



APRIL

Child Abuse Prevention Month

COUNTY OF FRESNO

**Lisa A. Smittcamp
District Attorney**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2019

WALMART AGREES TO PAY \$495,000 IN COSTS AND CIVIL PENALTIES FOR SELLING PRODUCTS PACKAGED IN OVERSIZED CONTAINERS

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office, along with the Placer, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Tulare and Yolo County District Attorneys' Offices, reached a settlement with Walmart, Inc. in a civil enforcement action related to the sales of health and beauty products. The civil complaint filed by prosecutors alleged that Walmart packaged 14 of its health and beauty products in oversized containers which could have misled consumers into believing that they were purchasing more of the product than they were actually receiving. There are twelve Walmart stores in Fresno County.

The settlement was approved by Santa Cruz County Superior Court Judge Paul Burdick on March 12, 2019. Walmart cooperated with the investigation and, without admitting wrongdoing, agreed to improve its packaging practices and to pay \$495,000 in costs and penalties.

Fresno County Deputy District Attorney Ty Murphy stated, "Consumers throughout the State should be able to expect that the products they purchase are not packaged in misleading ways. We are dedicated to ensuring that consumers are not harmed by these types of practices, and we will continue to prosecute companies that violate consumer protection laws"

The Media may email FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us or contact Administrative Assistant Leslie Gillespie at (559) 600-4442 with questions.

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