UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of  
CERTAIN REFRIGERATOR WATER FILTRATION DEVICES AND COMPONENTS THEREOF  
Investigation No. 337-TA-1290

NOTICE OF COMMISSION DECISION NOT TO REVIEW AN INITIAL DETERMINATION FINDING CERTAIN RESPONDENTS IN DEFAULT


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined not to review an initial determination (“ID”) (Order No. 22) of the presiding Chief Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) finding respondents Freshlab LLC (“Freshlab”) of Gainesville, Florida; Isave Strategic Marketing Group LLC d/b/a Isave (“Isave”) of New York, New York; GT Sourcing Inc. d/b/a GT Sourcing (“GT Sourcing”) of Monsey, New York; and Refresh Filters LLC d/b/a Refresh My Water (“Refresh Filters”) of New York, New York (collectively, “the Defaulting Respondents”) in default.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Houda Morad, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 708-4716. 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. 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: On January 21, 2022, the Commission instituted this investigation under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337 (“section 337”), based on a complaint filed by LG Electronics Inc. of Seoul, South Korea and LG Electronics Alabama, Inc. of Huntsville, Alabama (collectively, “Complainants”). See 87 FR 3331-33 (Jan. 21, 2022). The complaint, as supplemented, alleges a violation of section 337 based upon the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain refrigerator water filtration devices and components thereof by reason of infringement of certain claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 10,653,984; 10,639,570; and 10,188,972. See id. In addition to the Defaulting Respondents, the notice of investigation names the following respondents: Clearwater Filters of Lakewood, New Jersey; Express Parts LLC of Keyport, New Jersey; Zhang Ping of Dongyang, China; Jiangsu Angkua Environmental Technical Co., Ltd., of Nantong, China; Liu Qi of Luliang City, China;
On April 12, 2022, the Commission terminated the investigation as to JJ Imports based on the entry of a consent order. See Order No. 14 (Mar. 30, 2022), unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Apr. 12, 2022).

On March 29, 2022, Complainants filed a motion (“Motion”) pursuant to Commission Rule 210.16 (19 CFR 210.16) for an order directing the Defaulting Respondents to show cause why they should not be found in default for failing to respond to the complaint and notice of investigation. The Motion indicates that Complainants effected service of the complaint and notice of investigation on the Defaulting Respondents on January 21 and 24, 2022. On April 1, 2022, OUII filed a response in support of the Motion.

On April 4, 2022, the Chief ALJ issued an order (Order No. 15) requiring the Defaulting Respondents to show cause as to why they should not be held in default for failing to respond to the complaint and notice of investigation. No response was received from the Defaulting Respondents.

On April 7, 2022, the Chief ALJ issued the subject ID (Order No. 22) finding the Defaulting Respondents in default pursuant to Commission Rule 210.16, for failure to respond to the complaint, notice of investigation, and order to show cause. No petition for review of the subject ID was filed.

The Commission has determined not to review the subject ID. Respondents Freshlab, Isave, GT Sourcing, and Refresh Filters have been found in default.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on June 28, 2022.

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).
While temporary remote operating procedures are in place in response to COVID-19, the Office of the Secretary is not able to serve parties that have not retained counsel or otherwise provided a point of contact for electronic service. Accordingly, pursuant to Commission Rules 201.16(a) and 210.7(a)(1) (19 CFR 201.16(a), 210.7(a)(1)), the Commission orders that the complainant(s) complete service for any party/parties without a method of electronic service noted on the attached Certificate of Service and shall file proof of service on the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS).

By order of the Commission.

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: June 28, 2022