Fax Server

Environmental Researc Fax: 18662346280 To	: 5102675739@rcfax.com	Fax: (510) 267-5739	Page: 3 of 27	05/28/2019 12:55 PM CM-01
ATTORNEY CR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar Charles Poss (SBN 325366) Environmental Research Center, Inc. 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400 San Diego, CA 92108 TELEPHONE NO: 619-500-3090	fax.no. 706-85	8-0326	FOR COURT FILED BY FA ALAMEDA COUNT	USE ONLY
ATTORNEY FCR (Name): Plaintiff Environmen superior court of california, county of A STREET ADDRESS: 1225 Fallon Street MAILING ADDRESS: 1225 Fallon Street		er, mc.	May 28, 2019 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COL	IRT
CITY AND ZIP COJE: Oakland, CA 94612 BRANCH NAME: Rene C. Davidson CASE NAME:			By Shabra Iyamu, Dej CASE NUMBER: RG190206	
Environmental Research Center, Inc	T	LLC ise Designation	CASE NUMBER:	
✓ Unlimited Limited (Amount (Amount demanded demanded is exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less)	(Cal. Rules of	Joinder bearance by defend f Court, rule 3.402)	DEPT:	
	low must be completed		on page 2).	
 Check one box below for the case type the Auto Tort 	Contract		Provisionally Complex Civil Li	
Auto (22) Uninsured motorist (46) Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	Rule 3.740 coll Other collection	ns (09)	(Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.40 Antitrust/Trade regulation Construction detect (10)	7
Asbestos (04) Product liability (24)	Other contract Real Property		Mass tort (40) Securities litigation (28) Environmental/Toxic tort ((30)
Medical malpractice (45) Other PI/PD/WD (23) Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort	Eminent doma condemnation Wrongful evicti	(14)	Insurance coverage claim above listed provisionally types (41)	is arising from the complex case
Business tort/unfair business practice (07 Civil rights (08)	7) Other real prop Unlawful Detainer		Enforcement of Judgment	
Defamation (13) Fraud (16) Intellectual property (19)	Residential (32	·	Miscellaneous Civil Complaint RICO (27) Other complaint (not spec	
Professional negligence (25) Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	Judicial Review	e (05) itration award (11)	Miscellaneous Civil Petition	
Employment Wrongful termination (36) Other employment (15)	Writ of mandat	e (02)	Other petition (not specific	ed above) (43)
 This case is is not com factors requiring exceptional judicial mana a. Large number of separately repre- 	igement:	processing	ules of Court. If the case is co or of witnesses	mplex, mark the
b. Extensive motion practice raising issues that will be time-consumin	difficult or novel e. g to resolve	Coordination	with related actions pending tles, states, or countries, or in	a federal court
 c Substantial amount of documenta 3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a 4. Number of causes of action (specify): 2 	humanut hum N	nonnond .	ostjudgment judicial supervis declaratory or injunctive relief	paraversary,
5. This case is is is not a cla 6. If there are any known related cases, file a Date: 5/28/2019	ss action suit. and serve a notice of r	elated case. (You)	may use form CM-015.)	
Charles Poss (TYPE CR PRINT NAME)			SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY F	OR PARTY)
 Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the under the Probate Code, Family Code, or 	first paper filed in the	TICE action or proceedir	ng (except small claims cases	or cases filed
in sanctions. • File this cover sheet in addition to any cov • If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et other parties to the action or proceeding	er sheet required by lo seq. of the California	ocal court rule. Rules of Court, you	u must serve a copy of this co	ver sheet on all
• Unless this is a collections case under rule	~~~~~			
Fom Adopted for Mandatory Use Ludicial Council of California CM-010 [Rev. July 1, 2007]	CIVIL CASE CO	VER SHEET	Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2. Cal. Standards of Ju	30, 3.220, 3.4003.403, 3.7 Idicial Administration, std. 3 www.courtinfo.ce. American LegalNet, In www.Forms <i>Workflow</i> .c

CM-010

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 Contract

Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)

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/WD (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/WD (23) Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall) Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD (e.g., assault, vandalism) Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress Other PI/PD/WD Non-PI/PD/WD (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/WD Tort (35) Employment Wrongful Termination (36) Other Employment (15)

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 (nondomestic 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 (nonharassment) 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

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM

THIS FORM IS REQUIRED IN ALL NEW UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE FILINGS IN THE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

[] Oakland, Rene C. Davidson Alameda County Courthouse (446)

[] Hayward Hall of Justice (447)

[] Pleasanton, Gale-Schenone Hall of Justice (448)

Case Number:

Civil Case Cover Sheet Category	Civil Case Cover Sheet Case Type	Alame	Alameda County Case Type (check only one)		
Auto Tort	Auto tort (22)	[] 34 Auto tort (G)			
		Is this	an un	insured motorist case? [] yes [] no
Other PI /PD /	Asbestos (04)	[]	75	Asbestos (D)	
WD Tort	Product liability (24)	[]	89		
	Medical malpractice (45)	[]	97		
	Other PI/PD/WD tort (23)	[]	33	Other PI/PD/WD tort (G)	
Non - PI /PD /	Bus tort / unfair bus. practice (07)	[]	79	Bus tort / unfair bus. practice (G)	
WD Tort	Civil rights (08)	[]	80	Civil rights (G)	
	Defamation (13)	[]	84	Defamation (G)	
	Fraud (16)	[]	24	Fraud (G)	
	Intellectual property (19)	[]	87	Intellectual property (G)	
	Professional negligence (25)	[]	59	Professional negligence - non-medica	al (G)
	Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	[]	03	Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (G)	
Employment	Wrongful termination (36)	[]	38	Wrongful termination (G)	
	Other employment (15)	[]	85	Other employment (G)	
		[]	53	Labor comm award confirmation	
		[]	54	Notice of appeal - L.C.A.	
Contract	Breach contract / Wrnty (06)	[]	04	Breach contract / Wrnty (G)	
	Collections (09)	[]	81	Collections (G)	
	Insurance coverage (18)	[]	86	Ins. coverage - non-complex (G)	
	Other contract (37)	[]	98	Other contract (G)	
Real Property	Eminent domain / Inv Cdm (14)	[]	18	Eminent domain / Inv Cdm (G)	
	Wrongful eviction (33)	[]	17	Wrongful eviction (G)	
	Other real property (26)	[]	36	Other real property (G)	
Unlawful Detainer	Commercial (31)	[]	94	Unlawful Detainer - commercial	Is the deft. in possession
	Residential (32)	[]	47 21	Unlawful Detainer - residential Unlawful detainer - drugs	of the property? []Yes []No
Judicial Review	Drugs (38) Asset forfeiture (05)		41	Asset forfeiture	
	Petition re: arbitration award (11)	[]	62	Pet. re: arbitration award	
	Writ of Mandate (02)		49	Writ of mandate	
				A action (Publ.Res.Code section 21	000 et seq) [] Yes [] No
	Other judicial review (39)	[]	64	Other judicial review	<i></i>
Provisionally	Antitrust / Trade regulation (03)	[]	77	Antitrust / Trade regulation	
Complex	Construction defect (10)	[]	82	Construction defect	
	Claims involving mass tort (40)	[]	78	Claims involving mass tort	
	Securities litigation (28)	[]	91	Securities litigation	
	Toxic tort / Environmental (30)	[]	93	Toxic tort / Environmental	
	Ins covrg from cmplx case type (41)	[]	95	Ins covrg from complex case type	
Enforcement of	Enforcement of judgment (20)	[]	19	Enforcement of judgment	
Judgment		[]	08	Confession of judgment	
Misc Complaint	RICO (27)	[]	90	RICO (G)	
	Partnership / Corp. governance (21)	[]	88	Partnership / Corp. governance (G)	
	Other complaint (42)	[X]	68	All other complaints (G)	
Misc. Civil Petition	Other petition (43)	[]	06	Change of name	
		[]	69	Other petition	

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

Page: 6 of 27

FILED BY FAX ALAMEDA COUNTY

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

By Shabra Iyamu, Deputy

May 28, 2019

From: Environmental Researc Fax: 18662346280

To: 5102675739@rcfax.com Fax: (510) 267-5739

05/28/2019 12:55 PM

SUM-100

SUMN	IONS
(CITACION	JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

MUSCLE FEAST, LLC and DOES 1-100

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

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC. a California non-profit corporation,

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), 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), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (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), 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), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (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): Alameda County Superior Court

CASE NUMBER (Número del Case RG19020603

1225 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612

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): Charles Poss, ERC, Inc., 3111 Camino Del Rio North. Ste. 400, S-5 Diago, CA 92108 (619) 500-3090 K.J.jamie

Term Adented for Mandatory Llos	OURIMONO.	0 1011E I 89.446.60.40E
C C AUTO OF ALLANIED	under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) other (specify): 4. by personal delivery on (date):	CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) Page 1 of 1
No.	3 on behalf of <i>(specify)</i> :	
COURTOR CHI	 NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served as an individual defendant. as the person sued under the fictitious name of <i>(specify)</i> 	:
• •	mmons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).) sta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010	2)).
DATE: May 28, 2019	(Secretario)	, Deputy (Adjunto)

Fax: (510) 267-5739 05/28/2019 12:55 PM From: Environmental Researc Fax: 18662346280 To: 5102675739@rcfax.com Page: 7 of 27 FILED BY FAX ALAMEDA COUNTY 1 Charles Poss (SBN 325366) May 28, 2019 Environmental Research Center, Inc. 2 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT San Diego, CA 92108 3 By Shabra Iyamu, Deputy Ph: (619) 500-3090 CASE NUMBER: 4 Fax: (706) 858-0326 RG19020603 5 Attorney for Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 10 11 ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, CASE NO. INC., a California non-profit corporation 12 **COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE** Plaintiff, AND DECLARATORY RELIEF AND 13 CIVIL PENALTIES VS. 14 **MUSCLE FEAST, LLC and DOES 1-100** [Miscellancous Civil Complaint (42)] 15 Proposition 65, Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq.] Defendants. 16 17 18 Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. hereby alleges: 19 Ι 20 **INTRODUCTION** 21 1. Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. (hereinafter "Plaintiff" or "ERC") brings 22 this action as a private attorney general enforcer and in the public interest pursuant to Health & 23 Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (d). The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement 24 Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code section 25249.5 et seq.) also known as "Proposition 65," 25 mandates that businesses with ten or more employees must provide a "clear and reasonable 26 warning" prior to exposing any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or 27 reproductive toxicity. Lead is a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth 28 defects, and other reproductive harm. This Complaint seeks injunctive and declaratory relief Page 1 of 8 Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief and Civil Penalties

and civil penalties to remedy the ongoing failure of Defendants Muscle Feast, LLC ("Muscle Feast") and Does 1-100 (hereinafter individually referred to as "Defendant" or collectively as "Defendants"), to warn consumers that they have been exposed to lead from a number of Muscle Feast's nutritional health products as set forth in paragraph 3 at levels exceeding the applicable Maximum Allowable Dose Level ("MADL") and requiring a warning pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.6.

II

PARTIES

2. Plaintiff ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by reducing the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

3. Defendant Muscle Feast, LLC is a business that develops, manufactures, markets, distributes, and/or sells nutritional health products that have exposed users to lead in the State of California within the relevant statute of limitations period. These "SUBJECT PRODUCTS" (as identified in the Notice of Violation dated February 28, 2019 attached hereto as **Exhibit A**) are: (1) MuscleFeast Pumped 2.0 Sour Apple, (2) MuscleFeast Pumped 2.0 Grape, (3) MuscleFeast Grass Fed 100% Natural Ultimate Gainer Vanilla, (4) MuscleFeast Grass Fed 100% Natural Ultimate Gainer Unflavored, (5) MuscleFeast Organic Spirulina, (6) MuscleFeast Maltodextrin Unflavored, and (7) MuscleFeast Grass Fed 100% Natural Recover Chocolate. Muscle Feast is a company subject to Proposition 65 as it employs ten or more persons and has employed ten or more persons at all times relevant to this action.

4. Defendants Does 1-100, are named herein under fictitious names, as their true names and capacities are unknown to ERC. ERC is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of said Does is responsible, in some actionable manner, for the events and happenings hereinafter referred to, either through said Does' conduct, or through the conduct of its agents, servants or employees, or in some other manner, causing the harms alleged by ERC in this Complaint. When said true names and capacities of Does are ascertained, ERC will seek leave

1

to amend this Complaint to set forth the same.

Ш

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to California Constitution Article VI, Section 10, which grants the Superior Court original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial courts. The statute under which this action is brought does not specify any other basis for jurisdiction.

6. This Court has jurisdiction over Muscle Feast because Muscle Feast has sufficient minimum contacts with California, and otherwise intentionally avails itself of the California market through the marketing, distribution, and/or sale of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS in the State of California so as to render the exercise of jurisdiction over it by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

7. The Complaint is based on allegations contained in the Notice of Violation dated February 28, 2019, served on the California Attorney General, other public enforcers, and Muscle Feast. The Notice of Violation constitutes adequate notice to Muscle Feast because it provided adequate information to allow Muscle Feast to assess the nature of the alleged violations, consistent with Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations. A certificate of merit and a certificate of service accompanied each copy of the Notice of Violation, and both certificates comply with Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations. The Notice of Violation served on Muscle Feast also included a copy of "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary." Service of the Notice of Violation and accompanying documents complied with Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of this Notice of Violation and associated documents. More than 60 days have passed since ERC mailed the Notice of Violation and no public enforcement entity has filed a Complaint in this case.

8. This Court is the proper venue for the action because the causes of action have arisen in the County of Alameda where some of the violations of law have occurred, and will continue to occur, due to the ongoing sale of Muscle Feast's products. Furthermore, venue is proper in this

Page 3 of 8

1 Court under Code of Civil Procedure section 395.5 and Health & Safety Code section 25249.7. 2 IV 3 **STATUTORY BACKGROUND** 4 9. The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 is an initiative statute 5 passed as "Proposition 65" by an overwhelming majority vote of the people in November of 6 1986. 7 10. The warning requirement of Proposition 65 is contained in Health & Safety Code 8 section 25249.6, which provides: 9 No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to 10 cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual, except as provided in Section 11 25249.10. 12 13 11. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA"), a division of Cal 14 EPA, is the lead agency in charge of the implementation of Proposition 65. OEHHA 15 administers the Proposition 65 program and administers regulations that govern Proposition 65 16 in general, including warnings to comply with the statute. The warning regulations are found at 17 Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, Article 6. The regulations define expose as "to 18 cause to ingest, inhale, contact via body surfaces or otherwise come into contact with a listed 19 chemical. An individual may come into contact with a listed chemical through water, air, food, 20 consumer products and any other environmental exposure as well as occupational exposures." 21 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25102, subd. (i).) 22 12. In this case, the exposures are caused by consumer products. A consumer product is 23 defined as "any article, or component part thereof, including food, that is produced, distributed, 24 or sold for the personal use, consumption or enjoyment of a consumer." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 25 27, § 25600.1, subd. (d).) Food includes "dietary supplements as defined in California Code of 26 Regulations, title 17, section 10200." (Id. at subd. (g).) A consumer product exposure is "an 27 exposure that results from a person's acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or any 28 reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer product, including consumption of a food." (Id. at

| || subd. (e).)

13. On August 30, 2016, the Office of Administrative Law approved the adoption of OEHHA's amendments to Article 6, Clear and Reasonable Warnings of the California Code of Regulations. This action repealed virtually all the regulatory provisions of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, Article 6 (sections 25601 et seq.) The action replaced the repealed sections with a new regulation set forth in two new Subarticles to Article 6 that became operative on August 30, 2018. The repealed and new regulations provide, among other things, methods of transmission and content of warnings deemed to comply with Proposition 65. Muscle Feast is subject to the warning regulations set forth both prior to and subsequent to August 30, 2018.

14. Prior to the enactment of the new warning regulations, whenever a clear and reasonable warning was required under Health & Safety Code section 25249.6, the "method employed to transmit the warning must be reasonably calculated considering the alternative methods available under the circumstances, to make the warning message available prior to exposure." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §25601.) The warning requirement would be satisfied by a warning that appeared on a product's label or other labeling, shelf labeling, signs, a system of signs, public advertising identifying the system and toll-free information services, or any other system, that provided clear and reasonable warnings. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §25603.1, subd. (a)-(d).) Pursuant to the new warning regulations, consumer product warnings "must be prominently displayed on a label, labeling, or sign, and must be displayed with such conspicuousness as compared with other words, statements, designs or devices on the label, labeling, or sign, as to render the warning likely to be seen, read, and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use." (Id. at § 25601, subd. (c).)

15. Proposition 65 establishes a procedure by which the State is to develop a list of chemicals "known to the State to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity." (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.8.) There is no duty to provide a clear and reasonable warning until 12-months after the chemical is published on the State list. (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.10, subd. (b).)
16. Lead was listed as a chemical known to the State of California to cause developmental

toxicity in the fetus and male and female reproductive toxicity on February 27, 1987. Lead was
listed as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1992. (State
of California EPA OEHHA Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986
Chemicals Known to the State to Cause Cancer and Reproductive Toxicity.) The MADL for
lead as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity is 0.5 micrograms per day. (Cal. Code
Regs., tit. 27, §25805, subd. (b).) The No Significant Risk Level for lead as a carcinogen is 15
micrograms per day. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §25705, subd. (b).)

17. Proposition 65 provides that any person "violating or threatening to violate" Proposition
65 may be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. (Health & Safety Code, §25249.7,
subd. (a).) To "threaten to violate" means "to create a condition in which there is a substantial
probability that a violation will occur." (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.11, subd. (e).)
Furthermore, violators are subject to a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation.
(Health & Safety Code, § 25249.7, subd. (b)(1).)

18. Proposition 65 may be enforced by any person in the public interest who provides notice sixty days before filing suit to both the violator and designated law enforcement officials. The failure of law enforcement officials to file a timely complaint enables a citizen suit to be filed pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivisions (c) and (d).

V

STATEMENT OF FACTS

19. Muscle Feast has developed, manufactured, marketed, distributed, and/or sold the SUBJECT PRODUCTS containing lead into the State of California. Consumption of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS according to the directions and/or recommendations provided for said products causes consumers to be exposed to lead at levels exceeding the 0.5 micrograms per day MADL and requiring a warning. Consumers have been ingesting these products for many years, without any knowledge of their exposure to this very dangerous chemical.

20. For many years, Muscle Feast has knowingly and intentionally exposed numerous
 persons to lead without providing any type of Proposition 65 warning. Prior to ERC's Notice of
 Violation and this Complaint, Muscle Feast failed to provide a warning on the labels of the

Page 6 of 8

Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief and Civil Penalties

SUBJECT PRODUCTS or provide any other legally acceptable warning. Muscle Feast has, at all times relevant hereto, been aware that the SUBJECT PRODUCTS contained lead and that persons using these products have been exposed to this chemical. Muscle Feast has been aware of the presence of lead in the SUBJECT PRODUCTS and has failed to disclose the presence of this chemical to the public, who undoubtedly believe they have been ingesting totally healthy and pure products pursuant to the company's statements.

21. Both prior and subsequent to ERC's Notice of Violation, Muscle Feast failed to provide consumers of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS with a clear and reasonable warning that they have been exposed to a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm. This failure to warn is ongoing.

<u>FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION</u> (Violation of Section 25249.6 of the Health and Safety Code, Failure to Provide Clear and Reasonable Warning under Proposition 65)

22. ERC refers to paragraphs 1-21, inclusive, and incorporates them herein by this reference.

23. By committing the acts alleged above, Muscle Feast has, in the course of doing business, knowingly and intentionally exposed users of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS to lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm, without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individuals within the meaning of Health & Safety Code section 25249.6. In doing so, Muscle Feast has violated Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 and continues to violate the statute with each successive sale of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS.

24. Said violations render Muscle Feast liable for civil penalties, up to \$2,500 per day for each violation, and subject Muscle Feast to injunction.

<u>SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION</u> (<u>Declaratory Relief</u>)

25. ERC refers to paragraphs 1-24, inclusive, and incorporates them herein by this reference.

26. There exists an actual controversy relating to the legal rights and duties of the Parties, within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure section 1060, between ERC and Muscle Feast, concerning whether Muscle Feast has exposed individuals to a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm without providing clear and reasonable warning.

VI

PRAYER

WHEREFORE ERC prays for relief as follows:

1. On the First Cause of Action, for civil penalties for each and every violation according to proof;

2. On the First Cause of Action, and pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (a), for such temporary restraining orders, preliminary and permanent injunctive orders, or other orders as are necessary to prevent Muscle Feast from exposing persons to lead without providing clear and reasonable warning;

3. On the Second Cause of Action, for a declaratory judgment pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1060 declaring that Muscle Feast has exposed individuals to lead without providing clear and reasonable warning; and

4. On all Causes of Action, for reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 or the substantial benefit theory;

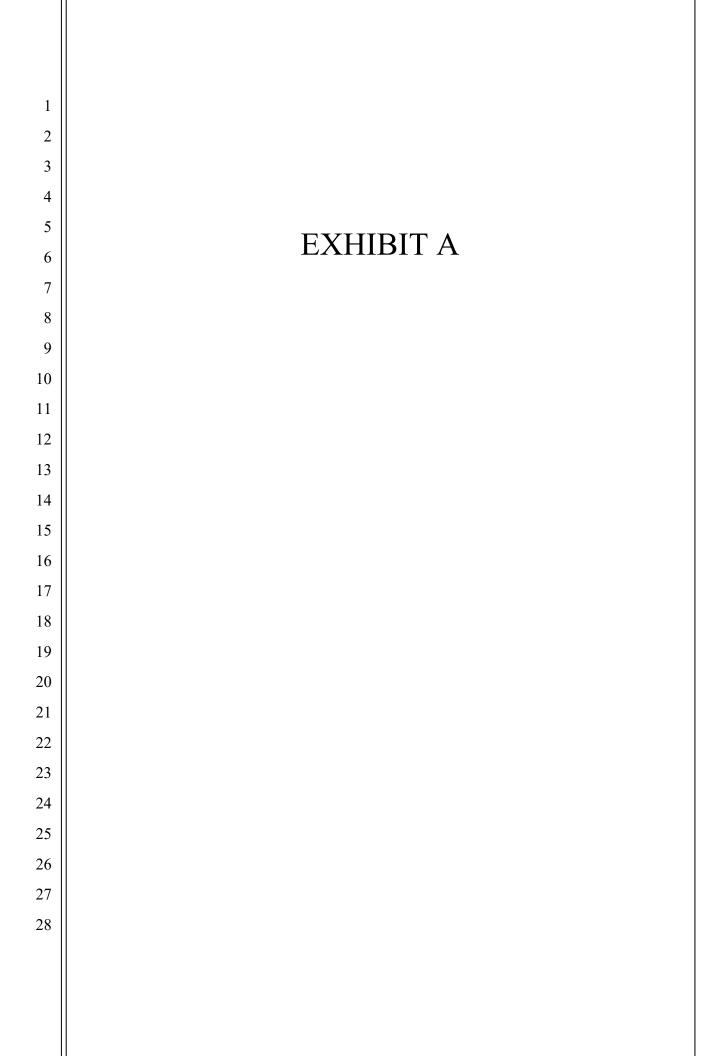
5. For costs of suit herein; and

6. For such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

DATED: 5/28/2019

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

Charles W. Poss In-House Counsel for Plaintiff





February 28, 2019

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

Dear Alleged Violator 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 Violator 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 Violator 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 Violator identified below.

<u>Alleged Violator</u>. The name of the company covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the "Violator") is:

Muscle Feast, LLC

<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. MuscleFeast Pumped 2.0 Sour Apple Lead
- 2. MuscleFeast Pumped 2.0 Grape Lead
- 3. MuscleFeast Grass Fed 100% Natural Ultimate Gainer Vanilla Lead
- 4. MuscleFeast Grass Fed 100% Natural Ultimate Gainer Unflavored Lead
- 5. MuscleFeast Organic Spirulina Lead
- 6. MuscleFeast Maltodextrin Unflavored Lead

7. MuscleFeast Grass Fed 100% Natural Recover Chocolate - 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 February 28, 2016, 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 Violator violated Proposition 65 because it 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 Violator 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,

Ving front the

Chris Heptinstall Executive Director Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service OEHHA Summary (to Muscle Feast, LLC and its Registered Agent for Service of Process only) 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 Muscle Feast, LLC

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day notice in which it is alleged the party 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 Violator 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.

Destation

Dated: February 28, 2019

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 February 28, 2019, 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 each of the parties 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 Muscle Feast, LLC 1320 Boston Road Nashport, OH 43830 Jonathan Sean Gillespie (Registered Agent for Muscle Feast, LLC) 2447 Crestview Woods Ct. Newark, OH 43055

Current President or CEO Muscle Feast, LLC 2447 Crestview Woods Ct. Newark, OH 43055

On February 28, 2019, 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 February 28, 2019, 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:

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

Barbara Yook, District Attorney Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249 Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org

Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney Inyo County 168 North Edwards Street Independence, CA 93526 inyoda@inyocounty.us

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

Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney San Francisco City Attorney 1390 Market Street, 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102 Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.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, 4th 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 February 28, 2019, 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 February 28, 2019, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Phyllis Unnor

Phyllis Dunwoody

Service List

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, 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 778 Pacific St. Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721

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

District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4th Floor Eureka, CA 95501

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

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

District Attorney, Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637

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, 2nd 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 2nd 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 Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113

APPENDIX A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as "Proposition 65"). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. The reader is directed to the statute and OEHHA implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001.¹ These implementing regulations are available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html.

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The "Proposition 65 List." Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to

¹ All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html.

female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at: <u>http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html</u>.

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before "knowingly and intentionally" exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be "clear and reasonable." This means that the warning must: (1) clearly make known that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

Prohibition from discharges into drinking water. A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Period. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical.

Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employs a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses "no significant risk." This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific "No Significant Risk Levels" (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at:

http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the "no observable effect level" divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant² it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a "significant amount" of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a "significant amount" of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A "significant amount" means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the "no significant risk" level for chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the "no observable effect" level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

² See Section 25501(a)(4).

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law;
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form.

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included in Appendix B and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

Revised: May 2017

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.