

December 08, 2023

Via Email and WatchDox

Bardia Sergent 3333 Piedmont Road, NE, Suite 2500 Atlanta, Georgia 30341 sergentb@qtlaw.com

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request #23-F-00554: Agreements/Contracts with Boise State University regarding Dr. Erin M. Mannen's "Seated Products Characterization and Testing" (Date Range for Record Search: From 10/1/2021 To 5/1/2023)

Dear Mr. Sergent:

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking records from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). In response to your request, please find copies of the CPSC's contract number 61320620D0002 and associated Statement of Work and contract modifications, as well as Task Order Number 61320621F1014 and task order modifications.

These records are from CPSC's Office of Financial Management, Planning and Evaluation (EXFM). CPSC has established management systems under which supervisors are responsible for reviewing the work of their employees or contractors. The file information materials are final and have been prepared and accepted by CPSC staff under such review systems. CPSC believes that it has taken reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy of the information.

One responsive record is being withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemption 4, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). CPSC considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions.

Exemption 4. CPSC is prohibited from disclosing information that is exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 4. That exemption protects trade secrets and confidential commercial information directly related to a firm's business that the firm has not made public and whose disclosure could give a substantial commercial advantage to a competitor. We are withholding, in full, Task Order 0002 Proposal, which contains confidential commercial information submitted by Dr. Erin Mannen.

FOIA Administrative Procedures

Right to appeal. According to the CPSC's regulations implementing the FOIA at 16 C.F.R. § 1015.7, a partial denial of access to records may be appealed. If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively appeal in writing, addressed to FOIA APPEAL, Office of the General Counsel, ATTN: Division of Information Access, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Room 820, Bethesda, MD 20814-4408.

Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted (cpsc.gov) within 90 days of the date of the response to your request. You may also fax your appeal to 301-504-0127. You may contact us Monday – Friday from 8:00AM – 4:30PM ET, by telephone at 1-800-638-2772, by fax to 301-504-0127, or by email to cpsc-foia@cpsc.gov.

Before filing a formal appeal with the CPSC, you may contact me or one of CPSC's FOIA Public Liaisons, Korinne Super (ksuper@cpsc.gov) or Robert Dalton (rdalton@cpsc.gov), via email or at 1-800-638-2772, for any further assistance, or to discuss any aspect of your request. Assistance may include guidance on possible reformulation of your request or an alternative time frame for processing the request.

Right to Mediation. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; email: ogis@nara.gov; telephone: 202-741-5770; toll free: 1-877-684-6448; fax: 202-741-5769.

Fees. We are not charging you fees in this instance per our regulations that no fee will be charged when the total fee is equal to or less than \$25. See 16 CFR § 1015.9(g)(2)(vii).

Sincerely,

Amanda Civins Attorney Office of the General Counsel Division of Information Access

P: 301-504-7630 E: <u>acivins@cpsc.gov</u>

Enclosures: CPSC's contract number 61320620D0002 and associated Statement of Work (31 pages);

Task Order Number 61320621F1014 (Task Order 0002 Infant Lounging and Seated

Products Positioning Study) (7 pages);

Modification P00001 to Contract 61320620D0002 (2 pages); Modification P00002 to Contract 61320620D0002 (2 pages); Modification P00003 to Contract 61320620D0002 (3 pages); Modification P00001 to Task Order 61320621F1014 (2 pages); Modification P00002 to Task Order 61320621F1014 (6 pages); Modification P00003 to Task Order 61320621F1014 (3 pages); and

Modification P00004 to Task Order 61320621F1014 (2 pages)