

I.

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"),
Defendant BSH Home Appliances Corporation ("BSH"), and Plaintiffs in
Intervention Erika Salgado ("Salgado") and Michelle Hernandez ("Hernandez")
hereby stipulate and agree to entry of this Consent Decree to resolve the EEOC's
Complaint, filed under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended,
Section 706(f)(1) and (3) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended,
42 U.S.C. § 2000e-5(f)(1) and (3), and Section 102 of the Civil Rights Act of
1991, 42 U.S.C. § 1981a ("Title VII"), and to resolve Salgado's and Hernandez's
related Complaint-in-Intervention. The EEOC's Complaint alleges that BSH
subjected Salgado and Hernandez to sexual harassment and that BSH retaliated
against Salgado when she opposed and complained about the harassment.
Salgado's and Hernandez's Complaint-in-Intervention alleges Title VII and related
state law claims. BSH denies liability as to all allegations in the Complaints.

II. JURISDICTION

The Court has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this lawsuit, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sections 451, 1331, 1337, 1343, 1345, 1367 and 42 U.S.C. 2000e-5(f). The Court shall retain jurisdiction of this action during the duration of the Decree for the purposes of entering all orders, judgments and decrees which may be necessary to implement and/or enforce the relief provided herein or to otherwise effectuate the purposes of the Decree.

III. PURPOSES AND SCOPE OF THE CONSENT DECREE

- A. The parties to this Consent Decree ("Decree") are the EEOC, BSH, Salgado, and Hernandez (the "Parties"). The scope of this Decree includes BSH's Huntington Beach, California facility. This Decree shall be binding on and enforceable against BSH and its officers, directors, agents, successors and assigns.
- B. As a result of having engaged in comprehensive settlement negotiations the Parties have agreed that this action should be finally resolved by

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entry of this Decree for the following purposes:

- To avoid expensive and protracted costs incident to litigation;. 1.
- To provide a final and binding settlement upon the Parties as to 2. all claims alleged in the respective Complaints filed by the EEOC, Salgado and Hernandez;
 - To provide monetary and injunctive relief; 3.
- 4. To ensure that BSH's employment policies and procedures comply with federal law;
- To ensure training for BSH employees with respect to their 5. obligations under Title VII;
 - To prevent and correct discrimination in the workplace; 6.
- To provide effective responses to discrimination complaints; 7. and
- To prevent retaliation against employees who engage in 8. protected activities under Title VII.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION OF DECREE IV.

- The provisions and agreements contained herein are effective Α. immediately upon the date on which this Decree is entered by the Court ("the Effective Date").
- Except as otherwise provided herein, the Decree shall remain in effect B. for twelve (12) months after the Effective Date.

V. **FINDINGS**

Having examined the terms and provisions of this Decree and based on the pleadings, record and stipulation of the Parties, the Court finds the following:

- The Court has jurisdiction over the Parties and the subject matter of A. this action. The Complaint and Complaint-in-Intervention assert claims that, if proven, would authorize the Court to grant the relief set forth in this Decree.
 - The terms and provisions of this Decree are adequate, fair, В.

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reasonable, equitable and just. The rights of the EEOC, BSH, Salgado, Hernandez, and the public interest for which the EEOC seeks redress are protected adequately by this Decree.

C. This Decree conforms with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Title VII and is not in derogation of the rights and privileges of any person. The entry of this Decree will further the objectives of Title VII and will be in the best interest of the Parties.

RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS VI.

- The Parties agree that this Decree constitutes a complete resolution of Α. EEOC Charge Nos. 340A200388 and 340A200400, the Complaint and Complaintin-Intervention filed in this action. The Decree does not, however, resolve any charges of discrimination that may be pending with or brought in the future before the EEOC other than the charge specifically referred to in this paragraph.
- Nothing in this Decree shall be construed to limit or reduce BSH's B. obligation to comply fully with Title VII or any other federal employment statute.
- C. This Decree in no way affects the EEOC's right to bring, process, investigate or litigate other charges that may be in existence or may later arise against BSH in accordance with standard EEOC procedures.

VII. MONETARY RELIEF

Within ten business days after the Effective Date, BSH shall deliver to Erika Salgado and Michelle Hernandez, in care of their attorney, Carla D. Barboza of Barboza & Associates at 660 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1620, Los Angeles, California 90017, via overnight mail, a check made payable to "The Trust Account of Barboza & Associates, A.L.C." in the amount of \$75,000 to compensate them for their alleged emotional distress damages. BSH shall also mail a copy of the check to Anna Y. Park, Regional Attorney, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission at 255 East Temple Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012.

BSH shall issue a 1099 form to Barboza & Associates, A.L.C. for the B. full amount of the settlement.

VIII. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

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Non-Discrimination

BSH, its officers, agents, management (including all supervisory employees), successors, and assigns, hereby agree (1) not to engage in sexual harassment or other form of sex discrimination; (2) to prevent and correct any harassment or other discrimination on the basis of sex; and (3) to ensure that employees who complain about or resist discrimination on the basis of sex are not subjected to any tangible employment actions.

B. Anti-Retaliation

BSH, its officers, agents, management (including all supervisory employees), successors, and assigns, hereby agree not to retaliate against any current or former employee of BSH for: (a) opposing any practice made unlawful under Title VII; (b) engaging in protected activity under Title VII; (c) filing a charge of discrimination; (d) participating in any manner in any investigation (including any internal investigation undertaken by BSH) or proceeding relating to any alleged Title VII violation; (e) being identified as a possible witness or claimant pertaining to any alleged Title VII violation; (f) asserting any rights under this Decree; or (f) receiving any relief under this Decree.

C. Revision to Anti-Harassment Policy

By no later than April 1, 2005, BSH shall post in conspicuous places throughout the Huntington Beach facility the revised Sexual Harassment Policy. This Sexual Harassment policy shall also be issued to all employees during the training described in Section D.

D. Training

By no later than April 15, 2005, BSH shall provide sexual harassment training to all employees at BSH's Huntington Beach facility.

- a. All employees' training shall include coverage of the subjects of equal employment opportunity rights and responsibilities, discrimination, retaliation, and BSH's revised policies and procedures for reporting and handling complaints of discrimination and retaliation.
- b. Separate training of managerial employees shall include training on how to take preventive and corrective measures against discrimination, how to receive and investigate or report to designated officials complaints of discrimination or retaliation, and how to recognize, prevent, and correct retaliation.
- c. The law firm of Connelly Sheehan Harris shall review and approve all training materials.
- 2. BSH shall provide sexual harassment training to employees hired after April 15, 2005, within a reasonable period of time after their hire.

E. Monitoring

For any complaint of sexual harassment received by BSH's Huntington Beach facility during the term of this Consent Decree, BSH shall also have the law firm of Connelly Sheehan Harris monitor BSH's investigation and respond to the complaint.

F. Neutral References

BSH shall provide neutral letters of reference to Salgado and Hernandez. BSH will provide no further information regarding Salgado and Hernandez without a release executed by Salgado or Hernandez, respectively.

IX. RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING

BSH shall establish a record-keeping procedure that provides for the centralized tracking of complaints of discrimination and the monitoring of such complaints to prevent retaliation. The records to be maintained during the period of this Consent Decree shall include:

1. All documents generated in connection with any complaint,

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- A copy of the revised policy against discrimination and retaliation 2. and any revisions to the policy thereafter; and
- Copies of all training materials and a list of the names and positions 3. of employment of each employee who attended each training required and provided under this Decree, classified by the date and type of training (management versus non-managerial staff).

BSH shall provide copies of the aforementioned records to the EEOC within ten (10) business days following a written request by the EEOC. BSH shall provide a complete copy of the records. If BSH withholds any documents as privileged, then it shall produce a privilege log in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedures and the Local Rules for the Central District of California. The records shall be submitted to the Regional Attorney, EEOC Los Angeles District Office, 255 East Temple St., 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. If BSH does not receive any discrimination complaints between the effective date of this decree and a written request for records from the EEOC, BSH shall provide the EEOC a declaration under penalty of perjury that no complaints were received.

X. MODIFICATION AND SEVERABILITY

- This Decree constitutes the complete understanding of the Parties A. with respect to the matters contained herein. No waiver, modification or amendment of any provision of this Decree will be effective unless made in writing and signed by an authorized representative of each of the Parties.
 - If one or more provisions of the Decree are rendered unlawful or B.

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unenforceable, the Parties shall make good faith efforts to agree upon appropriate amendments to this Decree in order to effectuate the purposes of the Decree. In any event, the remaining provisions will remain in full force and effect unless the purposes of the Decree cannot, despite the Parties' best efforts, be achieved.

By mutual agreement of the Parties, this Decree may be amended or C. modified in the interests of justice and fairness in order to effectuate the provisions of this Decree.

XI. COMPLIANCE AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- The Parties expressly agree that if the EEOC has reason to believe Α. that BSH has failed to comply with any provision of this Consent Decree, the EEOC may petition this Court to enforce the Decree. Prior to initiating such petition, the EEOC will notify BSH and its legal counsel of record, in writing, of the nature of the dispute. This notice shall specify the particular provision(s) that the EEOC believes has/have been breached. Absent a showing by either party that the delay will cause irreparable harm, BSH shall have thirty days to attempt to resolve or cure the breach.
- B. The Parties agree to cooperate with each other and use their best efforts to resolve any dispute referenced in the EEOC notice.
- After thirty days have passed with no resolution or agreement to extend the time further, the EEOC may petition this Court for compliance with this Decree, seeking all available relief, including, but not limited to, the imposition of attorneys' fees and costs and an extension of the term of the Decree for such period of time as BSH is shown to be in breach of the Decree.

XII. COSTS OF ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSENT DECREE

BSH shall bear all costs associated with its administration and implementation of its obligations under this Consent Decree, including the costs of the Consultant.

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XIII. COSTS AND ATTORNEYS' FEES

Each party shall bear its own costs of suit and attorneys' fees.

XIV. COUNTERPARTS AND FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

This Decree may be signed in counterparts. A facsimile signature shall have 5 the same force and effect of an original signature or copy thereof.

6	B	Respectfully submitted,
7	Dated: February 2, 2005	U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
8		
9		Anna Y. Park
10		Regional Attorney Attorneys for Plaintiff EEOC
11	Dated: February, 2005	BSH HOME APPLIANCES CORPORATION
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13	, .	By: <u>see attached signature page</u> , President
14	Dated: February <u>6</u> , 2005	COMMELLY SHEEHAN HARRIS
15		By Docke & Onich
16		Rachel B. Cowen Attorneys for Defendant BSH
17	Dated: February, 2005	see attached signature page
18	Dated: 1 cordary, 2003	Erika Salgado Plaintiff in Intervention
19	Datad: Fahmiami 2005	see attached signature page
20	Dated: February, 2005	Michelle Hernandez Plaintiff in Intervention
21	Data de Fahrmanne 2005	
22	Dated: February, 2005	Barboza & Associates
23		By: see attached signature page Carla D. Barboza
24		Attorneys for Salgado and Hernandez
25	<u>[P</u>]	ROPOSED] ORDER
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IT IS SO ORDERED.	\mathcal{M} , $\alpha \mathcal{M}$
DATED: March 3, 2005	Margaret a Magle
	Hon Margaret A Nagle

Hon. Margaret A. Nagle United States Magistrate Judge

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XIII. COSTS AND ATTORNEYS	s' feès
Each party shall bear its own	costs of suit and attorneys' fees.
XIV. COUNTERPARTS AND FA	CSIMILE SIGNATURES
This Decree may be signed in	counterparts. A facsimile signature shall have
the same force and effect of an origi	nal signature or copy thereof.
• •	Respectfully submitted,
Dated: February, 2005	U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
	By: Anna Y. Park Regional Attorney Amorneys for Plaintiff EEOC
Dated: February <u>Z6</u> , 2005	BSH HOME APPLIANCES CORPORATION By: Sau A Carllegoir
Dated: February, 2005	By: POCY O'LC Rachel B. Cowen Attorneys for Defendant BSH
Dated: February, 2005	Erika Salgado Plaintiff in Intervention
Dated: Pebruary, 2005	Michelle Hernandez Plaintiff in Intervention
Dated: February 2005	Barboza & Associates

	FI THE PERSON NAMED IN	
Dated: February 26, 2005	BSH HOME APPLIANCES CURPORATION	
	By Shu A Gullegin	
Dated: February, 2005	CONNELLY SHEEHAN HARRIS	
	Rachel B. Cowen Attorneys for Defendant BSH	
Dated: February, 2005	·	
, 1	Erika Salgado Plaintiff in Intervention	
Dated: Pebruary, 2005		
	Michelle Hernandez Plaintiff in Intervention	
Dated: February, 2005	Barboza & Associates	
	Ву:	
,	Carla D. Barboza Attorneys for Salgado and Hernandez	
[PROPOSED] ORDER		
IT IS SO ORDERED.	•	
DATED:, 2005	TT	
,	Hon, Margaret A. Nagle United States Magistrate Judge	
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1	XIIL COSTS AND ATTORNEYS' FEES		
2	Each party shall bear its own costs of suit and attorneys' fees.		
3	XIV. COUNTERPARTS AND FACSIMILE SIGNATURES		
4	This Decree may be signed in counterparts. A facsimile signature shall hav		
5	the same force and effect of an original signature or copy thereof.		
6		Respectfully submitted,	
7	Dated: February, 2005	U.S. ROUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION	
8		Bv:	
9		Anna Y. Park Regional Afformey Attorneys for Plaintiff EEOC	
11	Dated; February , 2005	BSH HOME APPLIANCES	
	Dated, Peditizity, 2003	CORPORATION	
12		By:, President	
13 14	Distante Ruberranza 2005	CONNELLY SHEEHAN HARRIS	
15	Dated: February 2005	CONNECT I SHEDRAN HARRIS	
		By: Rachel B. Cowen Attorneys for Defendant BSH	
16		Attorneys for Defendant BSH	
17	Dated: February, 2005		
18	,	Erika Salgado Plajouff in Intervention	
19	Dated: February 14, 2005	Motheran	
20		Michelle Hernandez Plaintiff in Intervention	
21	Dated: February, 2005	Barboza & Associates	
22		By:	
23	,	Carla D. Barboza Attorneys for Salgado and Hernandez	
24	PROP	OSEDI ORDER	
25	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
26	DATED:, 2005		
27		Hon. Margaret A. Nagle United States Magistrate Judge	