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JUSTICE NEWS

Department of Justice

Office of Public Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, June 23, 2014

District Court Enters Permanent Injunction Against California-Based Firm and Individuals to Prevent Distribution of Adulterated Dietary Supplements

The Justice Department announced today that U.S. District Court Judge Otis D. Wright II of the Central District of California entered a consent decree of permanent injunction against GM Manufacturing Inc. (GMM) and Mao L. Yang, Mary Chen and David Yang on Friday, June 20, 2014, to prevent the distribution of adulterated dietary supplements.

"Adulterated dietary supplements may pose a significant risk to the public health," said Stuart F. Delery, Assistant Attorney General for the Department of Justice's Civil Division. "The Department of Justice is committed to protecting the public from dietary supplements that are not manufactured in conformity with current good manufacturing practices as required by law."

According to the complaint filed by the United States on June 2, 2014, GMM manufactured, labeled, prepared, packed, held and distributed dietary supplements from its facility in Gardena, California. As alleged in the complaint, in inspections by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) established that the dietary supplements manufactured and distributed by the defendants were adulterated, in that they were prepared, packed and held under conditions that do not comply with the current good manufacturing practice regulations for dietary supplements. For example, during an inspection in 2013, FDA observed that defendants failed to maintain, clean and sanitize, as necessary, equipment, utensils and other contact surfaces used to manufacture, package, label or hold components or dietary supplements.

As part of the permanent injunction, the defendants agreed to stop manufacturing, preparing and distributing dietary supplements. The defendants agreed to provide 90 days' notice to FDA before seeking to resume operations. If the defendants seek to resume dietary supplement operations, they are required to comply with a series of remedial measures, including retaining an expert to inspect the company's facility and provide a certification that all manufacturing deficiencies have been corrected. Also, the defendants must report to FDA all actions they have taken to correct the deviations. The defendants are not allowed to resume operations until FDA has re-inspected their facility and operations, and provided written notice to them.

According to the complaint, the defendants' facility was inspected by FDA in 2012 and 2013. During the 2013 inspection, the FDA observed significant violations of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act and implementing regulations, including violations that were the same or similar to those observed during the 2012 inspection. Following the 2012 inspection, FDA issued a warning letter to Mao Yang informing him that the significant deviations documented by FDA during the 2012 inspection rendered defendants' dietary supplements adulterated under the law. The warning letter from FDA cautioned that failure to promptly correct the deviations, and prevent future ones, could lead to additional regulatory action, including an injunction.

Despite the inspections and warning letter from FDA, the defendants continued to manufacture and distribute adulterated dietary supplements in violation of the law.

The permanent injunction entered by the district court requires the defendants to recall all dietary supplements that the defendants manufactured, prepared, processed, packed, labeled, held, and/or distributed at any time since Feb. 13, 2012. Defendants are then required to destroy all dietary supplements in their possession, custody and/or control.

Assistant Attorney General Delery thanked the FDA for referring this matter to the Department of Justice. Trial Attorney Lauren Fascett of the Civil Division's Consumer Protection Branch, in conjunction with Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian Villarreal in the Central District of California and Associate Chief Counsel Leslie Cohen of the Office of General Counsel, Enforcement of the Food and



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Drug Division, Department of Health and Human Services, brought this case on behalf of the United States

14-658

Civil Division

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- Privacy Policy
- Legal Policies & Disclaimers

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

<p>1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Plaintiff,</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 v.</p> <p>6 GM MANUFACTURING, INC.,</p> <p>7 a corporation, and</p> <p>8 MAO L. YANG,</p> <p>9 MARY CHEN, and</p> <p>10 DAVID YANG, individuals,</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 Defendants.</p>	<p>Case No.: CV 14 - 04231 - ODW (PJWx)</p> <p>CONSENT DECREE OF PERMANENT INJUNCTION</p>
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10 Plaintiff, the United States of America, by its undersigned attorneys, having
11 filed a Complaint For Permanent Injunction (“Complaint”) against GM
12 Manufacturing, Inc., a corporation, and Mao L. Yang, Mary Chen, and David
13 Yang, individuals (collectively “Defendants”), and Defendants having appeared
14 and having consented to the entry of this Consent Decree of Permanent Injunction
15 (“Decree”) without contest and before any testimony has been taken, and the
16 United States of America having consented to this Decree;

17 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

- 18 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter and over all parties
19 to this action.
- 20 2. The complaint states a cause of action against Defendants under the
21 Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq. (the “Act”).
- 22 3. Defendants violate the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(a), by introducing and
23 causing to be introduced, and delivering and causing to be delivered for
24 introduction, into interstate commerce articles of food (dietary supplements as
25 defined by 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)) that are adulterated within the meaning of
26 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1), in that they have been prepared, packed, and held under
27

1 conditions that do not conform to the current good manufacturing practice
2 (“cGMP”) regulations for dietary supplements set forth at 21 C.F.R. Part 111.

3 4. Defendants violate the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(k), by causing the
4 adulteration, within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1), of articles of food
5 (dietary supplements), while such articles are held for sale after shipment of one or
6 more of their components in interstate commerce.

7 5. Upon entry of this Decree, Defendants represent to the Court that
8 Defendants are not directly or indirectly engaged in manufacturing, preparing,
9 processing, packing, labeling, holding, and/or distributing any articles of food
10 (dietary supplements). If Defendants later intend to resume any such operations at
11 1500 W 135th St, Gardena, California (“the facility”), or any other location,
12 Defendants must first notify FDA in writing at least ninety (90) calendar days in
13 advance of resuming operations and comply with paragraphs 6(A)-(F) of this
14 Decree. This notice shall identify the type(s) of dietary supplements Defendants
15 intend to manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and/or distribute, and the
16 location at which Defendants intend to resume operations. Defendants shall not
17 resume operations until FDA has inspected Defendants’ facility and operations
18 pursuant to paragraph 6(G), Defendants have paid all costs pursuant to paragraph
19 6(H), and Defendants have received written notice from FDA, as required by
20 paragraph 6(I), and then shall resume operations only to the extent authorized in
21 FDA’s written notice.

22 6. Defendants and each and all of their directors, officers, agents,
23 representatives, employees, attorneys, successors, assigns, and any and all persons
24 or entities in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual
25 notice of this Decree, are hereby permanently restrained and enjoined, under the
26 provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 332(a), and the equitable authority of this Court, from
27 directly or indirectly manufacturing, preparing, processing, packing, labeling,

1 holding, and/or distributing any dietary supplements, at or from the facility, or at or
2 from any other locations at which Defendants now, or in the future, directly or
3 indirectly manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and/or distribute dietary
4 supplements, including in-process materials, ingredients, and components thereof,
5 unless and until:

6 A. Defendants' methods, facilities, processes, and controls used to
7 manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and distribute dietary
8 supplements are established, operated, and administered in compliance with
9 this Decree, the Act, and its implementing regulations.

10 B. Defendants retain, at their expense, an independent person or
11 persons (the "Expert"), who is without any personal or financial ties (other
12 than the retention agreement) to Defendants or their families, and who, by
13 reason of background, training, education, or experience, is qualified to
14 inspect the facility to determine whether the facility and the methods,
15 processes, and controls that Defendants use to manufacture, prepare,
16 process, pack, label, hold, and distribute dietary supplements are operated
17 and administered in conformity with cGMP, 21 C.F.R. Part 111. Defendants
18 shall notify the United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") in
19 writing of the identity and qualifications of the Expert within five (5)
20 calendar days of retaining such Expert;

21 C. The Expert performs a comprehensive inspection of the facility
22 and the methods, processes, and controls that Defendants use to
23 manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and distribute dietary
24 supplements and the labeling for all of Defendants' dietary supplements to
25 determine whether Defendants are in compliance with 21 U.S.C.
26 § 342(g)(1), 21 C.F.R. Part 111, and this Decree;
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D. The Expert certifies in writing to FDA that:

i. The Expert has inspected the facility and the methods, processes, and controls that Defendants use to manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and distribute dietary supplements;

ii. All cGMP deviations brought to Defendants' attention by FDA, the Expert, or any other source have been corrected; and

iii. The facility, methods, processes, and controls that Defendants use to manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and distribute dietary supplements are in compliance with this Decree, the Act, and 21 C.F.R. Part 111. As part of the Expert's certification, a full and complete detailed report of the results of the Expert's inspection shall be provided by the Expert to FDA;

E. Defendants report to FDA in writing the actions they have taken to:

i. Correct all deviations brought to Defendants' attention by FDA, the Expert, and/or any other source; and

ii. Ensure that the methods and processes used in, and the facility and controls used for, manufacturing, preparing, processing, packing, labeling, holding, and distributing dietary supplements are operated, and will be continuously administered in conformity with cGMP, 21 C.F.R. Part 111;

F. Defendants recall and destroy, under FDA's supervision and in accordance with the procedures provided in paragraph 8, all dietary supplements that were manufactured, prepared, processed, packed, labeled, held, and/or distributed prior to the entry of this Decree;

G. FDA, as and when it deems necessary to evaluate Defendants' compliance with the terms of this Decree, the Act, and applicable

1 regulations, conducts inspections of the facility, including the buildings,
2 equipment, utensils, dietary supplements, labeling, and all relevant records
3 contained therein;

4 H. Defendants have paid all costs of supervision, inspections,
5 investigations, analyses, examinations, and reviews for FDA's oversight
6 with respect to paragraph 6, at the rates set forth in paragraph 12; and

7 I. FDA has notified Defendants, in writing, that Defendants
8 appear to be in compliance with all the requirements specified in paragraphs
9 6(A)-(F) and (H) of this Decree, the Act, including 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1),
10 and all applicable regulations, including 21 C.F.R. Part 111. In no
11 circumstance shall FDA's silence be construed as a substitute for written
12 notification.

13 7. Defendants and each and all of their directors, officers, agents,
14 representatives, employees, attorneys, successors, assigns, and any all persons or
15 entities in active concert or participation with any of them, who have received
16 actual notice of this Decree, are permanently restrained and enjoined under
17 21 U.S.C. § 332(a) from directly or indirectly doing or causing any act that:

18 A. Violates the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(a), by introducing or
19 delivering for introduction into interstate commerce, and/or causing the
20 introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce, of any
21 dietary supplement, within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff), that is
22 adulterated within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1);

23 B. Violates the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(k), by causing any dietary
24 supplement within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff) to become adulterated
25 within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1), while such dietary supplement
26 is held for sale after shipment of one or more of its components in interstate
27 commerce; and/or

1 C. Results in the failure to implement and continuously maintain
2 the requirements of this Decree.

3 8. Within twenty (20) business days of entry of this Decree, Defendants
4 shall recall all dietary supplements that they manufactured, prepared, processed,
5 packed, labeled, held, and/or distributed at any time after February 13, 2012.
6 Within fifteen (15) calendar days of entry of this Decree and within ten (10)
7 calendar days after receiving any recalled dietary supplements, Defendants shall,
8 under FDA supervision, destroy all dietary supplements in Defendants' possession,
9 custody, and/or control because they are adulterated in that they were not
10 manufactured, prepared, packed, labeled, held and/or distributed in accordance
11 with cGMP, 21 C.F.R. Part 111. Defendants shall reimburse FDA for supervising
12 the destruction at the rates set forth in paragraph 12. Defendants shall not dispose
13 of any dietary supplements in a manner contrary to any federal, state, or local laws.

14 9. After Defendants have complied with paragraphs 6(A)-(F) and (H),
15 and FDA has notified them pursuant to paragraph 6(I), Defendants shall retain an
16 independent person or persons who shall meet the criteria described in paragraph
17 6(B) to conduct audit inspections of their dietary supplement manufacturing
18 operations (hereinafter, the "Auditor") at least once every six (6) months, for a
19 period of one (1) year, and not less than once every twelve (12) months for a
20 period of four (4) years thereafter, for a total of five (5) years of auditing. If
21 Defendants choose, the Auditor may be the same person or persons retained as the
22 Expert in paragraph 6(B).

23 A. At the conclusion of each audit inspection, the Auditor shall
24 prepare a detailed written report ("audit report") analyzing whether
25 Defendants are in compliance with this Decree, the Act, and its
26 implementing regulations and identifying any deviations ("audit report
27 observations"). As part of every audit report, except the first audit report,

1 the Auditor shall assess the adequacy of corrective actions taken by
2 Defendants to correct all previous audit report observations. The audit
3 reports shall be delivered contemporaneously to Defendants and FDA by
4 courier service or overnight delivery service, no later than ten (10) business
5 days after the date the audit inspection(s) is completed. In addition,
6 Defendants shall maintain the audit reports in separate files at their facility
7 and shall promptly make the audit reports available to FDA upon request.

8 B. If an audit report contains any observations indicating that
9 Defendants are not in compliance with this Decree, the Act, and/or its
10 implementing regulations, Defendants shall, within fifteen (15) calendar
11 days after receiving the audit report, correct those observations, unless FDA
12 notifies Defendants that a shorter time period is necessary. If, after
13 receiving the audit report, Defendants believe that a correction of the
14 deviations will take longer than fifteen (15) calendar days, Defendants shall,
15 within five (5) calendar days after receiving the audit report, submit to FDA
16 in writing a proposed schedule for completing corrections ("correction
17 schedule"). The correction schedule must be reviewed and approved by
18 FDA in writing prior to implementation by Defendants. In no circumstance
19 shall FDA's silence be construed as a substitute for written approval.
20 Defendants shall complete all corrections according to the approved
21 correction schedule. Within thirty (30) calendar days after Defendants
22 receive an audit report, unless FDA notifies Defendants that a shorter time
23 period is necessary, or within the time frame provided in a correction
24 schedule approved by FDA, the Auditor shall review the actions taken by
25 Defendants to correct the audit report observations. Within five (5) business
26 days after beginning that review, the Auditor shall report in writing to FDA
27 whether each of the audit report observations has been corrected and, if not,

1 which audit report observations remain uncorrected. If such report identifies
2 one or more objectionable conditions that has not been corrected, FDA may,
3 in its discretion, require up to five (5) additional years of annual audits.

4 10. Representatives of FDA shall be permitted, without prior notice and
5 as and when FDA deems necessary, to make inspections of Defendants'
6 operations, and without prior notice, to take any other measures necessary to
7 monitor and ensure continuous compliance with the terms of this Decree, the Act,
8 and all applicable regulations. During such inspections, FDA representatives shall
9 be permitted: immediate access to Defendants' places of business including, but
10 not limited to, all buildings, equipment, finished and unfinished materials and
11 products, containers, labeling, and other material therein; to take photographs and
12 make video recordings; to take samples of Defendants' finished and unfinished
13 materials and products, containers, labeling, packaging material, and other
14 material; and to examine and copy all records relating to the receiving,
15 manufacturing, preparing, processing, packing, labeling, holding, and distribution
16 of any and all of Defendants' products, including components. The inspections
17 shall be permitted upon presentation of a copy of this Decree and appropriate
18 credentials. The inspection authority granted by this Decree is separate from, and
19 in addition to, the authority to make inspections under the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 374.

20 11. Defendants shall promptly provide any information or records to FDA
21 upon request regarding the receiving, manufacturing, preparing, processing,
22 packing, labeling, holding, and distribution of dietary supplements.

23 12. Defendants shall reimburse FDA for the costs of all FDA inspection,
24 investigations, supervision, analyses, examinations, sampling, testing, reviews, and
25 document preparation that FDA deems necessary to evaluate Defendants'
26 compliance with any part of this Decree. The costs of such activities shall be
27 borne by Defendants at the prevailing rates in effect at the time the costs are

1 incurred, and Defendants shall make payment in full to FDA within thirty (30)
2 calendar days of receiving written notification from FDA of the costs. As of the
3 date this Decree is signed by the parties, these rates are: \$88.45 per hour and
4 fraction thereof per representative for inspection or investigative work; \$106.03 per
5 hour and fraction thereof per representative for analytical or review work; \$0.565
6 per mile for travel expenses by automobile; government rate or the equivalent for
7 travel by air or other means; and the published government per diem rate or the
8 equivalent for the areas in which the inspections are performed per-day, per-
9 representative for subsistence expenses. In the event that the standard rates
10 applicable to FDA supervision of court-ordered compliance are modified, these
11 rates shall be increased or decreased without further Order of the Court.

12 13. Within then (10) calendar days after entry of this Decree, Defendants
13 shall post a copy of this Decree, in at least one language in which each GM
14 Manufacturing, Inc. employee is fluent, in a conspicuous location in a common
15 area at the facility and at any other location(s) at which Defendants manufacture,
16 prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and/or distribute dietary supplements, and shall
17 ensure that the Decree remains posted at each location for as long as the Decree
18 remains in effect. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after entry of this Decree,
19 Defendants shall provide to FDA an affidavit, from a person with personal
20 knowledge of the facts stated therein, stating the fact and manner of Defendants'
21 compliance with this paragraph.

22 14. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after entry of this Decree,
23 Defendants shall provide a copy of the Decree, by personal service or certified
24 mail (restricted delivery, return receipt requested), to each and all of Defendants'
25 directors, officers, agents, employees, representatives, attorneys, successors,
26 assigns, parties for whom Defendants contractually manufacture dietary
27 supplements and to whom Defendants have shipped dietary supplements at any

1 time since February 13, 2012, and any and all persons or entities in active concert
2 or participation with any of them (collectively referred to as “Associated
3 Persons”). Within thirty (30) calendar days after entry of this Decree, Defendants
4 shall provide to FDA an affidavit, from a person with personal knowledge of the
5 facts stated therein, stating the fact and manner of Defendants’ compliance with
6 this paragraph and identifying the names, addresses, and positions of all persons
7 who received a copy of this Decree pursuant to this paragraph.

8 15. In the event that any Defendant becomes associated with any
9 additional Associated Person(s) at any time after entry of this Decree, Defendants
10 immediately shall provide a copy of this Decree, by personal service or certified
11 mail (restricted delivery, return receipt requested) to such Associated Person(s).
12 Within ten (10) calendar days of each time that any Defendant becomes associated
13 with any additional Associated Person, Defendants shall provide to FDA an
14 affidavit, from a person with personal knowledge of the facts stated therein, stating
15 the fact and manner of Defendants’ compliance with this paragraph, identifying the
16 names, addresses, and positions of all Associated Persons who received a copy of
17 this Decree pursuant to this paragraph, and attaching a copy of the executed
18 certified mail return receipts. Within ten (10) calendar days of receiving a request
19 from FDA for any information or documentation that FDA deems necessary to
20 evaluate Defendants’ compliance with this paragraph, Defendants shall provide
21 such information or documentation to FDA.

22 16. Defendants shall notify FDA, in writing, at least fifteen (15) calendar
23 days before any change in ownership, character, or name of their business,
24 including reorganization, relocation, dissolution, bankruptcy, assignment, sale
25 resulting in the emergence of a successor business or corporation, the creation or
26 dissolution of subsidiaries, or any other change in the corporate structure or
27 identity of GM Manufacturing, Inc., or any of their parents or subsidiaries, or the

1 sale or assignment of any business assets, such as buildings, equipment, or
2 inventory, that may affect obligations arising out of this Decree. Defendants shall
3 provide a copy of this Decree to any prospective successor or assign at least ten
4 (10) calendar days prior to any sale or assignment. Defendants shall furnish FDA
5 an affidavit of compliance with this paragraph no later than ten (10) calendar days
6 prior to such assignment or change in ownership.

7 17. If, at any time after entry of this Decree, FDA determines, based on
8 the results of an inspection, the analysis of a sample(s), a report or data prepared or
9 submitted by Defendants, the Expert, the Auditor, or any other information, that, at
10 the facility or any other locations at which Defendants, now or in the future,
11 directly or indirectly, manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and/or
12 distribute dietary supplements, Defendants have failed to comply with any
13 provision of this Decree, have violated the Act or applicable regulations, or that
14 additional corrective actions are necessary to achieve compliance with this Decree,
15 the Act, and/or applicable regulations, FDA may, as and when it deems necessary,
16 order Defendants in writing to take appropriate action, including, but not limited
17 to, ordering Defendants immediately to take one or more of the following actions:

18 A. Cease manufacturing, preparing, processing, packing, labeling,
19 holding and/or distributing any or all dietary supplement(s);

20 B. Recall, at Defendants' own expense, any dietary supplement
21 that is adulterated, misbranded, or otherwise in violation of this Decree, the
22 Act, and/or its implementing regulations;

23 C. Revise, modify, or expand any reports, plans, procedures,
24 and/or other records prepared pursuant to this Decree;

25 D. Submit additional reports or information to FDA;

26 E. Institute or reimplement any of the requirements set forth in this
27 Decree;

1 F. Issue a safety alert; and/or

2 G. Take any other corrective actions as FDA, in its discretion,
3 deems necessary to protect the public health and/or to bring Defendants into
4 compliance with this Decree, the Act, and/or its implementing regulations.

5 18. The provisions of this paragraph shall be separate and apart from, and
6 in addition to, all other remedies available to FDA. Defendants shall pay all cost
7 of recalls and other corrective actions, including the costs of FDA's inspections,
8 investigations, supervision, analyses, examinations, sampling, testing, reviews,
9 document preparation, travel, and subsistence expenses to implement and monitor
10 recalls and other corrective actions, at the rates specified in paragraph 12.

11 19. Upon receipt of any order issued by FDA pursuant to paragraph 17,
12 Defendants shall immediately and fully comply with the terms of the order. Any
13 cessation of operations or other actions described in paragraph 17 shall continue
14 until Defendants receive written notification from FDA that Defendants appear to
15 be in compliance with this Decree, the Act, and its implementing regulations, and
16 that Defendants may resume operations.

17 20. If any Defendant fails to comply with any of the provisions of this
18 Decree, the Act, and/or applicable regulations, then Defendants shall pay to the
19 United States of America the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in liquidated
20 damages for each day such violation continues and an additional sum of five
21 thousand dollars (\$5,000) in liquidated damages for each violation of this Decree,
22 the Act, and/or applicable regulations, and an additional sum equal to twice the
23 retail value of each shipment of adulterated dietary supplements in liquidated
24 damages for each such unlawful shipment. Defendants understand and agree that
25 the liquidated damages specified in this paragraph are not punitive in nature and
26 their imposition does not in any way limit the ability of the United States to seek,
27 or the Court to impose, additional civil or criminal penalties to be paid by

1 Defendants, or remedies based on conduct that may also be the basis for payment
2 of liquidated damages pursuant to this paragraph.

3 21. Should the United States bring, and prevail in, a contempt action to
4 enforce the terms of this Decree, Defendants shall, in addition to other remedies,
5 reimburse the United States for its attorneys' fees (including overhead), travel
6 expenses incurred by attorneys and witnesses, expert witness fees, administrative
7 and court costs, investigation and analytical expenses incurred in bringing the
8 contempt action, and any other costs or fees related to the contempt proceedings.

9 22. All decisions specified in this Decree shall be vested in the discretion
10 of the FDA. FDA's decisions shall be final and, to the extent these decisions are
11 subject to review, shall be reviewed by the Court under the arbitrary and capricious
12 standard set forth in 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A). Review by the Court of any FDA
13 decision rendered pursuant to this Decree shall be based exclusively on the written
14 record before FDA at the time the decision was made. No discovery shall be taken
15 by either party.

16 23. All notifications, correspondence, and communications to FDA
17 required by the terms of this Decree shall be addressed to the Director, FDA Los
18 Angeles District Office, 19701 Fairchild, Irvine, CA 92612-2506, and shall
19 reference this civil action by case name and civil action number.

20 24. This Court retains jurisdiction over this action and the parties thereto
21 for the purpose of enforcing and modifying this Decree and for the purpose of
22 granting such additional relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

23
24 SO ORDERED:



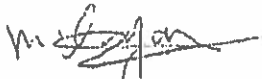
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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26 Dated this 20 day of June, 2014


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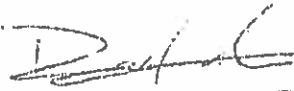
For Defendants:



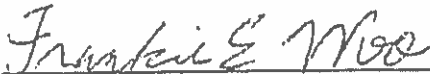
MAO L. YANG
Individually and as Owner and CEO of
GM Manufacturing, Inc.



MARY CHEN, Individually



DAVID YANG, Individually



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18 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

19
20 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 GM MANUFACTURING, INC.,
a corporation, and
24 MAO L. YANG,
MARY CHEN, and
25 DAVID YANG, individuals,

26 Defendants.

Case No.: 2:14-cv-04231

**COMPLAINT FOR
PERMANENT INJUNCTION**

27

1 Plaintiff, the United States of America, by André Birotte Jr., United States
2 Attorney for the Central District of California, respectfully represents to this
3 Honorable Court as follows:

4 **INTRODUCTION**

5 1. This action is brought by the United States of America pursuant to the
6 Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the “Act”), 21 U.S.C. § 332(a), and the
7 equitable authority of this Court, to enjoin and restrain GM Manufacturing, Inc.
8 (“GMM”), a corporation, and Mao L. Yang, Mary Chen, and David Yang,
9 individuals (collectively, “Defendants”), from violating:

10 A. 21 U.S.C. § 331(a), by introducing or delivering for
11 introduction into interstate commerce, and causing the introduction or delivery for
12 introduction into interstate commerce, articles of food (dietary supplements, as
13 defined at 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)) that are adulterated within the meaning of
14 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1); and

15 B. 21 U.S.C. § 331(k), by causing articles of food (dietary
16 supplements, as defined at 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)) to become adulterated within the
17 meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1), while such articles are held for sale after
18 shipment of one or more of their components in interstate commerce.

19 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

20 2. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 332(a) and
21 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337, and 1345, and personal jurisdiction over all parties.

22 3. Venue in this District is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) &
23 (c).

24 **DEFENDANTS**

25 4. Defendant GM Manufacturing, Inc. (“GMM”) is a California
26 corporation with its principal place of business at 1500 W 135th St, Gardena,
27 California (the “Facility”), within the jurisdiction of this Court.

1 5. Defendant Mao L. Yang is GMM's owner and Chief Executive
2 Officer. Mao Yang oversees day-to-day operations at the firm and has ultimate
3 responsibility for GMM's operations, including receipt of materials, sales, training,
4 manufacturing, and distribution. Mr. Yang performs his duties at the Facility,
5 within the jurisdiction of this Court.

6 6. Defendant Mary Chen is GMM's President. Ms. Chen is responsible
7 for purchasing supplies and materials for the firm and is a member of the firm's
8 quality control unit. Ms. Chen reports directly to Mao Yang and performs her
9 duties at the Facility, within the jurisdiction of this Court.

10 7. Defendant David Yang is an employee of GMM. David Yang is
11 responsible for preparing the firm's bottling and labeling equipment for
12 production, filing production records, and maintaining equipment, and is a member
13 of the firm's quality control unit. He reports directly to Mao Yang and performs
14 his duties at the Facility, within the jurisdiction of this Court.

15 8. Defendants have been, and are now engaged in, manufacturing,
16 preparing, labeling, packing, holding, and distributing "dietary supplements"
17 within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff).

18 9. Defendants regularly manufacture dietary supplements using
19 components that they receive from outside California. Defendants also introduce
20 or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce finished dietary supplements.

21 **DEFENDANTS ADULTERATE THEIR DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS**

22 10. The United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") inspected
23 Defendants' Facility between February 19 and March 22, 2013. This inspection
24 established that the dietary supplements Defendants manufacture, prepare, pack,
25 label, hold, and distribute are adulterated within the meaning of 21 U.S.C.
26 § 342(g)(1), in that they have been prepared, packed, and held under conditions
27

1 that do not comply with the current good manufacturing practice regulations for
2 dietary supplements (“cGMP”) set forth at 21 C.F.R. Part 111.

3 11. Manufacturing in compliance with cGMP means that the
4 manufacturer incorporates a set of controls in the design and production processes
5 to ensure a consistent quality finished product. Dietary supplements not prepared,
6 packed, or held in conformance with cGMP are deemed adulterated. 21 U.S.C.
7 § 342(g)(1).

8 12. During the February–March 2013 inspection, FDA investigators
9 documented numerous deviations from cGMP, including, but not limited to:

10 A. Defendants failed to conduct at least one appropriate test to
11 verify the identity of a dietary ingredient, as required by 21 C.F.R. § 111.75(a)(1);

12 B. Defendants failed to confirm the identity of components and to
13 determine whether other component specifications are met, as required by
14 21 C.F.R. § 111.75(a)(2);

15 C. Defendants failed to verify that finished dietary supplements
16 met product specifications for identity, purity, strength, composition, and for limits
17 on those types of contamination that may adulterate or that may lead to
18 adulteration of the finished batch of the dietary supplement, as required by
19 21 C.F.R. § 111.75(c);

20 D. Defendants failed to prepare and follow a master manufacturing
21 record for each unique formulation and batch size that includes identity
22 specifications for the points, steps, or stages in the manufacturing process where
23 control is necessary to ensure the quality of the dietary supplement, as required by
24 21 C.F.R. §§ 111.205(b)(1) and 111.210(h)(1);

25 E. Defendants failed to prepare a batch production record
26 including all necessary elements, as required by 21 C.F.R. §§ 111.255 and
27 111.260;

1 F. Defendants failed to maintain, clean, and sanitize, as necessary,
2 equipment, utensils, and other contact surfaces used to manufacture, package,
3 label, or hold components or dietary supplements, as required by 21 C.F.R.
4 § 111.27(d);

5 G. Defendants failed to establish and follow written procedures
6 that specify the responsibilities of the quality control operations, as required by
7 21 C.F.R. § 111.103; and

8 H. Defendants failed to collect and hold reserve samples of
9 packaged and labeled dietary supplements that have been distributed, as required
10 by 21 C.F.R. § 111.83(a).

11 13. The cGMP deviations documented during FDA's February–March
12 2013 inspection establish that Defendants' dietary supplements are adulterated
13 within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1).

14 14. Defendants violate 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) by introducing or delivering for
15 introduction into interstate commerce, and causing the introduction or delivery for
16 introduction into interstate commerce, articles of food (dietary supplements) that
17 are adulterated within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(g)(1).

18 15. Defendants violate 21 U.S.C. § 331(k) by causing articles of food
19 (dietary supplements) to become adulterated within the meaning of 21 U.S.C.
20 § 342(g)(1), while such articles are held for sale after shipment of one or more of
21 their components in interstate commerce.

22 **DEFENDANTS' HISTORY OF VIOLATIONS**

23 16. FDA previously inspected Defendants' Facility between January 23
24 and February 13, 2012. During the inspection, FDA observed significant
25 violations of the Act and cGMP regulations, including violations the same as or
26 similar to those observed during FDA's February–March 2013 inspection.

27

1 17. At the conclusion of the January–February 2012 inspection, the FDA
2 investigator issued to Defendant Mao Yang a List of Inspectional Observations
3 (“Form FDA 483”) detailing Defendants’ numerous violations of the Act and
4 cGMP regulations, and discussed the documented observations with him.

5 18. On July 23, 2012, FDA issued a warning letter to Defendants
6 informing them that the significant cGMP deviations documented by FDA during
7 the January–February 2012 inspection rendered Defendants’ dietary supplements
8 adulterated under the Act. The Warning Letter further cautioned that failure to
9 promptly correct the deviations, and prevent future ones, could lead to additional
10 regulatory action, including an injunction.

11 19. Based on their repeated course of conduct, Defendants, unless
12 restrained by order of this Court, will continue to violate 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) & (k).

13 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court:

14 I. Order that Defendants, and each and all of their directors, officers,
15 agents, representatives, employees, attorneys, successors, assigns, and any and all
16 persons or entities in active concert or participation with any of them, cease
17 manufacturing, preparing, processing, packing, labeling, holding, and/or
18 distributing dietary supplements at or from the Facility or at or from any other
19 location(s) at which Defendants manufacture, prepare, process, pack, label, hold,
20 and/or distribute dietary supplements, now or in the future, unless and until
21 Defendants bring their manufacturing, preparing, processing, packing, labeling,
22 holding, and/or distributing operations into compliance with the Act and cGMP;

23 II. Order that Defendants, and each and all of their directors, officers,
24 agents, representatives, employees, attorneys, successors, assigns, and any and all
25 persons or entities in active concert or participation with any of them, be
26 permanently restrained and enjoined under 21 U.S.C. § 332(a), from directly or
27 indirectly doing or causing to be done any of the following acts:

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