# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

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In Re:	:
VINCENT J. MENIER	:
Debtor	: Bankruptcy Case No.: 93-11662 :
STATE OF OHIO, ex rel LEE FISHER	: Adversary No.: 93-1452 :
Plaintiff	: Bankruptcy Judge
<b>v.</b>	: David F. Snow :
VINCENT J. MENIER Defendant	: Chapter 7 Proceedings : :

## JOINT STIPULATION AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Plaintiff State of Ohio ("State") and Defendant Menier ("Defendant"), having engaged in settlement discussions and reached an agreement, do hereby jointly stipulate and agree that:

1. Bankruptcy Code § 523(a)(7) provides that a discharge under section 727, does

not discharge an individual debtor from any debt "to the extent such debt is for a fine, penalty, or forfeiture payable to and for the benefit of a governmental unit and is not compensation for actual pecuniary loss, other than a tax penalty." 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(7).

- 2. In September 1993, Defendant Menier was indicted in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas for illegal storage of hazardous waste.
- 3. If Defendant is found liable to the State for payment of a penalty or fine, either by judgment of a court or by agreement, then such claim is nondischargeable, as a matter of law under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(7).
- 4. If Defendant is found liable to the State for injunctive relief for abatement to end or ameliorate pollution, then such a claim is not dischargeable in bankruptcy.
- 5. If Defendant is not found liable to the State for injunctive relief or payment of a penalty or fine, then this issue of the dischargeability of such a claim would become moot.
- 6. This Joint Stipulation shall not effect the determination of whether Defendant is in fact liable to the State.

Respectfully submitted,

LEE FISHER ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OHIO

JÓAN R. KOOISTRA (0055226) Assistant Attorney General Environmental Enforcement 30 East Broad Street, 25th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43266-0410 (614) 466-2766

Attorney for Plaintiff

zer telephone

THOMAS C. PAVLIK (0017305) Culhorization Rubenstein, Novak, Einbund, Orthen Pavlik & Celebrezze Skylight Office Tower 1660 West Second Street Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 781-8700

Attorney for Defendant

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing *Joint Stipilation and Settlement* Agreement was served by regulare U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on this <u>12</u> day of February, 1994 upon:

William M. Ondrey Gruber City of Cleveland Room 106, City Hall 601 Lakeside Ave. Cleveland, Ohio 44114

U.S. EPA , Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604-3507

City of Cleveland Water Department 1201 Lakeside Avenue Cleveland, OH 44113 U.S. EPA Waterside Mall 401 M Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20460

U.S. EPA District Office 25089 Center Ridge Cleveland, Oh 44145

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JOAN R. KOOISTRA Assistant Attorney General



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Bankruptcy Case No.: 93-11662
· • • •
Adversary No.: 93-1452
<b>.</b>
Bankruptcy Judge
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#### JUDGMENT ENTRY

On September 29, 1993, the State, on behalf of Ohio EPA, filed a complaint objecting to the discharge of any debt owed to Ohio EPA. On October 25, 1993, Debtor Menier filed an Answer. The parties, having engaged in settlement discussions and reached agreement, filed a Joint Stipulation and Settlement Agreement whereby the parties agreed that:

- 1. Bankruptcy Code § 523(a)(7) provides that a discharge under section 727, does not discharge an individual debtor from any debt "to the extent such debt is for a fine, penalty, or forfeiture payable to and for the benefit of a governmental unit and is not compensation for actual pecuniary loss, other than a tax penalty." 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(7).
- 2. In September 1993, Defendant Menier was indicted in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas for illegal storage of hazardous waste.
- 3. If Defendant is found liable to the State for payment of a penalty or fine, either by judgment of a court or by agreement, then such claim is nondischargeable, as a matter of law under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(7).
- 4. If Defendant is found liable to the State for injunctive relief for abatement to end or ameliorate pollution, then such a claim is not dischargeable in bankruptcy.
- 5. If Defendant is not found liable to the State for injunctive relief or payment of a penalty or fine, then this issue of the dischargeability of such a claim would become moot.
- 6. This Joint Stipulation shall not effect the determination of whether Defendant is in fact liable to the State.

Now therefore, it is hereby ORDERED THAT:

- 1. If Defendant is found liable to the State for payment of a penalty or fine, either by judgment of a court or by agreement, then such claim is nondischargeable, as a matter of law under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(7).
- 2. If Defendant is found liable to the State for injunctive relief for abatement to end or ameliorate pollution, then such a claim is not dischargeable in bankruptcy.

ORDERED this 28 day of \_\_\_\_\_ ? S.

Judge David F. Snow