



UNITED STATES  
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
BETHESDA, MD 20814

COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.

**December 20, 2023**

Jamie Iannone  
Chief Executive Officer  
eBay  
2025 Hamilton Avenue  
San Jose, California 95125

Dear Mr. Iannone,

EBay currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission's warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that eBay follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> "Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, a number of water beads products were available for sale on eBay's website.<sup>5</sup> I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products on eBay's website.

If instead eBay plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that eBay currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products eBay has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units eBay has sold of each product, and
3. A description of eBay's plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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<sup>5</sup> See, e.g. "Orbeez Water Beads, The One and Only, 75,000 Rainbow Bulk Seeds," available at: [https://www.ebay.com/itm/186177419766?hash=item2b5909f9f6:g:zwIAAOSwjWplXvo6&amdata=enc%3AAQAIAAAawLDY8MaHEMnehrZPaWP8ZAPTQ0c7elCOWQ4I8JNII5KtvXQogXngy8OPTLMD%2Fd585o44YvVIhgFdOWn%2Fbv30yCFUTUAe1C44k25khP8cE0SQ8rrGLNW%2Bh%2FG4qm2s2yJ8j41zeKplOK1H3kGulV3nEVGpgHg0J78FRVBUr%2FX8ga9nq8g%2FEgKbrgimshpIj%2F%2Fo0s0FKvvpzr5DG2LhvroES74%2BtGV8Pa%2B9RXRMGkSqFngsuSSn4%2F XuHv%2FAM77SSEm9g%3D%3D%7Ctkp%3ABk9SR\\_7kx62QYw](https://www.ebay.com/itm/186177419766?hash=item2b5909f9f6:g:zwIAAOSwjWplXvo6&amdata=enc%3AAQAIAAAawLDY8MaHEMnehrZPaWP8ZAPTQ0c7elCOWQ4I8JNII5KtvXQogXngy8OPTLMD%2Fd585o44YvVIhgFdOWn%2Fbv30yCFUTUAe1C44k25khP8cE0SQ8rrGLNW%2Bh%2FG4qm2s2yJ8j41zeKplOK1H3kGulV3nEVGpgHg0J78FRVBUr%2FX8ga9nq8g%2FEgKbrgimshpIj%2F%2Fo0s0FKvvpzr5DG2LhvroES74%2BtGV8Pa%2B9RXRMGkSqFngsuSSn4%2F XuHv%2FAM77SSEm9g%3D%3D%7Ctkp%3ABk9SR_7kx62QYw)



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CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
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COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.

**December 20, 2023**

David Green  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
Hobby Lobby  
7600 A SW 44th St.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73179

Dear Mr. Green,

Hobby Lobby currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission's warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that Hobby Lobby follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> "Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, at least two water beads products (SKU: 2280832 and SKU: 491738) were available for sale on Hobby Lobby's website.<sup>5</sup> I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products at any Hobby Lobby store locations or Hobby Lobby's website.

If instead Hobby Lobby plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that Hobby Lobby currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products Hobby Lobby has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units Hobby Lobby has sold of each product, and
3. A description of Hobby Lobby's plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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<sup>5</sup> "Sensory Jars" (available at: <https://www.hobbylobby.com/Crafts-Hobbies/Kids-Crafts-Activities/Sensory/Sensory-Jars/p/81136918?queryId=2d6230191130269a1fc6d23c4eb01a83>) and Crystal Accents Deco Beads (available at: [https://www.hobbylobby.com/search?HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BhitsPerPage%5D=12&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bfacets%5D%5B0%5D=%2A&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bdistinct%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BfacetingAfterDistinct%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BtypoTolerance%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bquery%5D=water%20beads&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BclickAnalytics%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bfilters%5D=&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BuserToken%5D=37c2e2f25c59487189b3a4507bd993581703088485318&HLNextGenEcommIndex\\_prd%5Bpage%5D=1](https://www.hobbylobby.com/search?HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BhitsPerPage%5D=12&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bfacets%5D%5B0%5D=%2A&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bdistinct%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BfacetingAfterDistinct%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BtypoTolerance%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bquery%5D=water%20beads&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BclickAnalytics%5D=true&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5Bfilters%5D=&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bconfigure%5D%5BuserToken%5D=37c2e2f25c59487189b3a4507bd993581703088485318&HLNextGenEcommIndex_prd%5Bpage%5D=1)).



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**COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.**

**December 20, 2023**

Scott Sekella and Chris DiTullio  
Co-Leads, Interim Office of the CEO  
Jo-Ann Stores, LLC  
5555 Darrow Road  
Hudson, OH 44236

Dear Mr. Sekella and Mr. DiTullio,

Jo-Ann Stores currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission's warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that Jo-Ann follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> "Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, at least one water beads product (a “Sensory Bin,” Item #18659102) was available for sale on Jo-Ann’s website. I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products at any Jo-Ann store locations or Jo-Ann’s website.

If instead Jo-Ann plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that Jo-Ann currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products Jo-Ann has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units Jo-Ann has sold of each product, and
3. A description of Jo-Ann’s plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Trumka Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission



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**COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.**

**December 20, 2023**

Thomas Kingsbury  
Chief Executive Officer  
Kohl's  
N56 W17000 Ridgewood Drive  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Dear Mr. Kingsbury,

Kohl's currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission's warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that Kohl's follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> "Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, at least one water beads product (a “Sensory Beads Play Set”) was available for sale on Kohl’s website.<sup>5</sup> I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products at any Kohl’s store locations or Kohl’s website.

If instead Kohl’s plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that Kohl’s currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products Kohl’s has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units Kohl’s has sold of each product, and
3. A description of Kohl’s plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Trumka Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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<sup>5</sup> “Dinosaur Water Sensory Beads Play Set with Dinosaur Figures and Container Storage,” *Dazmers*, available at: <https://www.kohls.com/product/prd-6694088/dinosaur-water-sensory-beads-play-set-with-dinosaur-figures-and-container-storage.jsp?skuid=71768595>





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COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.

**December 20, 2023**

Ashley Buchanan  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Michaels Companies  
3939 W John Carpenter Fwy  
Irving, TX 75063

Dear Mr. Buchanan,

Michaels currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission's warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that Michaels follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> "Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, at least one water beads product (Item #10184069) was available for sale on Michaels's website.<sup>5</sup> I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products at any Michaels store locations or Michaels's website.

If instead Michaels plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that Michaels currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products Michaels has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units Michaels has sold of each product, and
3. A description of Michaels's plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Trumka Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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<sup>5</sup> "Water Beads by Ashland" (available at: <https://www.michaels.com/product/water-beads-by-ashland-10184069>).



UNITED STATES  
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4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
BETHESDA, MD 20814

COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.

December 20, 2023

Chris Xu  
Chief Executive Officer  
Shein  
112 Robinson Rd  
Singapore

Dear Mr. Xu,

Shein currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission's warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that Shein follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> "Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target," *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, "Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children," *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, a number of water beads products were available for sale on Shein's website.<sup>5</sup> I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products on Shein's website.

If instead Shein plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that Shein currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products Shein has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units Shein has sold of each product, and
3. A description of Shein's plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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<sup>5</sup> See, e.g. "7000pcs/bag Pearl Shaped Hydrogel Crystal Soil Water Beads Bio Gel Mud Grow Magic Jelly Balls For Flower Wedding Home Decor," SKU: sh2306077291651648, available at: [https://us.shein.com/7000pcs-bag-Pearl-Shaped-Hydrogel-Crystal-Soil-Water-Beads-Bio-Gel-Mud-Grow-Magic-Jelly-Balls-For-Flower-Wedding-Home-Decor-p-17420034-cat-6115.html?src\\_identifier=st%3D2%60sc%3Dwater%20beads%60sr%3D0%60ps%3D1&src\\_module=search&src\\_tab\\_page\\_id=page\\_home1703002726342&mallCode=1&imgRatio=3-4](https://us.shein.com/7000pcs-bag-Pearl-Shaped-Hydrogel-Crystal-Soil-Water-Beads-Bio-Gel-Mud-Grow-Magic-Jelly-Balls-For-Flower-Wedding-Home-Decor-p-17420034-cat-6115.html?src_identifier=st%3D2%60sc%3Dwater%20beads%60sr%3D0%60ps%3D1&src_module=search&src_tab_page_id=page_home1703002726342&mallCode=1&imgRatio=3-4)



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COMMISSIONER RICH TRUMKA JR.

**December 20, 2023**

Jun “Joe” Yan  
Chief Executive Officer  
ContextLogic Inc. (d/b/a Wish)  
One Sansome Street, 33rd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Mr. Yan,

Wish currently has water beads listed for sale on its website, despite the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s warning that they are unsafe for small children and can be deadly if swallowed. Between 2016 and 2022, hospital emergency departments reported treating at least 7,800 water bead incidents, and CPSC is aware of at least one child who died after consuming a water bead, in July 2023.<sup>1</sup> In response to that death, CPSC announced a recall of the product responsible: the Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits.<sup>2</sup> CPSC also received a report that the same water beads product seriously injured a second child, causing an intestinal obstruction that required surgery to remove.<sup>3</sup>

I am writing to request that Wish follow the lead of other major retailers such as Amazon, Target, and Walmart and commit to stop selling water beads due to the high risk they pose to small children.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Water Beads, *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Water-Beads-Information-Center>).

<sup>2</sup> “Buffalo Games Recalls Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits Due to Serious Ingestion, Choking and Obstruction Hazards; One Infant Death Reported; Sold Exclusively at Target,” *Consumer Product Safety Commission* (Sept. 14, 2023) (available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Buffalo-Games-Recalls-Chuckle-Roar-Ultimate-Water-Beads-Activity-Kits-Due-to-Serious-Ingestion-Choking-and-Obstruction-Hazards-One-Infant-Death-Reported-Sold-Exclusively-at-Target>).

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Lauren Kirchner, “Amazon, Target, and Walmart Announce They Will Stop Selling Water Beads Marketed for Children,” *Consumer Reports* (Dec. 12, 2023)(available at: <https://www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/toys/amazon-to-stop-selling-water-bead-toys-a2333261526/>).

As recently as December 19th, a number of water beads products were available for sale on Wish's website.<sup>5</sup> I request your written commitment to immediately stop selling any water beads products on Wish's website.

If instead Wish plans to continue selling water beads products, I request that you provide:

1. A list of all water beads products that Wish currently offers for sale,
2. An accounting of all water beads products Wish has historically offered for sale, along with the number of units Wish has sold of each product, and
3. A description of Wish's plans for future sales of water beads.

Please send your response by December 29th to Kaylee Niemasik at [KNiemasik@cpsc.gov](mailto:KNiemasik@cpsc.gov).

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Trumka Jr.', is positioned above the typed name.

Richard L. Trumka Jr.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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<sup>5</sup> See, e.g. "Bag Pearl Shaped Crystal Soil Water Beads Color Elastic Water Absorption Bead Gel Ball for Flower/Weeding/Mud/Grow Home Decoration Jelly Balls Bonsai Viewing 10000/100Pcs," available at: <https://www.wish.com/search/water%20beads/product/5fe24b2ff87c8bb254016bd4?source=search&position=2>