

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

In the Matter of:

F.I. FINISHING, INC.

2476 PALMA DRIVE, SUITE B  
VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93003

EPA ID Number: CAL000271368

Respondent

Docket HWCA 2011-4029

CONSENT ORDER

Health and Safety Code  
Section 25187

INTRODUCTION

The State Department of Toxic Substances Control (Department) and F.I. Finishing, Inc. (Respondent) enter into this Consent Order (Order) and agree as follows:

1. Respondent is a manufacturer of bronze statues at its facility in Ventura, California, and acted as the Importer of Record for a shipment of hazardous waste generated at its affiliate plant in Tijuana, Mexico, through the United States Customs and Border Protection, Otay Mesa Port of Entry, San Diego County.

2. On September 20, 2011, the Department conducted an inspection of Respondent's shipment at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Otay Mesa Port of Entry. Respondent presented for importation two 55-gallon capacity drums of bronze waste powder as scrap metal. Metal powders exhibiting hazardous characteristics must be managed as a hazardous waste in California.

3. Based on this inspection, the Department alleges the following violations:

3.1 Respondent violated California Code of Regulations, title 22, section

66262.11(a), in that, on or about September 20, 2011, Respondent imported bronze waste powder, a California hazardous waste, without first making a hazardous waste determination.

3.2. Respondent violated California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66262.60(a) in that, on or about September 20, 2011, Respondent imported bronze waste powder, a California hazardous waste, without following the requirements for imports of hazardous waste.

3.3 Respondent violated California Health and Safety Code section 25163(a) in that, on or about September 20, 2011, Respondent transferred custody of bronze waste powder, a California hazardous waste, to a transporter who does not hold a valid registration issued by DTSC.

4. A dispute exists regarding the alleged violations.
5. The parties wish to avoid the expense of litigation and to ensure prompt compliance.
6. Jurisdiction exists pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25187.
7. Respondent waives any right to a hearing in this matter.
8. This Order shall constitute full settlement of the violations alleged above, but does not limit the Department from taking appropriate enforcement action concerning other violations.
9. Respondent admits the facts alleged above for the purpose of any subsequent action brought pursuant to the Hazardous Waste Control Law, Health and Safety Code section 25100 et seq., within 5 years of the date the violations occurred.

## SCHEDULE FOR COMPLIANCE

10. Respondent shall comply with the following:

10.1 Respondent shall immediately cease the import of bronze waste powder, a California hazardous waste, without first making a hazardous waste determination. Respondent has provided documentation to the Department as evidence that the two 55-gallon capacity drums of bronze waste powder were transferred to an authorized hazardous waste company for proper management.

10.1.2 Respondent shall immediately cease the importation of hazardous waste without first following the requirements for the import of a California hazardous waste.

10.1.3 Respondent shall immediately cease the transfer of California hazardous waste to a non-registered transporter.

10.2 Submittals: All submittals from Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order shall be sent to:

Jose Alfredo Rios, Unit Chief  
San Diego Field Office  
Enforcement and Emergency Response Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 150  
San Diego, California 92123

10.3. Communications: All approvals and decisions of the Department made regarding such submittals and notifications shall be communicated to Respondent in writing by a Unit-Chief, Department of Toxic Substances Control, or his/her designee. No informal advice, guidance, suggestions, or comments by the Department regarding reports, plans, specifications, schedules, or any other writings by Respondent shall be

construed to relieve Respondent of its obligation to obtain such formal approvals as may be required.

10.4. Department Review and Approval: If the Department determines that any report, plan, schedule, or other document submitted for approval pursuant to this Consent Order fails to comply with the Order or fails to protect public health or safety or the environment, the Department may return the document to Respondent with recommended changes and a date by which Respondent must submit to the Department a revised document incorporating the recommended changes.

10.5. Compliance with Applicable Laws: Respondent shall carry out this Order in compliance with all local, State, and federal requirements, including but not limited to requirements to obtain permits and to assure worker safety.

10.6. Endangerment during Implementation: In the event that the Department determines that any circumstances or activity (whether or not pursued in compliance with this Consent Order) are creating an imminent or substantial endangerment to the health or welfare of people on the site or in the surrounding area or to the environment, the Department may order Respondent to stop further implementation for such period of time as needed to abate the endangerment. Any deadline in this Consent Order directly affected by a Stop Work Order under this section shall be extended for the term of such Stop Work Order.

10.7. Liability: Nothing in this Consent Order shall constitute or be construed as a satisfaction or release from liability for any conditions or claims arising as a result of past, current, or future operations of Respondent, except as provided in this Consent Order. Notwithstanding compliance with the terms of this Consent Order, Respondent may be

required to take further actions as are necessary to protect public health or welfare or the environment.

10.8. Site Access: Access to the Site shall be provided at all reasonable times to employees, contractors, and consultants of the Department, and any agency having jurisdiction. Nothing in this Consent Order is intended to limit in any way the right of entry or inspection that any agency may otherwise have by operation of any law. The Department and its authorized representatives may enter and move freely about all property at the Site at all reasonable times for purposes including but not limited to: inspecting records, operating logs, and contracts relating to the Site; reviewing the progress of Respondent in carrying out the terms of this Consent Order; and conducting such tests as the Department may deem necessary. Respondent shall permit such persons to inspect and copy all records, documents, and other writings, including all sampling and monitoring data, in any way pertaining to work undertaken pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.9. Sampling, Data, and Document Availability: Respondent shall permit the Department and its authorized representatives to inspect and copy all sampling, testing, monitoring, and other data generated by Respondent or on Respondent's behalf in any way pertaining to work undertaken pursuant to this Consent Order. Respondent shall allow the Department and its authorized representatives to take duplicates of any samples collected by Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order. Respondent shall maintain a central depository of the data, reports, and other documents prepared pursuant to this Consent Order. Respondent shall preserve all such data, reports, and other documents for a minimum of six years after the conclusion of all activities under this Consent Order.

If the Department requests that some or all of these documents be preserved for a longer period of time, Respondent shall either comply with that request, deliver the documents to the Department, or permit the Department to copy the documents prior to destruction. Respondent shall notify the Department in writing at least six months prior to destroying any documents prepared pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.10. Government Liabilities: The State of California shall not be liable for injuries or damages to persons or property resulting from acts or omissions by Respondent or related parties specified in paragraph 12.3, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Order, nor shall the State of California be held as a party to any contract entered into by Respondent or its agents in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.11. Incorporation of Plans and Reports: All plans, schedules, and reports that require Department approval and are submitted by Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order are incorporated in this Consent Order upon approval by the Department.

10.12. Extension Requests: If Respondent is unable to perform any activity or submit any document within the time required under this Consent Order, the Respondent may, prior to expiration of the time, request an extension of time in writing. The extension request shall include a justification for the delay.

10.13. Extension Approvals: If the Department determines that good cause exists for an extension, it will grant the request and specify in writing a new compliance schedule.

#### PAYMENTS:

11. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall pay to the Department a total penalty of \$4,000.00 dollars.

11.1. The penalty shall be submitted within 30 days of the effective date of this Order. Respondent's check shall be made payable to the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and shall identify the Respondent and Docket Number (HWCA 2011-4029) on the check. Respondent shall transmit the penalty payments to:

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Accounting Office  
1001 I Street, 21st floor  
P. O. Box 806  
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

A photocopy of the check shall be sent to:

Jose Alfredo Rios, Unit Chief  
San Diego Field Office  
Enforcement and Emergency Response Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 150  
San Diego, California 92123

If Respondent fails to make payment as provided above, Respondent agrees to pay interest at the rate established pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25360.1 and to pay all costs incurred by the Department in pursuing collection, including attorney's fees.

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

12.1. Additional Enforcement Actions: By agreeing to this Consent Order, the Department does not waive the right to take further enforcement actions, except to the extent provided in this Consent Order.

12.2. Penalties for Noncompliance: Failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Order may subject Respondent to civil penalties and/or punitive damages for any costs incurred by the Department or other government agencies as a result of such

failure, as provided by Health and Safety Code section 25188 and other applicable provisions of law.

12.3. Parties Bound: This Consent Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, agents, receivers, trustees, employees, contractors, consultants, successors, and assignees, including but not limited to individuals, partners, and subsidiary and parent corporations, and upon the Department and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Consent Order.

12.4. Effective Date: The effective date of this Consent Order is the date it is signed by the Department.

12.5. Integration: This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and may not be amended, supplemented, or modified, except as provided in this agreement.

Dated: 2/28/2012

// signature on file //  
Mr. Dan Rakes  
F.I. Finishing, Inc.

Dated: 3/5/2012

// signature on file //  
Jose Alfredo Rios, Unit Chief  
San Diego Field Office  
Enforcement and Emergency Response Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control