#### Case 1:13-cv-03675-WBH Document 1 Filed 11/07/13 Page 1 of 9

#### UNITED STATES DISRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff,

CIVIL CASE NO.

v.

Undetermined quantities of all ) articles of finished and in-process ) foods, raw ingredients (bulk powders,) bulk capsules) listed below, with any) lot number, size, or type container, ) whether labeled or unlabeled: )

Black Widow ECA XTREME FASTIN FASTIN-XR FASTIN powder FASTIN-XR bulk capsules Geranium Powder Lipodrene Lipodrene HARDCORE Lipodrene HARDCORE bulk capsules Lipodrene XR Lipodrene XTREME LIPOTHERM Methylhexamine Natural Geranium Powder 25% Stimerex-ES YELLOW SCORPION YELLOW SCORPION bulk capsules YELLOW SCORPION powder

#### and

all articles of finished and in- ) process foods, raw ingredients (bulk ) powders, bulk capsules), containing ) 1,3-Dimethylamylamine HCl(DMAA)or its) chemical equivalent, with any lot ) number, size, or type container, ) whether labeled or unlabeled which ) are determined to consist in whole ) or in part of components, by their ) labeling or otherwise, to have ) originated outside the State of ) Georgia, and are located anywhere on ) the premises of Hi-Tech ) Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 5440 Oakbrook ) Parkway, Suite A, Norcross, Georgia, ) or elsewhere within the jurisdiction ) of this Court.

Defendants.

#### COMPLAINT FOR FORFEITURE

NOW COMES the United States of America, Sally Quillian Yates, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, and Jenny R. Turner, Assistant United States Attorney for said District, respectfully state as follows:

#### NATURE OF ACTION

 That this complaint is filed by the United States of America, and requests seizure and condemnation of articles of food as described in the caption, in accordance with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act), 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. That this court has jurisdiction over an action commenced by the United States under 28 U.S.C. § 1345 and 21 U.S.C. § 334.
- 3. That there are at Norcross, Georgia in the possession of Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 540 Oakbrook Parkway, Suite

A, or elsewhere within the jurisdiction of this Court, articles which are foods within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff), which consist in whole or in part of ingredients that were shipped in interstate commerce from outside the State of Georgia.

4. That this Court has in rem jurisdiction over the articles, because they are located in the Northern District of Georgia.

#### BASIS FOR FORFEITURE

- 5. That the articles of food are adulterated after receipt in interstate commerce and while held for sale, within the meaning of the Act, 21 U.S.C. 342(a)(2)(C)(i), in that they contain the food additive DMAA or its chemical equivalent, which is unsafe within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 348.
- 6. That by reason of the foregoing, the articles are held illegally within the jurisdiction of this Court and are liable to seizure, condemnation, and forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 334.

#### FACTS

7. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) investigators initiated an inspection of Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. on October 24, 2013. During the

inspection, the investigators identified the following eleven products that were labeled as containing 1,3-Dimethylamylamine ("DMAA") or its chemical equivalent: Black Widow, ECA XTREME, FASTIN, FASTIN-XR, Lipodrene, Lipodrene HARDCORE, Lipodrene XR, Lipodrene XTREME, LIPOTHERM, Stimerex-ES, and YELLOW SCORPION. The investigators also observed bulk DMAA raw ingredients. All finished products labeled as containing DMAA or its chemical equivalent; all unlabeled, in-process material; and bulk raw ingredients were inventoried and placed under administrative detention (Order DO 0041) which was executed on November 1, 2013. The investigators collected physical samples of the detained products, photographed product containers and cases, and collected limited interstate shipping records.

- articles of food located anywhere at Hi-Tech 8. All Pharmaceuticals, Inc., labeled or identified as containing its chemical equivalent, are ingredient DMAA or the adulterated within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(a)(2)(C)(i).
- 9. Under 21 U.S.C. § 321(s), a substance intended to become a component of food is a food additive, unless (1) it is

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generally recognized among experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate its safety, as having been adequately shown to be safe under the conditions of its intended use; (2) it is subject to prior sanction; or (3) it is an ingredient described in 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff) (a dietary ingredient). The other exceptions listed in 21 U.S.C. § 321(s) do not apply.

- 10. DMAA is not a dietary ingredient, because it does not meet any of the elements in 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)(1).
- 11. DMAA is not generally recognized as safe under the conditions of use in these products. DMAA does not satisfy the second exception because it is not the subject of a sanction or approval pursuant to the Act, or the other statutes identified in 21 U.S.C. § 321(s). DMAA is, therefore, a food additive.
- 12. Under 21 U.S.C. § 348(a), a food additive is deemed unsafe unless it is used in conformity with a regulation prescribing conditions under which it may be safely used, it has been granted an exception for investigational use under 21 U.S.C. § 348(j), or it is a food contact substance. DMAA is not a food contact substance, there is no regulation prescribing the conditions under which DMAA

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may be safely used, and no exemption for investigational use has been granted under 21 U.S.C. § 348(j). Therefore, DMAA is deemed unsafe under 21 U.S.C. § 348 and, the defendant Articles containing DMAA or its chemical equivalent are deemed adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(a)(2)(C)(i).

13. By reason of the forgoing, the articles of food are held illegally within the jurisdiction of this Court and are liable to seizure and condemnation pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 334.

WHEREFORE, the United States of America prays that:

(a). a warrant of arrest issue for all articles offood as described in the caption that are located at Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals, Norcross, Georgia;

(b). condemnation and judgment be entered declaring the defendant articles of food be forfeited to the United States of America and grant plaintiff the costs of this proceeding against the claimant of the articles;

(c). defendant articles be disposed of pursuant to the provisions of the Act;

(d). and the United States of America be granted such other and further relief that the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

SALLY QUILLIAN YATES UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

JENNY TURNE R.

ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY GEORGIA BAR NO. 719439 75 SPRING STREET, S.W. SUITE 600 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303 (404)581-6084 - PHONE Jenny.turner@usdoj.gov

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#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

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Defendants.

#### VERIFICATION

)

I am Lakisha N. Morton, a Compliance Officer for the US Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Health and Human Services, and I am familiar with the investigation of this case. I hereby verify and declare under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing Verified Complaint and know the contents thereof, and the matters contained in the Verified Complaint are true to my own knowledge.

The sources of my knowledge and information and the grounds of my belief are the official files and records of the FDA, as well as my investigation of this case.

I verify and declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 6th day of November, 2013.

Lakisha N. Morton

Compliance Officer Food and Drug Administration Department of Health and Human Services

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JS44 (Rev. 1/13 NDGA)

## **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS44 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 is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket record. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

I. (a) PLAINTIFF(S)	DEFENDANT(S)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Undetermined quantities of all articles of finished and in-process foods, raw ingredients listed below, with any number, size, or type container, et al.
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF	COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)
	NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED
(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUM E-MAIL ADDRESS)	IBER, AND ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)
JENNY R. TURNER Assistant U.S. Attorney 75 Spring Street, SW, Suite600 Atlanta, GA 30303 404-581-6084 jenny.turner@usdoj.gov	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (place an "X" in one box only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (place an "x" in one box for plaintiff and one box for defendant) (for diversity cases only)
1 U.S. GOVERNMENT       3 FEDERAL QUESTION (U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT A PARTY)         2 U.S. GOVERNMENT       4 DIVERSITY (INDICATE CITIZENSHIP OF PARTIES IN ITEM III)	PLF       DEF       PLF       DEF         1       1       CITIZEN OF THIS STATE       4       4       INCORPORATED OR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THIS STATE         2       2       CITIZEN OF ANOTHER STATE       5       5       INCORPORATED AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN ANOTHER STATE         3       3       CITIZEN OR SUBJECT OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY       6       6       FOREIGN NATION
IV. ORIGIN (PLACE AN "X "IN ONE BOX ONLY) I ORIGINAL 2 REMOVED FROM 3 REMANDED FROM 4 RE PROCEEDING 2 REMOVED FROM 7 APPELLATE COURT 8	TRANSFERRED FROM EINSTATED OR 5 ANOTHER DISTRICT 6 MULTIDISTRICT 7 FROM MAGISTRATE JUDGE EOPENED (Specify District) LITIGATION JUDGMENT
V. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE U JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES U	JNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE - DO NOT CITE JNLESS DIVERSITY)
	nich are adulterated after receipt in interstate commerce
(IF COMPLEX, CHECK REASON BELOW)	
1. Unusually large number of parties.	6. Problems locating or preserving evidence

2. Unusually large number of claims or defenses.	7. Pending parallel investigations or actions by government.
3. Factual issues are exceptionally complex	8. Multiple use of experts.
4. Greater than normal volume of evidence.	9. Need for discovery outside United States boundaries.
5. Extended discovery period is needed.	10. Existence of highly technical issues and proof.

CONTINUED ON REVERSE					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY					
RECEIPT #	AMOUNT \$	APPLYING IFP	MAG. JUDGE (IFP)		
JUDGE	MAG. JUDGE(Referrel)	NATURE OF SUIT	CAUSE OF ACTION		

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VI. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

- CONTRACT "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 150 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT & ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENT □152 RECOVERY OF DEFAULTED STUDENT LOANS (Excl. Veterans)
  - VETERAN'S BENEFITS
- CONTRACT "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK

- 110 INSURANCE

   120 MARINE

   130 MILLER ACT

   140 NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT
- 151 MEDICARE ACT
- 190 OTHER CONTRACT

   195 CONTRACT PRODUCT LIABILITY

   196 FRANCHISE

**REAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY** 

- TRACK
  - 210 LAND CONDEMNATION 220 FORECLOSURE 230 RENT LEASE & EJECTMENT

  - 240 TORTS TO LAND 245 TORT PRODUCT LIABILITY 290 ALL OTHER REAL PROPERTY

TORTS - PERSONAL INJURY - "4" MONTHS

DISCOVERY TRACK

- 310 AIRPLANE

   315 AIRPLANE

   320 ASSAULT, LIBEL & SLANDER

   330 FEDERAL EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY

   340 MARINE

   345 MARINE

   345 MARINE

- 350 MOTOR VEHICLE 355 MOTOR VEHICLE 355 MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCT LIABILITY 360 OTHER PERSONAL INJURY 362 PERSONAL INJURY MEDICAL
- MALPRACTICE
- 365 PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCT LIABILITY 367 PERSONAL INJURY HEALTH CARE/
- PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT LIABILITY 368 ASBESTOS PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCT LIABILITY

#### TORTS - PERSONAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS

DISCOVERY TRACK

 370 OTHER FRAUD

 371 TRUTH IN LENDING

 380 OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY DAMAGE

 380 PROPERTY DAMAGE PRODUCT LIABILITY

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

#### BANKRUPTCY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK

422 APPEAL 28 USC 158

423 WITHDRAWAL 28 USC 157

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

- CIVIL RIGHTS "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 
   441 VOTING

   442 EMPLOYMENT

   443 HOUSING/ ACCOMMODATIONS

   444 WELFARE

   444 OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS
   445 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Employment 446 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Other 448 EDUCATION IMMIGRATION - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 462 NATURALIZATION APPLICATION PRISONER PETITIONS - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 463 HABEAS CORPUS- Alien Detaince 510 MOTIONS TO VACATE SENTENCE 530 HABEAS CORPUS 535 HABEAS CORPUS DEATH PENALTY 540 MANDAMUS & OTHER 550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed Pro se 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed Pro se 560 CIVIL DETAINEE: CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT
- PRISONER PETITIONS "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY
- TRACK 550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed by Counsel 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed by Counsel
- FORFEITURE/PENALTY "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK
  - 625 DRUG RELATED SEIZURE OF PROPERTY 21 USC 881 690 OTHER
- LABOR "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 710 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT 720 LABOR/MGMT. RELATIONS 740 RAILWAY LABOR ACT 751 FAMILY and MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

  - 790 OTHER LABOR LITIGATION 791 EMPL. RET, INC. SECURITY ACT
- PROPERTY RIGHTS "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 820 COPYRIGHTS 840 TRADEMARK

PROPERTY RIGHTS - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 830 PATENT

- SOCIAL SECURITY "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 
   861 HIA (1395ff)

   862 BLACK LUNG (923)

   863 DIWC (405(g))

   863 DIWW (405(g))

   864 PSID TITL B XVI
   864 SSID TITLE XVI 2865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 870 TAXES (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS - THIRD PARTY 26 USC 7609 OTHER STATUTES - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 375 FALSE CLAIMS ACT 400 STATE REAPPORTIONMENT 430 BANKS AND BANKING 450 COMMERCE/ICC RATES/ETC. 460 DEPORTATION 470 RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT ORGANIZATIONS 480 CONSUMER CREDIT 490 CABLE/SATELLITE TV 891 AGRICULTURAL ACTS 893 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS 
   B95 FRANCE
   B950 CONSTITUTIONALITY OF STATE STATUTES

   B90 OTHER STATUTORY ACTIONS
   899 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT / REVIEW OR APPEAL OF AGENCY DECISION OTHER STATUTES - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 410 ANTITRUST 410 ANTITICOST 850 SECURITIES / COMMODITIES / EXCHANGE **OTHER STATUTES - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY** TRACK 1896 ARBITRATION (Confirm / Vacate / Order / Modify)
  - \* PLEASE NOTE DISCOVERY TRACK FOR EACH CASE TYPE. **SEE LOCAL RULE 26.3**

UCHECK IF CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.Civ.P. 23 DEMAND \$ JURY DEMAND YES NO (CHECK YES <u>ONLY</u> IF DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT)				
VIII	. RELATED/REFILED CASE(S) IF ANY JUDGE	DOCKET NO.		

CIVIL CASES ARE DEEMED RELATED IF THE PENDING CASE INVOLVES: (CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX)

- 1. PROPERTY INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT.
- □ 2. SAME ISSUE OF FACT OR ARISES OUT OF THE SAME EVENT OR TRANSACTION INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT.
- 3. VALIDITY OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE SAME PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR TRADEMARK INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT,
- □4. APPEALS ARISING OUT OF THE SAME BANKRUPTCY CASE AND ANY CASE RELATED THERETO WHICH HAVE BEEN DECIDED BY THE SAME BANKRUPTCY JUDGE.

	5. REPETITIVE CASES FILED BY P	RO SE LITIGANTS			
	6. COMPANION OR RELATED CAS	E TO CASE(S) BEII	G SIMULTANEOUSLY FILED (INCLU	DE ABBREVIATED STYLE OF OTHF	R CASE(S)):
P				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Ш			ES IN THIS CASE WERE PREVIOUSLY		, WHICH WA
	DISMISSED. This case 11 IS	IS NOT (check on	e box) SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME CA	ASE.	
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DATE