

**SUMMONS  
(CITACION JUDICIAL)**

**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:  
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):**

MERIT BRASS COMPANY, INC., an Ohio corporation; and DOES I through 10, inclusive,

**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:  
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):**

ECOLOGICAL ALLIANCE, LLC, a California limited liability company.

FOR COURT USE ONLY  
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

**CONFORMED COPY  
ORIGINAL FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of Los Angeles

JUN 21 2016

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk  
By: Judi Lara, Deputy

**NOTICE!** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **¡AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:  
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

Los Angeles Superior Court (Stanley Mosk Branch)  
111 North Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

CASE NUMBER  
(Número del caso) **BC 6 2 2 5 6 2**

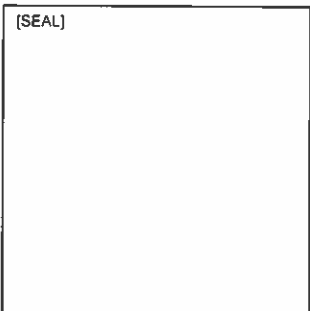
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:  
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):  
Custodio & Dubey LLP; 448 S. Hill St., Suite 612, Los Angeles, CA 90013; (213) 785-2909

DATE:  
(Fecha) **JUN 21 2016**

Clerk, by  
(Secretario) **SHERRI R. CARTER**

Deputy  
(Adjunto) **Judi Lara**

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)  
(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).



**NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED:** You are served

- as an individual defendant.
- as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
- on behalf of (specify): **Merit Brass Company, Inc.**  
under:  CCP 416.10 (corporation)  CCP 416.60 (minor)  
 CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)  CCP 416.70 (conservatee)  
 CCP 416.40 (association or partnership)  CCP 416.90 (authorized person)  
 other (specify):
- by personal delivery on (date):

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
 NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT - UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE (NON-CLASS ACTION)  
 Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

BC 6 22562

**THIS FORM IS TO BE SERVED WITH THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT**

Your case is assigned for all purposes to the judge indicated below. There is more information on the reverse side of this form.

|  | ASSIGNED JUDGE            | DEPT | ROOM |  | ASSIGNED JUDGE   | DEPT | ROOM |   |
|--|---------------------------|------|------|--|--|------|------|---|
|  | Hon. Kevin C. Brazile     | 1    | 534  |  | Hon. Elizabeth Allen White   | 48   | 506  |   |
|  | Hon. Barbara A. Meiers    | 12   | 636  |  | Hon. Deirdre Hill  | 49   | 509  |   |
|  | Hon. Terry A. Green       | 14   | 300  |  | Hon. Teresa A. Beaudet   | 50   | 508  | ↖ |
|  | Hon. Richard Fruin        | 15   | 307  |  | Hon. Michael J. Raphael  | 51   | 511  |   |
|  | Hon. Rita Miller          | 16   | 306  |  | Hon. Susan Bryant-Deason   | 52   | 510  |   |
|  | Hon. Richard E. Rico      | 17   | 309  |  | Hon. Howard L. Halm  | 53   | 513  |   |
|  | Hon. Stephanie Bowick     | 19   | 311  |  | Hon. Ernest M. Hiroshige   | 54   | 512  |   |
|  | Hon. Dalila Corral Lyons  | 20   | 310  |  | Hon. Malcolm H. Mackey   | 55   | 515  |   |
|  | Hon. Robert L. Hess       | 24   | 314  |  | Hon. Michael Johnson   | 56   | 514  |   |
|  | Hon. Yvette M. Palazuelos | 28   | 318  |  | Hon. John P. Doyle   | 58   | 516  |   |
|  | Hon. Barbara Scheper      | 30   | 400  |  | Hon. Gregory Keosian   | 61   | 732  |   |
|  | Hon. Samantha Jessner     | 31   | 407  |  | Hon. Michael L. Stern  | 62   | 600  |   |
|  | Hon. Daniel S. Murphy     | 32   | 406  |  | Hon. Mark Mooney   | 68   | 617  |   |
|  | Hon. Michael P. Linfield  | 34   | 408  |  | Hon. William F. Fahey  | 69   | 621  |   |
|  | Hon. Gregory Alarcon      | 36   | 410  |  | Hon. Suzanne G. Bruguera   | 71   | 729  |   |
|  | Hon. Marc Marmaro         | 37   | 413  |  | Hon. Ruth Ann Kwan   | 72   | 731  |   |
|  | Hon. Maureen Duffy-Lewis  | 38   | 412  |  | Hon. Rafael Ongkeko  | 73   | 733  |   |
|  | Hon. Elizabeth Feffer     | 39   | 415  |  | Hon. Teresa Sanchez-Gordon   | 74   | 735  |   |
|  | Hon. David Sotelo         | 40   | 414  |  | Hon. Gail Ruderman Feuer   | 78   | 730  |   |
|  | Hon. Holly E. Kendig      | 42   | 416  |  |  |      |      |   |
|  | Hon. Mel Red Recana       | 45   | 529  |  | Hon. Steven J. Kleifield   | 324  | CCW  |   |
|  | Hon. Frederick C. Shaller | 46   | 500  |  | *Provisionally Complex<br>Non-class Action Cases<br>Assignment is Pending<br>Complex Determination | 324  | CCW  |   |
|  | Hon. Debre K. Weintraub   | 47   | 507  |  |  |      |      |   |

**\*Complex**

All non-class action cases designated as provisionally complex are forwarded to the Supervising Judge of the Complex Litigation Program located in the Central Civil West Courthouse (600 S. Commonwealth Ave., Los Angeles 90005), for complex/non-complex determination pursuant to Local Rule 3.3(k). This procedure is for the purpose of assessing whether or not the case is complex within the meaning of California Rules of Court, rule 3.400. Depending on the outcome of that assessment, the case may be reassigned to one of the judges of the Complex Litigation Program or reassigned randomly to a court in the Central District.

Given to the Plaintiff/Cross-Complainant/Attorney of Record on JUN 21 2018 SHERRI R. CARTER, Executive Officer/Clerk  
 By [Signature], Deputy Clerk

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR HANDLING UNLIMITED CIVIL CASES**

The following critical provisions of the Chapter Three Rules, as applicable in the Central District, are summarized for your assistance.

### **APPLICATION**

The Chapter Three Rules were effective January 1, 1994. They apply to all general civil cases.

### **PRIORITY OVER OTHER RULES**

The Chapter Three Rules shall have priority over all other Local Rules to the extent the others are inconsistent.

### **CHALLENGE TO ASSIGNED JUDGE**

A challenge under Code of Civil Procedure section 170.6 must be made within 15 days after notice of assignment for all purposes to a judge, or if a party has not yet appeared, within 15 days of the first appearance.

### **TIME STANDARDS**

Cases assigned to the Individual Calendaring Court will be subject to processing under the following time standards:

**COMPLAINTS:** All complaints shall be served within 60 days of filing and proof of service shall be filed within 90 days of filing.

**CROSS-COMPLAINTS:** Without leave of court first being obtained, no cross-complaint may be filed by any party after their answer is filed. Cross-complaints shall be served within 30 days of the filing date and a proof of service filed within 60 days of the filing date.

A Status Conference will be scheduled by the assigned Independent Calendar Judge no later than 270 days after the filing of the complaint. Counsel must be fully prepared to discuss the following issues: alternative dispute resolution, bifurcation, settlement, trial date, and expert witnesses.

### **FINAL STATUS CONFERENCE**

The Court will require the parties at a status conference not more than 10 days before the trial to have timely filed and served all motions in limine, bifurcation motions, statements of major evidentiary issues, dispositive motions, requested jury instructions, and special jury instructions and special jury verdicts. These matters may be heard and resolved at this conference. At least 5 days before this conference, counsel must also have exchanged lists of exhibits and witnesses and have submitted to the court a brief statement of the case to be read to the jury panel as required by Chapter Eight of the Los Angeles Superior Court Rules.

### **SANCTIONS**

The court will impose appropriate sanctions for the failure or refusal to comply with Chapter Three Rules, orders made by the Court, and time standards or deadlines established by the Court or by the Chapter Three Rules. Such sanctions may be on a party or if appropriate on counsel for the party.

**This is not a complete delineation of the Chapter Three Rules, and adherence only to the above provisions is therefore not a guarantee against the imposition of sanctions under Trial Court Delay Reduction. Careful reading and compliance with the actual Chapter Rules is absolutely imperative.**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):<br><b>Miguel A. Custodio, Jr. #248744</b><br>Custodio & Dubey LLP<br>448 S. Hill St., Suite 612<br>Los Angeles, CA 90013<br>TELEPHONE NO: (213) 785-2909 FAX NO: (213) 785-2899<br>ATTORNEY FOR (Name): <b>Plaintiff Ecological Alliance, LLC</b> | FOR COURT USE ONLY<br><br><b>CONFORMED COPY<br/>ORIGINAL FILED</b><br>Superior Court of California<br>County of Los Angeles<br><br><b>JUN 21 2016</b><br><br>Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk<br>By: Judi Lara, Deputy  |
| SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF <b>Los Angeles</b><br>STREET ADDRESS: <b>111 North Hill St.</b><br>MAILING ADDRESS: <b>Same</b><br>CITY AND ZIP CODE: <b>Los Angeles 90012</b><br>BRANCH NAME: <b>Stanley Mosk</b>  | CASE NUMBER:<br><div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">BC 6 2 2 5 A 2</div> JUDGE:<br>DEPT:  |
| CASE NAME:<br><b>Ecological Alliance, LLC vs. Merit Brass Company, Inc.</b>   | CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Unlimited</b> (Amount demanded exceeds \$25,000) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Limited</b> (Amount demanded is \$25,000 or less)<br>Complex Case Designation<br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Counter</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Joinder</b><br>Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402) |

*Items 1-6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).*

1. Check **one** box below for the case type that best describes this case:

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Auto Tort</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Auto (22)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Uninsured motorist (46)<br><b>Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos (04)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Product liability (24)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medical malpractice (45)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other PI/PD/WD (23)<br><b>Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Business tort/unfair business practice (07)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Civil rights (08)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Defamation (13)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fraud (16)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual property (19)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Professional negligence (25)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)<br><b>Employment</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful termination (36)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other employment (15) | <b>Contract</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Breach of contract/warranty (06)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Rule 3.740 collections (09)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other collections (09)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage (18)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other contract (37)<br><b>Real Property</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful eviction (33)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other real property (26)<br><b>Unlawful Detainer</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (31)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Residential (32)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drugs (38)<br><b>Judicial Review</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Asset forfeiture (05)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition re: arbitration award (11)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writ of mandate (02)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other judicial review (39) | <b>Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Construction defect (10)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mass tort (40)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Securities litigation (28)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental/Toxic tort (30)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)<br><b>Enforcement of Judgment</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of judgment (20)<br><b>Miscellaneous Civil Complaint</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> RICO (27)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other complaint (not specified above) (42)<br><b>Miscellaneous Civil Petition</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Partnership and corporate governance (21)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other petition (not specified above) (43) |
|--|--|---|

2. This case  is  is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Large number of separately represented parties<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial amount of documentary evidence | d. <input type="checkbox"/> Large number of witnesses<br>e. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court<br>f. <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision |
|--|--|
3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a.  monetary    b.  nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief    c.  punitive
4. Number of causes of action (specify): **One (1)**
5. This case  is  is not a class action suit.
6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: **June 21, 2016**  
**Vineet Dubey**  
 (TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

  
 (SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

**NOTICE**

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
- File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
- If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
- Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

**INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SHEET**

**To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers.** If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you **must** complete and file, along with your first paper, the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check **one** box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the **primary** cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

**To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases.** A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

**To Parties in Complex Cases.** In complex cases only, parties must also use the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiff's designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that the case is complex.

**CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES**

**Auto Tort**

- Auto (22)—Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death
- Uninsured Motorist (46) *(if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto)*

**Other PI/PD/AWD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort**

- Asbestos (04)
  - Asbestos Property Damage
  - Asbestos Personal Injury/Wrongful Death
- Product Liability *(not asbestos or toxic/environmental)* (24)
- Medical Malpractice (45)
  - Medical Malpractice—Physicians & Surgeons
  - Other Professional Health Care Malpractice
- Other PI/PD/AWD (23)
  - Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)
  - Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/AWD (e.g., assault, vandalism)
  - Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress
  - Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress

**Non-PI/PD/AWD (Other) Tort**

- Business Tort/Unfair Business Practice (07)
- Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination, false arrest) *(not civil harassment)* (08)
- Defamation (e.g., slander, libel) (13)
- Fraud (16)
- Intellectual Property (19)
- Professional Negligence (25)
  - Legal Malpractice
  - Other Professional Malpractice *(not medical or legal)*
- Other Non-PI/PD/AWD Tort (35)

**Employment**

- Wrongful Termination (36)
- Other Employment (15)

**Contract**

- Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)
  - Breach of Rental/Lease Contract *(not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)*
  - Contract/Warranty Breach—Seller Plaintiff *(not fraud or negligence)*
  - Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty
  - Other Breach of Contract/Warranty
- Collections (e.g., money owed, open book accounts) (09)
  - Collection Case—Seller Plaintiff
  - Other Promissory Note/Collections Case
- Insurance Coverage *(not provisionally complex)* (18)
  - Auto Subrogation
  - Other Coverage
- Other Contract (37)
  - Contractual Fraud
  - Other Contract Dispute

**Real Property**

- Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)
- Wrongful Eviction (33)
- Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)
  - Writ of Possession of Real Property
  - Mortgage Foreclosure
  - Quiet Title
  - Other Real Property *(not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, or foreclosure)*

**Unlawful Detainer**

- Commercial (31)
- Residential (32)
- Drugs (38) *(if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise, report as Commercial or Residential)*

**Judicial Review**

- Asset Forfeiture (05)
- Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)
- Writ of Mandate (02)
  - Writ—Administrative Mandamus
  - Writ—Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter
  - Writ—Other Limited Court Case Review
- Other Judicial Review (39)
  - Review of Health Officer Order
  - Notice of Appeal—Labor Commissioner Appeals

**Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400–3.403)**

- Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)
- Construction Defect (10)
- Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)
- Securities Litigation (28)
- Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)
- Insurance Coverage Claims *(arising from provisionally complex case type listed above)* (41)

**Enforcement of Judgment**

- Enforcement of Judgment (20)
  - Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)
  - Confession of Judgment *(non-domestic relations)*
  - Sister State Judgment
  - Administrative Agency Award *(not unpaid taxes)*
  - Petition/Certification of Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Taxes
  - Other Enforcement of Judgment Case

**Miscellaneous Civil Complaint**

- RICO (27)
- Other Complaint *(not specified above)* (42)
  - Declaratory Relief Only
  - Injunctive Relief Only *(non-harassment)*
  - Mechanics Lien
  - Other Commercial Complaint Case *(non-tort/non-complex)*
  - Other Civil Complaint *(non-tort/non-complex)*

**Miscellaneous Civil Petition**

- Partnership and Corporate Governance (21)
- Other Petition *(not specified above)* (43)
  - Civil Harassment
  - Workplace Violence
  - Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse
  - Election Contest
  - Petition for Name Change
  - Petition for Relief From Late Claim
  - Other Civil Petition

SHORT TITLE:

Ecoogical Alliance, LLC vs. Merit Brass Company, Inc.

CASE NUMBER

BC 6 22562

**CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND  
STATEMENT OF LOCATION  
(CERTIFICATE OF GROUNDS FOR ASSIGNMENT TO COURTHOUSE LOCATION)**

**This form is required pursuant to Local Rule 2.0 in all new civil case filings in the Los Angeles Superior Court.**

**Item I.** Check the types of hearing and fill in the estimated length of hearing expected for this case:

JURY TRIAL?  YES CLASS ACTION?  YES LIMITED CASE?  YES TIME ESTIMATED FOR TRIAL 2  HOURS/  DAYS

**Item II.** Indicate the correct district and courthouse location (4 steps – If you checked “Limited Case”, skip to Item III, Pg. 4):

**Step 1:** After first completing the Civil Case Cover Sheet form, find the main Civil Case Cover Sheet heading for your case in the left margin below, and, to the right in Column **A**, the Civil Case Cover Sheet case type you selected.

**Step 2:** Check one Superior Court type of action in Column **B** below which best describes the nature of this case.

**Step 3:** In Column **C**, circle the reason for the court location choice that applies to the type of action you have checked. For any exception to the court location, see Local Rule 2.0.

**Applicable Reasons for Choosing Courthouse Location (see Column C below)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Class actions must be filed in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, central district.</li> <li>2. May be filed in central (other county, or no bodily injury/property damage).</li> <li>3. Location where cause of action arose.</li> <li>4. Location where bodily injury, death or damage occurred.</li> <li>5. Location where performance required or defendant resides.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle.</li> <li>7. Location where petitioner resides.</li> <li>8. Location wherein defendant/respondent functions wholly.</li> <li>9. Location where one or more of the parties reside.</li> <li>10. Location of Labor Commissioner Office</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

**Step 4:** Fill in the information requested on page 4 in Item III; complete Item IV. Sign the declaration.

|  | <b>A</b><br>Civil Case Cover Sheet<br>Category No.                    | <b>B</b><br>Type of Action<br>(Check only one)  | <b>C</b><br>Applicable Reasons -<br>See Step 3 Above |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Auto<br/>Tort</b>   | Auto (22)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A7100 Motor Vehicle - Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death   | 1., 2., 4.   |
|  | Uninsured Motorist (46)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A7110 Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death – Uninsured Motorist  | 1., 2., 4.   |
| <b>Other Personal Injury/ Property<br/>Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort</b> | Asbestos (04)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6070 Asbestos Property Damage<br><input type="checkbox"/> A7221 Asbestos - Personal Injury/Wrongful Death   | 2.<br>2.   |
|  | Product Liability (24)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A7260 Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental)  | 1., 2., 3., 4., 8.                                   |
|  | Medical Malpractice (45)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A7210 Medical Malpractice - Physicians & Surgeons<br><input type="checkbox"/> A7240 Other Professional Health Care Malpractice   | 1., 4.<br>1., 4.                                     |
|  | Other<br>Personal Injury<br>Property Damage<br>Wrongful Death<br>(23) | <input type="checkbox"/> A7250 Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)<br><input type="checkbox"/> A7230 Intentional Bodily Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death (e.g., assault, vandalism, etc.)<br><input type="checkbox"/> A7270 Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress<br><input type="checkbox"/> A7220 Other Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death | 1., 4.<br>1., 4.<br>1., 3.<br>1., 4.                 |

SHORT TITLE:

Ecoogical Alliance, LLC vs. Merit Brass Company, Inc.

CASE NUMBER

|   | <b>A</b><br>Civil Case Cover Sheet<br>Category No.   | <b>B</b><br>Type of Action<br>(Check only one)  | <b>C</b><br>Applicable Reasons -<br>See Step 3 Above |
|---|--|---|--|
| Non-Personal Injury/ Property<br>Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort  | Business Tort (07)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6029 Other Commercial/Business Tort (not fraud/breach of contract)                | 1., 3.   |
|   | Civil Rights (08)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6005 Civil Rights/Discrimination  | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   | Defamation (13)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6010 Defamation (slander/libel)   | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   | Fraud (16)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6013 Fraud (no contract)  | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   | Professional Negligence (25)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6017 Legal Malpractice  | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6050 Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)                        | 1., 2., 3.   |
| Other (35)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6025 Other Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage tort                | 2., 3.  |  |
| Employment  | Wrongful Termination (36)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6037 Wrongful Termination   | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   | Other Employment (15)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6024 Other Employment Complaint Case  | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6109 Labor Commissioner Appeals   | 10.  |
| Contract  | Breach of Contract/ Warranty<br>(06)<br>(not insurance)                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> A6004 Breach of Rental/Lease Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction) | 2., 5.   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6008 Contract/Warranty Breach -Seller Plaintiff (no fraud/negligence)             | 2., 5.   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6019 Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty (no fraud)                             | 1., 2., 5.   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6028 Other Breach of Contract/Warranty (not fraud or negligence)                  | 1., 2., 5.   |
|   | Collections (09)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6002 Collections Case-Seller Plaintiff  | 2., 5., 6.   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6012 Other Promissory Note/Collections Case                                       | 2., 5.   |
| Insurance Coverage (18)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6015 Insurance Coverage (not complex)                              | 1., 2., 5., 8.  |  |
| Other Contract (37)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6009 Contractual Fraud   | 1., 2., 3., 5.  |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6031 Tortious Interference   | 1., 2., 3., 5.  |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6027 Other Contract Dispute(not breach/insurance/fraud/negligence) | 1., 2., 3., 8.  |  |
| Real Property   | Eminent Domain/Inverse<br>Condemnation (14)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A7300 Eminent Domain/Condemnation      Number of parcels_____                      | 2.   |
|   | Wrongful Eviction (33)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6023 Wrongful Eviction Case   | 2., 6.   |
|   | Other Real Property (26)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6018 Mortgage Foreclosure   | 2., 6.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A6032 Quiet Title  |  | 2., 6.  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A6060 Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, foreclosure) |  | 2., 6.  |  |
| Unlawful Detainer   | Unlawful Detainer-Commercial<br>(31)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6021 Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (not drugs or wrongful eviction)                | 2., 6.   |
|   | Unlawful Detainer-Residential<br>(32)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6020 Unlawful Detainer-Residential (not drugs or wrongful eviction)               | 2., 6.   |
|   | Unlawful Detainer-<br>Post-Foreclosure (34)  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6020F Unlawful Detainer-Post-Foreclosure  | 2., 6.   |
|   | Unlawful Detainer-Drugs (38)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6022 Unlawful Detainer-Drugs  | 2., 6.   |

SHORT TITLE:

Ecoogical Alliance, LLC vs. Merit Brass Company, Inc.

CASE NUMBER

|   | <b>A</b><br>Civil Case Cover Sheet<br>Category No.  | <b>B</b><br>Type of Action<br>(Check only one)  | <b>C</b><br>Applicable Reasons -<br>See Step 3 Above |
|---|---|---|--|
| Judicial Review   | Asset Forfeiture (05)                               | <input type="checkbox"/> A6108 Asset Forfeiture Case  | 2., 6.   |
|   | Petition re Arbitration (11)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> A6115 Petition to Compel/Confirm/Vacate Arbitration  | 2., 5.   |
|   | Writ of Mandate (02)                                | <input type="checkbox"/> A6151 Writ - Administrative Mandamus<br><input type="checkbox"/> A6152 Writ - Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter<br><input type="checkbox"/> A6153 Writ - Other Limited Court Case Review | 2., 8.<br>2.<br>2.                                   |
|   | Other Judicial Review (39)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> A6150 Other Writ /Judicial Review  | 2., 8.   |
| Provisionally Complex Litigation                                  | Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> A6003 Antitrust/Trade Regulation   | 1., 2., 8.   |
|   | Construction Defect (10)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> A6007 Construction Defect  | 1., 2., 3.   |
|   | Claims Involving Mass Tort<br>(40)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> A6006 Claims Involving Mass Tort   | 1., 2., 8.   |
|   | Securities Litigation (28)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> A6035 Securities Litigation Case   | 1., 2., 8.   |
|   | Toxic Tort<br>Environmental (30)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> A6036 Toxic Tort/Environmental   | 1., 2., 3., 8.                                       |
|   | Insurance Coverage Claims<br>from Complex Case (41) | <input type="checkbox"/> A6014 Insurance Coverage/Subrogation (complex case only)   | 1., 2., 5., 8.                                       |
| Enforcement<br>of Judgment  | Enforcement<br>of Judgment (20)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> A6141 Sister State Judgment  | 2., 9.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6160 Abstract of Judgment   | 2., 6.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6107 Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations)  | 2., 9.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6140 Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes)   | 2., 8.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6114 Petition/Certificate for Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Tax   | 2., 8.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A6112 Other Enforcement of Judgment Case | 2., 8., 9.  |   |  |
| Miscellaneous<br>Civil Complaints                                 | RICO (27)   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6033 Racketeering (RICO) Case   | 1., 2., 8.   |
|   | Other Complaints<br>(Not Specified Above) (42)      | <input type="checkbox"/> A6030 Declaratory Relief Only  | 1., 2., 8.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6040 Injunctive Relief Only (not domestic/harassment)   | 2., 8.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6011 Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A6000 Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)                                       | 1., 2., 8.<br>1., 2., 8.                             |
| Miscellaneous<br>Civil Petitions                                  | Partnership Corporation<br>Governance (21)          | <input type="checkbox"/> A6113 Partnership and Corporate Governance Case  | 2., 8.   |
|   | Other Petitions<br>(Not Specified Above)<br>(43)    | <input type="checkbox"/> A6121 Civil Harassment   | 2., 3., 9.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6123 Workplace Harassment   | 2., 3., 9.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6124 Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Case   | 2., 3., 9.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6190 Election Contest   | 2.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6110 Petition for Change of Name  | 2., 7.   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> A6170 Petition for Relief from Late Claim Law  | 2., 3., 4., 8.                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A6100 Other Civil Petition               | 2., 9.  |   |  |



|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| SHORT TITLE<br>Ecoogical Alliance, LLC vs. Merit Brass Company, Inc. | CASE NUMBER |
|--|-------------|

**Item III. Statement of Location:** Enter the address of the accident, party's residence or place of business, performance, or other circumstance indicated in Item II., **Step 3** on Page 1, as the proper reason for filing in the court location you selected.

|   |             |                            |
|---|-------------|----------------------------|
| <b>REASON: Check the appropriate boxes for the numbers shown under Column C for the type of action that you have selected for this case.</b><br><br><input type="checkbox"/> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 10. |             | ADDRESS<br>3320 Topaz Lane |
| CITY:<br>Fullerton  | STATE<br>CA | ZIP CODE<br>92831          |

**Item IV. Declaration of Assignment:** I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that the above-entitled matter is properly filed for assignment to the Stanley Mosk courthouse in the Central District of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles [Code Civ. Proc., § 392 et seq., and Local Rule 2.0, subds. (b), (c) and (d)].

Dated: June 21, 2016

  
 (SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY/FILING PARTY)

**PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS COMPLETED AND READY TO BE FILED IN ORDER TO PROPERLY COMMENCE YOUR NEW COURT CASE:**

1. Original Complaint or Petition.
2. If filing a Complaint, a completed Summons form for issuance by the Clerk.
3. Civil Case Cover Sheet, Judicial Council form CM-010.
4. Civil Case Cover Sheet Addendum and Statement of Location form, LACIV 109, LASC Approved 03-04 (Rev. 03/11).
5. Payment in full of the filing fee, unless fees have been waived.
6. A signed order appointing the Guardian ad Litem, Judicial Council form CIV-010, if the plaintiff or petitioner is a minor under 18 years of age will be required by Court in order to issue a summons.
7. Additional copies of documents to be conformed by the Clerk. Copies of the cover sheet and this addendum must be served along with the summons and complaint, or other initiating pleading in the case.

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MIGUEL CUSTODIO, STATE BAR NO. 248744  
VINEET DUBEY, STATE BAR NO. 243208  
CUSTODIO & DUBEY LLP  
448 S. Hill St., Suite 612  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Telephone: (213) 785-2909  
Facsimile: (213) 785-2899

Attorneys for Plaintiff  
ECOLOGICAL ALLIANCE, LLC

**CONFORMED COPY  
ORIGINAL FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of Los Angeles

**JUN 21 2016**

Sherril R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk  
By: Judi Lara, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION

ECOLOGICAL ALLIANCE, LLC, a  
California limited liability company,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MERIT BRASS COMPANY, INC., an Ohio  
corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,  
inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.

**BC 6 2 2 5 6 2**

**COMPLAINT FOR CIVIL PENALTIES  
AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

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

1 NATURE OF THE ACTION

2 1. This Complaint is brought by plaintiff ECOLOGICAL ALLIANCE, LLC  
3 (“Plaintiff”) in the public interest of the People of the State of California to enforce their right to  
4 be informed of the presence of chemicals listed by the State of California, pursuant to the Safe  
5 Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, codified at Health and Safety Code  
6 section 25249.6 *et seq.* (“Proposition 65”), including Lead.

7 2. Plaintiffs seek to remedy Defendants’ failure to warn citizens of the State of  
8 California, in violation of Proposition 65, about the presence of Lead (“Listed Chemical”) in  
9 Defendant’s Brass Flanges and Fittings offered for sale throughout the State of California  
10 (“Products”).

11 3. Defendant’s Products contain the Listed Chemical and consumers of Products in  
12 the State of California are exposed to the Listed Chemical through dermal exposure and  
13 ingestion of Products.

14 4. Defendants know and intend that their Products expose consumers in the State of  
15 California to the Listed Chemical.

16 5. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference are copies of a letter (“60-Day  
17 Notice”), dated March 11, 2016, which Plaintiff sent to California’s Attorney General. Identical  
18 letters were sent to every District Attorney in the state, to the City Attorneys of every California  
19 city with a population greater than 750,000, and to all Defendants. Attached to the 60-Day  
20 Notices were Certificates of Merit attesting to the reasonable and meritorious basis for this  
21 action, Certificates of Service attesting to service of the letters on each entity described above,  
22 and a description of Proposition 65 prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health  
23 Hazard Assessment. Furthermore, factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the  
24 Certificates of Merit was enclosed with the 60-Day Notice sent to California’s Attorney  
25 General.

26 6. After receiving the claims asserted in the 60-Day Notice, the public enforcement  
27 agencies identified in Paragraph 5 have failed to commence and diligently prosecute a cause of  
28 action against Defendants under Proposition 65.

1 7. Plaintiff seeks preliminary and permanent injunctive relief to compel Defendants  
2 to provide the warning required under Proposition 65 regarding the Products.

3 8. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), Plaintiff also seeks civil  
4 penalties against Defendants for violations of Proposition 65.

5 **PARTIES**

6 9. Plaintiff is a California limited liability company. It brings this action in the  
7 public interest pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(d).

8 10. The Defendant is a person in the course of doing business within the meaning of  
9 Health and Safety Code section 25249.11.

10 11. The Defendant is a business that manufactures, distributes, offers for sale, sells,  
11 and/or serves, including in Los Angeles County, Products that contain the Listed Chemical.

12 12. Defendants DOES 1-10, which manufacture, distribute, offer for sale, sell, and/or  
13 serve in the State of California Products that contain the Listed Chemical, are each persons in  
14 the course of doing business within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 25249.11.  
15 At this time, the true names and capacities of defendants DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, are  
16 unknown to Plaintiff, who, therefore, sues said defendants by their fictitious names pursuant to  
17 Code of Civil Procedure section 474. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis  
18 alleges, that each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible for the acts and  
19 occurrences alleged herein. When ascertained, their true names and capacities shall be reflected  
20 in an amended complaint.

21 **VENUE AND JURISDICTION**

22 13. The Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Health and Safety Code  
23 section 25249.7. Pursuant to California Constitution Article VI, section 10, the California  
24 Superior Court has "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial  
25 courts." The statute under which this action is brought does not specify any other trial courts  
26 that should have jurisdiction.

27 14. The Court has jurisdiction over Defendants based on Plaintiff's information and  
28 good faith belief that each Defendant is a person, firm, corporation, or association that is a

1 citizen of the State of California, has sufficient minimum contacts in the State of California,  
2 and/or otherwise purposefully avails itself of the California market. Defendants' purposeful  
3 availment renders the exercise of personal jurisdiction by the Court consistent with traditional  
4 notions of fair play and substantial justice.

5 15. Venue is proper in this Court because Defendants manufacture, distribute, offer  
6 for sale, sell, and/or serve Products that contain the Listed Chemical. Liability for Plaintiff's  
7 causes of action, or some parts thereof, has accordingly arisen during the times relevant to this  
8 Complaint and Plaintiff accordingly seeks civil penalties and forfeitures imposed by statutes.

9 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

11 16. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein,  
12 Paragraphs 1 through 15, inclusive.

13 17. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), as a consequence of the  
14 above-described acts, Defendants are liable for a violation of Proposition 65.

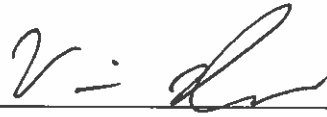
15 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

16 Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants as follows:

- 17 1. That the Court, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(a),  
18 preliminarily and permanently enjoin Defendants from manufacturing, distributing, offering for  
19 sale, selling, and/or serving in the State of California Products that contain the Listed Chemical  
20 without first providing a "clear and reasonable warning" under Proposition 65;
- 21 2. That the Court grant Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit;
- 22 3. That the Court, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), assess  
23 civil penalties against Defendants in such amount as the Court deems appropriate; and
- 24 4. That the Court grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.
- 25  
26  
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1 Dated: June 21, 2016

2 Respectfully Submitted,  
3 CUSTODIO & DUBEY LLP

4 By:  \_\_\_\_\_

5 Vineet Dubey  
6 Custodio & Dubey LLP  
7 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
8 ECOLOGICAL ALLIANCE, LLC

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March 11, 2016

Merit Brass Co.  
c/o Marc Schlessinger  
PO Box 43127  
Richmond Heights, OH 44143

Amazon.com, Inc.  
c/o Corporation Service Company  
2711 Centerville Rd., Suite 400  
Wilmington, DE 19808

Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AGAINST MERIT BRASS CO. AND AMAZON.COM, INC. OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6

To Whom It May Concern and to Public Prosecutors:

Ecological Alliance, LLC, a California limited liability company ("Alliance") is a California company acting in the interest of the general public seeking to further, among other causes, the protection of the environment, toxics reduction, the promotion and improvement of human health, the improvement of workers and consumer rights, environmental education and corporate accountability. As described below, Alliance has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65" or "Act"), codified at Cal. Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* by Merit Brass Co., an Ohio corporation and Amazon.com, Inc., a Delaware corporation (collectively the "Violators"). This letter serves to provide Alliance's notification of these violations to the Violators and elected prosecutors. Pursuant to §25249.7(d) of the statute, Alliance intends to bring an enforcement action sixty (60) days or more after effective service of this notice unless the appropriate public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

The products which are causing an exposure without a warning in violation of Proposition 65, are Brass Flanges, UPC# 10671404070752 ("Products") manufactured/distributed by Merit Brass Co. and offered for sale by Amazon.com, Inc., to California consumers.

A copy of the Proposition 65 summary prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment is attached, to the copy of this letter served to the Violators.

Vineet Dubey, Esq.  
dubey@CD-Lawyers.com

Because of this lack of a warning, consumers were exposed to the following chemicals without the proper required Proposition 65 warnings: 1) Lead. The routes of exposure for this chemical are ingestion and dermal. Such exposure can cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. Exposures to the listed chemical from the use of the Products have been occurring without the clear and reasonable warnings required by Proposition 65, dating as far back as March 11, 2015, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is removed from the Products. Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to the listed chemical resulting from contact with the Products, California citizens lack the information necessary to make informed decisions on whether and how to eliminate (or reduce) the risk of exposure to the listed chemical from reasonable foreseeable use of the Products.

Alliance intends to file a private enforcement action as provided for in the Act for the alleged violations by the Violators, unless Violators agree in an enforceable written instrument to: (1) recall the listed products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals; or (2) affix clear and reasonable Proposition 65 warning labels for products sold in the future or reformulate such products to eliminate the exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65, Alliance is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter, and invites Violators, should they seek early resolution of this matter, to communicate directly with Alliance's attorneys. Such resolution will avoid further unwarned consumer exposures, as well as resource intensive litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to Alliance's attorney, Vineet Dubey (dubey@cd-lawyers.com), Custodio & Dubey LLP, 448 S. Hill St., Suite 850, Los Angeles, CA 90013, 213-785-2909.

Sincerely,

  
Vineet Dubey  
Custodio & Dubey LLP

cc: see attached distribution list

Attachments:  
Proposition 65 summary  
Certificate of Merit  
Certificate of Service



**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**  
Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

**Re: Ecological Alliance, LLC's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Merit Brass Co. and Amazon.com, Inc.**

I, Vineet Dubey, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.
3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience and have assembled evidence attached to the copy for the California Attorney General as Exhibit 1 to this Certificate of Merit regarding the lack of warnings for the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.
4. Based on the information obtained and on other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff's case can be established and that the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.
5. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2).

Dated: March 11, 2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vineet Dubey, Attorney at Law

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this case. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My business address is 448 S. Hill St., Ste 612, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

On the date shown below, I served the following:

- 1) 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health and Safety Code section 25249.6
- 2) Certificate of Merit; Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)
- 3) Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy); Factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the certificate of merit (*only sent to Attorney General*)
- 4) The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65); A Summary

on the alleged violator listed below via First Class Certified Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the entity listed below and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:


Merit Brass Co.  
c/o Marc Schlessinger  
PO Box 43127  
Richmond Heights, OH 44143

Amazon.com, Inc.  
c/o Corporation Service Company  
2711 Centerville Rd., Suite 400  
Wilmington, DE 19808

as well as providing copies of the notice to the public enforcers by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the parties listed on the attached Distribution List.

I declare under penalty of perjury that under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

March 11, 2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Vineet Dubey

### Distribution List

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Alameda County District Attorney<br>1225 Fallon St. Room 900<br>Oakland, CA 94612           | Los Angeles County District Attorney<br>210 W Temple St. 18th Floor<br>Los Angeles, CA 90012              | Mono County District Attorney<br>PO Box 617<br>Bridgeport, CA 93517                                    |
| Alpine County District Attorney<br>PO Box 248<br>Markleeville, CA 96120                     | Madera County District Attorney<br>209 W Yosemite Ave<br>Madera, CA 93637                                 | San Joaquin County District Attorney<br>PO Box 990<br>Stockton, CA 95201-0990                          |
| Amador County District Attorney<br>708 Court, Suite 202<br>Jackson, CA 95642                | Mariposa County District Attorney<br>P.O. Box 730<br>Mariposa, CA 95338                                   | San Francisco County District Attorney<br>850 Bryant St. Rm 322<br>San Francisco, CA 94103             |
| Butte County District Attorney<br>25 County Center Dr.<br>Oroville, CA 95965-3385           | Marin County District Attorney<br>3501 Civic Center Drive, #130<br>San Rafael, CA 94903                   | San Diego County District Attorney<br>720 W Broadway, Ste. 1200<br>San Diego, CA 92101-3803            |
| Calaveras County District Attorney<br>891 Mountain Ranch Road<br>San Andreas, CA 95249      | Mendocino County District Attorney<br>P.O. Box 1000<br>Ukiah, CA 95482                                    | San Bernardino County District Attorney<br>316 N Mountain View Ave<br>San Bernardino, CA 92415-0004    |
| Office of the Attorney General<br>P.O. Box 70550<br>Oakland, CA 94612-0550                  | Los Angeles City Attorney<br>200 N Main St Ste 1800<br>Los Angeles CA 90012                               | San Francisco City Attorney<br># 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 234<br>San Francisco, CA 94102 |
| Colusa County District Attorney<br>Courthouse, 547 Market St<br>Colusa, CA 95932            | Inyo County District Attorney<br>P.O. Drawer D<br>Independence, CA 93526                                  | Placer County District Attorney<br>10810 Justice Center Drive<br>Suite 240<br>Roseville, CA 95678-6231 |
| Contra Costa County District Attorney<br>725 Court St., Room 402<br>Martinez, CA 94553      | Orange County District Attorney<br>PO Box 808<br>Santa Ana, CA 92702                                      | Merced County District Attorney<br>550 W. Main St.<br>Merced, CA 95340                                 |
| Del Norte County District Attorney<br>450 "H" St.<br>Crescent City, CA 95531                | Nevada County District Attorney<br>10075 Levon Ave.<br>Truckee, CA 96161                                  | Napa County District Attorney<br>PO Box 720<br>Napa, CA 94559-0720                                     |
| El Dorado County District Attorney<br>515 Main St.<br>Placerville, CA 95667-5697            | Plumas County District Attorney<br>520 Main Street, Rm 404<br>Quincy, CA 95971                            | Riverside County District Attorney<br>3960 Orange Street, Suite 6<br>Riverside, CA 92501               |
| Fresno County District Attorney<br>2220 Tulare St. Ste. 1000<br>Fresno, CA 93721            | Sacramento County District Attorney<br>901 G Street<br>Sacramento, CA 95814                               | San Benito County District Attorney<br>419 4th St<br>Hollister, CA 95023                               |
| Glenn County District Attorney<br>PO Box 430<br>Willows, CA 95988                           | San Luis Obispo County District Attorney<br>County Government Center, Rm 450<br>San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 | Siskiyou County District Attorney<br>PO Box 986<br>Yreka, CA 96097                                     |
| Humboldt County District Attorney<br>825 5th St., 4th Floor<br>Eureka, CA 95501             | San Mateo County District Attorney<br>400 County Center<br>Redwood City, CA 94063                         | Solano County District Attorney<br>600 Union Ave<br>Fairfield, CA 94533                                |
| Imperial County District Attorney<br>939 W. Main St., 2nd Floor<br>El Centro, CA 92243-2860 | Santa Barbara County District Attorney<br>1112 Santa Barbara St.<br>Santa Barbara, CA 93101               | Sonoma County District Attorney<br>600 Administration Dr.<br>Rm 212-J<br>Santa Rosa, CA 95403          |
| Kern County District Attorney<br>1215 Truxtun Ave.<br>Bakersfield, CA 93301                 | Santa Clara County District Attorney<br>70 W Hedding St.<br>San Jose, CA 95110                            | Shasta County District Attorney<br>1355 West St.<br>Redding, CA 96001-1632                             |
| Kings County District Attorney<br>Gov'l Ctr. 1400 W Lacey Blvd<br>Hanford, CA 93230         | Santa Cruz County District Attorney<br>701 Ocean St., Room 200<br>Santa Cruz, CA 95060                    | Sierra County District Attorney<br>PO Box 457<br>Downieville, CA 95936-0457                            |
| Lake County District Attorney<br>255 N Forbes St<br>Lakeport, CA 95453-4790                 | Stanislaus County District Attorney<br>PO Box 442<br>Modesto, CA 95353                                    | Trinity County District Attorney<br>PO Box 310<br>Weaverville, CA 96093                                |
| Modoc County District Attorney<br>204 S. Court Street<br>Alturas, CA 96101-4020             | Sutter County District Attorney<br>446 Second Street<br>Yuba City, CA 95991                               | Yuba County District Attorney<br>215 5th St<br>Marysville, CA 95901                                    |
| San Diego City Attorney<br>City Center Plaza<br>1200 3rd Ave # 1100<br>San Diego, CA 92101  | Lassen County District Attorney<br>200 S Lassen St, Suite 8<br>Susanville, CA 96130                       | Monterey County District Attorney<br>PO Box 1131<br>Salinas, CA 93902                                  |
| Tuolumne County District Attorney<br>2 S Green St<br>Sonora, CA 95370                       | Tulare County District Attorney<br>County Civic Center, Rm 224<br>Visalia, CA 93291                       | Yolo County District Attorney<br>310 Second St<br>Woodland, CA 95695                                   |
| Ventura County District Attorney<br>800 S Victoria Ave<br>Ventura, CA 93009                 | Tehama County District Attorney<br>P.O. Box 519<br>Red Bluff, CA 96080                                    | San Jose City Attorney<br>200 E. Santa Clara St<br>16th Floor<br>San Jose, CA 95110                    |