CM-010

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):
Charles W. 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.: 706-858-0326
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc.

FOR COURT USE ONLY

FILED BY FAX
ALAMEDA COUNTY
July 27, 2020
CLERK OF
THE SUPERIOR COURT
By Cheryl Clark, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Alameda
STREET ADDRESS: 1225 Fallon Street
MAILING ADDRESS: 1225 Fallon Street
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Oakland, CA 94612
BRANCH NAME: Rene C. Davidson

CASE NAME:
Environmental Research Center, Inc. v. Detox Organics, LLC et al.

CASE NUMBER:
RG20068998

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET
☐ Unlimited (Amount demanded exceeds $25,000) ☐ Limited (Amount demanded is $25,000 or less)

Complex Case Designation
☐ Counter ☐ Joinder
Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)

CASE NUMBER:

JUDGE:

DEPT:

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

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

Auto Tort
☐ Auto (22)
☐ Uninsured motorist (46)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort
☐ Asbestos (04)
☐ Product liability (24)
☐ Medical malpractice (45)
☐ Other PI/PD/WD (23)

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort
☐ Business tort/unfair business practice (07)
☐ Civil rights (08)
☐ Defamation (13)
☐ Fraud (16)
☐ Intellectual property (19)
☐ Professional negligence (25)
☐ Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)

Employment
☐ Wrongful termination (36)
☐ Other employment (15)

Contract
☐ Breach of contract/warranty (06)
☐ Rule 3.740 collections (09)
☐ Other collections (09)
☐ Insurance coverage (18)
☐ Other contract (37)

Real Property
☐ Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14)
☐ Wrongful eviction (33)
☐ Other real property (26)

Unlawful Detainer
☐ Commercial (31)
☐ Residential (32)
☐ Drugs (38)

Judicial Review
☐ Asset forfeiture (05)
☐ Petition re: arbitration award (11)
☐ Writ of mandate (02)
☐ Other judicial review (39)

Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400–3.403)
☐ Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)
☐ Construction defect (10)
☐ Mass tort (40)
☐ Securities litigation (28)
☐ Environmental/Toxic tort (30)
☐ Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)

Enforcement of Judgment
☐ Enforcement of judgment (20)

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint
☐ RICO (27)
☐ Other complaint *(not specified above)* (42)

Miscellaneous Civil Petition
☐ Partnership and corporate governance (21)
☐ Other petition *(not specified above)* (43)

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

Date: July 27, 2020
Charles W. Poss
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

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

Unified Rules of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda

F. ADDENDUM TO CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET

Short Title: Environmental Research Center, Inc. v. Detox Organics, LLC **Case Number:**

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM

FILED BY FAX
ALAMEDA COUNTY
July 27, 2020
CLERK OF
THE SUPERIOR COURT
By Cheryl Clark, Deputy
CASE NUMBER:
RG20068998

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)

Civil Case Cover Sheet Category	Civil Case Cover Sheet Case Type	Alameda County Case Type (check only one)		
Auto Tort	Auto tort (22)	[ ]	34	Auto tort (G) **Is this an uninsured motorist case? [ ] yes [ ] no**
Other PI /PD / WD Tort	Asbestos (04)	[ ]	75	Asbestos (D)
	Product liability (24)	[ ]	89	Product liability (not asbestos or toxic tort/environmental) (G)
	Medical malpractice (45)	[ ]	97	Medical malpractice (G)
	Other PI/PD/WD tort (23)	[ ]	33	Other PI/PD/WD tort (G)
Non - PI /PD / WD Tort	Bus tort / unfair bus. practice (07)	[ ]	79	Bus tort / unfair bus. practice (G)
	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-medical (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	Unlawful Detainer - residential **of the property?**
	Drugs (38)	[ ]	21	Unlawful detainer - drugs **[ ] Yes [ ] No**
Judicial Review	Asset forfeiture (05)	[ ]	41	Asset forfeiture
	Petition re: arbitration award (11)	[ ]	62	Pet. re: arbitration award
	Writ of Mandate (02)	☐	49	Writ of mandate **Is this a CEQA action (Publ.Res.Code section 21000 et seq) ☐ Yes [ ] No**
	Other judicial review (39)	[ ]	64	Other judicial review
Provisionally Complex	Antitrust / Trade regulation (03)	[ ]	77	Antitrust / Trade regulation
	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 Judgment	Enforcement of judgment (20)	[ ]	19	Enforcement of 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

SUM-100

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

DETOX ORGANICS, LLC; MORELLIFIT, LLC, individually and dba DETOX ORGANICS; (Additional Parties Attachment Form is Attached)

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

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

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

FILED BY FAX
ALAMEDA COUNTY
July 27, 2020
CLERK OF
THE SUPERIOR COURT
By Cheryl Clark, Deputy

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

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (*www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp*), 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
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, California 94612

CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso):
RG20068998

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 W. Poss, ERC, Inc., 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Ste. 40[illegible] (619) 500-3090

DATE: July 27, 2020
(Fecha)
Clerk, by *(Secretario)* Cheryl Clark Digitally , Deputy *(Adjunto)*

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

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA EUREKA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served
1. ☐ as an individual defendant.
2. ☐ as the person sued under the fictitious name of *(specify):*
3. ☐ on behalf of *(specify):*
   under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation) ☐ CCP 416.60 (minor)
   ☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) ☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
   ☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) ☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
   ☐ other *(specify):*
4. ☐ by personal delivery on *(date):*

SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
ERC, Inc. v. Detox Organics, LLC et al.	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

- This form may be used as an attachment to any summons if space does not permit the listing of all parties on the summons.
- If this attachment is used, insert the following statement in the plaintiff or defendant box on the summons: "Additional Parties Attachment form is attached."

List additional parties *(Check only one box. Use a separate page for each type of party.)*:

☐ Plaintiff ☑ Defendant ☐ Cross-Complainant ☐ Cross-Defendant

MMORELLI, LLC, individually and dba DETOX ORGANICS; and DOES 1-100

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use
Judicial Council of California
SUM-200(A) [Rev. January 1, 2007]

ADDITIONAL PARTIES ATTACHMENT
Attachment to Summons

Charles W. Poss (SBN 325366)
Environmental Research Center, Inc.
3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108
Ph: (619) 500-3090
Email: charles.poss@erc501c3.org
Attorney for Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc.

FILED BY FAX
ALAMEDA COUNTY
July 27, 2020
CLERK OF
THE SUPERIOR COURT
By Cheryl Clark, Deputy
CASE NUMBER:
RG20068998

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

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

Plaintiff,

vs.

DETOX ORGANICS, LLC; MORELLIFIT, LLC, individually and dba DETOX ORGANICS; MMORELLI, LLC, individually and dba DETOX ORGANICS; and DOES 1-100

Defendants.

CASE NO.

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF AND CIVIL PENALTIES

[Miscellaneous Civil Complaint (42)] Proposition 65, Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq.]

Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. hereby alleges:

I

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. (hereinafter "Plaintiff" or "ERC") brings this action as a private attorney general enforcer and in the public interest pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (d). The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.*) also known as "Proposition 65," mandates that businesses with ten or more employees must provide a "clear and reasonable

warning" prior to exposing any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. Lead is a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm. This Complaint seeks injunctive and declaratory relief and civil penalties to remedy the ongoing failure of Defendants Detox Organics, LLC, MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics, and MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics (collectively "Detox Organics") 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 Detox Organics' 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 Detox Organics 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 March 19, 2020 attached hereto as **Exhibit A** are: (1) Detox Organics Daily Protein Vanilla Weight Loss Shake, (2) Detox Organics Daily Superfoods Chocolate Detox Shake , and (3) Detox Organics Thermo Boost Metabolism & Thyroid Support. Detox Organics 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 to amend this Complaint to set forth the same.

III

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 Detox Organics because Detox Organics 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 March 19, 2020, served on the California Attorney General, other public enforcers, and Detox Organics. The Notice of Violation constitutes adequate notice to Detox Organics because it provided adequate information to allow Detox Organics 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 Detox Organics 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 the 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 Detox Organics' products. Furthermore, venue is proper in this Court under Code of Civil Procedure section 395.5 and Health & Safety Code section 25249.7.

IV

STATUTORY BACKGROUND

9. The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 is an initiative statute passed as "Proposition 65" by an overwhelming majority vote of the people in November of 1986.

10. The warning requirement of Proposition 65 is contained in Health & Safety Code section 25249.6, which provides:

> 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, except as provided in Section 25249.10.

11. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA"), a division of Cal EPA, is the lead agency in charge of the implementation of Proposition 65. OEHHA administers the Proposition 65 program and administers regulations that govern Proposition 65 in general, including warnings to comply with the statute. The warning regulations are found at Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, Article 6. The regulations define expose as "to cause to ingest, inhale, contact via body surfaces or otherwise come into contact with a listed chemical. An individual may come into contact with a listed chemical through water, air, food, consumer products and any other environmental exposure as well as occupational exposures." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25102, subd. (i).)

12. In this case, the exposures are caused by consumer products. A consumer product is defined as "any article, or component part thereof, including food, that is produced, distributed, or sold for the personal use, consumption or enjoyment of a consumer." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25600.1, subd. (d).) Food "includes 'dietary supplements' as defined in California Code

of Regulations, title 17, section 10200." (*Id.* at subd. (g).) A consumer product exposure is "an exposure that results from a person's acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or any 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 of the regulatory provisions of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, Article 6 (sections 25601 *et seq*.) and replaced the repealed sections with new regulations set forth in two new Subarticles to Article 6 that became operative on August 30, 2018 (the "New Warning Regulations"). The New Warning Regulations provide, among other things, methods of transmission and content of warnings deemed to comply with Proposition 65. Detox Organics is subject to the warning requirements set forth in the New Warning Regulations that became operative on August 30, 2018.

14. Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 provides that "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 . . . ." The New Warning Regulations apply when clear and reasonable warnings are required under Section 25249.6. 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 NSRL 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. Detox Organics 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, Detox Organics 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, Detox Organics failed to provide a warning on the labels of the

SUBJECT PRODUCTS or provide any other legally acceptable warning. Detox Organics 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. Detox Organics 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, Detox Organics 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.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
(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, Detox Organics 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, Detox Organics 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 Detox Organics liable for civil penalties, up to $2,500 per day for each violation, and subject Detox Organics to injunction.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
(Declaratory Relief)

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 Detox Organics, concerning whether Detox Organics 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 Detox Organics 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 Detox Organics 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: July 27, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

Charles W. Poss
In-House Counsel for Plaintiff

EXHIBIT A

Environmental Research Center
3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108
619-500-3090

March 19, 2020

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.

General Information about Proposition 65. 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.

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

Detox Organics, LLC
MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics
MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics

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

1. **Detox Organics Daily Protein Vanilla Weight Loss Shake - Lead**
2. **Detox Organics Daily Superfoods Chocolate Detox Shake - Lead**
3. **Detox Organics Thermo Boost Metabolism & Thyroid Support - 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.

Route of Exposure. 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 March 19, 2017, 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 Detox Organics, LLC; MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics; and MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics and their Registered Agents 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 Detox Organics, LLC; MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics; and MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics

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.

Dated: March 19, 2020

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 March 19, 2020, 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
Detox Organics, LLC
1140 W Alameda Dr Ste 2
Tempe, AZ 85282

Current President or CEO
Detox Organics, LLC
7878 E Gainey Ranch Rd, Unit 11
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Current President or CEO
Detox Organics, LLC
4620 E Elwood St, Ste 7
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Current President or CEO
Detox Organics, LLC
4602 E Elwood St, Ste 16
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Current President or CEO
Detox Organics, LLC
15345 N Scottsdale Rd, Unit 4002
Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Current President or CEO
MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba
Detox Organics
1140 W Alameda Dr, Ste 2
Tempe, AZ 85282

Current President or CEO
MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba
Detox Organics
1140 W Alameda Dr, Ste 2
Tempe, AZ 85282

Michael Morelli Jr.
(Registered Agent for Detox Organics, LLC)
7878 E. Gainey Ranch Rd, Unit 11
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Current President or CEO
MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba
Detox Organics
4602 E Elwood St, Ste 16
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Christina Preuss
(Registered Agent for MorelliFit, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics)
4602 E Elwood St, Ste 16
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Current President or CEO
MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba
Detox Organics
11947 E Parkview Lane
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Michael Morelli Jr.
(Registered Agent for MMorelli, LLC, individually and dba Detox Organics)
11947 E Parkview Lane
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

On March 19, 2020, 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 March 19, 2020, 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

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney
Napa County
931 Parkway Mall
Napa, CA 94559
CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Barbara Yook, District Attorney
Calaveras County
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249
Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us

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

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

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

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

Summer Stephan, District Attorney
San Diego County
330 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101
SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org

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

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

Jeannine M. Pacioni, District Attorney
Monterey County
1200 Aguajito Road
Monterey, CA 93940
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

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

Bud Porter, 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

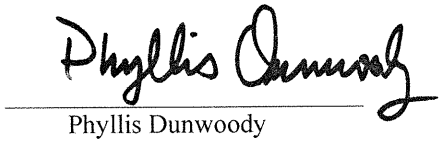
Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney
Tulare County
221 S Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 95370
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

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 March 19, 2020, 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 March 19, 2020, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.



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 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: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html.

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 contaminant[2] 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.

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[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.