specific Jurisdiction.

7. Personal jurisdiction over Defendant is proper under principles of specific jurisdiction.

8. Upon information and belief, Defendant has transacted and solicited business in New Jersey and in this district related to the subject matter of the claims alleged herein and, upon information and belief, has committed direct infringement in this state and district by importing, offering to sell and/or selling goods infringing one or more of the Patents-in-Suit, to customer(s) in this state.

9. The infringement by Defendant that is the subject of the claims alleged has caused Plaintiff to suffer damages and other losses in New Jersey and

this district, a result that was reasonably foreseeable to Defendant at the time Defendant committed its misconduct.

C. General Jurisdiction.

10. Personal jurisdiction over Defendant is also proper under principles of general jurisdiction in that each United States Defendant either resides in this state and district and/or has regularly and purposefully conducted business in New Jersey and this district.

D. Venue.

11. Venue also properly lies in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b) because Defendant has committed acts of infringement in this district.

12. Venue also properly lies in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) and/or (3) because, upon information and belief, either a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims recited below occurred in this district, or a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is in this district, or because there is no district in which the action may otherwise be brought as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1391, and this court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant.

5. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. Plaintiff's Patents-in-Suit

13. For many years, Richmond has engaged in the development, manufacture, and sale of solar-powered garden lighting. Richmond has taken steps to protect his innovative inventions and designs. In particular, Richmond owns United States utility and design patents relating to his solar-powered garden lights.

14. Richmond is the inventor and owner of all right, title, and interest to the United States patent number D554,284, entitled "Solar Powered Light," ("D284 Cap Design Patent"), which duly and legally issued to Richmond on 10/30/2007.

15. Plaintiff's 'D284 Patent is valid and enforceable.

16. Richmond continues to engage in the development and sale of solar-powered garden lighting and continues to take steps to protect his innovative inventions and designs and in this regard has applied for additional patent protection for his inventions. For example, on March 29, 2012, United States Patent Publication No. US 2012/0075104 A1 (the "'104 Published Application") was published, and on April 5, 2012, United States Patent Publication No. US 2012/0081888 A1 (the "'888 Published Application") was published. Copies of the '104 and '888 Published Applications may be obtained for free from the

official United States Patent and Trademark website, uspto.gov.

17. At all times relevant to this action, Richmond has complied with any notice provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 287 as they may relate to the Patents-in-Suit.

B. Facts relevant to Defendant

18. Sears Roebuck is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sears Holdings Corporation

19. An example of an accused infringing product believed to be sold in their Kmart stores is entitled “SOLAR COLOR CHANGING LED GLASS ORB” set. Although the item is packaged in a “Garden Oasis” box (which is a brand used in the Kmart stores), and has the model number “KSN: 04012986-8,” where “KSN” is believed to stand for “Kmart Serial Number,” the bottom of the box shows the stylized “sears” logo, the words “Distributed by Sears, Roebuck and Co. Hoffman Estates, IL 60179”, and the sears.com website address, owned by Sears Brands LLC.

20. Since issuance of one or more of the foregoing Richmond patents, Defendant has or has been importing, exposing for sale, offering for sale, or selling the following products:

- a) “Moonrays” Verona Light Models

21. In addition to the products identified in the preceding paragraph, Defendant has or has been importing, exposing for sale, offering for sale, and selling the solar lighting products identified in Exhibit A.

6. INFRINGEMENT OF PLAINTIFF'S PATENTS

Count 1 – Sears Roebuck's Direct Infringement of 'D284 Patent

22. The allegations of Paragraphs 1-21 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth again herein.

23. Sears Roebuck has notice of Plaintiff's rights in the 'D284 Patent.

24. Upon information and belief, Sears Roebuck directly infringes, and has infringed, Plaintiff's D284 Cap Design Patent by, at-least, exposing for sale, offering to sell, and selling one or more solar-powered garden light products that infringe 'D284 Patent. Upon information and belief, those solar-powered garden lights include, at least, the following products:

a) "Moonrays" Verona Light Models.

25. The attached "Preliminary Product List - Sears Roebuck, attached as Exhibit A, contains a non-comprehensive list of products that, upon information and belief, are believed to constitute infringement of Richmond's patents, where a "Y" under the column labeled 'D284 Patent indicates that the product identified in

the corresponding row is believed to be an infringement of Plaintiff's D284 Cap Design Patent.

26. Upon information and belief, Sears Roebuck has and is exposing for sale, offering to sell, and selling other solar-powered garden light products which infringe Plaintiff's D284 Cap Design Patent and will continue to do so unless restrained by this Court.

Count 2 – Willfulness of Sears Roebuck's Infringement

27. The allegations of Paragraphs 1-26 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth again herein.

28. Upon information and belief and as a result of Plaintiff's activities, Sears Roebuck has had actual knowledge of Plaintiff's 'D284 Patents, and knowledge that its solar-powered garden lights as accused of infringement of these patents earlier in this Complaint ("Accused Infringing Products") would infringe Plaintiff's 'D284 Patents if imported into, offered for sale or sold in the United States. Sears Roebuck is believed to have had such knowledge long prior to the filing of Plaintiff's Original Complaint against Sears Roebuck in Case No. 13-cv-1959 (D.N.J.). As a result, Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's Patent is willful.

29. The allegations and factual contentions set forth in this Count are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(b)(3).

7. PLAINTIFF'S DAMAGES AND IRREPARABLE HARM

30. Richmond has offered for sale but has never sold any solar lights bearing the design claimed in the D284 Cap Design Patent.

31. Plaintiff has been damaged as a result of Defendant's infringing activities and will continue to be damaged unless such activities are enjoined by this Court. Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284, Plaintiff is entitled to damages adequate to compensate for the infringement of Plaintiff's Patent, including, inter alia, Plaintiff's lost profits and/or a reasonable royalty. Alternatively, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 289, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of Defendant's total profits to compensate for the infringement of Plaintiff's Patent.

32. Plaintiff will be irreparably harmed if Defendant's patent infringement continues. Plaintiff relies upon his patents for protection of his business' intellectual property and the rampant infringement of his patents by Defendant robs Plaintiff's business of its intellectual assets and denies Plaintiff the exclusivity in the marketplace for offering and selling his products to which he is entitled under

the Patent Laws. This seriously damages Plaintiff in a manner that cannot be adequately compensated by money alone. Plaintiff is entitled to a permanent injunction prohibiting Defendant, its directors, officers, employees, agents, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and anyone else in active concert or participation with them, from taking any other actions that would infringe Plaintiff's Patents.

8. JURY DEMAND

33. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 38(b), for all issues so triable.

9. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that the court enter judgment granting Plaintiff the following relief:

- a. Judgment that Defendant infringed the Plaintiff's Richmond D284 Cap Design Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a);
- b. For the Richmond D284 Cap Design Patent, either an award of damages adequate to compensate Plaintiff for the patent infringement that has occurred pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284, and/or a reasonable royalty, or an award of Defendant's total profits from the Defendants' infringement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 289, whichever is greater, together with prejudgment interest and costs;

c. Awarding treble of the damages and/or reasonable royalty, and that those damages be trebled on account of the willful nature of the infringement, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

d. Declaring this case to be exceptional under 35 U.S.C. §285 and awarding Plaintiff his attorneys' fees, costs and expenses related to bringing this action, with prejudgment interest;

e. Enjoining Defendants, their directors, officers, employees, agents, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and anyone else in active concert or participation with them, from infringing the Richmond D284 Cap Design Patent; and

f. Awarding Plaintiff such further and other relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lawrence C. Hersh
Lawrence C. Hersh
Attorney at Law
17 Sylvan Street
Suite 102B
Rutherford, New Jersey 07070
Tel: (201) 507-6300
Fax: (201) 507-6311
lh@hershlegal.com

*Attorneys for Plaintiff
Simon Nicholas Richmond*

Of Counsel

Theodore F. Shiells
Texas State Bar No. 00796087
Shiells Law Firm P.C.
1201 Main Street – Suite 2470
Dallas, Texas 75202
Tel: (214) 979-7312
Fax: (214) 979-7301
tfshiells@shiellslaw.com