# ALSTON&BIRD LLP CPSC Recall Snapshot



A monthly review of consumer product recalls and civil penalties announced by the CPSC

July 2014

Welcome to the July edition of the Alston & Bird CPSC Recall Snapshot.

In response to the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC's) proposed changes to the CPSC Voluntary Recall Program (VRP), Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-KS) proposed an amendment to prevent the CPSC from spending money to implement the CPSC's proposed changes to the VRP. On July 16, 2014, the House of Representatives passed the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act via H.R. 5016, which included the following:

None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the CPSC to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed rule titled "Voluntary Remedial Actions and Guidelines for Voluntary Recall Notices" (CPSC Docket No. CPSC-2013-0040).

The CPSC's proposed changes to the VRP have garnered attention from business and former CPSC members alike. Former Chairperson Anna Brown has annunciated her concerns that the CPSC's proposed changes would undermine the CPSC's Fast Track program, while former Commissioner Nancy Nord has indicated that the proposed changes are "ill advised."

Currently, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act sits with the Senate Committee on Appropriations, as it was received by the Senate on July 17, 2014, and thereafter referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

We hope you find the *Snapshot* of last month's recalls a useful tool in keeping up-to-date on the activities of the CPSC. We also invite you to check out our <u>Products Liability Blog</u>, which features important updates on CPSC and products liability issues.

Click <u>here</u> to subscribe to the *Snapshot*. For additional information or questions about CPSC issues, please email me at jenifer.keenan@alston.com.

Sincerely,

Jenifer Keenan, Esq.

Editor

### ALSTON&BIRD LLP

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#### Voluntary Recalls Announced by the CPSC in June 2014

#### NUMBER OF RECALLS BY PRODUCT CATEGORY

Housewares -5 Sporting Goods -5 Electronics -3 Appliances -2 Child/Infant -2 Furniture -2 Tools/Hardware -2 Apparel -1

PRODUCT	PRODUCT CATEGORY	ALLEGED HAZARD	REPORTED INJURIES	NUMBER OF PRODUCTS
Table Lamp <u>Press Release</u>	Housewares	Shock/Fire Hazard	0	730
Glass Knob <u>Press Release</u>	Housewares	Laceration Hazard	5	251,400
Wine Access System Press Release	Housewares	Laceration Hazard	1	65,000 U.S. 640 Can.
Fireworks Kit <u>Press Release</u>	Housewares	Impact/Burn Hazard	1	4,500
Gas Fireplace <u>Press Release</u>	Housewares	Laceration Hazard	1 (Can.)	600 U.S. 2,400 Can.
Folding Bicycle Press Release	Sporting Goods	Injury Hazard	5 (outside U.S.)	650 U.S. 20 Can.
Bicycle <u>Press Release</u>	Sporting Goods	Fall Hazard	0	2,000
Bicycle <u>Press Release</u>	Sporting Goods	Crash Hazard	0	125,200
Crossbow <u>Press Release</u>	Sporting Goods	Injury Hazard	0	9,500
Throat Collar <u>Press Release</u>	Sporting Goods	Laceration Hazard	0	3,300 (U.S.) 8,100 (Can.)
Tablet Travel Charger Press Release	Electronics	Electrocution Hazard	0	500
Emergency Reporting System Press Release	Electronics	Failure Hazard	0	175,000
Digital Piano <u>Press Release</u>	Electronics	Electrical Shock Hazard	0	640
Boiler <u>Press Release</u>	Appliances	Fire/Explosion Hazard	0	7,900 U.S. 540 Can.
Air Conditioning System Press Release	Appliances	Shock Hazard	0	100,600
Car Seat Adaptor Press Release	Child/Infant	Fall Hazard	0	265 U.S. 122 Can.
Bunk Bed <u>Press Release</u>	Child/Infant	Entrapment Hazard	0	500

PRODUCT	PRODUCT CATEGORY	ALLEGED HAZARD	REPORTED INJURIES	NUMBER OF PRODUCTS	
Ottoman <u>Press Release</u>	Furniture	Fall Hazard	6	14,000	
Glider Rocker <u>Press Release</u>	Furniture	Fall Hazard	0	350	
Sander <u>Press Release</u>	Tools/Hardware	Fire Hazard	0	440 U.S. 85 Can.	
Pneumatic Nailer <u>Press Release</u>	Tools/Hardware	Injury Hazard	0	25,000 U.S. 300 Can.	
Scarf <u>Press Release</u>	Apparel	Burn Hazard 0		324	
Riding Mower <u>Press Release</u>			1	5,300 U.S. 40 Can.	

#### Civil Penalties Announced by the CPSC in June 2014

PRODUCT	PRODUCT CATEGORY	BASIS FOR PENALTY	CIVIL PENALTY AMOUNT
Wooden Step Ladder <u>Press Release</u>	Tool/Hardware	Knowing failure to immediately report consumer reports of injuries caused by step ladders distributed from November 2005 to July 2010.  The failure to report occurred after more than 1,200 ladders were returned by customers, and after the company received at least 24 reports of injuries, including one that required surgery.	\$3.1 Million

Alston & Bird helps companies navigate the CPSC's complex regulations—from testing, to labeling, to recalls—and everything in between. We also help companies monitor and respond to complaints submitted to the CPSC's new consumer complaint database, www.SaferProducts.gov. For additional information or questions about recalls, the SaferProducts.gov database or other CPSC issues, please email <a href="mailto:jenifer.keenan@alston.com">jenifer.keenan@alston.com</a> or visit the firm's website at <a href="mailto:jhttp://www.alston.com">http://www.alston.com</a>.

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