WILLIAM E. KOVACIC General Counsel LAUREEN KAPIN WALTER GROSS JOSHUA S. MILLARD Attorneys for Plaintiff
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Room NJ2122

Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission"), in conjunction with the filing of this Stipulated Final Judgment, has filed an Amended Complaint for Permanent Injunction, and Other Equitable Relief (the "Amended Complaint") under Section 13(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), against Defendants United Fitness of America, LLC; George Sylva; eBrands commerce group, llc; John William Kirby, Jr.; Tristar Products, Inc. ("Tristar"); and Kishore Mirchandani, also known as "Keith" Mirchandani ("Mirchandani").

The Commission and Defendants Tristar and Mirchandani (together the "Tristar Defendants") have stipulated to the entry of this Stipulated Final Judgment and Order for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Redress, and Other Equitable Relief ("Final Order") in settlement of the Commission's Amended Complaint against the Tristar Defendants. The Tristar Defendants, as well as Defendants United Fitness of America, LLC, and George Sylva, have withdrawn their motions to dismiss and to transfer. The Tristar Defendants waive all rights to seek judicial review or otherwise challenge or contest the validity of this Final Order. The Tristar Defendants also waive any claim that they may have held under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, concerning the prosecution of this action to the date of this Final Order. The Court, being advised in the premises, finds as follows:

FINDINGS

- 1. In its Amended Complaint, the Commission alleged that the Tristar Defendants violated Sections 5(a) and 12 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 45(a) and 52. The Commission sought permanent injunctive relief for alleged deceptive acts or practices by the Tristar Defendants in connection with the marketing and sale of the Fast Abs electronic muscle stimulation device.
 - 2. The Commission has the authority under Section 13(b) of the FTC Act, 15

U.S.C. § 53(b), to seek the relief it has requested.

- **3.** This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action and over all of the parties. Venue in the District of Nevada is proper.
- **4.** The Amended Complaint states a claim upon which relief may be granted against the Tristar Defendants.
- 5. The activities of the Tristar Defendants as alleged in the Commission's Amended Complaint were or are in or affecting commerce, as defined in Section 4 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.
- 6. The Commission and the Tristar Defendants stipulate and agree to this Final Order, without trial or final adjudication of any issue of fact or law, to settle and resolve all matters in dispute arising from the Amended Complaint to the date of entry of this Final Order.

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- **E.** "Food," "Drug," "Cosmetic," and "Device" mean as defined by Section 15 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 55.
- **F.** The term "including" in this Final Order shall mean "without limitation."
- **G.** The terms "and" and "or" in this Final Order shall be construed conjunctively or disjunctively as necessary, to make the applicable phrase or sentence inclusive rather than exclusive.

ORDER

MONETARY RELIEF

I.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that judgment is entered, jointly and severally, against the Tristar Defendants, in favor of the FTC in the sum of Two Million Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars (\$2,650,000), under the following terms and conditions:

- **A.** Within 10 days of the entry of this Order, the Tristar Defendants shall pay the full amount of the judgment to the Commission.
- All payments under this Part shall be made by certified check or other guaranteed funds payable to and delivered to the Federal Trade Commission, Division of Finance, 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20580, Reference Information FTC v. United Fitness of America, Matter No. X020056; or by wire transfer to: Treasury ABA number: 021030004, ALC number 29000001, Federal Reserve Bank of NY, Appropriation 29X6013, FTC Consumer Redress, Reference information FTC v. United Fitness of America, Matter No. X020056; and
- C. All funds paid pursuant to this Part shall be deposited into a fund administered by the FTC or its agent to be used for equitable relief, including, but not limited to,

consumer redress and to pay any attendant costs for the administration of any redress fund. If direct redress to consumers is wholly or partially impracticable or funds remain after redress is completed, the FTC may apply any remaining funds for such other equitable relief (including consumer information remedies) as it determines to be reasonably related to the Tristar Defendants' practices alleged in the Amended Complaint. Any funds not used for equitable relief shall be deposited to the Treasury as disgorgement. The Tristar Defendants shall have no right to challenge the FTC's choice of remedies under this Part. No portion of the payment pursuant to this Part shall be deemed a payment of any fine, penalty or punitive assessment.

RIGHT TO REOPEN

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff's agreement to this Final Order is expressly premised upon the Tristar Defendants' financial condition, as represented in the sworn financial statements provided by the Tristar Defendants to the FTC and listed in *Appendix A*. The financial statements listed in *Appendix A* include material information upon which the Commission relied in negotiating and consenting to this Final Order. If, upon motion by the Commission, a Court should find that either Tristar Defendant made a material misrepresentation or omitted material information concerning its financial condition, then this Final Order shall be reopened for the purpose of requiring payment from the Tristar Defendant(s) who made the misrepresentation to the Commission monetary redress in the amount of Six Million Eight Hundred and Thirty-Three Thousand dollars (\$6,833,000), which the Tristar Defendants agree is the total net amount paid by consumers to purchase Fast Abs products in retail stores, less the sum of any amounts paid to the FTC by the Tristar Defendants after the date of this Final Order.

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Provided, however, that in all other respects this judgment shall remain in full force and effect, unless otherwise ordered by the Court; and *provided further*, that proceedings instituted under this Part are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other civil or criminal remedies as may be provided by law, including any other proceedings that the FTC may initiate to enforce this Final Order.

PROHIBITED REPRESENTATIONS

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Tristar Defendants, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, servants, and employees, and all persons or entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Final Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of Fast Abs, or any substantially similar device, are hereby permanently enjoined from representing, in any manner, expressly or by implication, that:

- **A.** Any such device causes or promotes loss of inches or fat;
- **B.** Any such device causes or promotes well-defined abdominal muscles, including through the use of terms such as "rock hard abs," "washboard abs," "chiseled abs," "cut abs," "well-developed abs," and/or any other terms with substantially similar meaning;
- C. Use of any such device for any period of time is equivalent to or superior to abdominal exercises such as sit-ups, crunches, or any substantially similar exercises;
- **D.** Any such device is safe for use over the chest and/or pectoral area; or
- **E.** Any such device makes a material contribution to any system, program, or plan

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that produces the results referenced in Subparts A-C of this Part.

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Tristar Defendants, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, servants, and employees, and all persons or entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Final Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the manufacturing, labe

whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any dietary supplement, food, drug, cosmetic or device are hereby permanently enjoined from making any representations about the absolute or comparative health benefits, performance, efficacy, safety, or side effects of any such product unless, at the time the representation is made, the Tristar Defendants possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Tristar Defendants, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, servants, and employees, and all persons or entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Final Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other

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A. (1) In any external packaging or labeling; and (2) in close proximity to any safety representation about the EMS device in any advertisement (other than television or radio advertisements), promotional material, or telephone, or electronic communication; the following:

WARNING: This product uses electrical muscle stimulation. Do not use this device if you have a cardiac pacemaker, implanted defibrillator, or other implanted metallic or electronic device. This device could cause lethal rhythm disturbances to the heart in susceptible individuals. Apply stimulation only to normal, intact, clean skin. Do not apply stimulation over open wounds or over swollen, infected, or inflamed areas or skin eruptions, *e.g.*, phlebitis, thrombophlebitis, varicose veins, etc. Do not apply stimulation over, or in close proximity to, cancerous lesions. The safety of electrical stimulation during pregnancy has not been established.

unless, at the time the representation is made, the Tristar Defendants possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that such device is safe for all users and produces no adverse side effects. This requirement is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any disclosures that the Food and Drug Administration may require for such devices. *Provided, however*, that, if the Tristar Defendants possess competent and reliable scientific evidence that the EMS device is safe for users with a particular condition, the Tristar Defendants may remove that particular condition from the disclosure required by this Final Order. *Provided further*, that if the Tristar Defendants believe other uses of the EMS device or health conditions may pose health risks, those uses or conditions may be added to the warning. *Provided further*, that if the Food and Drug Administration issues a final rule requiring a warning on the labeling of the EMS device, the Tristar Defendants must substitute that warning label for the disclosures required in this Part.

В. In close proximity to any safety representation about the EMS device in any television or radio advertisement, the following:

> **WARNING:** This product uses electronic muscle stimulation and is not safe for all users, particularly those with implanted metallic or electronic devices. Review the health and safety warnings on our website, [domain name of website], or call us toll-free at [tollfree telephone number], before buying this product.

unless, at the time the representation is made, the Tristar Defendants possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that the EMS device is safe for all users and produces no adverse side effects. *Provided that*, for a period of time beginning with the date of the first broadcast of any such television or radio advertisement for any EMS device that contains a safety representation about the device and ending no sooner than thirty days after the last broadcast, the Tristar Defendants must maintain both a toll-free telephone number consumers can call to obtain the warning set forth in Subpart A, of this Part, and a website that clearly and prominently sets forth the full text of such warning on the home page or teaser page.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that nothing in this Final Order shall prohibit the Tristar Defendants full teHER Oing Wrtiva00093 wusVIII.

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device under any premarket approval application or premarket notification approved or cleared by the Food and Drug Administration; or

C. Any product that is specifically permitted in labeling for such product by regulations promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration pursuant to the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990.

COMPLIANCE REPORTING BY DEFENDANTS

IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in order that compliance with the provisions of this Final Order may be monitored:

- **A.** For a period of three (3) years from the date of entry of this Final Order,
 - 1. Mirchandani shall notify the Commission of the following: (a) any changes in his residence, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers, within ten (10) days of the date of such change; (b) any changes in his employment status (including self-employment) within ten (10) days of

COMPLIANCE MONITORING

X.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for the purpose of monitoring and investigating compliance with any provision of this Final Order:

- A. Within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice from a representative of the Commission, the Tristar Defendants shall submit additional written reports, sworn to under penalty of perjury; produce documents for inspection and copying; appear for deposition; and/or provide entry during normal business hours to any business location in such Defendant's possession or direct or indirect control to inspect the business operation;
- **B.** In addition, the Commission is authorized to monitor compliance with this Final Order by all other lawful means, including but not limited to the following:
 - 1. obtaining discovery from any person, without further leave of court, using the procedures prescribed by Fed. R. Civ. P. 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, and 45;
 - 2. posing as consumers and suppliers to the Tristar Defendants, their employees, or any other entity managed or controlled in whole or in part by either Defendant, without the necessity of identification or prior notice;

Provided that nothing in this Final Order shall limit the Commission's lawful use of compulsory process, pursuant to Sections 9 and 20 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 49, 57b-1, to obtain any documentary material, tangible things, testimony, or information relevant to unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce (within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 45(a)(1)).

C. The Tristar Defendants shall permit representatives of the Commission to interview any employer, consultant, independent contractor, representative, agent,

or employee who has agreed to such an interview, relating in any way to any conduct subject to this Final Order. The person interviewed may have counsel present.

RECORD KEEPING PROVISIONS

XI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for a period of six (6) years from the date of entry of this Final Order, the Tristar Defendants and any business where either or both of the Tristar Defendant(s), individually or together, are the majority owner or otherwise manage or control the business, are hereby restrained and enjoined from failing to create and retain the following records in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of Fast Abs, any other EMS device, or any dietary supplement, food, drug, cosmetic or device for which representations regarding the absolute or comparative health benefits, performance, efficacy, safety, or side effects of any such product are made:

- **A.** Accounting records that reflect the cost of goods or services sold, revenues generated, and the disbursement of such revenues;
- **B.** Personnel records accurately reflecting: (a) the name, address, and telephone number of each person employed in any capacity by such business, including as an independent contractor; (b) that person's job title or position; (c) the date upon

- **D.** Complaints and refund requests (whether received directly, indirectly, or through any third party) and any responses to those complaints or requests; and
- **E.** Copies of all sales scripts, training materials, advertisements, or other marketing materials.

DISTRIBUTION OF ORDER BY DEFENDANTS XII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for a period of three (3) years from the date of entry of this Final Order:

- A. Tristar shall deliver a copy of this Final Order to all principals, officers, directors, managers, employees, agents, and representatives having responsibilities with respect to the subject matter of this Final Order, and shall secure from each such person a signed and dated statement acknowledging receipt of the Final Order. Tristar shall deliver this Final Order to current personnel within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this Final Order, and to new personnel within thirty (30) days after the person assumes such position or responsibilities.
- **B.** Mirchandani shall deliver to the principals, officers, directors, managers, and employees under their control for any business that: (a) employs or contracts for personal services from Mirchandani and (b) has responsibilities with respect to the subject matter of this Final Order. Mirchandani shall secure from each such person a signed and dated statement acknowledging receipt of the Final Order within thirty (30) days after the date of service of the Final Order or the commencement of the employment relationship.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF FINAL ORDER BY DEFENDANTS
XIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each of the Tristar Defendants, within five (5) business days of receipt of this Final Order as entered by the Court, must submit to the Commission a truthful sworn statement acknowledging receipt of this Final Order.

TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

XIV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Tristar Defendants must, in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 7701, furnish to the FTC their respective taxpayer identifying numbers (social security

1	Defendants:		
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3			
4	(home address:) 32 Emerson Rd.		
5			
6	Morris Plains, NJ 07950 (corporate address:)		
7	4 Century Dr. Parsippany, NJ 07054		
8	Attorneys for Defendants:		
9			
10	DENNIS L. KENNEDY LIONEL SAWYER & COLLINS	JEFFREY D. KNOWLES EDWARD F. GLYNN, JR.	
11	300 South Fourth St., Suite 1700 Las Vegas, NV 89101	VENABLE, BAETJER, HOWARD & CIVILETTI, LLP.	
12		1201 New York Ave., N.W., Ste.1000 Washington, D.C. 20005	
13		(202) 962-4800	
14		IT IS SO ORDERED	
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17		KENT J. DAWSON UNITED STATES DISTRICT	
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${\it Appendix} \ A$ Sworn Financial Statements Provided by Defendants to the FTC

- 1. Corporate Financial Disclosure Form of Tristar Products, Inc., signed May 20, 2002; and
- 2. Individual Financial Disclosure Form of Kishore Mirchandani, signed May 23, 2002.