

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in part 210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: April 8, 2025.

**Lisa Barton,**

*Secretary to the Commission.*

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337-TA-1329]

### Certain Audio Players and Components Thereof (I); Notice of Commission Determination To Review in Part an Initial Determination Granting Summary Determination of Invalidity and Terminating the Investigation for Good Cause; Termination of Investigation

**AGENCY:** U.S. International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission ("Commission") has determined to review in part an initial determination ("ID") (Order No. 39) issued by the presiding administrative law judge ("ALJ") granting respondent's motion for summary determination of invalidity of the asserted patent claims due to indefiniteness and also terminating the investigation for good cause. On review, the Commission vacates the ID's termination for good cause. The investigation is terminated with a finding of no violation of section 337 based on invalidity of the asserted patent claims.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carl P. Bretscher, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 205-2382. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>. For help accessing EDIS, please email [EDIS3Help@usitc.gov](mailto:EDIS3Help@usitc.gov). General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at <https://www.usitc.gov>. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the

Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Commission instituted this investigation on September 15, 2022, based on a complaint filed by Google LLC of Mountain View, California ("Google"). 87 FR 56702-703 (Sept. 15, 2022). The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337 ("section 337"), in the importation into the United States, sale for importation, or sale in the United States after importation of certain audio players and components thereof by reason of infringement of certain asserted claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 7,705,565 ("the '565 patent"); 10,593,330 ("the '330 patent"); and 10,134,398 ("the '398 patent"). *Id.* The complaint further alleges that a domestic industry exists. *Id.* The Commission's notice of investigation names Sonos, Inc. of Santa Barbara, California ("Sonos") as the respondent. *Id.* at 56703. The Office of Unfair Import Investigations was not named as a party to this investigation. *Id.*

On November 2, 2022, the Commission terminated the investigation with respect to the '565 patent. Order No. 7 (Oct. 18, 2022), *unreviewed by Comm'n Notice* (Nov. 2, 2022).

On November 30, 2022, the parties filed a joint claim construction chart, identifying the term "low power mode" among the terms in dispute. The parties filed their initial claim construction briefs on December 23, 2022, and their reply briefs on February 10, 2023. The ALJ held a *Markman* hearing on January 19, 2023.

On May 17, 2023, Sonos filed a motion for summary determination that the asserted claims of the '330 patent and the '398 patent are, *inter alia*, invalid as indefinite ("First MSD"). Google filed its opposition to Sonos's First MSD on May 30, 2023.

After the *Markman* hearing, the Commission granted the parties' multiple requests for extensions of time, in order to accommodate the Patent Trial and Appeal Board's ("PTAB") *inter partes* review ("IPR") of the patents at issue. On May 15, 2024, the PTAB issued two Final Written Decisions ("FWD"), concluding that all of the challenged claims of the asserted patents are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 318(a). *Sonos, Inc. v. Google LLC*, IPR2023-00119, Patent No. 10,593,330, Final Written Decision Determining All Challenged Claims Unpatentable (May 15, 2024); *Sonos, Inc. v. Google LLC*, IPR2023-00118, Patent No. 10,134,398, Final Written Decision Determining All

Challenged Claims Unpatentable (May 15, 2024).

On July 31, 2024, Sonos filed its second motion for summary determination of invalidity ("Second MSD") that the asserted patent claims are invalid as anticipated or obvious. Google filed its opposition to Sonos's Second MSD on August 20, 2024.

On February 4, 2025, the presiding ALJ issued an order (Order No. 35) inviting the parties to file a motion to terminate the investigation in view of the PTAB's two FWDs of invalidity. Order No. 35 (Feb. 4, 2025), *clarified in* Order No. 36 (Feb. 19, 2025).

On February 14, 2025, Sonos also moved to terminate the investigation in view of the PTAB's FWDs of invalidity. Google filed its opposition to Sonos's termination motion on February 28, 2025.

On March 7, 2025, the presiding ALJ issued a claim construction order (Order No. 37) finding that the claim term "low power mode," which is used in both of the remaining patents, is indefinite, and the asserted patent claims are thus invalid. Order No. 37 (March 7, 2025).

On March 7, 2025, the ALJ issued an order (Order No. 38) denying Sonos' Second MSD because Sonos is estopped from asserting the same prior art in the present investigation that it asserted in the PTAB proceedings. Order No. 38 (March 7, 2025) (citing 35 U.S.C. 315(e)(2)).

On March 7, 2025, the ALJ also issued the subject ID (Order No. 39) granting Sonos's First MSD of invalidity because the claim term "low power mode" is indefinite. Order No. 39 (March 7, 2025) (citing Order No. 37, *supra*). The ALJ also granted Sonos's motion to terminate the investigation for "good cause" in view of the PTAB's two FWDs of invalidity. Sonos, the ALJ found, represented that there are no agreements, written or oral, express or implied, between the parties concerning the subject matter of the investigation.

No party filed a petition for review of the subject ID.

The Commission has determined to review Order No. 39 in part. Specifically, the Commission has determined not to review, and thus adopts, the ALJ's finding that the asserted claims of the '330 patent and '398 patent are invalid because the term "low power mode" is indefinite. Accordingly, the Commission finds there is no violation of section 337, per 19 U.S.C. 1337(a)(1)(B)(1) (requiring infringement of a valid claim for a finding of violation). The Commission, however, has determined *sua sponte* to review in part Order No. 39's termination of the investigation for

“good cause.” The Commission finds that there is no basis in either Commission precedent or the Commission’s rules to terminate an investigation based on a PTAB final written decision that may still be appealed. *See Certain Network Devices, Related Software and Components Thereof (II)*, Inv. No. 337–TA–945, Comm’n Op. at 12 (Aug. 2017) (explaining that “the law is clear that patent claims are valid until the PTO issues certificates cancelling those claims, which it cannot do until the exhaustion of any appeals . . . take[n] from the PTAB’s final written decisions”). On review, the Commission has determined to vacate the ALJ’s termination for “good cause.”

The investigation is terminated based on the finding of no violation.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on April 8, 2025.

The authority for the Commission’s determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in Part 210 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: April 8, 2025.

**Lisa Barton,**

*Secretary to the Commission.*

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Drug Enforcement Administration

[Docket No. 24–12]

#### Phong H. Tran, M.D.; Decision and Order

##### Correction

In Notice document 2025–05526 beginning on page 14385 in the issue of Tuesday, April 1, 2025, make the following correction:

On page 14385, in the third column, on the 30th line from the top, replace “[insert date thirty days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**]” with “May 1, 2025.”

[FR Doc. C1–2025–05526 Filed 4–11–25; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Drug Enforcement Administration

#### Eagle Pharmacy; Decision and Order

On June 2, 2023, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA or Government) issued an Order to Show Cause (OSC) to Eagle Pharmacy of Houston, Texas (Registrant). Request for Final Agency Action (RFAA), Exhibit (RFAAX) 2, at 1, 9. The OSC proposed the revocation of Registrant’s DEA registration, No. FE4992257, alleging that Registrant’s continued registration is inconsistent with the public interest. *Id.* at 1 (citing 21 U.S.C. 823(g)(1), 824(a)(4)).

Specifically, the OSC alleges that “[Registrant] repeatedly filled prescriptions for Schedule II through V controlled substances that contained multiple red flags indicative of diversion and/or abuse without addressing or resolving those red flags, and [that Registrant’s decision] to fill those prescriptions despite unresolved red flags, . . . [violated] federal and Texas law, including 21 CFR 1306.04(a) [and] 1306.06; and Tex. Health & Safety Code § 481.074(a).” RFAAX 2, at 4.

The OSC notified Registrant of its right to file with DEA a written request for hearing within 30 days after the date of receipt of the OSC. RFAAX 2, at 8 (citing 21 CFR 1301.43(a)). The OSC also notified Registrant that if it failed to file such a request, it would be deemed to have waived its right to a hearing and be in default. *Id.* (citing 21 CFR 1301.43(c)(1)). The OSC further notified Registrant that “[a] default, unless excused, shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the [Registrant’s] right to a hearing and an admission of the factual allegations of the [OSC].” *Id.* (citing 21 CFR 1301.43(e)).

Here, the OSC was served on Registrant and its counsel on June 5, 2023. RFAAX 7. On August 2, 2023, 58 days after service of the OSC, Registrant submitted to the DEA Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ) a Request for Hearing, a Motion of Leave to File Late Answer, and an Answer to Show Cause Order (Answer). RFAAX 3–5. On August 3, 2023, a DEA Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued an Order Terminating Proceedings (Order), finding that Registrant was in default because Registrant had failed to timely request a hearing and had failed to timely show good cause to excuse the default. RFAAX 6. The ALJ’s Order explained that “because [Registrant] filed its [hearing request] more than 45 days after receiving the OSC, . . . [Registrant] can only be excused from

the default by the Office of the Administrator.” *Id.* at 3 (citing 21 CFR 1301.43(c)(1)). To date, Registrant has not filed a motion to excuse the default with the Office of the Administrator. 21 CFR 1301.43(c)(1). Accordingly, Registrant remains in default.

“In the event that a registrant . . . is deemed to be in default . . . DEA may then file a request for final agency action with the Administrator, along with a record to support its request. In such circumstances, the Administrator may enter a default final order pursuant to [21 CFR] § 1316.67.” 21 CFR 1301.43(f)(1). Here, the Government has requested final agency action based on Registrant’s default pursuant to 21 CFR 1301.43(c), (f), because Registrant has not timely requested a hearing, nor filed a motion with the Administrator seeking to excuse the default. *See also id.* § 1316.67.

#### I. Applicable Law

As already discussed, the OSC alleges that Registrant violated multiple provisions of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) and its implementing regulations. As the Supreme Court stated in *Gonzales v. Raich*, “the main objectives of the CSA were to conquer drug abuse and to control the legitimate and illegitimate traffic in controlled substances. . . . To effectuate these goals, Congress devised a closed regulatory system making it unlawful to . . . dispense[] or possess any controlled substance except in a manner authorized by the CSA.” 545 U.S. 1, at 12–13 (2005). In maintaining this closed regulatory system, “[t]he CSA and its implementing regulations set forth strict requirements regarding registration, . . . drug security, and recordkeeping.” *Id.* at 14.

The OSC’s allegations concern the CSA’s “statutory and regulatory provisions . . . mandating . . . compliance with . . . prescription requirements” and, therefore, go to the heart of the CSA’s “closed regulatory system” specifically designed “to conquer drug abuse and to control the legitimate and illegitimate traffic in controlled substances,” and “to prevent the diversion of drugs from legitimate to illicit channels.” *Id.* at 12–14, 27.

#### *The Allegation That Registrant Filled Prescriptions Without Addressing or Resolving Red Flags of Abuse and/or Diversion*

According to the CSA’s implementing regulations, a lawful prescription for controlled substances is one that is “issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of his professional