

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD.,

Plaintiff,

Case No.: 1:18-cv-07420

v.

THE PARTNERSHIPS AND UNINCORPORATED
ASSOCIATIONS IDENTIFIED ON SCHEDULE “A”,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD. (“SEKIGUCHI” or “Plaintiff”), by its undersigned counsel, hereby complains of the Partnerships and Unincorporated Associations identified on Schedule A attached hereto (collectively, “Defendants”), and for its Complaint hereby alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This action has been filed by Plaintiff to combat online trademark and copyright infringers who trade upon Plaintiff’s reputation and goodwill and valuable trademarks and copyrights by selling and/or offering for sale products, hereinafter referred to as the “MONCHHICHI Products” in connection with Plaintiff’s federally registered MONCHHICHI Trademarks. In addition, the defendants are selling unauthorized products that are based on and derived from the copyrighted subject matter created by SEKIGUCHI, hereinafter referred to as the “MONCHHICHI Works.”

2. Plaintiff is the owner of the MONCHHICHI trademarks, United States Trademark Registration Nos. 5,238,565; 4,634,637; 3,087,366 and 3,055,482 and Plaintiff’s BEBICHHICHI trademark, which is covered by United States Trademark Registration No. 3,211,633 (collectively

“MONCHHICHI” or “MONCHHICHI trademarks”) that covers the MONCHHICHI Products. The Registrations are valid, subsisting and in full force and effect. A true and correct copy of the Registrations are attached hereto as Exhibit 1. Plaintiff is the owner of Copyright Registration Nos. VA0000015391 and VA0000015392 which are attached hereto as Exhibit 2. All of the copyrights have effective dates that predate defendants’ acts of copyright infringement.

3. In an effort to illegally profit from the trademark MONCHHICHI, Defendants have created numerous Defendant Internet Stores and design them to appear to be selling authorized MONCHHICHI Products.

4. The Defendant Internet Stores share unique identifiers, such as design elements and similarities of the unauthorized products offered for sale, establishing a logical relationship between them and suggesting that Defendants’ illegal operations arise out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences. Defendants attempt to avoid liability by going to great lengths to conceal both their identities and the full scope and interworking of their illegal operation. Plaintiff is forced to file this action to combat Defendants’ infringement. Plaintiff has been and continue to be irreparably damaged through consumer confusion, dilution, loss of control over the creative content and tarnishment of its valuable trademarks and copyrights as a result of Defendants’ actions and seek injunctive and monetary relief.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over the claims in this action pursuant to the provisions of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1051 et seq., the Federal Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101, et seq., 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a)–(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims in this action that arise under the laws of the State of Illinois pursuant to 28

U.S.C. § 1367(a), because the state law claims are so related to the federal claims that they form part of the same case or controversy and derive from a common nucleus of operative facts.

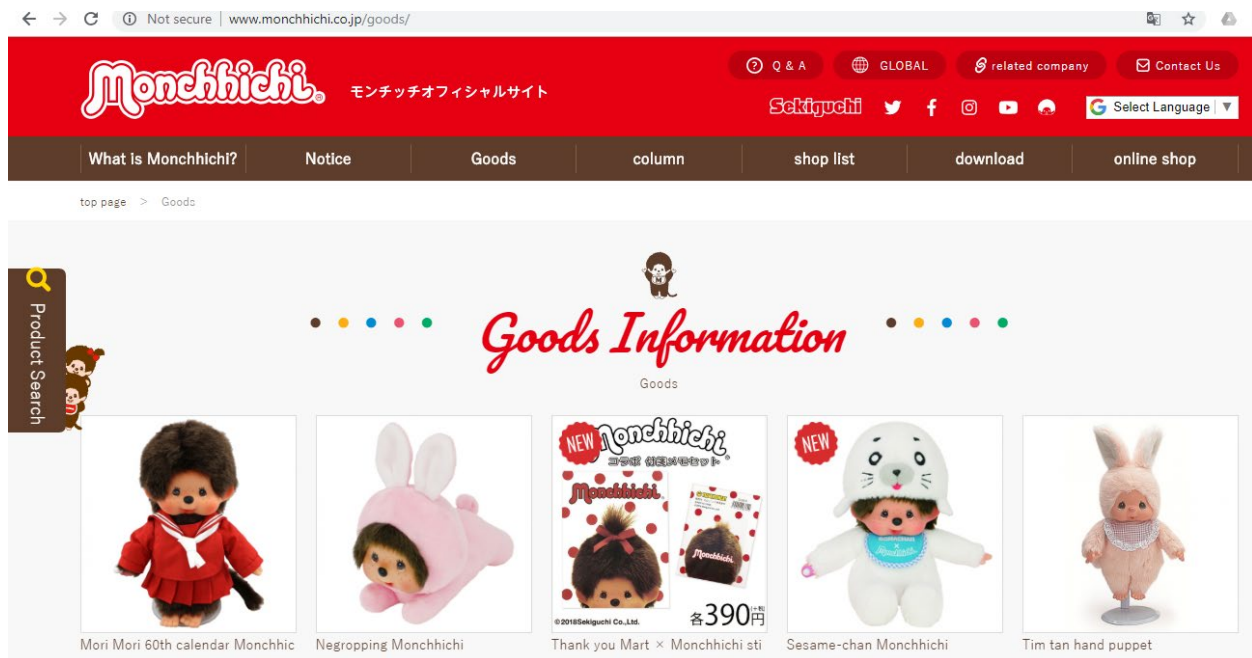
6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over each Defendant, in that each Defendant conducts significant business in Illinois and in this Judicial District, and the acts and events giving rise to this lawsuit of which each Defendant stands accused were undertaken in Illinois and in this Judicial District.

7. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391, and this Court may properly exercise personal jurisdiction over Defendants since each of the Defendants directly targets consumers in the United States, including Illinois, through at least the fully interactive commercial Internet stores operating under the Defendant Domain Names and/or the Online Marketplace Accounts identified in Schedule A attached hereto (collectively, the “Defendant Internet Stores”). Specifically, Defendants are reaching out to do business with Illinois residents by operating one or more commercial, interactive Internet Stores through which Illinois residents can purchase products bearing infringing versions of Plaintiff’s trademarks and/or copyrights. Each of the Defendants has targeted sales from Illinois residents by operating online stores that offer shipping to the United States, including Illinois, accept payment in U.S. dollars and, on information and belief, has sold products that infringe Plaintiff’s trademarks and/or copyrights. Each of the Defendants is committing tortious acts in Illinois, is engaging in interstate commerce, and has wrongfully caused substantial injury in the State of Illinois.

THE PLAINTIFF

8. Plaintiff, SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD., is a corporation having its principal place of business located at 5-3-27, Nishi-koiwa, Katsushika-ku, Tokyo, Japan 124-8552. It is associated with the

MONCHHICHI brand of toys since 1974. Plaintiff is the official source of MONCHHICHI products:



<http://www.monchhichi.co.jp/goods/>

9. The MONCHHICHI Trademarks have been used exclusively by SEKIGUCHI and have never been abandoned. The MONCHHICHI registrations are valid, subsisting, in full force and effect. The registrations of the MONCHHICHI Trademarks constitutes *prima facie* evidence of their validity and of SEKIGUCHI's exclusive right to use the MONCHHICHI Trademarks pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1057(b).

10. The MONCHHICHI Trademarks appears on SEKIGUCHI Products, as well as the packaging and advertisements related to such products. SEKIGUCHI Products have long been desirable and popular.

11. SEKIGUCHI has invested substantial time, money and effort in building up and developing consumer recognition, awareness, and goodwill in the MONCHHICHI Products.

12. The success of the MONCHHICHI Products is due in large part to SEKIGUCHI's marketing, promotional, and distribution efforts. These efforts include advertising and promotion through SEKIGUCHI's website, (the "website"), retailer websites, and other internet-based advertising, print, and other efforts both in the United States and internationally.

13. SEKIGUCHI's success is also due to the use of high-quality materials and processes in making the MONCHHICHI Products.

14. Additionally, SEKIGUCHI owes a substantial amount of the success of the MONCHHICHI Products to its licensees, consumers and interest that its consumers have generated.

15. As a result of SEKIGUCHI's efforts, the quality of its MONCHHICHI Products, the promotional efforts for its products and designs, press and media coverage, and members of the public have become familiar with MONCHHICHI Products, MONCHHICHI Works, and MONCHHICHI Trademarks and associate them exclusively with SEKIGUCHI. SEKIGUCHI has acquired a valuable reputation and goodwill among the public as a result of such association.

16. SEKIGUCHI has made efforts to protect its interests in and to the MONCHHICHI Works and MONCHHICHI Trademarks. No one other than SEKIGUCHI and its licensees are authorized to manufacture, import, export, advertise, offer for sale, or sell any goods utilizing the MONCHHICHI Works or MONCHHICHI Trademarks without the express written permission of SEKIGUCHI.

THE DEFENDANTS

17. Defendants are individuals and business entities who, upon information and belief, reside in the People's Republic of China or other foreign jurisdictions. Defendants conduct business throughout the United States, including within Illinois and in this Judicial District, through the

operation of the fully interactive commercial websites and online marketplaces operating under the Defendant Internet Stores. Each Defendant targets the United States, including Illinois, and has offered to sell and, on information and belief, has sold and continues to sell unauthorized MONCHHICHI Products to consumers within the United States, including Illinois and in this Judicial District.

THE DEFENDANTS' UNLAWFUL CONDUCT

18. The success of the MONCHHICHI brand has resulted in its counterfeiting. Plaintiff has identified numerous domain names linked to fully interactive websites and marketplace listings on platforms such as iOffer and Aliexpress, including the Defendant Internet Stores, which were offering for sale, selling, and importing counterfeit MONCHHICHI products to consumers in this Judicial District and throughout the United States. Internet websites like the Defendant Internet Stores are estimated to receive tens of millions of visits per year and to generate over \$135 billion in annual online sales. According to an intellectual property rights seizures statistics report issued by Homeland Security, the manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of goods seized by the U.S. government in fiscal year 2013 was over \$1.74 billion, up from \$1.26 billion in 2012. Internet websites like the Defendant Internet Stores are also estimated to contribute to tens of thousands of lost jobs for legitimate businesses and broader economic damages such as lost tax revenue every year.

19. As recently addressed in the Wall Street Journal, Fortune, and the New York Times, and as reflected in the federal lawsuits filed against sellers offering for sale and selling infringing and/or counterfeit products on the above mentioned digital marketplaces, an astronomical number of counterfeit and infringing products are offered for sale and sold on these digital marketplaces at a rampant rate. *See Kathy Chu, Luxury brands get tougher with counterfeiters – and Alibaba,*

MARKETWATCH (Aug. 16, 2016), <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/luxury-brands-get-tough-with-counterfeiters-2016-08-16-91031611>; Gilian Wong, *Alibaba Sued Over Alleged Counterfeits*, WALL STREET JOURNAL (May 17, 2015), <http://www.wsj.com/articles/alibaba-sued-over-alleged-counterfeits-1431877734>; Scott Cendrowski, *There's no end in sight for Alibaba's counterfeit problem*, FORTUNE (May 18, 2015), <http://fortune.com/2015/05/18/theres-no-end-in-sight-for-alibabas-counterfeit-problem/>.

20. Upon information and belief, Defendants facilitate sales by designing the Defendant Internet Stores so that they appear to unknowing consumers to be authorized online retailers, outlet stores, or wholesalers selling genuine MONCHHICHI Products. Many of the Defendant Internet Stores look sophisticated and accept payment in U.S. dollars via credit cards, Western Union and PayPal. Defendant Internet Stores often include images and design elements that make it very difficult for consumers to distinguish such unauthorized sites from an authorized website. Defendants further perpetuate the illusion of legitimacy by offering “live 24/7” customer service and using indicia of authenticity and security that consumers have come to associate with authorized retailers, including the McAfee® Security, VeriSign®, Visa®, MasterCard®, and PayPal® logos. Plaintiff has not licensed or authorized Defendants to use the MONCHHICHI Trademarks and products derived from the copyrighted MONCHHICHI Works.

21. Upon information and belief, Defendants also deceive unknowing consumers by using the MONCHHICHI Trademarks without authorization within the content, text, and/or meta tags of their websites in order to attract various search engines crawling the Internet looking for websites relevant to consumer searches for MONCHHICHI Products. Additionally, upon information and belief, Defendants use other unauthorized search engine optimization (SEO) tactics and social media spamming so that the Defendant Internet Stores listings show up at or

near the top of relevant search results and misdirect consumers searching for genuine MONCHHICHI Products. Further, Defendants utilize similar illegitimate SEO tactics to propel new domain names to the top of search results after others are shut down. As such, Plaintiff also seeks to disable Defendant Domain Names owned by Defendants that are the means by which the Defendants could continue to sell unauthorized products.

22. Defendants go to great lengths to conceal their identities and often use multiple fictitious names and addresses to register and operate their massive network of Defendant Internet Stores. For example, many of Defendants' names and physical addresses used to register the Defendant Domain Names are incomplete, contain randomly typed letters, or fail to include cities or states. Other Defendant Domain Names use privacy services that conceal the owners' identity and contact information. Upon information and belief, Defendants regularly create new websites and online marketplace accounts on various platforms using the identities listed in Schedule A of the Complaint, as well as other unknown fictitious names and addresses. Such Defendant Internet Store registration patterns are one of many common tactics used by the Defendants to conceal their identities, the full scope and interworking of their massive infringing operation, and to avoid being shut down.

23. Even though Defendants operate under multiple fictitious names, there are numerous similarities among the Defendant Internet Stores. For example, many of the Defendant websites have virtually identical layouts, even though different aliases were used to register the respective domain names. In addition, many of the unauthorized MONCHHICHI Products for sale in the Defendant Internet Stores bear similarities and indicia of being related to one another, suggesting that the illegal products were manufactured by and come from a common source and that, upon information and belief, Defendants are interrelated. The Defendant Internet Stores also include other

notable common features, including use of the same domain name registration patterns, unique shopping cart platforms, accepted payment methods, check-out methods, meta data, illegitimate SEO tactics, HTML user-defined variables, domain redirection, lack of contact information, identically or similarly priced items and volume sales discounts, similar hosting services, similar name servers, and the use of the same text and images.

24. Further, illegal operators such as Defendants typically operate multiple credit card merchant accounts and PayPal accounts behind layers of payment gateways so that they can continue operation in spite of any enforcement efforts. Upon information and belief, Defendants maintain off-shore bank accounts and regularly move funds from their PayPal accounts to off-shore bank accounts outside the jurisdiction of this Court. Indeed, analysis of PayPal transaction logs from previous similar cases indicates that offshore operators regularly move funds from U.S.-based PayPal accounts to China-based bank accounts outside the jurisdiction of this Court.

25. Defendants, without any authorization or license, have knowingly and willfully infringed the MONCHHICHI Trademarks and copyrights in connection with the advertisement, distribution, offering for sale, and sale of illegal products into the United States and Illinois over the Internet. Each Defendant Internet Store offers shipping to the United States, including Illinois, and, on information and belief, each Defendant has offered to sell infringing products into the United States, including Illinois.

26. In committing these acts, Defendants have, among other things, willfully and in bad faith committed the following, all of which have and will continue to cause irreparable harm to SEKIGUCHI: infringed and counterfeited the MONCHHICHI Trademarks; infringed the MONCHHICHI Works; committed unfair competition; and unfairly and unjustly profited from such activities at SEKIGUCHI's expense.

27. Unless enjoined, Defendants will continue to cause irreparable harm to SEKIGUCHI.

COUNT I
TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT AND COUNTERFEITING (15 U.S.C. § 1114)

28. Plaintiff repleads and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

29. This is a trademark infringement action against Defendants based on their unauthorized use in commerce of counterfeit imitations of the federally registered Plaintiff's Trademarks in connection with the sale, offering for sale, distribution, and/or advertising of infringing goods. Plaintiff's Trademarks are a distinctive mark. Consumers have come to expect the highest quality from SEKIGUCHI and MONCHHICHI Products offered, sold or marketed under Plaintiff's Trademarks.

30. Without SEKIGUCHI's authorization or consent, with knowledge of SEKIGUCHI's well-known and prior rights in its MONCHHICHI Trademarks and with knowledge that Defendants' Counterfeit Products bear counterfeit marks, Defendants intentionally reproduced, copied, and/or colorably imitated the MONCHHICHI Trademarks and/or used spurious designations that are identical with, or substantially indistinguishable from, the MONCHHICHI Trademarks on or in connection with the manufacturing, import, export, advertising, marketing, promotion, distribution, display, offering for sale and/or sale of Counterfeit Products.

31. Defendants have manufactured, imported, exported, advertised, marketed, promoted, distributed, displayed, offered for sale, and/or sold their Counterfeit Products to the purchasing public in direct competition with SEKIGUCHI, in or affecting interstate commerce, and/or have acted with reckless disregard of SEKIGUCHI's rights in and to the MONCHHICHI Trademarks through their participation in such activities.

32. Defendants have applied their reproductions, counterfeits, copies, and colorable imitations of the SEKIGUCHI Marks to packaging, point-of-purchase materials, promotions, and/or advertisements intended to be used in commerce upon, or in connection with, the manufacturing, importing, exporting, advertising, marketing, promoting, distributing, displaying, offering for sale, and/or selling of Defendants' Counterfeit Products, which is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and deception among the general purchasing public as to the origin of the Counterfeit Products, and is likely to deceive consumers, the public and the trade into believing that the Counterfeit Products sold by Defendants originate from, are associated with, or are otherwise authorized by SEKIGUCHI, thereby making substantial profits and gains to which they are not entitled in law or equity.

33. Defendants' unauthorized use of the MONCHHICHI Trademarks on or in connection with the Counterfeit Products was done with notice and full knowledge that such use was not authorized or licensed by SEKIGUCHI, and with deliberate intent to unfairly benefit from the incalculable goodwill inherent in the MONCHHICHI Trademarks.

34. Defendants' actions constitute willful counterfeiting of the MONCHHICHI Trademarks in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114(1)(a)-(b), 1116(d), and 1117(b)-(c).

35. Defendants' continued, knowing, and intentional use of the SEKIGUCHI Mark without SEKIGUCHI's consent or authorization constitutes intentional infringement of SEKIGUCHI's federally registered MONCHHICHI Trademarks in violation of §32 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1114.

36. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' illegal actions alleged herein, Defendants have caused substantial monetary loss and irreparable injury and damage to SEKIGUCHI, their business, their reputations and their valuable rights in and to the SEKIGUCHI Marks and the

goodwill associated therewith, in an amount as yet unknown, but to be determined at trial, for which SEKIGUCHI has no adequate remedy at law, and unless immediately enjoined, Defendants will continue to cause such substantial and irreparable injury, loss, and damage to SEKIGUCHI and its valuable MONCHHICHI Trademarks.

37. Based on Defendants' actions as alleged herein, SEKIGUCHI is entitled to injunctive relief, damages for the irreparable harm that SEKIGUCHI has sustained, and will sustain, as a result of Defendants' unlawful and infringing actions, as alleged herein, and all gains, profits and advantages obtained by Defendants as a result thereof, enhanced discretionary damages, treble damages, and/or statutory damages of up to \$2,000,000 per counterfeit mark per type of goods sold, offered for sale, or distributed and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

COUNT II
FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN, PASSING OFF & UNFAIR COMPETITION
(15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)/LANHAM ACT § 43(a))

38. Plaintiff repleads and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

39. Plaintiff, as the owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the MONCHHICHI Trademarks, has standing to maintain an action for false designation of origin and unfair competition under the Federal Trademark Statute, Lanham Act § 43(a) (15 U.S.C. § 1125).

40. Plaintiff's Trademarks are distinctive.

41. Defendants' promotion, marketing, offering for sale, and sale of infringing MONCHHICHI Products has created and is creating a likelihood of confusion, mistake, and deception among the public as to the affiliation, connection, or association with Plaintiff or the origin, sponsorship, or approval of Defendants' infringing products by Plaintiff.

42. By using the MONCHHICHI Trademarks in connection with the sale of unauthorized products, Defendants create a false designation of origin and a misleading representation of fact as to the origin and sponsorship of the unauthorized products.

43. Defendants' false designation of origin and misrepresentation of fact as to the origin and/or sponsorship of the unauthorized products to the general public is a willful violation of Section 43 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125.

44. Upon information and belief, Defendants' aforementioned wrongful actions have been knowing, deliberate, willful, intended to cause confusion, to cause mistake, and to deceive the purchasing public and with the intent to trade on the goodwill and reputation of SEKIGUCHI, its MONCHHICHI Products, MONCHHICHI Trademarks, and MONCHHICHI Works.

45. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' aforementioned actions, Defendants have caused irreparable injury to SEKIGUCHI by depriving SEKIGUCHI of sales of its MONCHHICHI Products and by depriving SEKIGUCHI of the value of its MONCHHICHI Trademarks and MONCHHICHI Works as commercial assets in an amount as yet unknown, but to be determined at trial, for which it has no adequate remedy at law, and unless immediately restrained, Defendants will continue to cause substantial and irreparable injury to SEKIGUCHI and the goodwill and reputation associated with the value of MONCHHICHI Trademarks and MONCHHICHI Works.

46. Plaintiff have no adequate remedy at law and, if Defendants' actions are not enjoined, Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable harm to its reputation and the goodwill of its brand.

COUNT III
VIOLATION OF ILLINOIS UNIFORM DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT
(815 ILCS § 510, et seq.)

47. Plaintiff repleads and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

48. Defendants have engaged in acts violating Illinois law including, but not limited to, passing off their unauthorized products as those of Plaintiff, causing a likelihood of confusion and/or misunderstanding as to the source of their goods, causing a likelihood of confusion and/or misunderstanding as to an affiliation, connection, or association with genuine products, representing that their products have Plaintiff's approval when they do not, and engaging in other conduct which creates a likelihood of confusion or misunderstanding among the public.

49. The foregoing Defendants' acts constitute a willful violation of the Illinois Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act, 815 ILCS § 510, et seq.

50. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law, and Defendants' conduct has caused Plaintiff to suffer damage to its reputation and goodwill. Unless enjoined by the Court, Plaintiff will suffer future irreparable harm as a direct result of Defendants' unlawful activities.

COUNT IV
COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT 17 U.S.C. § 501(a)

51. Plaintiff repleads and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

52. The MONCHHICHI Works have significant value and have been produced and created at considerable expense.

53. Plaintiff, at all relevant times, has been the holder of the pertinent exclusive rights infringed by Defendants, as alleged hereunder, including but not limited to the copyrighted

MONCHHICHI Works, including derivative works. The MONCHHICHI Works are the subject of valid Copyright Registrations. (Exhibit 2).

54. Upon information and belief, Defendants had access to the works through Plaintiff's normal business activities. After accessing Plaintiff's work, Defendants wrongfully created copies of the copyrighted MONCHHICHI Works without Plaintiff's consent and engaged in acts of widespread infringement.

55. SEKIGUCHI is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants further infringed SEKIGUCHI's copyright by making or causing to be made derivative works from the MONCHHICHI Works by producing and distributing reproductions without SEKIGUCHI's permission.

56. The trademark and copyright products include a copyright notice advising the general public that the MONCHHICHI Products are protected by the Copyright Laws.

57. Each Defendant, without the permission or consent of the Plaintiff, has, and continues to sell online infringing derivative works of the copyrighted MONCHHICHI Products. Each Defendant has violated Plaintiff's exclusive rights of reproduction and distribution. Each Defendant's actions constitute infringement of Plaintiff's exclusive rights protected under the Copyright Act (17 U.S.C. §101 et seq.).

58. Further, as a direct result of the acts of copyright infringement, Defendants have obtained direct and indirect profits they would not otherwise have realized but for their infringement of the copyrighted MONCHHICHI Works. SEKIGUCHI is entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits directly and indirectly attributable to their infringement of the MONCHHICHI Works.

59. The foregoing acts of infringement constitute a collective enterprise of shared, overlapping facts and have been willful, intentional, and in disregard of and with indifference to the rights of the Plaintiff.

60. As a result of each Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's exclusive rights under copyrights, Plaintiff are entitled to relief pursuant to 17 U.S.C. §504.

61. The conduct of each Defendant is causing and, unless enjoined and restrained by this Court, will continue to cause Plaintiff great and irreparable injury that cannot fully be compensated or measured in money. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law. Pursuant to 17 U.S.C. §§502 and 503, Plaintiff is entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting each Defendant from further infringing Plaintiff's copyright and ordering that each Defendant destroy all unauthorized copies. Defendants' copies, plates, and other embodiment of MONCHHICHI Works from which copies can be reproduced should be impounded and forfeited to SEKIGUCHI as instruments of infringement, and all infringing copies created by Defendants should be impounded and forfeited to SEKIGUCHI, under 17 U.S.C §503.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants as follows:

1) That Defendants, their affiliates, officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, confederates, and all persons acting for, with, by, through, under, or in active concert with them be temporarily, preliminarily, and permanently enjoined and restrained from:

- a. using the MONCHHICHI Trademarks or any reproductions, copies, or colorable imitations thereof in any manner in connection with the distribution, marketing, advertising, offering for sale, or sale of any product that is not an authorized

MONCHHICHI Product or is not authorized by Plaintiff to be sold in connection with the MONCHHICHI Trademarks;

- b. passing off, inducing, or enabling others to sell or pass off any product or not produced under the authorization, control, or supervision of Plaintiff and approved by Plaintiff for sale under the MONCHHICHI Trademarks;
- d. further infringing the MONCHHICHI Trademarks and damaging Plaintiff's goodwill;
- e. shipping, delivering, holding for sale, transferring or otherwise moving, storing, distributing, returning, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, products or inventory not authorized by Plaintiff to be sold or offered for sale, and which bear the MONCHHICHI Trademarks or which are derived from Plaintiff's copyrights in the MONCHHICHI products;
- f. using, linking to, transferring, selling, exercising control over, or otherwise owning the Online Marketplace Accounts, the Defendant Domain Names, or any other domain name or online marketplace account that is being used to sell products or inventory not authorized by Plaintiff which bear the MONCHHICHI Trademarks or which are derived from Plaintiff's copyrights in the MONCHHICHI Works;
- g. operating and/or hosting websites at the Defendant Domain Names and any other domain names registered or operated by Defendants that are involved with the distribution, marketing, advertising, offering for sale, or sale products or inventory not authorized by Plaintiff which bear the MONCHHICHI Trademarks or which are derived from Plaintiff's copyrights in the MONCHHICHI Product;

2) Entry of an Order that, at Plaintiff's choosing, the registrant of the Defendant Domain Names shall be changed from the current registrant to Plaintiff, and that the domain name

registries for the Defendant Domain Names, including, but not limited to, VeriSign, Inc., Neustar, Inc., Afilias Limited, CentralNic, Nominet, and the Public Interest Registry, shall unlock and change the registrar of record for the Defendant Domain Names to a registrar of Plaintiff's selection, and that the domain name registrars take any steps necessary to transfer the Defendant Domain Names to a registrar of Plaintiff's selection; or that the same domain name registries shall disable the Defendant Domain Names and make them inactive and untransferable;

3) Entry of an Order that, upon Plaintiff's request, those in privity with Defendants and those with notice of the injunction, including any online marketplaces such as eBay, Amazon, iOffer and Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., Alipay.com Co., Ltd. and any related Alibaba entities (collectively, "Alibaba"), social media platforms, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, Internet search engines such as Google, Bing and Yahoo, web hosts for the Defendant Domain Names, and domain name registrars, shall:

- a. disable and cease providing services for any accounts through which Defendants engage in the sale of products not authorized by Plaintiff which bear the MONCHHICHI Trademarks or which are derived from Plaintiff's copyrights in the MONCHHICHI Works, including any accounts associated with the Defendants listed on Schedule A;
- b. disable and cease displaying any advertisements used by or associated with Defendants in connection with the sale of products not authorized by Plaintiff which bear the MONCHHICHI Trademarks or which are derived from Plaintiff's copyrights in the MONCHHICHI Works; and
- c. take all steps necessary to prevent links to the Defendant Domain Names identified on Schedule A from displaying in search results, including, but not limited to, removing links to the Defendant Domain Names from any search index; and

4) That Defendants account for and pay to Plaintiff all profits realized by Defendants by reason of Defendants' unlawful acts herein alleged, and that the amount of damages for infringement increased by a sum not exceeding three times the amount thereof as provided by 15 U.S.C. § 1117;

5) For Judgment in favor of Plaintiff against Defendants that they have: a) willfully infringed Plaintiff's rights in its federally registered copyright pursuant to 17 U.S.C. §501; and b) otherwise injured the business reputation and business of Plaintiff by Defendants' acts and conduct set forth in this Complaint;

6) For Judgment in favor of Plaintiff against Defendants for actual damages or other available damages pursuant to 17 U.S.C. §504, at the election of Plaintiff, in an amount to be determined at trial;

7) That Plaintiff be awarded its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and

8) Award any and all other relief that this Court deems just and proper.

DATED: November 9, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Keith A. Vogt

Keith A. Vogt (Bar No. 6207971)

Keith Vogt, Ltd.

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Oak Park, Illinois 60302

Telephone: 708-203-4787

E-mail: keith@vogtip.com

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

Exhibit 1

United States of America

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Monchhichi

Reg. No. 5,238,565

Registered Jul. 11, 2017

**Int. Cl.: 9, 16, 18, 25, 28,
30, 41**

Service Mark

Trademark

Principal Register

SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD. (JAPAN CORPORATION)
2-11, Nishi-Shinkoiwa 5-chome
Katsushika-ku Tokyo 124-8552
JAPAN

CLASS 9: Telecommunication machines and apparatus, namely, portable telephone and Smart phones, Telephone sets, voice recorders; electronic machines, apparatus and their parts, namely, computers, optical mouse, digital cameras, digital photo frames, video cameras, camcorders, and headphones; electronic circuits and CD-ROMs recorded with automatic performance programs for electronic musical instruments, namely, programs for hand-held games with liquid crystal display and Effecters for electric or electric musical instruments; pre-recorded videotapes and video disks containing animation and games; downloadable music files; downloadable image files containing artwork, text, audio, video, games and Internet Web links relating to sporting and cultural activities; pre-recorded video discs and video tapes containing artwork, text, audio, video, games and Internet Web links relating to education, sporting and cultural activities

CLASS 16: Pastes and other adhesives for stationery or household purposes; containers of paper, for packaging; table napkins of paper; paper and cardboard; stationery; printed matter, namely, magazines, booklets and pamphlets in the field of education, sporting and cultural activities; paintings and calligraphic works; photographs; photograph stands; bags, namely, plastic shopping bags

CLASS 18: Clothing for domestic pets; bags, namely, vinyl-coated cotton and blended fabric shopping bags, shoulder bags, carry-on bags, trunks, handbags, schoolchildren's backpacks, rucksacks, notecases, mesh shopping bags, canvas shopping bags, textile shopping bags, leather shopping bags, wheeled bags, purses; pouches, namely, Key cases, Money pouches, Wallets, and Business card cases; vanity cases not fitted; umbrellas and their parts; baggage tags

CLASS 25: Clothing, namely, Jackets, Jogging pants, Sweat pants, Skirts, Trousers, Overcoats, Tailcoats, Cardigans, Sweaters, Sport shirts, Polo shirts, Pajamas, Undershirts, Panties, shorts and briefs, Camisoles, Tee-shirts, Sleeping masks, Aprons, Socks and Stockings other than special sportswear, Shawls, Scarves, Gloves and mittens, Neckties, Neckerchiefs, Bandanas, Ear muffs, headbands, wind-jackets, wristbands; garters; sock suspenders; suspenders; waistbands; belts for clothing; footwear other than special footwear for sports; masquerade costumes; special footwear for sports

CLASS 28: Toys for domestic pets, namely, chew toys for pet dogs; toy clocks and watches, Toy brooches, Paper Balloons, Sets of sheet-paper dolls and changing clothes therefor, Coloring Toys, namely, doll and marker set for coloring doll's clothing, Plush toys, Stuffed toys, Rubber balls, Toy beanbag, Hand-held games with liquid crystal displays, Jigsaw puzzles, Kites, Japanese traditional dolls, Kokeshi dolls, European style dolls, namely, molded toy figures and three dimensional positionable figures for play and decoration; stuffed toy animals; dolls; go games; Japanese chess (shogi games); Japanese playing cards (utagaruta); dice; Japanese dice games (sugoroku); dice cups; Chinese checkers as games; chess games; checkers; dominos; playing cards; sports equipment, namely, Inflatable



Joseph Matal

Performing the Functions and Duties of the
Under Secretary of Commerce for
Intellectual Property and Director of the
United States Patent and Trademark Office

swimming floats, playground slides, water slides, Swings, Surf boards, bags especially designed for surfboards

CLASS 30: Tea; coffee and cocoa; confectionery, namely, Rice crackers, Beans-jam filled wafers, Castilia sponge cakes, Candies, Cookies, Crackers, and Biscuits; bread and buns

CLASS 41: Movie showing, entertainment in the nature of live magic shows, presentation of plays; movie film production, or movie film distribution; presentation of live show performances; direction or presentation of plays; presentation of musical performances; production of videotape film in the field of education, culture, entertainment or sports not for movies or television programs and not for advertising or publicity; directing of radio and television programs; production of radio and television programs

The mark consists of the word "Monchhichi" in bubble letters.

OWNER OF INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION 1291839 DATED 10-27-2015,
EXPIRES 10-27-2025

The wording "MONCHHICHI" has no meaning in a foreign language.

SER. NO. 79-184,390, FILED 10-27-2015
MAYUR C VAGHANI, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN YOUR FEDERAL TRADEMARK REGISTRATION

WARNING: YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE CANCELLED IF YOU DO NOT FILE THE DOCUMENTS BELOW DURING THE SPECIFIED TIME PERIODS.

Requirements in the First Ten Years*

What and When to File:

- **First Filing Deadline:** You must file a Declaration of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) between the 5th and 6th years after the registration date. See 15 U.S.C. §§1058, 1141k. If the declaration is accepted, the registration will continue in force for the remainder of the ten-year period, calculated from the registration date, unless cancelled by an order of the Commissioner for Trademarks or a federal court.
- **Second Filing Deadline:** You must file a Declaration of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) and an Application for Renewal between the 9th and 10th years after the registration date.* See 15 U.S.C. §1059.

Requirements in Successive Ten-Year Periods*

What and When to File:

- You must file a Declaration of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) and an Application for Renewal between every 9th and 10th-year period, calculated from the registration date.*

Grace Period Filings*

The above documents will be accepted as timely if filed within six months after the deadlines listed above with the payment of an additional fee.

***ATTENTION MADRID PROTOCOL REGISTRANTS:** The holder of an international registration with an extension of protection to the United States under the Madrid Protocol must timely file the Declarations of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) referenced above directly with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The time periods for filing are based on the U.S. registration date (not the international registration date). The deadlines and grace periods for the Declarations of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) are identical to those for nationally issued registrations. See 15 U.S.C. §§1058, 1141k. However, owners of international registrations do not file renewal applications at the USPTO. Instead, the holder must file a renewal of the underlying international registration at the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, under Article 7 of the Madrid Protocol, before the expiration of each ten-year term of protection, calculated from the date of the international registration. See 15 U.S.C. §1141j. For more information and renewal forms for the international registration, see <http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/>.

NOTE: Fees and requirements for maintaining registrations are subject to change. Please check the USPTO website for further information. With the exception of renewal applications for registered extensions of protection, you can file the registration maintenance documents referenced above online at <http://www.uspto.gov>.

NOTE: A courtesy e-mail reminder of USPTO maintenance filing deadlines will be sent to trademark owners/holders who authorize e-mail communication and maintain a current e-mail address with the USPTO. To ensure that e-mail is authorized and your address is current, please use the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) Correspondence Address and Change of Owner Address Forms available at <http://www.uspto.gov>.

United States of America

United States Patent and Trademark Office



Reg. No. 4,634,637

Registered Nov. 11, 2014

**Int. Cls.: 16, 18, 25, 28
and 30**

TRADEMARK

PRINCIPAL REGISTER

SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD. (JAPAN CORPORATION)
2-11, NISHI-SHINKOIWA 5-CHOME
KATSUSHIKA-KU TOKYO 124-8552
JAPAN

FOR: PASTES AND OTHER ADHESIVES FOR STATIONERY OR HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES; CONTAINERS OF PAPER FOR PACKAGING; HYGIENIC HAND TOWELS OF PAPER; TOWELS OF PAPER; TABLE NAPKINS OF PAPER; HAND TOWELS OF PAPER; HANDKERCHIEFS OF PAPER; TABLECLOTHS OF PAPER; PAPER AND CARDBOARD; STATIONERY; PRINTED MATTER, NAMELY, CATALOGUES AND PAMPHLETS IN THE FIELD OF DOLLS, STUFFED TOYS AND LIFESTYLE FASHION ACCESSORIES; CALENDARS AND DIARIES; PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHIC WORKS; PHOTOGRAPHS; PHOTOGRAPH STANDS, IN CLASS 16 (U.S. CLS. 2, 5, 22, 23, 29, 37, 38 AND 50).

FOR: CLOTHING FOR DOMESTIC PETS; BAGS, NAMELY, FOLDING BRIEFCASES, SHOULDER BAGS, SUITCASES, TRUNKS, HANDBAGS, BOSTON BAGS, SCHOOLCHILDREN'S BACKPACKS AND RUCKSACKS; POUCHES, NAMELY, DRAWSTRING BAGS; UNFITTED VANITY CASES; UMBRELLAS AND THEIR PARTS, IN CLASS 18 (U.S. CLS. 1, 2, 3, 22 AND 41).

FOR: CLOTHING AND CLOTHING FOR SPORTS, NAMELY, TEE-SHIRTS, APRONS, SOCKS, STOCKINGS, NECKERSCHIEFS, BANDANAS, HEADWEAR; GARTERS; SOCK SUSPENDERS; SUSPENDERS; WAISTBANDS; BELTS FOR CLOTHING; FOOTWEAR EXCLUDING SPECIAL FOOTWEAR FOR SPORTS; MASQUERADE COSTUMES; SPECIAL FOOTWEAR FOR SPORTS, IN CLASS 25 (U.S. CLS. 22 AND 39).

FOR: TOYS FOR DOMESTIC PETS; TOYS, NAMELY, DOLLS AND STUFFED TOYS; DOLLS; GO GAMES; JAPANESE PLAYING CARDS (UTAGARUTA); JAPANESE CHESS (SHOGI); DICE; JAPANESE DICE GAMES (SUGOROKU); DICE CUPS; CHINESE CHECKERS; CHESS GAMES; CHECKERS, CHECKER SETS; CONJURING APPARATUS, NAMELY, PLAYING CARDS; DOMINOS; PLAYING CARDS; JAPANESE PLAYING CARDS (HANAFUDA); MAH-JONG; SPORTS EQUIPMENT, NAMELY, SKATEBOARDS, FLYING DISKS AND BOWLING IMPLEMENTS, NAMELY, BOWLING BALLS AND BOWLING PINS, IN CLASS 28 (U.S. CLS. 22, 23, 38 AND 50).

FOR: TEA; COFFEE AND COCOA; CONFECTIONERY MADE OF SUGAR, BREAD AND BUNS, IN CLASS 30 (U.S. CL. 46).



Michelle K. Lee

Deputy Director of the United States
Patent and Trademark Office

Reg. No. 4,634,637 OWNER OF U.S. REG. NOS. 3,055,482 AND 3,087,366.

PRIORITY DATE OF 12-9-2011 IS CLAIMED.

OWNER OF INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION 1126166 DATED 6-7-2012, EXPIRES 6-7-2022.

THE COLOR(S) BROWN, BLACK, WHITE, PEACH AND RED IS/ARE CLAIMED AS A FEATURE OF THE MARK.

THE MARK CONSISTS OF A 3 DIMENSIONAL FUR DOLL WITH BROWN FUR, BLACK EYES AND EYELASHES WITH BROWN AND WHITE LINING AT THE BOTTOM, BLACK NOSE, PEACH FACE, HANDS AND FEET AND RED LIPS AND A RED BIB WITH RED AND WHITE LINING ON THE TRIM AND THE WORDING "MONCHHICHI" ON THE BIB OUTLINED IN WHITE.

SER. NO. 79-116,715, FILED 6-7-2012.

MICHELE SWAIN, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

**REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN YOUR FEDERAL
TRADEMARK REGISTRATION**

**WARNING: YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE CANCELLED IF YOU DO NOT FILE THE
DOCUMENTS BELOW DURING THE SPECIFIED TIME PERIODS.**

Requirements in the First Ten Years*

What and When to File:

First Filing Deadline: You must file a Declaration of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) between the 5th and 6th years after the registration date. *See* 15 U.S.C. §§1058, 1141k. If the declaration is accepted, the registration will continue in force for the remainder of the ten-year period, calculated from the registration date, unless cancelled by an order of the Commissioner for Trademarks or a federal court.

Second Filing Deadline: You must file a Declaration of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) **and** an Application for Renewal between the 9th and 10th years after the registration date.*
See 15 U.S.C. §1059.

Requirements in Successive Ten-Year Periods*

What and When to File:

You must file a Declaration of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) **and** an Application for Renewal between every 9th and 10th-year period, calculated from the registration date.*

Grace Period Filings*

The above documents will be accepted as timely if filed within six months after the deadlines listed above with the payment of an additional fee.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will NOT send you any future notice or reminder of these filing requirements.

***ATTENTION MADRID PROTOCOL REGISTRANTS:** The holder of an international registration with an extension of protection to the United States under the Madrid Protocol must timely file the Declarations of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) referenced above directly with the USPTO. The time periods for filing are based on the U.S. registration date (not the international registration date). The deadlines and grace periods for the Declarations of Use (or Excusable Nonuse) are identical to those for nationally issued registrations. *See* 15 U.S.C. §§1058, 1141k. However, owners of international registrations do not file renewal applications at the USPTO. Instead, the holder must file a renewal of the underlying international registration at the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, under Article 7 of the Madrid Protocol, before the expiration of each ten-year term of protection, calculated from the date of the international registration. *See* 15 U.S.C. §1141j. For more information and renewal forms for the international registration, see <http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/>.

NOTE: Fees and requirements for maintaining registrations are subject to change. Please check the USPTO website for further information. With the exception of renewal applications for registered extensions of protection, you can file the registration maintenance documents referenced above online at <http://www.uspto.gov>.

Int. Cl.: 28

Prior U.S. Cls.: 22, 23, 38 and 50

Reg. No. 3,087,366

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Registered May 2, 2006

**TRADEMARK
PRINCIPAL REGISTER**

MONCHHICHI

SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD. (JAPAN CORPORATION)
2-11, NISHI-SHINKOIWA 5-CHOME
KATSUSHIKA-KU, JAPAN

THE MARK CONSISTS OF STANDARD CHAR-
ACTERS WITHOUT CLAIM TO ANY PARTICULAR
FONT, STYLE, SIZE, OR COLOR.

FOR: DOLLS, STUFFED TOY ANIMALS AND
MODELED PLASTIC TOY FIGURINES, IN CLASS 28
(U.S. CLS. 22, 23, 38 AND 50).

SER. NO. 78-568,412, FILED 2-16-2005.

FIRST USE 11-29-1974; IN COMMERCE 4-26-1976.

C. DIONNE CLYBURN, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

Int. Cl.: 25

Prior U.S. Cls.: 22 and 39

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Reg. No. 3,055,482

Registered Jan. 31, 2006

**TRADEMARK
PRINCIPAL REGISTER**

MONCHHICHI

SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD. (JAPAN CORPORATION)
2-11, NISHI-SHINKOIWA 5-CHOME
KATSUSHIKA-KU
TOKYO, JAPAN

FOR: CLOTHING, NAMELY, T-SHIRTS, UNDER-
WEAR, PAJAMAS, UNDERSHORTS, UNDER-
PANTS, LINGERIE, HATS AND CAPS, IN CLASS 25
(U.S. CLS. 22 AND 39).

FIRST USE 6-0-2003; IN COMMERCE 6-0-2003.

THE MARK CONSISTS OF STANDARD CHAR-
ACTERS WITHOUT CLAIM TO ANY PARTICULAR
FONT, STYLE, SIZE, OR COLOR.

SER. NO. 78-595,077, FILED 3-25-2005.

C. DIONNE CLYBURN, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

Int. Cls.: 16, 25 and 28

Prior U.S. Cls.: 2, 5, 22, 23, 29, 37, 38, 39 and 50

Reg. No. 3,211,633

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Registered Feb. 20, 2007

**TRADEMARK
PRINCIPAL REGISTER**

BEBICHHICHI

SEKIGUCHI CO., LTD. (JAPAN LIMITED COMPANY)

2-11, NISHI-SHINKOIWA 5-CHOME,
KATSUSHIKA-KU; TOKYO 124-0025
JAPAN

FOR: PASTES AND OTHER ADHESIVES FOR STATIONERY OR HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES, PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, SKETCH BOOKS, POCKET MEMORANDUM BOOKS, NOTE BOOKS, WRITING PADS, WRITING PAPER, ENVELOPES, LOOSE-LEAF PADS, PENCILS, FELT WRITING PENS, MECHANICAL PENCILS, FELT MARKING PENS, BALL-POINT PENS, FOUNTAIN PENS, CRAYONS, NON-ELECTRIC PENCIL SHARPENERS, THUMB-TACKS, PAPER CLIPS, RUBBER ERASERS, STATIONERY SEALS, PICTURE POSTCARDS, CALENDARS, DIARIES, PHOTOGRAPHS, DESKTOP PHOTOGRAPH STANDS, GREETING CARDS, BOOKMARKS, DRAWING RULERS FOR STATIONERY AND OFFICE USE, FILE FOLDERS, STATIONERY STICKERS, ADHESIVE TAPES FOR STATIONERY OR HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES, STANDS FOR PENS AND PENCILS, PEN AND PENCIL CASES AND BOXES, PAPER KNIVES, NAMELY, LETTER OPENERS, NON-ELECTRIC STAPLERS, PAPER LABELS, PAPER SHOPPING

BAGS, DOCUMENT FILES, LOOSE LEAF BINDERS, IN CLASS 16 (U.S. CLS. 2, 5, 22, 23, 29, 37, 38 AND 50).

FOR: T-SHIRTS; HEADGEAR FOR CLOTHING, NAMELY, HATS AND CAPS; UNDERSHIRTS; BRIEFS; PANTIES, SHORTS; SOCKS AND STOCKINGS; PAJAMAS; SHOES, BOOTS NOT INCLUDING BOOTS FOR SPORTS; SLIPPERS; MUFFLERS; GLOVES; BANDANAS; SCARVES; SHIRTS; SWEAT-SHIRTS; BELTS; JACKETS; PARKAS; TROUSERS; SHORT TROUSERS; SKIRTS; SWIMWEAR; RAIN COATS, RAIN BOOTS, IN CLASS 25 (U.S. CLS. 22 AND 39).

FOR: DOLLS, STUFFED TOY ANIMALS, IN CLASS 28 (U.S. CLS. 22, 23, 38 AND 50).

PRIORITY DATE OF 4-15-2005 IS CLAIMED.

OWNER OF INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION 0875174 DATED 6-1-2005, EXPIRES 6-1-2015.

SER. NO. 79-020,289, FILED 6-1-2005.

ELIZABETH HUGHITT, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

Exhibit 2

Type of Work: Visual Material

Registration Number / Date:
VA0000015391 / 1978-10-02

Title: Monchhichi : no. 1 : closed eyes.

Imprint: [Japan : s.n., 19--]

Description: Stuffed, plush.

Notes: Whimsical furry character with long tail, bow in hair.

Copyright Claimant:
Sekiguchi Company, Ltd., whose a.a.d. is Sekiguchi

Date of Creation: 1974

Date of Publication:
1974-11-29

Names: Sekiguchi Company, Ltd.
Sekiguchi.

=====

Type of Work: Visual Material

Registration Number / Date:
VA0000015392 / 1978-10-02

Title: Monchhichi : no. 2 : opened eyes.

Imprint: [Japan : s.n., 19--]

Description: Stuffed, plush.

Notes: Whimsical furry character with long tail.

Copyright Claimant:
Sekiguchi Company, Ltd., whose a.a.d. is Sekiguchi

Date of Creation: 1974

Date of Publication:
1974-11-29

Names: Sekiguchi Company, Ltd.

=====

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

DEFENDANTS

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant _____
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
- ☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant
- ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- | | PTF | DEF | | PTF | DEF |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee (Prisoner Petition) <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729 (a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	PRISONER PETITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement			

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify) ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Enter U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause.)**VII. Previous Bankruptcy Matters** (For nature of suit 422 and 423, enter the case number and judge for any associated bankruptcy matter previously adjudicated by a judge of this Court. Use a separate attachment if necessary.)**VIII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes ☐ No

IX. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

X. This case (check one box) ☐ Is not a refiling of a previously dismissed action ☐ is a refiling of case number _____ previously dismissed by Judge _____
DATE _____ SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.

(b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)

(c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.

IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.

V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Previous Bankruptcy Matters For nature of suit 422 and 423 enter the case number and judge for any associated bankruptcy matter previously adjudicated by a judge of this court. Use a separate attachment if necessary.

VIII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

IX. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

X. Refiling Information. Place an "X" in one of the two boxes indicating if the case is or is not a refiling of a previously dismissed action. If it is a refiling of a previously dismissed action, insert the case number and judge.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.