1 2 3 4 5 6	Josh Voorhees, State Bar No. 241436 Rachel S. Doughty, State Bar No. 255904 THE CHANLER GROUP 2560 Ninth Street Parker Plaza, Suite 214 Berkeley, CA 94710-2565 Telephone: (510) 848-8880 Facsimile: (510) 848-8118 Attorneys for Plaintiff JOHN MOORE	ENDORSED FILED ALAMEDA COUNTY OCT 0 4 2011 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT By Tasha Perry; Deputy
7	GUIDEDIOD COURT OF	THE CTATE OF CALLEONIA
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
9	COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
10	UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION	
11 12	JOHN MOORE,	Case No. PG 115983 15
13	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR CIVIL PENALTIES
14	v.	AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
15		(Cal. Health & Safety Code. § 25249.6 et seq.)
16	SENTRY INDUSTRIES, INC.; and DOES 1-150, inclusive,	
17	Defendants.	
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COMPLAINT FOR CIVIL PENALTIES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. This Complaint is a representative action brought by plaintiff, JOHN MOORE, in the public interest of the citizens of the state of California, to enforce the People's right to be informed of the presence of di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ("DEHP"), a toxic chemical found in cases for CDs/DVDs and watches sold in California, and di-n-butyl phthalate ("DBP"), a toxic chemical found in cases for CDs/DVDs sold in California.
- 2. By this Complaint, plaintiff seeks to remedy defendants' continuing failure to warn California citizens about reproductive harms associated with their exposure to DEHP present in and/or on certain cases for CDs/DVDs; their exposure to DBP in and/or on certain cases for CDs/DVDs; and their exposure to DEHP found in watches, that defendants manufacture, import, distribute, and/or offer for sale to consumers throughout the state of California.
- 3. High levels of DEHP and/or DBP are commonly found in and on the cases for CDs/DVDs that defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or offer for sale to consumers throughout the state of California. High levels of DEHP are commonly found in and on the watches that defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or offer for sale to consumers throughout the state of California.
- 4. Under California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 et seq. ("Proposition 65"), "[n]o person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual ..." (Health & Saf. Code, § 25249.6.) This complaint alleges a failure to warn with respect to "reproductive toxicity."
- 5. On October 24, 2003, California identified and listed DEHP as a chemical known to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. DEHP became subject to the "clear and reasonable warning" requirements of Proposition 65 one year later on October 24, 2004. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 27001, subd. (c); Health & Saf. Code, §§ 25249.8 & 25249.10, subd. (b).)

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- On December 2, 2005, California identified and listed DBP as a chemical known 6. to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. DBP became subject to the warning requirement one year later and was, therefore, subject to the "clear and reasonable warning" requirements of Proposition 65, beginning on December 2, 2006. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 27001, subd. (c); Health & Saf. Code, §§ 25249.8 & 25249.10, subd. (b).)
- 7. Defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or sell cases for CDs/DVDs and watches containing the DEHP and/or DBP as follows:
 - Defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or offer for sale cases for CDs/DVDs containing DBP including, but not limited to, the Sentry 36 Disc Capacity CD/DVD Wallet, CD036-NU (#0 80068 50036 0).
 - b. Defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or offer for sale cases for CDs/DVDs containing DEHP including, but not limited to, the Sentry 36 Disc Capacity CD/DVD Wallet, CD036-NU (#0 80068 50036 0), the Sentry 96 Disc Capacity CD/DVD Wallet, CD096-NU (#0 80068 50096 4), and the Sentry 208 Disc Capacity CD/DVD Wallet, CD200-NU (#0 80068 50200 5).
 - Defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or offer for sale watches containing DEHP including, but not limited to, the Sentry Calculator Bonus Pack with Watch, CA339 (#0 80068 20339 1).
- 8. All such cases for CDs/DVDs containing either DEHP or DBP, or both, listed above in paragraph 7(a) – (b) shall hereinafter be referred to as the "CASE PRODUCTS." All such watches containing DEHP, described above in paragraph 7(c) shall hereinafter be referred to as the "WATCH PRODUCTS." Collectively the CASE PRODUCTS and the WATCH PRODUCTS may be referred to as the "PRODUCTS."
- Defendants' failure to warn consumers and/or other individuals in the state of 9. California not covered by California's Occupational Safety Health Act, Labor Code section 6300 et seq., about their exposure to DEHP and/or DBP and the potential of that exposure to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm in conjunction with Defendants' distribution, importation, manufacturing, and/or sale of the PRODUCTS is a violation of Proposition 65 and

subjects Defendants to enjoinment of such conduct as well as civil penalties for each such violation.

- 10. For defendants' violations of Proposition 65, plaintiff seeks preliminary injunctive and permanent injunctive relief to compel defendants to provide purchasers or users of the PRODUCTS with the required warning regarding the health hazards of DEHP and/or DBP, as appropriate. (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.7, subd. (a).)
- 11. Plaintiff also seeks civil penalties against defendants for their violations of Proposition 65, as provided by California Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(b).

PARTIES

- 12. Plaintiff, JOHN MOORE, is a citizen of the state of California who is dedicated to protecting the health of California citizens through the elimination or reduction of toxic exposures from consumer products; he brings this action in the public interest pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(d).
- 13. Defendant SENTRY INDUSTRIES, INC. ("SENTRY") is a person in the course of doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code section 25249.11.
- 14. Defendant SENTRY manufactures, distributes, and/or offers the PRODUCTS for sale or use in the state of California, or implies by its conduct that it manufactures, distributes, and/or offers the PRODUCTS for sale or use in the state of California.
- 15. Defendants DOES 1-50 ("MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS") are each persons in the course of doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code section 25249.11.
- 16. MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS engage in the process of researching, testing, designing, assembling, fabricating, and/or manufacturing, or imply by their conduct that they engage in the process of researching, testing, designing, assembling, fabricating, and/or manufacturing, one or more of the PRODUCTS offered for sale or use in the state of California.
- 17. Defendants DOES 51-100 ("DISTRIBUTOR DEFENDANTS") are each persons in the course of doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code section 25249.11.
 - 18. DISTRIBUTOR DEFENDANTS distribute, exchange, transfer, process, and/or

transport one or more of the PRODUCTS to individuals, businesses, or retailers for sale or use in the state of California.

- 19. Defendants DOES 101-150 ("RETAILER DEFENDANTS") are each persons in the course of doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code section 25249.11.
- 20. RETAILER DEFENDANTS offer the PRODUCTS for sale to individuals in the state of California.
- 21. At this time, the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 150, inclusive, are unknown to plaintiff, who therefore sues said defendants by their fictitious name pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 474. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible for the acts and occurrences alleged herein. When ascertained, their true names shall be reflected in an amended complaint.
- 22. SENTRY, MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS, DISTRIBUTOR
 DEFENDANTS, and RETAILER DEFENDANTS shall, where appropriate, collectively be referred to as "DEFENDANTS."

VENUE AND JURISDICTION

- 23. Venue is proper in the Alameda County Superior Court pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 394, 395, & 395.5, because this Court is a court of competent jurisdiction, because one or more instances of wrongful conduct occurred, and continue to occur, in Alameda County, and/or because DEFENDANTS conducted, and continue to conduct, business in this County with respect to the PRODUCTS.
- 24. The California Superior Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to California Constitution article VI, section 10, which grants the Superior Court "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial courts." The statute under which this action is brought does not specify any other basis of subject matter jurisdiction.
- 25. The California Superior Court has jurisdiction over DEFENDANTS based on plaintiff's information and good faith belief that each defendant is a person, firm, corporation, or association that is a citizen of the state of California, has sufficient minimum contacts in the state of California, or otherwise purposefully avails itself of the California market.

DEFENDANTS' purposeful availment renders the exercise of personal jurisdiction by California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Proposition 65 - Against All Defendants)

- 26. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein, Paragraphs 1 through 25, inclusive.
- 27. The citizens of the state of California have stated expressly in Proposition 65 that they must be informed "about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm." (Health & Saf. Code, § 25249.6.)
- 28. Proposition 65 states, "[n]o person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual...." (*Id.*)
- 29. On or about March 17, 2011, a sixty-day notice of violation, together with the requisite certificate of merit, was provided to SENTRY and various public enforcement agencies stating that, as a result of the DEFENDANTS' sales of the cases for CDs/DVDs, purchasers and users in the state of California were exposed to DEHP resulting from the reasonably foreseeable use of the cases for CDs/DVDs, without the individual purchasers and users first having received a "clear and reasonable warning" regarding such toxic exposures.
- 30. On or about July 20, 2011, a supplemental sixty-day notice of violation, together with the requisite certificate of merit, was provided to SENTRY and various public enforcement agencies stating that, as a result of the DEFENDANTS' sales of the PRODUCTS, purchasers and users in the state of California were exposed to DEHP and/or DBP, as set forth in the supplemental notice, resulting from the reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS, without the individual purchasers and users first having received a "clear and reasonable warning" regarding such toxic exposures.
- 31. DEFENDANTS have engaged in the manufacture, distribution, and/or offering of the PRODUCTS for sale or use in violation of Health & Safety Code section 25249.6, and

DEFENDANTS' manufacture, distribution, and/or offering of the PRODUCTS for sale or use in violation of Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 has continued to occur beyond DEFENDANTS' receipt of plaintiff's sixty-day notices of violation. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that such violations will continue to occur into the future.

- 32. After receipt of the claims asserted in the sixty-day notices of violation, the appropriate public enforcement agencies have failed to commence and diligently prosecute a cause of action against DEFENDANTS under Proposition 65.
- 33. The PRODUCTS manufactured, distributed, and/or offered for sale or use in California by DEFENDANTS contained DEHP and/or DBP in an amount above the allowable state limits.
- 34. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that the PRODUCTS manufactured, distributed, and/or offered for sale or use in California contained DEHP and/or DBP.
- 35. DEHP and/or DBP was present in or on the PRODUCTS in such a way as to expose individuals to DEHP and/or DBP through dermal contact and/or ingestion during the reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS.
- 36. The normal and reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS has caused, and continues to cause, consumer exposures to DEHP and/or DBP, as such exposure is defined by California Code of Regulations title 27, section 25602, subdivision (b).
- 37. DEFENDANTS had knowledge that the normal and reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS would expose individuals to DEHP and/or DBP through dermal contact and/or ingestion.
- 38. DEFENDANTS intended that such exposures to DEHP and/or DBP from the reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS would occur by their deliberate, non-accidental participation in the manufacture, distribution, and/or offering of the PRODUCTS for sale or use to individuals in the state of California.
- 39. DEFENDANTS failed to provide a "clear and reasonable warning" to those consumers and/or other individuals in the state of California who were, or who could become,

exposed to DEHP and/or DBP through dermal contact and/or ingestion during the reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS.

- 40. Contrary to the express policy and statutory prohibition of Proposition 65 enacted directly by California voters, individuals exposed to DEHP and/or DBP through dermal contact and/or ingestion resulting from the reasonably foreseeable use of the PRODUCTS sold by DEFENDANTS without a "clear and reasonable warning," have suffered, and continue to suffer, irreparable harm for which they have no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy at law.
- 41. As a consequence of the above-described acts, DEFENDANTS are liable for a maximum civil penalty of \$2,500 per day for each violation pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (b).
- 42. As a consequence of the above-described acts, Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (a) also specifically authorizes the Court to grant injunctive relief against DEFENDANTS.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, plaintiff prays for judgment against DEFENDANTS as follows:

- 1. That the Court, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (b) assess civil penalties against DEFENDANTS in the amount of \$2,500 per day for each violation alleged herein;
- 2. That the Court, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (a) preliminarily and permanently enjoin DEFENDANTS from manufacturing, distributing, and/or offering the PRODUCTS for sale or use in California, without providing "clear and reasonable warnings" as defined by California Code of Regulations title 27, section 25601 as to the harms associated with exposure to DEHP;

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- 3. That the Court grant plaintiff his reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit; and
- 4. That the Court grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: October 3, 2011

Respectfully Submitted, THE CHANLER GROUP

Rachel S. Doughty
Attorneys for Plaintiff

JOHN MOORE