#### **Identifying Information:**

Designer Brands is one of North America's largest designers, producers and retailers of footwear and accessories. Headquartered in the United States, Designer Brands generated over \$3 billion in revenue and employed an average of more than 3,000 full time employees worldwide during its 2023 financial year, January 29, 2023 – January 28, 2024. Designer Brands is classified as a public corporation that does business in the footwear retail industry. This is a joint report covering the following Designer Brands entities: DSW Shoe Warehouse, Inc. eTailDirect LLC, DSW Leased Businesses Division LLC, VCJSLLC, Vincent Camuto LLC, Designer Brands Canada, and ToPo ATHLETIC LLC.

# 1) Steps Taken to Reduce the Risk of Forced/Child Labor

As an organization, Designer Brands has taken steps to prevent and reduce the risk that forced labor or child labor is used at any step of the production of its goods. As part of Designer Brands' commitment to fair and just business practices, we have developed a Vendor Code of Conduct that we require all our business partners to adhere to. We have always integrated ethical concerns into our business practices. In light of this, we have formalized certain principles into a Vendor Code of Conduct. This Vendor Code of Conduct states our expectations for each business with which we have vendor relationships, including expectations of no child or forced labor.

Designer Brands Inc. requires all suppliers and factories to actively participate and be compliant with the following corporate responsibility programs.

- Social Compliance Vendor & Supplier Code of Conduct
- Human Trafficking & Slavery in Supply Chains

Designer Brands Inc. holds each of its private label and FOB suppliers accountable for ensuring that all Designer Brands, Inc merchandise is produced in full compliance with the standards specified in the Designer Brands Inc. Compliance Program, by requiring full participation in our corporate social responsibility programs.

DBI's sourcing organization has performed select risk-based supply chain tracing along with contracting an external assessment of risks of forced labor and child labor in DBI's activities and supply chains. The organization has developed and implemented an action plan for addressing forced labor and child labor. We have processes in place to gather information on worker recruitment and maintain internal controls to ensure that all workers are recruited voluntarily. Developing and implementing due diligence policies and processes for identifying, addressing and prohibiting the use of forced labor and/or child labor in the DBI's activities and supply chains has occurred. The business has carried out a prioritization exercise to focus due diligence efforts on the most severe risks of forced and child labor. Through Terms and Conditions, a Vendor Code of Conduct, and Subcontracting and Supply Chain Traceability policies, DBI has developed and implemented anti-forced labor and -child labor contractual clauses along with codes of conduct. Additionally, DBI audits suppliers, has implemented grievance mechanisms, and engages with civil society groups, experts, and other stakeholders on the issue of addressing forced labor and child labor.

### 2)Due Diligence

Designer Brands currently has policies and due diligence processes in place related to forced labor and child labor. As part of our due diligence process, DBI has embedded responsible business conduct into our policies and management systems. These policies and systems include a Vendor Code of Conduct, Terms of Purchase, PO requirements, and Subcontracting and Supply Chain Traceability. Additionally, DBI is a signatory to the American Apparel & Footwear Association/Fair Labor Association Apparel & Footwear Industry Commitment to Responsible Recruitment. We are working to cease, prevent, and mitigate adverse impacts, track implementation and results, communicate how impacts are addressed, and provide for remediation when appropriate.

### 3) Risk Identification

As a business, Designer Brands has a process of identifying parts of our activities and supply chains that carry a risk of forced labor or child labor being used in the retail trade sector. These processes allow us to screen for potential areas of risk for forced and child labor associated with the type of product we produce, sell, distribute, or import, locations of our activities, operations or factories, tier one, two and three suppliers, and the use of migrant, forced and child labor. To date, all identified supply chain risks were geographic or historical in nature. As these risks fell outside of DBI specific production, remediation has not been warranted.

#### 4) Remediating Forced or Child Labor

No remediation activities have been taken because no instances of forced or child labor have been identified.

# 5) Remediating Loss of Income to Most Vulnerable Families

To date, Designer Brands has not identified any loss of income to vulnerable families resulting from measures taken to eliminate the use of forced labor or child labor in our activities and supply chains.

#### 6) Effectiveness

Currently DBI has policies and procedures in place to assess its effectiveness in ensuring that forced labor and child labor are not being used in our activities and supply chains. To assess our effectiveness, Designer Brands tracks relevant performance indicators, such as levels of employee awareness, numbers of cases reported and solved through grievance mechanisms and numbers of contracts with anti-forced labor and -child labor clauses. Additionally, DBI partners with an external organization to conduct an independent review or audit of the organization's actions. To ensure effectiveness in our sourcing base, we work with suppliers to measure the effectiveness of their actions to address forced labor and child labor, including by tracking relevant performance indicators. As a company, Designer Brands does not currently provide training to employees on forced or child labor.

In accordance with the requirements of the Act, and in particular section 11 thereof, I attest that I have reviewed the information contained in the report for the entity or entities listed above. Based on my knowledge, and having exercised reasonable diligence, I attest that the information in the report is true, accurate and complete in all material respects for the purposes of the Act, for the reporting year listed above.

Full name: Douglas M. Howe

Title: Director

Date: May 17, 2024

RH

I have the authority to bind Designer Brands Canada Inc. and DSW Shoe Warehouse, Inc.

**Approval/Signing of Disclosure:**