IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MARYLAND FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FORBES COUP	:	
Plaintiff	:	
v.	:	C.A. No. 49704
CONNECTICUT VALLEY ARMS, INC.	:	
and	:	
TOM SOTORIS d/b/a THE ROCKVILLE TRADING POST	:	
Defendants	:	

CONNECTICUT VALLEY ARMS, INC.'S
ANSWERS TO THE PLAINTIFF'S INTERROGATORIES

TO: FORBES COUP
c/o Kornblut & Sokolove
2 Wisconsin Circle, Suite 1000
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

FROM: CONNECTICUT VALLEY ARMS, INC.
c/o Douglas A. Datt, Esq.
Gleason and Flynn, Chartered
751 Rockville Pike, Suite 15A
Rockville, Maryland 20852

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FILED
BETTIE A. SKELTON
CLERK'S OFFICE
MONTGOMERY CO. MD.

1. Identify all persons who provided information preparation of the responses to these Interrogatories.

ANSWER: Robert Hickey, Counsel for Connecticut Valley Arms. Inc.

2. Identify all individuals that have knowledge of the facts in this case, and of those, please state which individuals you intend to call as witnesses in this case stating their address and phone number.

ANSWER: Connecticut Valley objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information

protected by the attorney/client privilege, work product doctrine or other applicable privileges. Not withstanding that objection, Connecticut Valley responds as follows: Plaintiff, Robert Hickey. Discovery has not been completed and this response will be supplemented if additional information is obtained.

3. For each person whom you expect to call to give expert testimony at trial, provide all information identified under Rule 2-402(e)(1)(A).

ANSWER: Defendant will supplement this Interrogatory at the appropriate time.

4. Identify all consultant and/or experts, other than those identified in the preceding Interrogatory, with whom you have consulted in this case or will be consulting.

ANSWER: Connecticut Valley objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information subject to the attorney/client privilege, work product doctrine or other applicable privileges. Not withstanding this objection, Connecticut Valley responds as follows: Defendant will supplement this response at the appropriate time.

5. Identify all persons who have knowledge of the facts supporting your contentions and defenses in this case.

ANSWER: Defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information subject to the attorney/client privilege, work product doctrine or other applicable privileges. Not withstanding this objection,

defendant states as follows: Robert Hickey, counsel for Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc. Discovery is ongoing and this Interrogatory will be supplemented at the appropriate time.

6. Describe in detail the factual basis for each and every defense asserted by you in this case.

ANSWER: Defendant is unable to provide the complete factual basis for each and every defense presently asserted because discovery has not been completed. Based on its present knowledge of the facts, defendant responds as follows: Plaintiff either contributed to the accident or assumed the risk of the accident based on the manner in which he was utilizing the CVA Flask. Plaintiff was trying to start a fire in the fireplace in the cabin in which he was staying and did not utilize the CVA Flask in the appropriate manner. Plaintiff thus did not use the product for its intended purpose. This defendant is presently unaware of what information was provided to the plaintiff concerning the use of this flask at the store where the flask was purchased. This defendant did not warrant the use of this flask for the manner in which it was utilized by the plaintiff. The factual basis for any other defense will be supplemented as discovery is completed.

7. Identify the manufacturer and/or designer of the CVA Flask 30 Grain Spout, identification number AC1399 (hereinafter 'CVA Flask").

ANSWER: The designer of the flask is unknown. The

manufacturer of the flask is David Pedersoli and Son located in Gardonne, Italy.

8. Describe your business relationship with the manufacturer and/or designer of the CVA Flask. If you do not maintain a direct business relationship with the manufacturer and/or designer of the CVA Flask, describe fully and identify all persons involved in the stream of commerce by which you come into possession of the CVA Flask. Include in your answer the person from whom you purchased the flask.

ANSWER: CVA purchases the flask in bulk from David Pedersoli and Son via purchase order.

9. Identify all information provided to you relating to the manufacture and/or design of the CVA Flask. Identify all persons providing said information to you.

ANSWER: If any information is provided to CVA, it would be provided by the manufacturer. At present, CVA has no information concerning the manufacture or design of the CVA flask but a continuing search of the files is being conducted.

10. Identify all persons who have stated or alleged that a defect or deficiency exists or existed in the CVA Flask. Include the date of the statement of allegation, and describe fully the substance of the allegation or statement.

ANSWER: This defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information not relevant to this action nor reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissable evidence. Not withstanding that objection,

defendant states as follows: No person has alleged a defect or deficiency that exists or existed in the CVA Flask under the circumstances as alleged in this Complaint.

11. Identify and describe fully each and every legal proceeding involving the CVA Flask to which you have been a party.

ANSWER: Defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information not relevant to this action nor reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissable evidence. Further, defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it is unnecessarily burdensome or oppressive. Not withstanding these objections, defendant states as follows: There have been no legal proceedings involving the CVA Flask under circumstances similar to those alleged in this Complaint.

12. List all standards pertaining to the design and/or manufacture of the CVA Flask including all industry standards, local, state, federal, national or international standards.

ANSWER: Defendant objects to this Interrogatory because it is unnecessarily burdensome, oppressive and this information is equally available to plaintiff notwithstanding said objections, defendant states as follows: This defendant neither designs nor manufactures the CVA Flask. The requested information can be obtained from the manufacturer.

13. Describe fully your efforts to determine the safety of each CVA Flask distributed or sold by you. Include all

efforts pertaining to quality control of the design and manufacturing processes for the CVA Flask. Identify all persons involved in said efforts. Identify all information on which you relied to make said determination. (Sold as identified in this question includes retail and/or wholesale sales whether individually or in bulk.)

ANSWER: CVA does not design or manufacture the CVA Flask and thus is not involved in the quality control of either the design or manufacturing process. Flasks similar to the CVA Flask in question have been safely used for over 200 years. The flasks are examined when initially purchased to determine if they are functioning properly. Robert Hickey possesses information in that regard and the specific individual involved in the process will be identified.

14. Identify all persons involved in the design and/or manufacture of the CVA Flask. For each person involved, state his or her involvement and prior experience and/or qualifications.

ANSWER: As previously stated, defendant does not design or manufacture the CVA Flask. That information can be obtained from the manufacturer, David Pedersoli and Son.

15. List and describe each and every flask type sold or distributed by CVA. Identify the difference between the flask types and explain the reasons for these differences.

ANSWER: See attached catalog which describes the various flasks sold by this defendant.

16. Describe all design and/or manufacturing changes to the CVA Flask from the date on which you first sold or distributed the CVA Flask to the present.

ANSWER: Defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information not relevant to this action nor reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissable evidence. Not withstanding that objection, defendant states that it does not design or manufacture the CVA Flask and has no knowledge concerning any changes made in the design or manufacture of the flask.

17. Identify any and all plans, blueprints, drawings, specifications, records, reports, memoranda, studies, tests and other written or recorded documents relating to the design of the flask and/or the manufacture of the flask.

ANSWER: This defendant does not design or manufacture the flask and has no knowledge of the drawings, records or other documents relating to the design or manufacture of the flask.

I SOLEMNLY AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE FOREGOING PAPER ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

Robert Hickey, President
Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

GLEASON AND FLYNN, CHARTERED

Douglas A. Datt
751 Rockville Pike, Suite 15A
Rockville, Maryland 20852
(301)424-8833
Counsel for Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICES

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Answers to Interrogatories was mailed, first class, postage prepaid, this 5th day of July, 1990, **to:**

Gary K. Stearman, Esq.
2 Wisconsin Circle, Suite 1000
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Kevin H. Brown, Esq.
Law Offices of Harold A. MacLaughlin
2 N. Charles Street, Suite 930
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Douglas A. Datt