1 William Blumenthal General Counsel 2 Sarah Schroeder (Cal. Bar No. 221528) 3 Linda Badger (Cal. Bar No. 122209) Kerry O'Brien (Cal. Bar No. 149264) 4 Laura Fremont (Cal. Bar No. 159670) Federal Trade Commission 5 901 Market Street, Suite 570 San Francisco, CA 94103 Phone (415) 848-5100/ Fax (415) 848-5184 6 E-mail address: sschroeder@ftc.gov 7 Attorneys for Plaintiff 8 Federal Trade Commission 9 10

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

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OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF

WHEREAS Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission
("Commission" or "FTC"), has commenced this action by filing the
Complaint herein; Defendants Latinos Group Promotions and Jorge
Carpinteyro have waived service of the Summons and Complaint;
and the parties have agreed to settlement of this action
upon the following terms and conditions, without

Stipulated Final Judgment

adjudication of any issue of fact or law and without Defendants admitting liability for any of the matters alleged in the Complaint;

THEREFORE, upon stipulation of Plaintiff and Defendants, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED as follows:

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Stipulated Final Judgment

## FINDINGS

- This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case and jurisdiction over all parties.
- В. Venue in the Northern District of California is proper under 15 U.S.C. § 53(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).
- The activities of Defendants are in or affecting C. commerce, as defined in the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.
- D. The Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted against the Defendants under Sections 5(a), 12, and 13(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 45(a), 52, and 53(b).
- Defendants waive all rights to seek judicial review or otherwise challenge or contest the validity of this Order. Defendants also waive any claims 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 Order.
  - F. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees.
  - G. Entry of this Order is in the public interest.

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For purposes of this Order, the following definitions shall apply:

- Unless otherwise specified, "Defendants" means Α. Defendants Latinos Group Promotions ("Latinos Group") and Jorge Carpinteyro.
- "Commerce" means as defined in Section 4 of the Federal В. Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.
- "Competent and reliable scientific evidence" means tests, analyses, research, studies, or other evidence based on the expertise of professionals in the relevant area, that have been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results.
- "Covered product or service" means any weight loss D. product, or any dietary supplement, food, drug, device, or health-related service or program.
  - "Endorsement" means as defined in 16 C.F.R. § 255.0(b).
- F. "Food," "drug," and "device" mean as "food," "drug," and "device" are defined in Section 15 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 55.
- G. "FTC" or "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.
- Η. A requirement that Defendants "notify the Commission" means that the Defendants shall send the necessary information via first class mail, costs prepaid, to the Regional Director,

- "Weight loss product" means any product, program, or I. service designed, used, or purported to produce weight loss, reduction or elimination of fat; or to prevent weight gain, in a user of the product, program, or service.
- J. The term "including" in this Order means "including, without limitation."
- The terms "and" and "or" in this Order shall be Κ. construed conjunctively or disjunctively as necessary, to make the applicable phrase or sentence inclusive rather than exclusive.

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CONDUCT PROVISIONS

I.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and representatives, and all persons and entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of the following products, in or affecting commerce, are hereby permanently enjoined from representing, in any manner, expressly or by implication,

- A. Essiac Formula, or any substantially similar product, causes rapid and substantial weight loss without the need to increase exercise or reduce caloric intake; or
- B. Essiac Formula, or any substantially similar product, causes permanent weight loss.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and representatives, and all persons and entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of the following products, in or affecting commerce, are hereby permanently enjoined from representing, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of endorsements or trade name, that:

- A. Arcomig, or any substantially similar product, significantly lowers serum cholesterol levels without any change in the user's diet;
- B. Arcomig, or any substantially similar product, treats, causes remission in, or cures cancer, including but not limited to, leukemia, bone cancer, lung cancer, stomach cancer, and tumors;

C.

Stipulated Final Judgment

the representation.

cures diabetes;

Arcomig, or any substantially similar product, treats or

- D. Arcomig, or any substantially similar product, treats or cures lupus;
- E. Arcomig, or any substantially similar product, treats or cures tinnitus; or
- F. Arcomig, or any substantially similar product, makes conventional treatments unnecessary for persons with serious diseases, such as cancer and diabetes; unless the representation is true and, at the time the representation is made, Defendants possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and representatives, and all persons and entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of the following products, in or affecting commerce, are hereby permanently enjoined from representing, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of endorsements or trade name, that:

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Stipulated Final Judgment

- A. Essiac Formula, or any substantially similar product, significantly lowers serum cholesterol levels without any change in the user's diet;
- B. Essiac Formula, or any substantially similar product, treats, causes remission in, or cures cancer and tumors; or
- C. Essiac Formula, or any substantially similar product, treats diabetes;

unless the representation is true and, at the time the representation is made, Defendants possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and representatives, and all persons and entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any covered product or service in or affecting commerce, are hereby permanently enjoined from misrepresenting, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of endorsements or trade name, that such product has been approved, endorsed, or

recommended by any government agency, including the United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA").

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**V.** 

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and representatives, and all persons and entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any covered product or service, in or affecting commerce, shall not misrepresent, in any manner, expressly or by implication, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations of any test, study, or research.

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and representatives, and all persons and entities in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other entity, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any covered product or

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service, in or affecting commerce, are hereby permanently enjoined from making any representation, expressly or by implication, including through the use of endorsements or trade name:

- A. That such product significantly lowers serum cholesterol levels without any change in the user's diet;
- B. That such product alleviates the effects of heavy metal poisoning, including poisoning from aluminum, lead, or mercury;
- C. That such product is effective in the mitigation, treatment, prevention, or cure of lupus, arthritis, rheumatism, osteoporosis, uric acid, migraines, cancer, leukemia, tumors, asthma, tinnitus, depression, impotence, diabetes, diseases caused by poor blood circulation, diseases affecting the heart, lungs, liver, kidney, or digestive system, kidney and urinary tract stones, indigestion, diarrhea, internal hemorrhaging, constipation, or any illness which is affected by a lowered or weakened immune system;
- D. That such product prevents degenerative diseases;
- E. That such product makes conventional treatments unnecessary for persons with serious diseases, such as cancer and diabetes;
- F. That such product causes weight loss; or
- G. About the health benefits, performance, efficacy, safety or side effects of such product or service;

Stipulated Final Judgment

rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

VII.

unless, at the time the representation is made, they possess and

#### FOOD AND DRUG REGULATIONS

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that nothing in this Order shall prohibit Defendants from making any representation for any drug that is permitted in the labeling for such drug under any tentative final or final standard promulgated by the FDA, or under any new drug application approved by the FDA. Nothing in this Order shall prohibit Defendants from making any representation for any product that is specifically permitted in labeling for such product by regulations promulgated by the FDA pursuant to the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990.

VIII.

### MONETARY RELIEF

#### IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

- A. Judgment in the amount of nine hundred ninety thousand and seventeen dollars (\$990,017) is hereby entered in favor of the Commission against defendants, for equitable monetary relief; provided, however, that this judgment shall be suspended subject to the conditions set forth in Paragraph IX of this Order.
- B. All funds paid pursuant to this section shall be

deposited into a fund administered by the FTC or its designated agent to be used for equitable relief, including, but not limited to, restitution and any attendant expenses for the administration of any monetary fund. In the event that direct restitution for consumers is wholly or partially impracticable or funds remain after restitution is completed, the FTC may apply any remaining funds for any other equitable relief (including consumer information remedies) that it

### NOTIFICATION TO CONSUMERS AND RESELLERS

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall:

- A. Within seven (7) days after service of this Order upon
  Defendants, deliver to the Commission a list, in the
  form of a sworn affidavit, of all consumers who
  purchased an Essiac or Arcomig product from Defendants.
  Such list shall include each consumer's name and
  address, and, if available, the telephone number and
  email address of each consumer and the full purchase
  price, including shipping, handling, and taxes, of any
  Essiac or Arcomig product purchased from Defendants; and
- B. Within thirty (30) days after service of this Order upon Defendants, send by first class mail, with postage prepaid, exact copies of the English and Spanish notices attached hereto as Attachments A-B, showing the date of mailing, to each person who purchased Defendants' Arcomig product. This mailing shall not include any other document.
- C. Within thirty (30) days after service of this Order upon Defendants, send by first class mail, with postage prepaid, exact copies of the English and Spanish notices attached hereto as Attachments C-D, showing the date of mailing, to each person who purchased Defendants' Essiac product. This mailing shall not include any other document.

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DISTRIBUTION OF ORDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for a period of five (5) years from the date of entry of this Order, Defendants Latinos Group and Jorge Carpinteyro shall deliver copies of the Order as directed below:

- Defendant Latinos Group must deliver a copy of this Α. Order to all of its principals, officers, directors, and managers. Defendant Latinos Group also must deliver copies of the Order to all of its employees, agents, and representatives who engage in conduct related to the subject matter of the Order. For current personnel, delivery shall be within five (5) days of service of this Order upon Defendant. For new personnel, delivery shall occur prior to them assuming their responsibilities.
- For any business controlled, directly or indirectly, by В. Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro, or in which Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro has a majority ownership interest, Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro must deliver a copy of this Order to all principals, officers, directors, and managers of such business. Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro must also deliver copies of this Order to all employees, agents, and representatives of such business who engage in conduct related to the subject matter of the Order. For current personnel, delivery shall be within five (5)

days of service of this Order upon Defendant. For new personnel, delivery shall occur prior to them assuming their responsibilities.

- C. For any business where Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro is not a controlling person of a business but otherwise engages in conduct related to the subject matter of this Order, Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro must deliver a copy of this Order to all principals and managers of such business before engaging in such conduct.
- D. Defendant Latinos Group must secure a signed and dated statement acknowledging receipt of this Order, within thirty days of delivery, from all persons receiving a copy of the Order pursuant to this Part.

#### XII.

#### COMPLIANCE MONITORING

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

A. Within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice from a representative of the Commission, Defendants Latinos

Group and Jorge Carpinteyro each 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 Defendants' possession or direct or indirect control to inspect the

business operation;

- B. The Commission is authorized to monitor compliance with this Order by all other lawful means, including but not limited to the following:
  - 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 Defendants, Defendants' employees, or any other entity managed or controlled in whole or in part by Defendants, without the necessity of identification or prior notice;
- C. Defendants Latinos Group and Jorge Carpinteyro 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 Order. The person interviewed may have counsel present.

Provided, however, that nothing in this Order limits 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)).

include, but not be limited to:

- 1. For Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro:
  - a. The then-current residence address, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers of Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro;
  - b. The then current employment and business addresses and telephone numbers of Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro, a description of the business activities of each such employer or business, and the title and responsibilities of Defendant Jorge Carpinteyro, for each such employer or business; and
  - c. Any other changes required to be reported under subparagraph A of this Section.
- 2. For Defendants Latinos Group and Jorge Carpinteyro:
  - a. A copy of each acknowledgment of receipt of this Order, obtained pursuant to Section XI;
  - b. Any other changes required to be reported under subparagraph A of this Section.
- C. For the purpo3 fefl this(Order, Defendants Latinos Grou.)TjET1.0000

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- products, services, or programs purchased, and description of products, services, or programs purchased, to the extent such information is obtained in the ordinary course of business;
- D. Complaints and refund requests (whether received directly, indirectly, or through any third party) and any responses to those complaints or requests;
- E. Copies of all advertisements, promotional materials, sales scripts, training materials, or other materials utilized in the advertising, labeling, promotion, offering for sale, distribution or sale of any product, service, or program;
- F. All other documents evidencing or referring to the accuracy of any claim contained in the materials identified in Subpart E or to the safety or efficacy of any product, service, or program, including, but not limited to, all tests, reports, studies, demonstrations, or other evidence that confirm, contradict, qualify, or call into question the safety or efficacy of any such product, service, or program; and
- G. Records accurately reflecting the name, address, and telephone number of each manufacturer or laboratory engaged in the development or creation of any testing obtained for the purpose of advertising, labeling, promoting, offering for sale, distributing, or selling any product, service, or program.

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Stipulated Final Judgment

All records and documents necessary to demonstrate full compliance with each provision of this Order, including, but not limited to, copies of acknowledgments of receipt, required by Section XI, and all reports submitted to the FTC pursuant to Section XIII.

xv.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF ORDER

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

XVI.

#### RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of construction, modification, and enforcement of this Order.

XVII.

### SCOPE OF ORDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order resolves only claims against the named Defendants and does not preclude the Commission from initiating further action or seeking any remedy against any other persons or entities, including without limitation persons or entities who may be subject to portions of

1	this order by virtue of actions taken in concert or
2	participation with Defendants, and persons or entities in any
3	type of indemnification or contractual relationship with
4	Defendants.
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7	SO ORDERED:
8	JUDGMENT IS THEREFORE ENTERED in favor of Plaintiff and
9	against Defendants, pursuant to all the terms and conditions
10	recited above.
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12	Dated this, 2005.
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15	[NAME] UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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17	FOR THE PLAINTIFF: FOR THE DEFENDANTS:
18	WILLIAM BLUMENTHAL General Counsel By:
19	JORGE CARPINTEYRO, JEFFREY A. KLURFELD Individually and as
20	Regional Director President of Latinos Group Promotions
21	Dated: March, 2005
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27	Stipulated Final Judgment 23

#### ATTACHMENT A

# LETTER TO CONSUMERS (INCLUDING DISTRIBUTORS) WHO PURCHASED ARCOMIG FROM DEFENDANTS PRIOR TO THE EXECUTION OF THIS ORDER

[To be printed on letterhead of Latinos Group Promotions, and enclosed in an envelope bearing the words, "Important Health Information Inside"/"Contiene Informacion Importante para su Salud"]

[Name and address of recipient] [Date]

Dear [Recipient's Name]:

You bought Arcomig, which my company called a "health drink." The U.S. Federal Trade Commission said our advertising for Arcomig misled you, which is against the law. I agreed to send you this letter, but I do not agree that I broke the law.

Contrary to our advertisements, Arcomig has not been "approved" by the U.S. government for any use. In fact, no scientific studies show that Arcomig fights cancer or any other disease.

If you have a serious disease, such as cancer, diabetes, lupus, high cholesterol, or tinnitus, see your doctor or another health care professional for treatment. Please tell your doctor about every product you take, including Arcomig, because any product you take can affect your other treatments or medicines. Most importantly, always seek medical advice before you give Arcomig to children.

If you would like more information on the settlement my

1	company,	Latinos	Group	Promoti	ions,	entered	with	the	FTC,	visit
2	ftc.gov.									
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4					Since	erely,				
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#### ANEXO B

CARTA DIRIGIDA A LOS CONSUMIDORES (DISTRIBUIDORES INCLUIDOS) QUE
COMPRARON EL PRODUCTO ARCOMIG A LOS DEMANDADOS EN FECHA PREVIA A

LA DE LA EJECUCIÓN DE LA PRESENTE ORDEN

[To be printed on letterhead of Latinos Group Promotions, and enclosed in an envelope bearing the words, "Important Health Information Inside"/"Contiene Informacion Importante para su Salud"]

[Name and address of recipient] [Date] [Estimado/a [recipient's name]:

Usted compró el producto Arcomig, al cual mi compañía llamó "bebida saludable". La Comisión Federal de Comercio de los Estados Unidos (U.S. Federal Trade Commission, FTC) dijo que nuestra publicidad para el producto Arcomig lo engañó, lo cual es contrario a la ley. He acordado en enviar la presente carta, pero no he consentido en admitir que he violado la ley.

Contrariamente a lo expresado en nuestros anuncios publicitarios, Arcomig no ha sido "aprobado" por el gobierno de los Estados Unidos para ningún tipo de uso. En realidad, no se han realizado estudios científicos que demuestren que Arcomig sea efectivo para combatir el cáncer ni ninguna otra enfermedad.

Si usted padece de una enfermedad grave, como por ejemplo cáncer, diabetes, lupus, colesterol alto o zumbido en los oídos -también llamado tinitus- consulte a su médico u otro

treatments or medicines.

If you would like more information on the settlement my company, Latinos Group Promotions, entered with the FTC, visit ftc.gov.

Sincerely,

Jorge Carpinteyro

Latinos Group Promotions

Stipulated Final Judgment

efectos colaterales.

con los medicamentos que consuma.

Si usted tiene cáncer o alguna otra enfermedad grave, consulte a su médico u otro profesional de atención de la salud para que le recomiende el tratamiento adecuado. Por favor, si está tomando algún producto, incluido Essiac Formula, infórmeselo a su médico ya que cada uno de los productos que usted tome puede afectar su tratamiento o estar contraindicado

Si desea obtener mayor información sobre el acuerdo de resolución logrado entre mi compañía Latinos Group Prosolucfst27c.00453é 0