

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

IN RE: PACKAGED SEAFOOD  
PRODUCTS ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Case No. 15-MD-2670 DMS (MSB)

This Document Relates To:

The Commercial Food Preparer  
Plaintiff Action

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

This Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and entered into this 3rd day of April 2024 (“Execution Date”), by and between StarKist Co. (“StarKist”) and Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd (“DWI”), and all Commercial Food Preparer named plaintiffs (collectively, “CFP Class Representatives”), both individually and on behalf of a certified class of Commercial Food Preparer indirect purchasers of Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products (the “CFP Class”) as more particularly defined in Paragraph 12 below.

WHEREAS, the CFP Class Representatives are prosecuting the Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiff Action (the “Action”) in *In re Packaged Seafood Products Antitrust Litigation*, Master File No. 15-MD-02670 (S.D. Cal.) (the “MDL Litigation”), on their own behalf and on behalf of the CFP Class;

WHEREAS, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs allege that they were injured as a result of StarKist and DWI’s alleged participation in an unlawful conspiracy to raise, fix, maintain, and/or stabilize prices for Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products (as defined below) in violation of various state unfair competition, antitrust, unjust enrichment, and consumer protection

laws as set forth in Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' Fourth Amended Complaint (No. 3:15-cv-02670, Doc. No. 1470) ("CFP Complaint");

WHEREAS, StarKist denies that any conspiracy involved food-service sized products, denies that it has any damages liability with regard to Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' allegations, denies that the conduct alleged in the Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' complaints led to any Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiff paying higher prices for Food-Service Size Packaged Tuna Products or injured any Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiff in any way, and is prepared to assert defenses to Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' claims;

WHEREAS, DWI denies that it participated in an unlawful conspiracy, denies any liability with regard to the allegations in the Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' complaints, and is prepared to assert defenses to Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' claims;

WHEREAS arms' length settlement negotiations have taken place between CFP Class Counsel (as defined below in paragraph 13) and counsel for StarKist and DWI via both private mediation and later Court-supervised mediation before Magistrate Judge Michael S. Berg, and this Agreement has been reached as a result of those negotiations;

WHEREAS, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs (through CFP Class Counsel) have conducted an investigation into the facts and the law regarding the Action and have concluded that resolving the claims asserted in the Action against StarKist and DWI, according to the terms set forth below, is in the best interests of Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs because of the payment of the Settlement Amount and the value of the Injunctive Relief (as that term is defined below) that StarKist has agreed to provide pursuant to this Agreement;

WHEREAS, StarKist and DWI, despite their belief that they are not liable for and have good defenses to the claims asserted, have nevertheless agreed to enter into this Agreement to

avoid further expense, inconvenience, and the distraction of burdensome and protracted litigation, and to obtain the releases, orders, and judgment contemplated by this Agreement, and to put to rest with finality all Claims (as defined in Paragraph 23) that have been or could have been asserted against the Releasees with respect to Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products (“Relevant Products”) based on the allegations in the Action, as more particularly set out below; and

WHEREAS, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs recognize the benefit of the injunctive relief set forth in Paragraph 35 below.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants, agreements, and releases set forth herein and for other good and valuable consideration, it is agreed by and among the undersigned that the Action be settled, compromised, and dismissed on the merits with prejudice as to the Releasees, as defined below, and except as hereinafter provided, without costs to CFP Class Representatives, the CFP Class, DWI, or StarKist, subject to the approval of the Court, on the following terms and conditions:

A. Definitions.

1. “Affiliates,” with respect to any entity, means all other entities which, prior to or as of the Execution Date, whether directly or indirectly, (1) are controlled by that entity, (2) are under common control with that entity, or (3) control that entity. The term “control” as used in this definition means the possession of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and the policies of an entity, whether through the ownership of a majority of the outstanding voting rights or otherwise.

2. “Commercial Food Preparer” or “CFP” means all persons and entities that indirectly purchased packaged tuna products produced in packages of 40 ounces or more that were manufactured by any Defendant (or any current or former subsidiary or any Affiliate thereof) and

that were purchased directly from DOT Foods, Sysco, US Foods, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, or Costco (other than inter-company purchases among these distributors).

3. "Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs" means the CFP Class Members, as defined in Paragraph 12, and CFP Class Representatives in the CFP Complaint. Those CFP Class Representatives are Capitol Hill Supermarket, Janet Machen, Thyme Café & Market, Simon-Hindi LLC, LesGo Personal Chef, Maquoketa Care Center, A-1 Diner, Francis T. Enterprises d/b/a Erbert & Gerbert's, Harvesters Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Harvester's Seafood and Steakhouse, Dutch Village Restaurant, Painted Plate Catering, GlowFisch Hospitality d/b/a Five Loaves Café, Rushin Gold LLC d/b/a The Gold Rush, Erbert & Gerbert, Inc., Groucho's Deli of Raleigh, Sandee's Catering, Groucho's Deli of Five Points, and Confetti's Ice Cream Shoppe.

4. "Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products" shall refer to packaged tuna cans and/or pouches sold by Defendants and with unit size greater than or equal to 40 ounces.

5. "Defendant(s)" means any party named as a defendant in the Action at any time up to and including the date when the Court enters a final order approving this Agreement under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure ("Rule") 23(e).

6. "Document" is defined to be synonymous in meaning and equal in scope to the usage of this term in Rule 34(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including without limitation, electronically stored information. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.

7. "Indirect Purchaser State(s)" means Arizona, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota,

Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

8. “Objections Deadline” means the deadline set by the Court for the timely submission of objections by members of the CFP Class to the Settlement Agreement.

9. “Released Claims” means the Claims described in Paragraph 23.

10. “Releasees” shall refer to (i) StarKist Co. (ii) Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd (iii) all of StarKist Co. and Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd’s respective past and present, direct and indirect, parents, subsidiary companies and Affiliates, including the respective predecessors, successors and assigns of each of the above; and (iv) to each and all of the present and former principals, partners, officers, directors, supervisors, employees, agents, stockholders, members, representatives, insurers, attorneys, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns of each of the persons and entities listed in (i), (ii), and (iii). “Releasees” does not include any Defendant in the MDL Litigation other than StarKist, DWI, and their respective Affiliates.

11. “Releasers” shall refer to Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, as defined in Paragraph 3, respectively, and to their past and present officers, directors, supervisors, employees, agents, stockholders, members, attorneys, servants, representatives, parents, subsidiaries, Affiliates, principals, partners, insurers and all other persons, partnerships or corporations with whom any of the former have been, or are now, affiliated, and the predecessors, successors, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns of any of the foregoing.

12. For purposes of this Agreement, the “CFP Class” has the same meaning as the certified litigation class approved in the Court’s Order Granting Motions for Class Certification dated July 30, 2019 (ECF No. 1931), which is defined to include:

All persons and entities in 27 named states and D.C.,<sup>1</sup> that indirectly purchased packaged tuna products produced in packages of 40 ounces or more that were manufactured by any Defendant (or any current or former subsidiary or any affiliate thereof) and that were purchased directly from DOT Foods, Sysco, US Foods, Sam’s Club, Wal-Mart, or Costco (other than inter-company purchases among these distributors) from June, 2011 through December, 2016 (the “Class Period”).

13. “CFP Class Counsel” shall refer to the law firm of:

CUNEO GILBERT & LADUCA, LLP  
4725 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20016

14. “CFP Class Member” means each member of the CFP Class who did not timely elect to be excluded from the CFP Class.

15. “Settlement Amount” shall be U.S. \$3,600,000 (three million six hundred thousand U.S. dollars) and “Settlement Funds” shall be the Settlement Amount plus any income or accrued interest earned on that amount as set forth in Paragraphs 27 through 34.

B. Approval of this Agreement and Dismissal of Claims Against StarKist and DWI.

16. Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI shall use their best efforts to effectuate this Agreement, including cooperating in seeking the Court’s approval for the establishment of procedures (including the giving of class notice and an opportunity to object

---

<sup>1</sup> The 27 states included in the class are: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

under Rule 23(e)(1)) to secure the complete and final dismissal with prejudice of the Action as to each and every one of the Releasees.

17. After having consulted with StarKist and DWI's counsel, CFP Class Counsel shall submit to the Court a motion seeking preliminary approval of this Agreement (the "Preliminary Approval Motion"). The Preliminary Approval Motion shall include (i) the proposed form of an order preliminarily approving this Agreement; and (ii) a proposed form of order and final judgment that shall include at least the terms set forth in Paragraph 19. At least three (3) calendar days before the Preliminary Approval Motion papers are submitted to the Court, CFP Class Counsel shall provide StarKist and DWI's counsel with drafts of the Preliminary Approval Motion papers for comment and proposed revisions, which the Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs shall reasonably consider.

18. CFP Class Counsel, at a time to be decided in CFP Class Counsel's sole discretion, or as ordered by the Court, shall submit to the Court a motion for authorization to disseminate notice of the settlement and final judgments contemplated by this Agreement to the CFP Class (the "Notice Motion"). To mitigate the costs of notice, CFP Class Counsel shall endeavor, if practicable, to disseminate notice of this settlement with notice of any other settlements reached in the MDL Litigation. The Notice Motion shall include a proposed form of, method for, and date of dissemination of notice.

19. Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs shall seek, and StarKist and DWI will not object unreasonably to, the entry of an order and final judgments in the Action, the text of which Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI shall agree upon. The terms of the proposed order and final judgments will include, at a minimum, the substance of the following provisions:

- (a) As to the Action, approving finally this settlement and its terms as being fair, reasonable and adequate settlement as to the CFP Class Members within the meaning of Rule 23 and directing its consummation according to its terms;
- (b) Directing that all Releasers shall, by operation of law, be deemed to have released all Releasees from the Released Claims;
- (c) As to StarKist and DWI, directing that the Action be dismissed with prejudice and, except as provided for in this Agreement, without costs; and
- (d) Reserving exclusive jurisdiction over the settlement and this Agreement, including the interpretation, administration and consummation of the settlement, to the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, except that DWI does not consent to jurisdiction in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California for any other purpose; and
- (e) Providing that (i) the Court's approval of this Settlement is without prejudice to, or waiver of, the rights of any Defendant, including StarKist and DWI, to contest certification of any other class proposed in the MDL Litigation, (ii) the Court's findings in the Order shall have no effect on the Court's ruling on any motion to certify any class in the MDL Litigation or on the Court's rulings concerning any Defendant's motion, and (iii) no party may cite or refer to the Court's approval of the Settlement as persuasive or binding authority with respect to any motion to certify any such class or any Defendant's motion.

20. StarKist and DWI retain all of their objections, arguments, and defenses, and reserve all rights of defense if the settlement set forth in this Agreement does not receive the Court's final approval, if the Court's approval is reversed or vacated on appeal, if this Agreement is terminated as provided herein, or if the settlement set forth in this Agreement otherwise fails to proceed for any other reason.

21. This Agreement shall become final when (i) the Court has entered final orders approving this Agreement under Rule 23(e) and has entered final judgments dismissing the Action with prejudice as to StarKist and DWI without costs other than those provided for in this Agreement, and (ii) the time for appeal or to seek permission to appeal from the Court's approval of this Agreement and entry of final judgments as to StarKist and DWI described in (i) hereof has expired or, if appealed, approval of this Agreement and the final judgments in the Action as to StarKist and DWI have been affirmed in their entirety by the court of last resort to which such appeal has been taken and such affirmance has become no longer subject to further appeal or review, and no other motion or pleading is pending in any court. It is agreed that the provisions of Rule 60 shall not be taken into account in determining the above-stated times. On the Execution Date, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI shall be bound by its terms and this Agreement shall not be rescinded except in accordance with Paragraphs 34 or 47 of this Agreement.

22. Neither this Agreement (whether or not it should become final) nor the final judgments, nor any and all negotiations, Documents and discussions associated with them, shall be deemed or construed to be an admission by StarKist or DWI, or evidence of any violation of any statute or law or of any liability or wrongdoing whatsoever by StarKist or DWI, or of the truth of any of the claims or allegations contained in any complaints or any other pleading filed in the

MDL Litigation, and evidence thereof shall not be discoverable or used directly or indirectly, in any way, whether in the MDL Litigation or in any other arbitration, action or proceeding whatsoever against the Releasees. Neither this Agreement, nor any of its terms and provisions, nor any of the negotiations, Documents, discussions, or proceedings connected with them, nor any other statements made by counsel for StarKist and DWI in connection with or as part of this settlement, nor any other action taken to carry out this Agreement by StarKist and DWI, shall be referred to, offered as evidence or received in evidence in any pending or future civil, criminal, or administrative action, arbitration, or proceedings against the Releasees, except in a proceeding to enforce this Agreement, or to defend against the assertion of Released Claims, or as otherwise required by law. The parties and their counsel further agree that this Agreement or any of its terms and provisions, or any and all negotiations, shall be governed by Federal Rule of Evidence 408. Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to limit the use of this Agreement to enforce its terms.

C. Release, Discharge, and Covenant Not to Sue.

23. In addition to the effect of any final judgments entered in accordance with this Agreement, upon this Agreement becoming final, as set out in Paragraph 21 of this Agreement, and in consideration of payment of the Settlement Amount, as specified in Paragraph 25 of this Agreement, into the Settlement Fund and the Injunctive Relief, and for other valuable consideration, the Releasees shall be completely released, acquitted, and forever discharged from any and all claims, demands, actions, suits, causes of action, whether class, individual, or otherwise in nature (whether or not any CFP Class Member has objected to the settlement or makes a claim upon or participates in the Settlement Fund, whether directly, representatively, derivatively or in any other capacity) (“Claims”) that Releasors, or each of them, ever had, now has, or hereafter can, shall, or may ever have, or that now exist, on account of, or in any way arising out of, any and

all known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen, suspected or unsuspected, actual or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated claims, injuries, damages, and the consequences thereof in any way arising out of or relating in any way to (i) any conduct alleged in the CFP Complaint and/or (ii) any act or omission of the Releasees (or any combination thereof), concerning Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products, including, but not limited to, any conduct alleged, and causes of action asserted or that could have been alleged or asserted, in any class action or other complaints filed in the Action concerning Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products (the “Released Claims”), provided, however, that nothing herein shall release: (1) any claims made by direct purchasers of Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products; (2) any claims made by end payors that are indirect purchasers of Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products; (3) any claims made by any State, State agency, or instrumentality or political subdivision of a State, as to government purchases and/or penalties; (4) claims involving any negligence, personal injury, breach of contract, false advertising or fraud other than as alleged in the CFP Complaint, bailment, failure to deliver lost goods, damaged or delayed goods, product defect, securities, or similar claim relating to Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products; (5) claims concerning any packaged seafood product other than Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products; (6) claims under laws other than those of the United States relating to purchases of Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products made by any Releasor outside of the United States; and (7) claims for damages under the state or local laws of any jurisdiction other than an Indirect Purchaser State. Releasors shall not, after the date of this Agreement, sue or otherwise seek to establish liability against any Releasee based, in whole or in part, upon any of the Released Claims unless the Agreement is, for any reason, not finally approved or terminated.

24. In addition to the provisions of Paragraph 23 of this Agreement, Releasors hereby expressly waive and release, with respect to the Released Claims, upon this Agreement becoming final, as set out in Paragraph 21 of this Agreement, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits, as to their claims concerning Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products, conferred by § 1542 of the California Civil Code, which states:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY;

or by any equivalent law or statute of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to § 1542 of the California Civil Code. Each Releasor may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those which he, she, or it knows or believes to be true with respect to the Released Claims, but each Releasor hereby expressly waives and fully, finally, and forever settles and releases, upon this Agreement becoming final, as set out in Paragraph 21 of this Agreement, any known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent claim that StarKist, DWI, and Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs have agreed to release pursuant to Paragraph 23, whether or not concealed or hidden, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts.

D. Settlement Amount.

25. Subject to the provisions hereof, and in full, complete and final settlement of the Action as provided herein, StarKist shall pay or cause to be paid the Settlement Amount. Within the latter of either (a) 30 days after preliminary approval by the Court of the settlement set forth in this Agreement or (b) 10 business days after receiving written wiring instructions for wiring funds

into the Escrow Account, StarKist will deposit \$3,600,000 (three million six hundred thousand U.S. dollars) into an Escrow Account to be administered in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 27 to 34 of this agreement (the “Escrow Account”).

26. Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs have no agreement with StarKist or DWI that prevents the Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs from settling the Action with any other Defendants.

E. Escrow Account

27. The Escrow Account will be established at Huntington Bank, with such Bank serving as escrow agent (“Escrow Agent”) subject to escrow instructions regarding investment types and reinvestment of income and proceeds mutually acceptable to Class Counsel, StarKist and DWI, and with such escrow to be administered by the Escrow Agent under the Court’s continuing supervision and control.

28. The Escrow Agent shall cause the funds to be deposited in the Escrow Account to be invested in short-term instruments backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government or fully insured in writing by the United States Government, or money market funds rated Aaa and AAA, respectively by Moody’s Investor Services and Standard and Poor’s, invested substantially in such instruments, and shall reinvest any income from these instruments and the proceeds of these instruments as they mature in similar instruments at their then current market rates. StarKist and DWI shall bear no risk related to the management and investment of the Settlement Funds.

29. The funds held in the Escrow Account shall be deemed and considered to be in *custodia legis* of the Court and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, until such time as such funds shall be distributed pursuant to this Agreement and/or further order(s) of the Court.

30. Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI agree to treat the Settlement Funds as being at all times Qualified Settlement Funds within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1. In addition, CFP Class Counsel shall timely make such elections as necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this Paragraph 30, including the relation-back election (as defined in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1(j)) back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of CFP Class Counsel to timely and properly prepare and deliver the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur. All provisions of this Agreement shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Settlement Amount being “Qualified Settlement Funds” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1.

31. For the purpose of § 468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the administrator of the Settlement Funds shall be CFP Class Counsel. CFP Class Counsel shall timely and properly file all information and other tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the Settlement Funds (including without limitation the returns described in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k), (l)). Such returns (as well as the election described in Paragraph 30) shall be consistent with Paragraph 30 and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes, as defined below (including any estimated Taxes, interest, or penalties), on the income earned by the Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund as provided in Paragraph 32 hereof.

32. All (1) taxes (including any estimated taxes, interest or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund, including any taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon StarKist or DWI or any other Releasee with respect to any income earned

by the Settlement Funds for any period during which the Settlement Funds do not qualify as qualified settlement funds for federal or state income tax purposes (“Taxes”); and (2) subject to the limitations set forth in Paragraph 37, expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of Paragraphs 30 through 32 (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in Paragraph 31 (“Tax Expenses”)), shall be paid out of the Settlement Funds.

33. Neither StarKist nor DWI nor any other Releasee nor their respective counsel shall have any liability or responsibility for the Taxes or the Tax Expenses. Further, Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be treated as, and considered to be, a cost of administration of the Settlement Funds and shall be timely paid by the Escrow Agent out of the Settlement Funds without prior order from the Court and the Escrow Agent shall be obligated (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from distribution to any claimants authorized by the Court any funds necessary to pay such amounts including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(1)(2)). StarKist and DWI shall not be responsible or have any liability therefor. Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI agree to cooperate with the Escrow Agent, each other, and their tax attorneys and accountants to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of Paragraphs 30 through 32.

34. If this Agreement does not receive final Court approval, then, except as provided in Paragraph 37, all amounts paid by StarKist into the Settlement Fund, shall be returned to StarKist from the Escrow Account by the Escrow Agent along with any interest accrued thereon within thirty (30) calendar days of the Court’s final determination denying final approval of the

Agreement. In such event, CFP Class Counsel shall not be entitled to attorneys' fees arising out of or related to class notice and/or the administration, management, and investment of the Settlement Fund.

F. Injunctive Relief

35. Subject to the provisions hereof, and in full, complete, and final settlement of the Action as provided herein, StarKist further agrees that it will continue to comply with all applicable state unfair competition, antitrust, unjust enrichment, and consumer protection laws with respect to the sale of Foodservice-Size Packaged Tuna Products for a period of six (6) months from the date of the entry of final judgment.

G. CFP Class Member Objections.

36. Subject to Court approval, consistent with Rule 23(e)(5), any class member objecting to the Settlement Agreement must file a written objection by the Objections Deadline, which shall be the date set by the Court. Any objection must state whether it applies only to the objector, to a specific subset of the class, or to the entire class, and also state with specificity the grounds for the objection.

H. Payment of Expenses.

37. StarKist and DWI agree to permit use of a maximum of five hundred thousand U.S. dollars (\$500,000.00) of the Settlement Funds towards the out-of-pocket costs and expenses of administering the settlement, comprising out-of-pocket costs and expenses associated with providing notice of the settlement to the CFP Class and Tax Expenses, unless a larger amount is ordered by the Court. Those expenses are not recoverable by StarKist or DWI if this settlement does not become final or is terminated to the extent such funds have actually been expended or incurred. Other than as set forth in Paragraphs 27 through 34 and 37, StarKist and DWI shall not

be liable for any of the costs or expenses of the litigation incurred by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs in the Action including attorneys' fees, fees and expenses of expert witnesses and consultants, and costs and expenses associated with discovery, motion practice, hearings before the Court or any Special Master, appeals, trials, or the negotiation of other settlements, or for class administration, and costs.

38. To mitigate the costs of notice and administration, CFP Class Counsel shall use their reasonable best efforts, if practicable, to disseminate notice with any other settlements reached with other Defendants in the MDL Litigation and to apportion the costs of notice and administration on a pro rata basis across the applicable settlements.

I. The Settlement Fund.

39. Releasers shall look solely to the Settlement Funds for monetary satisfaction against the Releasees of all Released Claims, and shall have no other recovery against StarKist, DWI, or any Releasee for any Released Claims.

40. After this Agreement becomes final within the meaning of Paragraph 21, the Settlement Funds shall be distributed in accordance with a plan to be submitted to the Court at an appropriate time by CFP Class Counsel, subject to approval by the Court. In no event shall any Releasee have any responsibility, financial obligation, or liability whatsoever with respect to the investment, distribution, or administration of the Settlement Funds, including, but not limited to formulating or proposing a plan of distribution or paying the costs and expenses of such distribution and administration, except as expressly set forth in Paragraph 37 of this Agreement. StarKist and DWI shall be dismissed from the Action as set forth in this Agreement regardless of whether the Settlement Funds have been distributed.

41. CFP Class Representatives and CFP Class Counsel shall be reimbursed and indemnified solely out of the Settlement Funds for all expenses and costs, as provided by Court Order. StarKist, DWI, and the other Releasees shall not be liable for any costs, fees, or expenses of any of Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs' respective attorneys, experts, advisors, agents, or representatives, whether individual or on behalf of the CFP Class, but all such costs, fees, and expenses as approved by the Court shall be paid out of the Settlement Funds.

J. CFP Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Expenses, and Incentive Awards for CFP Class Representatives.

42. CFP Class Counsel may, at a time to be determined in their sole discretion, or as ordered by the Court, after preliminary approval of the Agreement, submit an application or applications to the Court (the "Fee and Expense Application") for: (i) an award of attorneys' fees, plus (ii) reimbursement of expenses and costs incurred in connection with prosecuting the Action and incentive awards, plus interest on such attorneys' fees, costs and expenses at the same rate and for the same period as earned by the Settlement Fund (until paid) as may be awarded by the Court (the "Fee and Expense Award"). CFP Class Counsel reserve the right to make additional applications for Court approval of fees and expenses incurred or likely to be incurred and reasonable incentive awards, but in no event shall StarKist, DWI, or other Releasees be responsible to pay any such additional fees and expenses except to the extent they are paid out of the Settlement Funds.

43. Subject to Court approval, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs and CFP Class Counsel shall be reimbursed and paid solely out of the Settlement Funds for all expenses including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees and past, current, or future litigation expenses and incentive awards. Attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court shall be payable from the Settlement Funds upon award, notwithstanding the existence of any timely filed objections thereto, or

potential appeal therefrom, or collateral attack on the settlement or any part thereof, subject to CFP Class Counsel's obligation to make appropriate refunds or repayments to the Settlement Funds with interest, if and when, as a result of any appeal and/or further proceedings on remand, or successful collateral attack, the fee or award of expenses is reduced or reversed, or in the event the Agreement is rescinded or terminated pursuant to Paragraph 34 or 47.

44. The procedure for and the allowance or disallowance by the Court of the application by CFP Class Counsel for attorneys' fees, costs and expenses, and incentive awards for CFP Class Representatives to be paid out of the Settlement Funds are not part of this Agreement, and are to be considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness and adequacy of the settlement, and any order or proceeding relating to the Fee and Expense Applications, or any appeal from any such order shall not operate to terminate or cancel this Agreement, or affect the finality of the final approval of the settlement.

45. Neither StarKist nor DWI nor any other Releasee under this Agreement shall have any responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to any payment to CFP Class Counsel and/or Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs of any Fee and Expense Award in the Action.

46. Neither StarKist nor DWI nor any other Releasee under this Agreement shall have any responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to the allocation among CFP Class Counsel, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, and/or any other person who may assert some claim thereto, of any Fee and Expense Award that the Court may make in the Action.

K. Rescission if This Agreement Is Not Approved or Final Judgments Are Not Entered.

47. If the Court refuses to approve this Agreement or any part hereof, including if the Court does not certify the CFP Class in accordance with the specific CFP Class definitions set forth in this Agreement, or if such approval is modified or set aside on appeal, or if the Court does

not enter the final judgments provided for in Paragraph 21 of this Agreement, or if the Court enters the final judgments and appellate review is sought, and on such review, such final judgments are not affirmed in their entirety, then StarKist, DWI, and Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs shall each, in their sole discretion, have the option to rescind this Agreement in its entirety. Written notice of the exercise of any such right to rescind shall be made according to the terms of Paragraph 59. A modification or reversal on appeal of any amount of CFP Class Counsel's fees and expenses awarded by the Court from the Settlement Funds shall not be deemed a modification of all or a part of the terms of this Agreement or such final judgments.

48. In the event that this Agreement does not become final, as set forth in Paragraph 21, or this Agreement otherwise is rescinded pursuant to Paragraph 47, then this Agreement shall be of no force or effect and any and all parts of the Settlement Funds caused to be deposited in the Escrow Account (including interest earned thereon) shall be returned forthwith to StarKist less only disbursements made in accordance with Paragraph 37 of this Agreement. StarKist and DWI expressly reserve all of their rights and defenses if this Agreement does not become final.

49. Further, and in any event, Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI agree that this Agreement, whether or not it shall become final, and any and all negotiations, Documents, and discussions associated with it, shall not be deemed or construed to be an admission or evidence of (i) any violation of any statute or law or of any liability or wrongdoing whatsoever by StarKist or DWI, or the other Releasees, or of (ii) the truth of any of the claims or allegations contained in the CFP Complaint or any other pleading filed in the MDL Litigation, or by any person or entity in any other action, and evidence thereof shall not be discoverable or used in any way, whether in the Action or in any other action or proceeding, against StarKist and/or DWI.

50. This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted to effectuate the intent of the parties, which is to provide, through this Agreement, for a complete resolution of the Released Claims with respect to each Releasee as provided in this Agreement.

51. The parties to this Agreement contemplate and agree that, prior to final approval of the settlement as provided for in Paragraphs 16 to 22 hereof, reasonable notice (1) of the settlement, and (2) of a hearing at which the Court will consider the approval of this settlement Agreement, will be given to the CFP Class.

L. Miscellaneous.

52. StarKist and DWI shall submit all materials required to be sent to appropriate Federal and State officials pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. § 1715.

53. This Agreement does not settle or compromise any claim by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs or any CFP Class Member asserted in the CFP Complaint or, if amended, any subsequent complaint, against any Defendant or alleged co-conspirator other than the Releasees. Save for the Released Claims against the Releasees, all rights against such other Defendants or alleged co-conspirators are specifically reserved by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs. All rights of any Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs against any and all former, current, or future Defendants or co-conspirators or any other person other than the Releasees, for sales made by StarKist and/or DWI and StarKist and DWI's alleged illegal conduct, are specifically reserved by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs. StarKist's sales to the CFP Class and its alleged illegal conduct shall, to the extent permitted or authorized by law, remain in the Action as a basis for damage claims and shall be part of any joint and several liability claims against other current or future Defendants in the Action or other persons or entities other than the Releasees.

54. The United States District Court for the Southern District of California shall retain jurisdiction over the interpretation, implementation, enforcement, and performance of this Agreement, and shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the applicability of this Agreement that cannot be resolved by negotiation and agreement by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs and StarKist and DWI, including challenges to the reasonableness of any party's efforts to fulfill obligations under this Agreement. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted according to the substantive laws of the state of California without regard to its choice of law or conflict of laws principles. StarKist and DWI will not object to complying with any of the provisions outlined in this Agreement on the basis of jurisdiction.

55. This Agreement constitutes the entire, complete and integrated agreement among Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist, and DWI pertaining to the settlement of the Action against StarKist and DWI, and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous undertakings, communications, representations, understandings, negotiations and discussions, either oral or written, between Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs and StarKist and DWI in connection herewith. This Agreement may not be modified or amended except in writing executed by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist and DWI and approved by the Court.

56. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors and assigns of Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist and DWI. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, each and every covenant and agreement made herein by the CFP Class Representatives and/or CFP Class Counsel shall be binding upon all Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs and Releasers. The Releasees (other than StarKist and DWI which are parties hereto) are

third-party beneficiaries of this Agreement and are authorized to enforce its terms applicable to them.

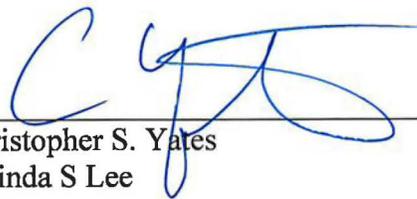
57. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts by Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs, StarKist and DWI, and a facsimile signature shall be deemed an original signature for purposes of executing this Agreement.

58. Neither Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiffs nor StarKist nor DWI shall be considered to be the drafter of this Agreement or any of its provisions for the purpose of any statute, case law, or rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to be construed against the drafter of this Agreement.

59. Where this Agreement requires either party to provide notice or any other communication or Document to the other, such notice shall be in writing, and such notice, communication, or Document shall be provided by electronic mail (provided that the recipient acknowledges having received that email, with an automatic “read receipt” or similar notice constituting an acknowledgement of an email receipt for purposes of this Paragraph), or letter by overnight delivery to the undersigned counsel of record for the party to whom notice is being provided.

60. Each of the undersigned attorneys represents that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of, and to execute, this Agreement, subject to Court approval.

Dated: April 4, 2024



---

Christopher S. Yates  
Belinda S Lee  
Ashley M. Bauer  
LATHAM & WATKINS LLP  
505 Montgomery St.  
Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
Tel: (415) 391-0600  
Fax: (415) 395-8095  
E-mail: [chris.yates@lw.com](mailto:chris.yates@lw.com)  
[Belinda.lee@lw.com](mailto:Belinda.lee@lw.com)  
[ashley.bauer@lw.com](mailto:ashley.bauer@lw.com)

*Counsel for Defendants StarKist Co. and  
Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd.*

Dated: April 3, 2024



---

Michael J. Flannery  
CUNEO GILBERT & LADUCA, LLP  
2 City Place Dr., Second Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63105  
Tel: 202-789-3960  
mflannery@cuneolaw.com

Melissa Morgans  
Cody McCracken  
CUNEO GILBERT & LADUCA, LLP  
4725 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20016  
Tel: 202.789.3960  
mmorgans@cuneolaw.com  
cmccracken@cuneolaw.com

***Commercial Food Preparer Plaintiff  
Lead Class Counsel***