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**FILED**

**MAR 08 2011**

**KIM TURNER**, Court Executive Officer  
**MARIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT**  
*By: D. Taylor, Deputy*

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIN  
UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION

JOHN MOORE,

Plaintiff,

v.

DURALEE FABRICS LTD.; and DOES 1-150, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. C11101222

**COMPLAINT FOR CIVIL PENALTIES  
AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

*(Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq.)*

**VIA FAX**

1 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

2 1. This Complaint is a representative action brought by plaintiff JOHN MOORE, in  
3 the public interest of the citizens of the State of California, to enforce the People's right to be  
4 informed of the presence of di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ("DEHP"), a toxic chemical found in faux  
5 leather fabric sold in California.

6 2. By this Complaint, plaintiff seeks to remedy defendant's continuing failure to warn  
7 California citizens about their exposure to DEHP, present in or on certain faux leather fabric that  
8 defendant manufactures, imports, distributes, and/or offer for sale to consumers throughout the  
9 State of California.

10 3. Under California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986,  
11 California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 *et seq.* ("Proposition 65"), "No person in the course  
12 of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known  
13 to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable  
14 warning to such individual...." (*Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6.*)

15 4. On October 23, 2003, California identified and listed DEHP as a chemical known  
16 to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. DEHP became subject to the warning  
17 requirement one year later and was, therefore, subject to the "clear and reasonable warning"  
18 requirements of Proposition 65, beginning on October 23, 2004. (*27 CCR § 27001 (c); Cal.*  
19 *Health & Safety Code § 25249.8.*)

20 5. Defendant DURALEE FABRICS LTD. ("DURALEE or defendant")  
21 manufactures, imports, distributes, and/or sells faux leather fabric containing DEHP including,  
22 but not limited to, *Magellan Faux Leather, Kiwi, Item #554, SKU#2699916 (#8 20894 10032 3).*

23 6. All such faux leather fabric containing DEHP, shall hereinafter be collectively  
24 referred to as the "PRODUCTS."

25 7. Defendant's failure to warn consumers and/or other individuals in the State of  
26 California not covered by California's Occupational Safety Health Act, Labor Code § 6300 *et*  
27 *seq.* about their exposure to DEHP in conjunction with defendant's distribution, importation,  
28

1 manufacturing, and/or sale of the PRODUCTS is a violation of Proposition 65 and subjects  
2 defendants to enjoinder of such conduct as well as civil penalties for each such violation.

3 8. For defendant's violation of Proposition 65, plaintiff seeks preliminary injunctive  
4 and permanent injunctive relief to compel defendant to provide purchasers or users of the  
5 PRODUCTS with the required warning regarding the health hazards of DEHP. (*Cal. Health &*  
6 *Safety Code § 25249.7(a).*)

7 9. Plaintiff also seeks civil penalties against defendant for their violations of  
8 Proposition 65, as provided for by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b).

9 **PARTIES**

10 10. JOHN MOORE is a citizen of the State of California who is dedicated to  
11 protecting the health of California citizens through the elimination or reduction of toxic  
12 exposures from consumer and commercial products, and brings this action in the public interest  
13 pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7.

14 11. DURALEE is a person doing business within the meaning of California Health &  
15 Safety Code § 25249.11.

16 12. DURALEE manufactures, imports, distributes, and/or offer the PRODUCTS for  
17 sale or use in the State of California or implies by its conduct that it manufactures, imports,  
18 distributes, and/or offers the PRODUCTS for sale or use in the State of California.

19 13. Defendants DOES 1-50 ("MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS") are each persons  
20 doing business within the meaning of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.11.

21 14. MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS engage in the process of research, testing,  
22 designing, assembling, fabricating, and/or manufacturing, or imply by their conduct that they  
23 engage in the process of research, testing, designing, assembling, fabricating, and/or  
24 manufacturing, e.g., by engaging in private labeling one or more of the PRODUCTS for sale or  
25 use in the State of California.

26 15. Defendants DOES 51-100 ("DISTRIBUTOR DEFENDANTS") are each persons  
27 doing business within the meaning of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.11.



1 association that either are citizens of the State of California, have sufficient minimum contacts in  
2 the State of California, or otherwise purposefully avail themselves of the California market.  
3 DEFENDANTS' purposeful availment renders the exercise of personal jurisdiction by California  
4 courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

5 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

6 **(Violation of Proposition 65 - Against All Defendants)**

7 24. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein,  
8 Paragraphs 1 through 23, inclusive.

9 25. The citizens of the State of California have expressly stated in Proposition 65 that  
10 they must be informed "about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects and other  
11 reproductive harm." (*Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6.*)

12 26. Proposition 65 states, "[n]o person in the course of doing business shall knowingly  
13 and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or  
14 reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual..."  
15 (*Id.*)

16 27. On October 29, 2010, a sixty-day notice of violation, together with the requisite  
17 Certificate of Merit, was provided to DURALEE and various public enforcement agencies  
18 stating that as a result of DURALEE's sales of the PRODUCTS, purchasers and users in the  
19 State of California were being exposed to DEHP resulting from the reasonably foreseeable uses  
20 of the PRODUCTS, without the individual purchasers and users first having been provided with  
21 a "clear and reasonable warning" regarding such toxic exposures.

22 28. DEFENDANTS have engaged in the manufacture, importation, distribution, and/or  
23 offering of the PRODUCTS for sale or use in violation of California Health & Safety Code §  
24 25249.6 and DEFENDANTS' manufacture, importation, distribution, and/or offering of the  
25 PRODUCTS for sale or use in violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 has  
26 continued to occur beyond DURALEE's receipt of plaintiff's sixty-day notice of violation.  
27 Plaintiff further alleges and believes that such violations will continue to occur into the future.  
28

1           29. After receipt of the claims asserted in the October 29, 2010 sixty-day notice of  
2 violation, the appropriate public enforcement agencies have failed to commence and diligently  
3 prosecute a cause of action against DEFENDANTS under Proposition 65.

4           30. The PRODUCTS manufactured, imported, distributed, and/or offered for sale or  
5 use in California by DEFENDANTS contained DEHP above the allowable state limits.

6           31. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that the PRODUCTS manufactured,  
7 imported, distributed, and/or offered for sale or use by DEFENDANTS in California contained  
8 DEHP.

9           32. DEHP was present in or on the PRODUCTS in such a way as to expose  
10 individuals to DEHP through dermal contact and ingestion during the reasonably foreseeable use  
11 of the PRODUCTS.

12           33. The normal and reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS has caused and  
13 continues to cause consumer and workplace exposures to DEHP, as such exposure is defined by  
14 27 California Code of Regulations (“CCR”) § 25602(b).

15           34. DEFENDANTS had knowledge that the normal and reasonably foreseeable use of  
16 the PRODUCTS would expose individuals to DEHP through dermal contact and ingestion.

17           35. DEFENDANTS intended that such exposures to DEHP from the reasonably  
18 foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS would occur by their deliberate, non-accidental participation  
19 in the manufacture, importation, distribution, and/or offer for sale or use of PRODUCTS to  
20 individuals in the State of California.

21           36. DEFENDANTS failed to provide a “clear and reasonable warning” to those  
22 consumers and/or other individuals in the State of California who were or who could become  
23 exposed to DEHP through dermal contact and ingestion during the reasonably foreseeable use of  
24 the PRODUCTS.

25           37. Contrary to the express policy and statutory prohibition of Proposition 65, enacted  
26 directly by California voters, individuals exposed to DEHP through dermal contact and  
27 ingestion, resulting from the reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS, sold by  
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1 DEFENDANTS without a "clear and reasonable warning," have suffered, and continue to suffer,  
2 irreparable harm, for which harm they have no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy at law.

3 38. As a consequence of the above-described acts, DEFENDANTS are liable for a  
4 maximum civil penalty of \$2,500 per day for each violation pursuant to California Health &  
5 Safety Code § 25249.7(b).

6 39. As a consequence of the above-described acts, California Health & Safety Code  
7 § 25249.7(a) also specifically authorizes the Court to grant injunctive relief against  
8 DEFENDANTS.

9 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

10 Wherefore, plaintiff prays for judgment against DEFENDANTS as follows:

11 1. That the Court, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b), assess  
12 civil penalties against DEFENDANTS in the amount of \$2,500 per day for each violation alleged  
13 herein;

14 2. That the Court, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(a),  
15 preliminarily and permanently enjoin DEFENDANTS from manufacturing, distributing, or  
16 offering the PRODUCTS for sale or use in California, without providing "clear and reasonable  
17 warnings" as defined by 27 CCR § 25601, as to the harms associated with exposures to DEHP;

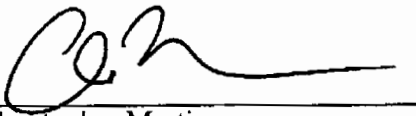
18 3. That the Court grant plaintiff his reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit; and

19 4. That the Court grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

20 Dated: March 8, 2011

21  
22 Respectfully Submitted,

23 THE CHANLER GROUP

24  
25 By:   
26 Christopher Martin  
27 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
28 JOHN MOORE