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1	MATTHEW C. MACLEAR (SBN 209228)	ENDORSED
2	ANTHONY M. BARNES (SBN 199048) AQUA TERRA AERIS LAW GROUP	ALAMEDA COUNTY
3	490 43 <sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 108	DEC 1 2 2018
-	Oakland, CA 94609	
4	Telephone: 415-568-5200 Email: mcm@atalawgroup.com	SUE PECKO
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff	The manufacture on the second and the
6	ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.	
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9	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
10	COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
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	ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC., a non-profit California corporation,	) Case No. RG18920840
12		) FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR
13	Plaintiff,	PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL
14	v	PENALTIES AND OTHER RELIEF
15	PERVINE FOODS, LLC, individually and doing	Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq.
16	business as CHEF ROBERT IRVINE'S FIT	
17	CRUNCH, a Pennsylvania limited liability company; BAKERY BARN, INC., individually	
18	and doing business as CHEF ROBERT	
	IRVINE'S FIT CRUNCH, a Pennsylvania corporation; and DOES 1 – 25,	
19	)	
20	Defendants.	
21	))	
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23	Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("PLAINTIFF" or "ERC") brings this	
24	action in the interests of the general public and, on information and belief, hereby alleges:	
25	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
	1. This action seeks to remedy the continuing failure of Defendants PERVINE FOODS,	
26	LLC, individually and doing business as CHEF ROBERT IRVINE'S FIT CRUNCH; BAKERY	
27	BARN, INC., individually and doing business as CHEF ROBERT IRVINE'S FIT CRUNCH	
28		
	and DOES 1-25 (hereinafter individually referred to as "DEFENDANT" or collectively as	
	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL PENALTIES AND OTHER RELIEF Case No. RG18920840 -1-	

chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm. According to the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code ("H&S Code") section 25249.5 (also known as and referred to hereinafter as "Proposition 65"), businesses must provide persons with a "clear and reasonable warning" before exposing individuals to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive harm. DEFENDANTS manufacture, package, distribute, market, and/or sell in California certain consumer products, as defined in Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25600.1, subd. (d) and (e), containing lead (the "SUBJECT PRODUCTS"): (1) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Cookies And Cream 88g, (2) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Peanut Butter 88g, (3) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough 88g, (4) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Caramel Peanut 88g, (5) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Brownie Cookie Dough 50g, (6) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Powder Chocolate Deluxe 34g, and (7) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Powder Peanut Butter 32g (8) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Brownie Chocolate 50g, (9) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Birthday Cake 88g, (10) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough 46g, (11) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Cinnamon Twist 46g, (12) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Birthday Cake 46g, (13) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Caramel Peanut 46g, and (14) Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Chocolate Peanut Butter 46g. 2. Lead (hereinafter, the "LISTED CHEMICAL") is a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

3. Consumption of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS causes exposures to the LISTED CHEMICAL at levels requiring a "clear and reasonable warning" under Proposition 65. DEFENDANTS exposed consumers to the LISTED CHEMICAL and have failed to provide the health hazard warnings required by Proposition 65.

4. DEFENDANTS' continued manufacturing, packaging, distributing, marketing and/or sales of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS without the required health hazard warnings, causes, or threatens to cause, individuals to be involuntarily, unknowingly and unwittingly exposed to levels of the LISTED CHEMICAL that violate Proposition 65.

## PARTIES

5. PLAINTIFF is a non-profit corporation organized under California law. ERC is dedicated to, among other causes, reducing the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic substances, consumer protection, worker safety, and corporate responsibility.

6. ERC is a person within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11 and brings this enforcement action in the public interest pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(d). H&S Code § 25249.7 (d) specifies that actions to enforce Proposition 65 may be brought by a person in the public interest, provided certain notice requirements are met and no other public prosecutor is diligently prosecuting an action for the same violation(s).

7. PERVINE FOODS, LLC, individually and doing business as CHEF ROBERT IRVINE'S FIT CRUNCH ("PERVINE FOODS"), is now, and was at all times relevant herein, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Pennsylvania and is a person in the course of doing business within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11.

8. BAKERY BARN, INC., individually and doing business as CHEF ROBERT IRVINE'S FIT CRUNCH ("BAKERY BARN"), is now, and was at all times relevant herein, a corporation organized under the laws of Pennsylvania and is a person in the course of doing business within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11.

9. DEFENDANTS own, administer, direct, control and/or operate facilities and/or agents, distributors, sellers, marketers or other retail operations who place their SUBJECT PRODUCTS into the stream of commerce in California (including but not limited to Alameda County) under the brand name Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch and other brand names, which contain the LISTED CHEMICAL without first giving clear and reasonable warnings.

10. DEFENDANTS, separately and each of them, are or were, at all times relevant to the claims in this First Amended Complaint and continuing through the present, legally responsible

for compliance with the provisions of Proposition 65. Whenever an allegation regarding any act or omission of a DEFENDANT is made herein, such allegation shall be deemed to mean that 3 DEFENDANT, or its agent, officer, director, manager, supervisor, or employee did, or so 4 authorized, or failed to do, such acts while engaged in the affairs of DEFENDANT's business operations and/or while acting within the course and scope of their employment or while 6 conducting business for DEFENDANT(S) for a commercial purpose.

11. In this First Amended Complaint, when reference is made to any act or omission of a DEFENDANT, such allegation shall mean that the owners, officers, directors, agents, employees, contractors, or representatives of DEFENDANT acted or authorized such actions, and/or negligently failed and omitted to act or adequately and properly supervise, control or direct its employees and agents while engaged in the management, direction, operation or control of the affairs of the business organization. Whenever reference is made to any act or omission of any DEFENDANT, such allegation shall be deemed to mean the act or omission of each DEFENDANT acting individually, jointly, and severally as defined by Civil Code Section 1430 et seq.

12. PLAINTIFF does not know the true names, capacities and liabilities of DEFENDANTS DOES Nos. 1-25, inclusive, and therefore sues them under fictitious names. PLAINTIFF will amend this First Amended Complaint to allege the true name and capacities of the DOE Defendants upon being ascertained. Each of these Defendants was in some way legally responsible for the acts, omissions, and/or violations alleged herein.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

13. This 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 court with jurisdiction.

14. This Court has jurisdiction over DEFENDANTS because they are business entities that do sufficient business in California, have sufficient minimum contacts in California or otherwise intentionally avail themselves of the California market, through the sale, marketing

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and use of their SUBJECT PRODUCTS in California, to render the exercise of jurisdiction over
 them by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial
 justice.

15. Venue in this action is proper in the Alameda County Superior Court because the cause, or part thereof, arises in the County of Alameda since DEFENDANTS' products are marketed, offered for sale, sold, used, and/or consumed in this county.

#### **STATUTORY BACKGROUND**

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16. The People of the State of California declared in Proposition 65 their right "[t]o be informed about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm." (Section 1(b) of Initiative Measure, Proposition 65).

17. To effectuate this goal, Proposition 65 requires that individuals be provided with a "clear and reasonable warning" before being exposed to chemicals listed by the State of California as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity. H&S Code §25249.6 states, in pertinent part:

No 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....

18. An exposure to a chemical in a consumer product is one "that results from a person's acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or any reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer product, including consumption of food." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25600.1, subd. (e).) A "consumer product" includes "any article, or component part thereof, including food, that is produced, distributed, or sold for the personal use, consumption or enjoyment of a consumer," and the term "food" is further defined to include dietary supplements. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25600.1, subd. (d) and (g).)

19. Proposition 65 provides that any "person who violates or threatens to violate" the
statute may be enjoined in a court of competent jurisdiction. (H&S Code §25249.7). The phrase
"threaten to violate" is defined to mean creating "a condition in which there is a substantial
probability that a violation will occur" (H&S Code §25249.11(e)). Violators are liable for civil

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penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation of the Act. (H&S Code §25249.7.)

# FACTUAL BACKGROUND

20. On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity. Lead 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 February 27, 1988. (27 California Code of Regulations ("CCR") §25600, *et seq.*; H&S Code §25249.5, *et seq.*).

21. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer. Lead and lead compounds became subject to the warning requirement one year later and were therefore subject to the "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of Proposition 65 beginning on October 1, 1993. (27 CCR § 25600, *et seq.;* H&S Code §25249.6, *et seq.*). Due to the high toxicity of lead, the maximum allowable dose level for lead is 0.5  $\mu$ g/day (micrograms a day) for reproductive toxicity and the no significant risk level for carcinogens is 15 $\mu$ g/day (oral).

22. To test DEFENDANTS' SUBJECT PRODUCTS for lead, PLAINTIFF hired a wellrespected and accredited testing laboratory. The results of testing undertaken by PLAINTIFF of DEFENDANTS' SUBJECT PRODUCTS show that the SUBJECT PRODUCTS tested were in violation of the 0.5  $\mu$ g/day "safe harbor" daily dose limits set forth for lead in Proposition 65's regulations. Very significant is the fact that people are being exposed to lead through ingestion as opposed to other not as harmful methods of exposure.

23. At all times relevant to this action, DEFENDANTS, therefore, have knowingly and intentionally exposed the consumers of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS to the LISTED CHEMICAL without first giving a clear and reasonable warning to such individuals.

24. The SUBJECT PRODUCTS have allegedly been sold by DEFENDANTS for use in California since at least June 8, 2015. The SUBJECT PRODUCTS continue to be distributed and sold in California without the requisite warning information.

25. As a proximate result of acts by DEFENDANTS, as persons in the course of doing
business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code §25249.11, individuals throughout the

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State of California, including in the County of Alameda, have been exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL without a clear and reasonable warning on the SUBJECT PRODUCTS. The individuals subject to the violative exposures include normal and foreseeable users of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS, as well as all other persons exposed to the SUBJECT PRODUCTS.

26. On June 8, 2018 and September 14, 2018, ERC served PERVINE FOODS, BAKERY BARN and each of the appropriate public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5" that provided PERVINE FOODS and BAKERY BARN and the public enforcement agencies with notice that PERVINE FOODS and BAKERY BARN were in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn purchasers and individuals using the SUBJECT PRODUCTS that the consumption of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS exposes them to lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity ("NOTICES"). True and correct copies of the 60-Day NOTICES are attached hereto as **Exhibits A and B** and are hereby incorporated by reference, and are available on the Attorney General's website located at http://oag.ca.gov/prop65.

27. The NOTICES were issued pursuant to, and in compliance with, the requirements of H&S Code §25249.7(d) and the statute's implementing regulations regarding the notice of the violations to be given to certain public enforcement agencies and to the violator. The NOTICES included, *inter alia*, the following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the noticing individual; the name of the alleged violators; the statute violated; the approximate time period during which violations occurred; and descriptions of the violations including the chemical involved, the route of toxic exposure, and the specific products or type of products causing the violations.

28. PERVINE FOODS and BAKERY BARN were also provided copies of the document with the NOTICES entitled "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary," which is also known as Appendix A to Title 27 of CCR §25903, via Certified Mail.

29. The California Attorney General was provided copies of the NOTICES and a
Certificate of Merit for each Notice by the attorney for the noticing party, stating that there is a

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reasonable and meritorious case for this action, and attaching factual information sufficient to establish a basis for the certificate, including the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons, pursuant to 4 H&S Code §25249.7(h) (2) via online submission.

30. After expiration of the sixty (60) day notice period, the appropriate public enforcement agencies failed to commence and diligently prosecute a cause of action under H&S Code §25249.5, et seq. against DEFENDANTS based on the allegations herein.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

# (Civil Penalties for Violations of Health and Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq. concerning the SUBJECT PRODUCTS described in the June 8, 2018 and September 14, 2018 **Proposition 65 Notices of Violation) Against DEFENDANTS**

31. PLAINTIFF re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 30, inclusive, as if specifically set forth herein.

32. By committing the acts alleged in this First Amended Complaint, DEFENDANTS at all times relevant to this action, and continuing through the present, have violated H&S Code §25249.6 by, in the course of doing business, knowingly and intentionally exposing individuals in California to a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warnings to such persons who consume the SUBJECT PRODUCTS containing the LISTED CHEMICAL, pursuant to H&S Code §§ 25249.6 and 25249.11(f).

33. By the above-described acts, DEFENDANTS are liable, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(b), for a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per day per violation for each unlawful exposure to the LISTED CHEMICAL from the SUBJECT PRODUCTS, in an amount in excess of \$1 million.

# THE NEED FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

(Injunctive Relief for Violations of Health and Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq. concerning the SUBJECT PRODUCTS described in the June 8, 2018 and September 14, 2018 **Proposition 65 Notices of Violation) Against DEFENDANTS** 

34. PLAINTIFF re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 33, as if set forth below.

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35. By committing the acts alleged in this First Amended Complaint, DEFENDANTS at all times relevant to this action, and continuing through the present, have violated, or threaten to violate, H&S Code §25249.6 by, in the course of doing business, knowingly and intentionally exposing individuals in California to a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warnings to such persons who consume the SUBJECT PRODUCTS containing the LISTED CHEMICAL, pursuant to H&S Code §§ 25249.6 and 25249.11(f).

36. By the above-described acts, DEFENDANTS have violated, or threaten to violate, H&S Code § 25249.6 and are therefore subject to preliminary and permanent injunctions ordering DEFENDANTS to stop violating Proposition 65, to provide warnings to all present and future customers, and to provide warnings to DEFENDANTS' past customers who purchased or used the SUBJECT PRODUCTS without receiving a clear and reasonable warning.

37. A remedy of injunctive relief under Proposition 65 is specifically authorized by H&S Code §25249.7(a).

38. Continuing commission by DEFENDANTS of the acts alleged above will irreparably harm the citizens of the State of California, for which harm they have no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy at law.

39. In the absence of preliminary and then permanent injunctive relief, DEFENDANTS will continue to create a substantial risk of irreparable injury by continuing to cause consumers to be involuntarily, unknowingly and unwittingly exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL through the consumption of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS.

## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Wherefore, PLAINTIFF prays for the following relief:

A. A preliminary and permanent injunction, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(b), enjoining DEFENDANTS, their agents, employees, assigns and all persons acting in concert or participating with DEFENDANTS, from manufacturing, distributing, marketing or selling the SUBJECT PRODUCTS in California without first providing a clear and reasonable warning, within the meaning of Proposition 65, that the consumers of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS are

exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL;

B. An injunctive order, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(b), compelling
DEFENDANTS to identify and locate each individual who has purchased the SUBJECT
PRODUCTS since June 8, 2015, and to provide a warning to such person that the consumption
of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS will expose the consumer to a chemical known to cause cancer,
birth defects, and other reproductive harm;

C. An assessment of civil penalties pursuant to H & S Code §25249.7(b), against DEFENDANTS in the amount of \$2,500 per day for each violation of Proposition 65, in an amount in excess of \$1 million, according to proof;

D. An award to PLAINTIFF of its reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §§ 1032 *et. seq* and 1021.5, as PLAINTIFF shall specify in further applications to the Court; and,

E.

Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

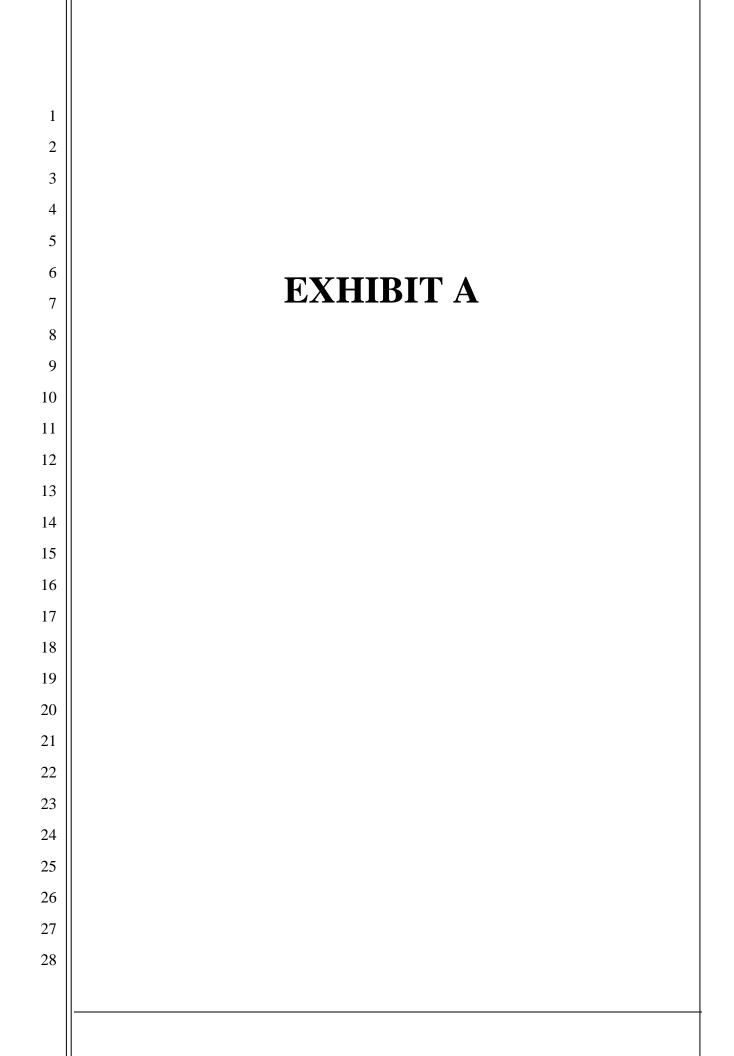
DATED: December 5, 2018

#### AQUA TERRA AERIS LAW GROUP

matt marlier

Matthew C. Maclear Anthony M. Barnes Attorneys for Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc.

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL PENALTIES AND OTHER RELIEF Case No. RG18920840





June 8, 2018

## NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I am the Executive Director of Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC"). ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

ERC has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

<u>General Information about Proposition 65</u>. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

<u>Alleged Violators</u>. The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the "Violators") are:

## Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch

<u>Consumer Products and Listed Chemical</u>. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemical in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

- 1. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Cookies And Cream Lead
- 2. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Peanut Butter Lead
- 3. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Lead
- 4. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Caramel Peanut Lead
- 5. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Brownie Cookie Dough Lead
- 6. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Powder Chocolate Deluxe Lead
- 7. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Powder Peanut Butter Lead

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

**<u>Route of Exposure</u>**. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to this chemical has been and continues to be through ingestion.

<u>Approximate Time Period of Violations</u>. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least June 8, 2015, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemical, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above products in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

Chris Heptinstall Executive Director Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch; Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch)

Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

## **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

**Re:** Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch; Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-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 the Executive Director for the noticing party.

3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Start the

Dated: June 8, 2018

Chris Heptinstall

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903**

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On June 8, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY" on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch 111 Terence Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Current President or CEO Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch 3900 Veterans Memorial Highway, #371 Bohemia, NY 11716 Current President or CEO Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch 111 Terence Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15236

On June 8, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 *ET SEQ*.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1) were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General's website, which can be accessed at https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice :

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Post Office Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On June 8, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator Lassen County 220 S. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130 mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney Monterey County 1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Allison Haley, District Attorney Napa County 1127 First Street, Suite C Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney Riverside County 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org

Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney Sacramento County 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Prop65@sacda.org

Kathryn L. Turner, Chief Deputy City Attorney San Diego City Attorney 1200 Third Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 CityAttyCrimProp65@sandiego.gov

Gregory Alker, Assistant District Attorney San Francisco County 732 Brannan Street San Francisco, CA 94103 gregory.alker@sfgov.org

Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95202 DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney San Luis Obispo County County Government Center Annex, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us

Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Yen Dang, Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 EPU@da.sccgov.org

Jeffrey S. Rosell, District Attorney Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney Sonoma County 600 Administration Dr Sonoma, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org

Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney Tulare County 221 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 95370 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney Ventura County 800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009 daspecialops@ventura.org

Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org

On June 8, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on June 8, 2018, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. Phyllis Unwoody

#### Service List

District Attorney, Alameda County 1225 Fallon Street, Suite 900 Oakland, CA 94612

District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street, Suite 202 Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney, Colusa County 346 Fifth Street Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Del Norte County 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

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District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial County 940 West Main Street, Ste 102 El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Inyo County P.O. Drawer D Independence, CA 93526 District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Los Angeles County Hall of Justice 211 West Temple St., Ste 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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District Attorney, Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced County 550 W. Main Street Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney, Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono County Post Office Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney, Nevada County 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney, Orange County 401 West Civic Center Drive Santa Ana, CA 92701 District Attorney, Placer County 10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240 Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney, Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney,San Bernardino County 303 West Third Street San Bernadino, CA 92415

District Attorney, San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1300 San Diego, CA 92101

District Attorney, San Mateo County 400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney, Sierra County 100 Courthouse Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney, Siskiyou County Post Office Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney, Solano County 675 Texas Street, Ste 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney, Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter County 463 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Yuba City, CA 95991 District Attorney, Tehama County Post Office Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093

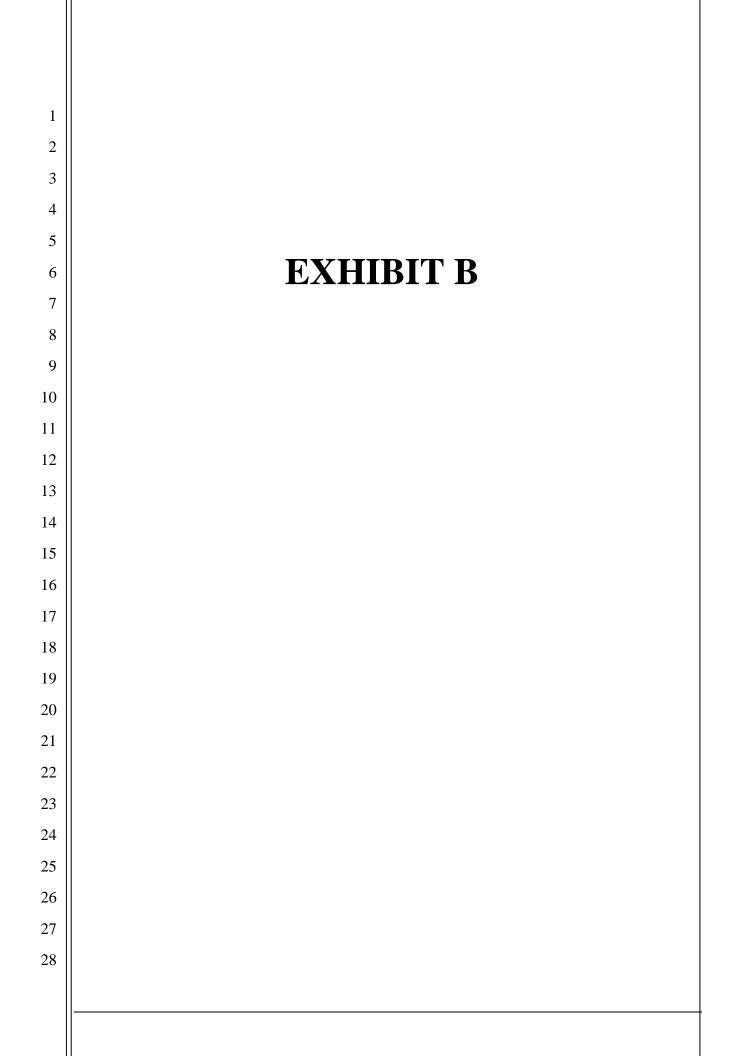
District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba County 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152 Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office City Hall East 200 N. Main Street, Suite 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Francisco, City Attorney City Hall, Room 234 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett PL San Francisco, CA 94102

San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113





Matthew Maclear <u>mcm@atalawgroup.com</u> 415-568-5200 Anthony Barnes <u>amb@atalawgroup.com</u> 415-326-3173

September 14, 2018

## NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I represent Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC"), 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92108; Tel. (619) 500-3090. ERC's Executive Director is Chris Heptinstall. ERC is a California nonprofit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

ERC has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d), ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

<u>General Information about Proposition 65</u>. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

<u>Alleged Violators</u>. The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the "Violators") are:

Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch



<u>Consumer Products and Listed Chemical</u>. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemical in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

- 1. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Brownie Chocolate 50g Lead
- 2. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Birthday Cake 88g Lead
- 3. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough 46g Lead
- 4. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Cinnamon Twist 46g Lead
- 5. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Birthday Cake 46g Lead
- 6. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Caramel Peanut 46g Lead
- 7. Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch Whey Protein Baked Bar Chocolate Peanut Butter 46g Lead

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

**<u>Route of Exposure</u>**. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to this chemical has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least September 14, 2015, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemical, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable



warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above products in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

ERC has retained ATA Law Group as legal counsel in connection with this matter. **Please direct all** communications regarding this Notice of Violation to my attention, or the attention of ATA partner Anthony Barnes, using the address or contact information indicated on the letterhead.

Sincerely, Malear

Matthew Maclear Aqua Terra Aeris Law Group

Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service OEHHA Summary (to Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch; Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch) Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)



#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

## Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch; Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch

I, Matthew Maclear, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day notice in which it is alleged that 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 or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Chraft Morlean

Dated: September 14, 2018

Matthew Maclear

490 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Suite 108 Oakland, CA 94609

*mcm@atalawgroup.com amb@atalawgroup.com* 



#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On September 14, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 *ET SEQ.*; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY" on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties listed below and depositing it at a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch 111 Terence Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Current President or CEO Pervine Foods, LLC, individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch 3900 Veterans Memorial Highway, #371 Bohemia, NY 11716 Current President or CEO Bakery Barn, Inc., individually and doing business as Chef Robert Irvine's Fit Crunch 111 Terence Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15236

On September 14, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General's website, which can be accessed at https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice :

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

490 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Suite 108 Oakland, CA 94609

mcm@atalawgroup.com amb@atalawgroup.com



On September 14, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Nancy O'Malley, District Attorney Alameda County 7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650 Oakland, CA 94621 CEPDProp65@acgov.org

Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org

Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator Lassen County 220 S. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130 mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney Monterey County 1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Allison Haley, District Attorney Napa County 1127 First Street, Suite C Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney Riverside County 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney Sacramento County 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Prop65@sacda.org

Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney San Diego City Attorney 1200 Third Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov

Gregory Alker, Assistant District Attorney San Francisco County 732 Brannan Street San Francisco, CA 94103 gregory.alker@sfgov.org

Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95202 DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org

Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney San Luis Obispo County County Government Center Annex, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us

Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

490 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Suite 108 Oakland, CA 94609

mcm@atalawgroup.com amb@atalawgroup.com



Yen Dang, Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 EPU@da.sccgov.org

Jeffrey S. Rosell, District Attorney Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney Sonoma County 600 Administration Dr Sonoma, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney Tulare County 221 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 95370 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney Ventura County 800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009 daspecialops@ventura.org

Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org

On September 14, 2018, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto, and depositing it at a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on September 14, 2018, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Phyllis Dunwoody



Service List

Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* September 14, 2018 Page 8

> District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street, Suite 202 Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

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District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093 District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba County 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152 Marysville, CA 95901

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