

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

STREET ADDRESS: 330 W Broadway  
 MAILING ADDRESS: 330 W Broadway  
 CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101-3827  
 BRANCH NAME: Central  
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (619) 450-7068

PLAINTIFF(S) / PETITIONER(S): VICTORIA JAMISON

DEFENDANT(S) / RESPONDENT(S): OVERSTOCK.COM et.al.

JAMISON VS UNIVERSAL DIRECT BRANDS LLC [IMAGED]

**NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT  
and CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**

CASE NUMBER:

37-2020-00022316-CU-MC-CTL

**CASE ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO:**

Judge: Richard S. Whitney

Department: C-68

**COMPLAINT/PETITION FILED: 06/24/2020**

| TYPE OF HEARING SCHEDULED        | DATE       | TIME     | DEPT | JUDGE              |
|----------------------------------|------------|----------|------|--------------------|
| Civil Case Management Conference | 06/18/2021 | 09:30 am | C-68 | Richard S. Whitney |

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all hearings will be conducted remotely until further notice. Absent an order of the court, personal appearances at the hearing will not be allowed. For information on arranging telephonic or video appearances, contact CourtCall at (888)882-6878, or at [www.courtcall.com](http://www.courtcall.com). Please make arrangements with CourtCall as soon as possible.

A case management statement must be completed by counsel for all parties or self-represented litigants and timely filed with the court at least 15 days prior to the initial case management conference. (San Diego Local Rules, Division II, CRC Rule 3.725).

All counsel of record or parties in pro per shall appear at the Case Management Conference, be familiar with the case, and be fully prepared to participate effectively in the hearing, including discussions of ADR\* options.

IT IS THE DUTY OF EACH PLAINTIFF (AND CROSS-COMPLAINANT) TO SERVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE WITH THE COMPLAINT (AND CROSS-COMPLAINT), THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) INFORMATION FORM (SDSC FORM #CIV-730), A STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) (SDSC FORM #CIV-359), AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS SET OUT IN SDSC LOCAL RULE 2.1.5.

ALL COUNSEL WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH SUPERIOR COURT RULES WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED AS DIVISION II, AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

TIME STANDARDS: The following timeframes apply to general civil cases and must be adhered to unless you have requested and been granted an extension of time. General civil cases consist of all civil cases except: small claims proceedings, civil petitions, unlawful detainer proceedings, probate, guardianship, conservatorship, juvenile, parking citation appeals, and family law proceedings.

COMPLAINTS: Complaints and all other documents listed in SDSC Local Rule 2.1.5 must be served on all named defendants.

DEFENDANT'S APPEARANCE: Defendant must generally appear within 30 days of service of the complaint. (Plaintiff may stipulate to no more than 15 day extension which must be in writing and filed with the Court.) (SDSC Local Rule 2.1.6)

JURY FEES: In order to preserve the right to a jury trial, one party for each side demanding a jury trial shall pay an advance jury fee in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) on or before the date scheduled for the initial case management conference in the action.

COURT REPORTERS: Court reporters are not provided by the Court in Civil cases. See policy regarding normal availability and unavailability of official court reporters at [www.sdcourt.ca.gov](http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov).

\*ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR): THE COURT ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONSIDER UTILIZING VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES TO TRIAL, INCLUDING MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, PRIOR TO THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. PARTIES MAY FILE THE ATTACHED STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (SDSC FORM #CIV-359).



## Superior Court of California County of San Diego

### NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY TO eFILE AND ASSIGNMENT TO IMAGING DEPARTMENT

**This case is eligible for eFiling. Should you prefer to electronically file documents, refer to General Order in re procedures regarding electronically imaged court records, electronic filing, and access to electronic court records in civil and probate cases for rules and procedures or contact the Court's eFiling vendor at [www.onelegal.com](http://www.onelegal.com) for information.**

**This case has been assigned to an Imaging Department and original documents attached to pleadings filed with the court will be imaged and destroyed. Original documents should not be filed with pleadings. If necessary, they should be lodged with the court under California Rules of Court, rule 3.1302(b).**

On August 1, 2011 the San Diego Superior Court began the Electronic Filing and Imaging Pilot Program ("Program"). As of August 1, 2011 in all new cases assigned to an Imaging Department all filings will be imaged electronically and the electronic version of the document will be the official court file. The official court file will be electronic and accessible at one of the kiosks located in the Civil Business Office and on the Internet through the court's website.

You should be aware that the electronic copy of the filed document(s) will be the official court record pursuant to Government Code section 68150. The paper filing will be imaged and held for 30 days. After that time it will be destroyed and recycled. **Thus, you should not attach any original documents to pleadings filed with the San Diego Superior Court. Original documents filed with the court will be imaged and destroyed except those documents specified in California Rules of Court, rule 3.1806.** Any original documents necessary for a motion hearing or trial shall be lodged in advance of the hearing pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 3.1302(b).

It is the duty of each plaintiff, cross-complainant or petitioner to serve a copy of this notice with the complaint, cross-complaint or petition on all parties in the action.

On all pleadings filed after the initial case originating filing, all parties must, to the extent it is feasible to do so, place the words "**IMAGED FILE**" in all caps immediately under the title of the pleading on all subsequent pleadings filed in the action.



# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) INFORMATION

CASE NUMBER: 37-2020-00022316-CU-MC-CTL

CASE TITLE: JAMISON VS UNIVERSAL DIRECT BRANDS LLC [IMAG

**NOTICE:** All plaintiffs/cross-complainants in a general civil case are required to serve a copy of the following three forms on each defendant/cross-defendant, together with the complaint/cross-complaint:

- (1) this Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Information form (SDSC form #CIV-730),
- (2) the Stipulation to Use Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) form (SDSC form #CIV-359), *and*
- (3) the Notice of Case Assignment form (SDSC form #CIV-721).

Most civil disputes are resolved without filing a lawsuit, and most civil lawsuits are resolved without a trial. The courts, community organizations, and private providers offer a variety of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes to help people resolve disputes without a trial. The San Diego Superior Court expects that litigants will utilize some form of ADR as a mechanism for case settlement before trial, and it may be beneficial to do this early in the case.

Below is some information about the potential advantages and disadvantages of ADR, the most common types of ADR, and how to find a local ADR program or neutral. A form for agreeing to use ADR is attached (SDSC form #CIV-359).

### **Potential Advantages and Disadvantages of ADR**

ADR may have a variety of advantages or disadvantages over a trial, depending on the type of ADR process used and the particular case:

#### **Potential Advantages**

- Saves time
- Saves money
- Gives parties more control over the dispute resolution process and outcome
- Preserves or improves relationships

#### **Potential Disadvantages**

- May take more time and money if ADR does not resolve the dispute
- Procedures to learn about the other side's case (discovery), jury trial, appeal, and other court protections may be limited or unavailable

### **Most Common Types of ADR**

You can read more information about these ADR processes and watch videos that demonstrate them on the court's ADR webpage at <http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/adr>.

**Mediation:** A neutral person called a "mediator" helps the parties communicate in an effective and constructive manner so they can try to settle their dispute. The mediator does not decide the outcome, but helps the parties to do so. Mediation is usually confidential, and may be particularly useful when parties want or need to have an ongoing relationship, such as in disputes between family members, neighbors, co-workers, or business partners, or when parties want to discuss non-legal concerns or creative resolutions that could not be ordered at a trial.

**Settlement Conference:** A judge or another neutral person called a "settlement officer" helps the parties to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their case and to discuss settlement. The judge or settlement officer does not make a decision in the case but helps the parties to negotiate a settlement. Settlement conferences may be particularly helpful when the parties have very different ideas about the likely outcome of a trial and would like an experienced neutral to help guide them toward a resolution.

**Arbitration:** A neutral person called an "arbitrator" considers arguments and evidence presented by each side and then decides the outcome of the dispute. Arbitration is less formal than a trial, and the rules of evidence are usually relaxed. If the parties agree to binding arbitration, they waive their right to a trial and agree to accept the arbitrator's decision as final. With nonbinding arbitration, any party may reject the arbitrator's decision and request a trial. Arbitration may be appropriate when the parties want another person to decide the outcome of their dispute but would like to avoid the formality, time, and expense of a trial.

**Other ADR Processes:** There are several other types of ADR which are not offered through the court but which may be obtained privately, including neutral evaluation, conciliation, fact finding, mini-trials, and summary jury trials. Sometimes parties will try a combination of ADR processes. The important thing is to try to find the type or types of ADR that are most likely to resolve your dispute. Be sure to learn about the rules of any ADR program and the qualifications of any neutral you are considering, and about their fees.

### **Local ADR Programs for Civil Cases**

**Mediation:** The San Diego Superior Court maintains a Civil Mediation Panel of approved mediators who have met certain minimum qualifications and have agreed to charge \$150 per hour for each of the first two (2) hours of mediation and their regular hourly rate thereafter in court-referred mediations.

**On-line mediator search and selection:** Go to the court's ADR webpage at [www.sdcourt.ca.gov/adr](http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/adr) and click on the "Mediator Search" to review individual mediator profiles containing detailed information about each mediator including their dispute resolution training, relevant experience, ADR specialty, education and employment history, mediation style, and fees and to submit an on-line Mediator Selection Form (SDSC form #CIV-005). The Civil Mediation Panel List, the Available Mediator List, individual Mediator Profiles, and Mediator Selection Form (CIV-005) can also be printed from the court's ADR webpage and are available at the Mediation Program Office or Civil Business Office at each court location.

**Settlement Conference:** The judge may order your case to a mandatory settlement conference, or voluntary settlement conferences may be requested from the court if the parties certify that: (1) settlement negotiations between the parties have been pursued, demands and offers have been tendered in good faith, and resolution has failed; (2) a judicially supervised settlement conference presents a substantial opportunity for settlement; and (3) the case has developed to a point where all parties are legally and factually prepared to present the issues for settlement consideration and further discovery for settlement purposes is not required. Refer to SDSC Local Rule 2.2.1 for more information. To schedule a settlement conference, contact the department to which your case is assigned.

**Arbitration:** The San Diego Superior Court maintains a panel of approved judicial arbitrators who have practiced law for a minimum of five years and who have a certain amount of trial and/or arbitration experience. Refer to SDSC Local Rules Division II, Chapter III and Code Civ. Proc. § 1141.10 et seq or contact the Arbitration Program Office at (619) 450-7300 for more information.

**More information about court-connected ADR:** Visit the court's ADR webpage at [www.sdcourt.ca.gov/adr](http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/adr) or contact the court's Mediation/Arbitration Office at (619) 450-7300.

**Dispute Resolution Programs Act (DRPA) funded ADR Programs:** The following community dispute resolution programs are funded under DRPA (Bus. and Prof. Code §§ 465 et seq.):

- In Central, East, and South San Diego County, contact the National Conflict Resolution Center (NCRC) at [www.ncrconline.com](http://www.ncrconline.com) or (619) 238-2400.
- In North San Diego County, contact North County Lifeline, Inc. at [www.nclifeline.org](http://www.nclifeline.org) or (760) 726-4900.

**Private ADR:** To find a private ADR program or neutral, search the Internet, your local telephone or business directory, or legal newspaper for dispute resolution, mediation, settlement, or arbitration services.

### **Legal Representation and Advice**

To participate effectively in ADR, it is generally important to understand your legal rights and responsibilities and the likely outcomes if you went to trial. ADR neutrals are not allowed to represent or to give legal advice to the participants in the ADR process. If you do not already have an attorney, the California State Bar or your local County Bar Association can assist you in finding an attorney. Information about obtaining free and low cost legal assistance is also available on the California courts website at [www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/lowcost](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/lowcost).

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO</b><br>STREET ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway<br>MAILING ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway<br>CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101-3827<br>BRANCH NAME: Central<br>PLAINTIFF(S): VICTORIA JAMISON<br>DEFENDANT(S): OVERSTOCK.COM et.al.<br>SHORT TITLE: JAMISON VS UNIVERSAL DIRECT BRANDS LLC [IMAGED] | <b>FOR COURT USE ONLY</b>                  |
| <b>STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)</b>   | CASE NUMBER:<br>37-2020-00022316-CU-MC-CTL |

Judge: Richard S. Whitney

Department: C-68

The parties and their attorneys stipulate that the matter is at issue and the claims in this action shall be submitted to the following alternative dispute resolution (ADR) process. Selection of any of these options will not delay any case management timelines.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation (court-connected)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding private arbitration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation (private)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Binding private arbitration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary settlement conference (private)                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding judicial arbitration (discovery until 15 days before trial) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral evaluation (private)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding judicial arbitration (discovery until 30 days before trial) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>specify e.g., private mini-trial, private judge, etc.</i> ): _____ |  |

It is also stipulated that the following shall serve as arbitrator, mediator or other neutral: (*Name*) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate neutral (for court Civil Mediation Program and arbitration only): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Plaintiff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Plaintiff's Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant's Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

If there are more parties and/or attorneys, please attach additional completed and fully executed sheets.

It is the duty of the parties to notify the court of any settlement pursuant to Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1385. Upon notification of the settlement, the court will place this matter on a 45-day dismissal calendar.

No new parties may be added without leave of court.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: 06/30/2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

**SUMMONS  
(CITACION JUDICIAL)**

FOR COURT USE ONLY  
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)  
2020 JUN 24 PM 10:40  
CLERK - SUPERIOR COURT  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA

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

OVERSTOCK.COM, a Delaware Corporation; Universal Direct Brands, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company; and DOES 1 through 10

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

VICTORIA JAMISON, an individual

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

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

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

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

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

The name and address of the court is:  
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California  
County of San Diego - Central Division  
330 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101

CASE NUMBER:  
(Número del Caso):  
**37-2020-00022316-CU-MC-CTL**

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):  
George Rikos (204684), 555 West Beech Street, Suite 500, San Diego, California, 92101; Tel (858) 342-9161

DATE: 30 JUN 2020  
(Fecha)

Clerk, by T. Crandall, Deputy  
(Secretario) (Adjunto)

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

[SEAL]  
Copy

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

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

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):
George Rikos, Esq. (SBN 204864)
Law Offices of George Rikos
555 West Beech Street, Suite 500
San Diego, California 92101
TELEPHONE NO.: (858) 342-9161 FAX NO.: (858) 724-1453
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Victoria Jamison

FOR COURT USE ONLY
2020 JUN 24 PM 10:40
CLERK - SUPERIOR COURT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego
STREET ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway
MAILING ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway
CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, 92101
BRANCH NAME: Central Division

CASE NAME:
Victoria Jamison v. Overstock.com, et. al.

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET
[checked] 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:
37-2020-00022316-CU-MC-CTL
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), [checked] Other complaint (not specified above) (42)
Miscellaneous Civil Petition: [ ] Partnership and corporate governance (21), [ ] Other petition (not specified above) (43)

2. This case [ ] is [checked] 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 d. [ ] Large number of witnesses
b. [ ] Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve e. [ ] Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court
c. [ ] Substantial amount of documentary evidence f. [ ] Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision

3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. [checked] monetary b. [checked] nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. [ ] punitive
4. Number of causes of action (specify): One (1) Violation of Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5, et. seq.
5. This case [ ] is [checked] is not a class action suit.
6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: June 22, 2020
George Rikos, Esq.

(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.

VIA FAX

## INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SHEET

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

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

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

## CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

## Auto Tort

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

## Other PI/PD/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)

## Contract

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

## Real Property

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

## Unlawful Detainer

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

## Judicial Review

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

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

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

## Enforcement of Judgment

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

## Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

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

## Miscellaneous Civil Petition

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



1 George Rikos, Esq. (SBN 204864)  
2 **LAW OFFICES OF GEORGE RIKOS**  
3 555 Beech Street, Suite 500  
4 San Diego, CA 92101  
5 Telephone: (858) 342-9161  
6 Facsimile: (858) 724-1453  
7 Email: george@georgerikoslaw.com

8 Attorneys for Plaintiff,  
9 Victoria Jamison

2020 JUN 24 PM 10:40

CLERK-SUPERIOR COURT  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA

10  
11 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
12 **COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

13 VICTORIA JAMISON, an individual

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 OVERSTOCK.COM., a Delaware  
17 Corporation; UNIVERSAL DIRECT  
18 BRANDS, LLC, an Ohio limited liability  
19 company; and DOES 1 through 10

20 Defendants.

Case No. **37-2020-00022316-CU-MC-CTL**

**COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE  
RELIEF AND CIVIL PENALTIES**

VIA FAX

21 Plaintiff Victoria Jamison ("Plaintiff") brings this action in the interests of the general public  
22 and, on information and belief, hereby alleges:

23 **INTRODUCTION**

24 1. This action seeks to remedy the failure of defendants Overstock.com and Universal  
25 Direct Brands, LLC. to warn individuals in California that they are being exposed to the chemical  
26 Diethylhexylphthalate ("DEHP") by their product, the **Change Coin Purse Pouch** ("Product").

27 2. California's Proposition 65 (Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.*), is a right to  
28 know statute. Under Proposition 65, it is unlawful for business to knowingly and intentionally  
expose individuals in California to chemicals known to the State to cause cancer, birth defects, or  
other reproductive harm without providing clear and reasonable warnings to individuals prior to

1 exposure.

2 3. Through dermal contact with the Products, Californians are exposed to DEHP at  
3 levels requiring a “clear and reasonable warning” under Proposition 65. Yet Defendants failed to  
4 provide any warning to consumers that they are being exposed to the carcinogenic chemical  
5 DEHP. This includes a warning on their website or a proper warning on the product packaging.

6 4. Defendants’ past and, on information and belief, continued manufacturing,  
7 distribution, and sale of the Product in California, without a clear and reasonable warning, causes  
8 individuals to be involuntarily and unwittingly exposed to DEHP at levels that violate Proposition  
9 65.

10 5. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief enjoining Defendants from the continued  
11 manufacturing, distribution, and/or sales of the Products in California without provision of clear  
12 and reasonable warnings regarding the risks of cancer posed by exposure to DEHP through dermal  
13 contact with the Products. Plaintiff seeks an injunctive order compelling Defendants to bring their  
14 business practices into compliance with Proposition 65 by providing a clear and reasonable  
15 warning to each individual who has been and who in the future may be exposed to DEHP from  
16 dermal contact with the Products. Plaintiff also seeks an order compelling Defendants to identify  
17 and locate each individual person who in the past has purchased the Product, and to provide to  
18 each such purchaser a clear and reasonable warning that use of the Product will cause exposures to  
19 DEHP.

20 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

21 6. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Health and Safety Code §  
22 25249.8, allowing enforcement of Proposition 65 in any court of competent jurisdiction, and  
23 pursuant to California Constitution Article VII, Section 10, which grants the Superior Court  
24 “original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other courts.” The causes of  
25 actions alleged herein are not given by statute to other trial courts.

26 7. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants are a business  
27 having sufficient minimum contacts with California, or otherwise intentionally availing  
28 themselves of the California market through the distribution and sale of the Products in the State

1 of California to render the exercise of jurisdiction over this defendant by the California courts  
2 consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

3 8. Venue in this action is proper in the San Diego Superior Court because Defendants  
4 have violated or threaten to violate California law in the County of San Diego.

5 **PARTIES**

6 9. Plaintiff Victoria Jamison is a resident of San Diego County California and  
7 working to protect human health and the environment. Plaintiff is a person with the meaning of  
8 Health & Safety Code § 25118 and brings this enforcement action in the public interest pursuant to  
9 Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d).

10 10. Defendant Overstock.com is a corporation organized under the State of Delaware  
11 and is a person doing business with the meaning of Health & Safety Code § 25249.11. Defendant  
12 Universal Direct, LLC is a limited liability company organized under the State of Ohio and is a  
13 person doing business with the meaning of Health & Safety Code § 25249.11

14 11. Defendants have manufactured, packaged, distributed, marketed and/or offered the  
15 Product for sale or use in California and the County of San Diego. Plaintiff is informed and  
16 believes, and thereupon alleges, that Defendants continue to manufacture, package, distribute,  
17 market and/or sell the Products in California and in San Diego County.

18 **STATUTORY BACKGROUND**

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

22 13. To effect this goal, Proposition 65 requires that individuals be provided with a  
23 “clear and reasonable warning” before being exposed to substances listed by the State of  
24 California as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 states, in  
25 pertinent part:

26 No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally  
27 expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or  
28 reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such  
individual...



1           19.    On the same day they were sent to Defendants, each Notice was also sent to the  
2 requisite public enforcement agencies.

3           20.    Each of the Notices described above were issued pursuant to, and in compliance  
4 with, the requirements of Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d) and the statute's implementing  
5 regulations regarding the notice of the violations to be given to certain public enforcement  
6 agencies and to the violators. Each of the Notices included, *inter alia*, the following information:  
7 the name, address, and telephone number of the noticing individuals; the name of the alleged  
8 violator; the statute violated; the approximate time period during which violations occurred; and  
9 descriptions of the violations, including the chemical involved, the routes of toxic exposure, and  
10 the specific product or type of product causing the violations, and was issued as follows:

- 11           a.    The relevant Defendant was provided a copy of the Notice by U.S. Mail.
- 12           b.    The relevant Defendant was provided a copy of the document entitled "The  
13                Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A  
14                Summary," which is also known as Appendix A to Title 27 of Cal. Code Regs §  
15                25903.
- 16           c.    The California Attorney General was provided a copy of the Notice via online  
17                submission.
- 18           d.    The California Attorney General was provided with a Certificate of Merit by  
19                the attorney for the noticing party, stating that there is a reasonable and  
20                meritorious case for this action, and attaching factual information sufficient to  
21                establish a basis for the certificate, including the identity of the persons  
22                consulted with and relied on by the certified, and the facts, studies, or other data  
23                reviewed by those persons, pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(h)(2).
- 24           e.    The district attorneys, city attorneys or prosecutors of each jurisdiction within  
25                which the Nut Butter Products are offered for sale within California were  
26                provided with a copy of the Notice pursuant to Health & Safety Code §  
27                25249.7(d)(1).

28           21.    At least 60-days have elapsed since Plaintiff sent each of the Notices to Defendants.

1 The appropriate public enforcement agencies have failed to commence and diligently prosecute a  
2 cause of action under Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.* against Defendants based on the  
3 allegations herein.

4 22. On information and belief, the Products have been manufactured,  
5 distributed, and/or sold by Defendants in California. On information and belief, the Product  
6 continues to be distributed and sold in California without the requisite warning information. In  
7 direct response to the 60 Day Notice, Defendant Overstock.com has suspended sales of the  
8 Product and Defendant Universal Brands, LLC has indicated they have added the warning to some  
9 additional third-party websites where the Products are sold in California. While partial public  
10 benefit has been achieved, this Complaint seeks, in part, further compliance with Proposition 65  
11 for the benefit of the citizens of California.

12 23. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have knowingly and intentionally  
13 exposed the users of the Products to DEHP without first giving a clear and reasonable warning to  
14 such individuals.

15 24. As a proximate result of acts of Defendants as persons in the course of doing  
16 business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code § 25249.11, individuals throughout the  
17 State of California, including the County of San Diego, have been exposed to DEHP without a  
18 clear and reasonable warning. The individuals subject to the illegal exposures include normal and  
19 foreseeable users of the Products, as well as all other persons exposed to the Products.

20  
21 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
22 **(Violations of Health and Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.*)**

23 25. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 24,  
24 inclusive, as if specifically set forth herein.

25 26. Defendants are a person doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety  
26 Code § 25249.11.

27 27. DEHP is listed on the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer.

28 28. Defendants have and continues to knowingly and intentionally expose individuals

1 who have dermal contact with the Products to the chemical DEHP without first providing a clear  
2 and reasonable warning to such individuals pursuant to Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.6 and  
3 25249.11(f).

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

7 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

8 Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

9 1. A preliminary and permanent injunction, pursuant to Health & Safety Code §  
10 25249.7(b), enjoining Defendants, their agents, employees, assigns and all persons acting in  
11 concert or participating with Defendants, from distributing or selling the Products in California  
12 without first providing a clear and reasonable warning that consumers of the Products are exposed  
13 to DEHP;

14 2. An injunctive order, pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b), compelling  
15 Defendants to identify and locate each individual who has purchased the Product and to provide a  
16 warning to such persons that they have been exposed to a chemical known to cause cancer.

17 3. An assessment of civil penalties pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b)  
18 against Defendants in the amount of \$2,500 per day for violation of Proposition 65;

19 4. An award to Plaintiff of its reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit pursuant to  
20 California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, as Plaintiff shall specify in further application to the  
21 Court; and,

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

23  
24 DATED: June 23, 2020

**LAW OFFICES OF GEORGE RIKOS**

25  
26 *George Rikos*  
George Rikos  
27 Attorney for Plaintiff  
Victoria Jamison  
28

## Exhibit A



**LAW OFFICES OF GEORGE RIKOS**

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555 West Beech Street, Suite 500 • San Diego, CA 92101 • TEL: (858) 342-9161 • FAX: (858) 724-1453

April 17, 2020

**SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE FOR VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING  
WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986**  
*(Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq.)*  
*("Proposition 65")*

The Corporation Trust Company  
Registered Agent for Overstock.com, Inc.  
Corporation Trust Center 1209 Orange Street  
Wilmington, Delaware, 19801

Jared S. Florian  
Universal Screen Arts, Inc.  
Universal Direct Brands, LLC  
5581 Hudson Industrial Parkway  
Hudson, OH 44236

1600 CNB Corp.  
Registered Agent for Universal Screen Arts, Inc./Universal Direct Brands, LLC.  
1600 Central National Bank Building  
Cleveland, OH, 44114

Jared S. Florian  
Registered Agent  
2451 E. Enterprise Parkway  
Twinsburg, Ohio, 44087

AND THE PUBLIC PROSECTUTOERS LISTED ON THE DISTRIBUTION LIST  
ACCOMPANYING THE ATTACHED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Violations of Proposition 65 concerning **Change Coin Purse Pouch**

Dear Registered Agent:

**Victoria Jamison**, the noticing entity, whose attorney of record's address is **555 West Beech Street, Suite 500, San Diego, California, 92101**, serves this Notice of Violation ("Notice") upon Overstock.com, Inc., Universal Screen Arts, Inc, Universal Screen Arts, LLC, and Universal Direct Brands, LLC. ("Violator") pursuant to and in compliance with Proposition 65. Violator may contact Law Offices of George Rikos concerning this Notice through its designated person within the entity, George Rikos, Esq. located at 555 West Beech, Street, Suite 500, San Diego, California 92101, Telephone No. (858) 342-9161, email: [George@georgerikoslaw.com](mailto:George@georgerikoslaw.com). This Notice satisfies a prerequisite for Ms. Jamison to commence an action against Violator in any Superior Court of California to enforce Proposition 65. The violations addressed by this Notice occurred at numerous locations in each county in California as reflected in the district attorney addresses listed in the attached distribution list. Ms. Jamison is serving this Notice upon each person or entity responsible for the alleged violations, the California Attorney General, the district attorney for each county where alleged violations occurred, and the City Attorney for each city with a population (according to the most recent decennial census) of over 750,000 located within counties where the alleged violations occurred.

- Victoria Jamison is a resident of the State of California. By sending this Notice, Ms. Jamison is acting "in the public interest" pursuant to Proposition 65. Ms. Jamison is a concerned citizen and resident of California and is dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health, and supporting environmentally sound practices.
- This Notice concerns violations of the warning prong of Proposition 65, which states that "[n]o person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual ..." *Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6*.
- **Change Coin Purse Pouch** contain **Diethylhexylphthalate (DEHP)**, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. **Diethylhexylphthalate (DEHP)** was added to the Proposition 65 list in 1988.
  - An exemplar of the violations caused by **Change Coin Purse Pouch**, which is an exemplar product only, includes but is not limited to: **Change Coin Purse Pouch**
- This Notice addresses consumer products exposures. A "[c]onsumer products exposure" is an exposure which results from a person's acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or other reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer good, or any exposure that results from receiving a consumer service." *Cal. Code Regs. 27 § 25602(b)*.

Violator caused consumer product exposures in violation of Proposition 65 by producing or making available for distribution or sale in California to consumers **Change Coin Purse Pouch**. The packaging for **Change Coin Purse Pouch** (meaning any label or other written, printed or graphic matter affixed to or accompanying the product or its container or wrapper) contains no Proposition

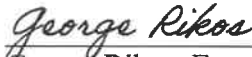
65-compliant warning. Nor did Violator, with regard to **Change Coin Purse Pouch**, provide a system of signs, public advertising identifying the system and toll-free information services, or any other system, which provided clear and reasonable warnings. Nor did Violator, with regard to **Change Coin Purse Pouch**, provide identification of the product at retail outlets (including but not limited to websites) in a manner that provided a warning through shelf labeling, signs, or a combination thereof.

The principal routes of exposure were dermal and oral contact. Persons sustain exposures by using, handling, or carrying the purse without wearing gloves or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with or without gloves after handling the purse, as well as direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, trans-dermal absorption as well as through environmental mediums that carry the DEHP once contained within the purse .

Proposition 65 requires that notice of intent to sue be given to the violator(s) sixty (60) days before the suit is filed. *Cal. Health & Safety Code* § 25249.7(d)(1). With this letter, Ms. Jamison gives notice of the alleged violation to Violators and the appropriate governmental authorities. In absence of any action by the appropriate governmental authorities within sixty (60) calendar days of the sending of this notice (plus five (5) calendar days because the place of address is within the State of California), Ms. Jamison may file suit. *See Cal. Health & Safety Code* § 25249.7(d)(1); *Cal. Code Regs. 27* § 25903(d)(1); and *Cal. Code Civ. Proc.* § 1013. Ms. Jamison remains open to discussing the possibility of resolving its grievances short of formal litigation.

With the copy of this notice submitted to the Violators, a copy of the following is attached: The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary.

Dated: April 17, 2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
George Rikos, Esq.  
Attorney for Victoria Jamison

## 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.<sup>1</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> 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](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<sup>2</sup> 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.

---

<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto: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.**



**Change Coin Purse Pouch containing Diethylhexylphthalate (DEHP)**

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I, George Rikos, hereby declares:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the party(s) identified in the notice(s) has violated Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
2. I am the attorney for the noticing party.
3. I have consulted with at least one person with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is subject of the action.
4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all 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 plaintiffs' case can be established, and the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.
5. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certified, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: April 17, 2020

By: George Rikos  
George Rikos

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this case. I am a resident of employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My business address is 555 West Beech St., Suite 500, San Diego, California 92101.

ON THE DATE SHOWN BELOW, I CAUSED TO BE SERVED THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6
- 2) Certificate of Merit: Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)
- 3) Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy): Factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the certificate of merit (*only sent to Attorney General*)
- 4) The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary by enclosing copies of the same in a sealed envelope, along with an unsigned copy of this declaration, addressed to each person shown below and depositing the envelope in the U.S. mail with the postage fully prepaid. Place of Mailing: San Diego, California

### **Name and address of each party to whom documents were mailed:**

The Corporation Trust Company  
Registered Agent for Overstock.com, Inc.  
Corporation Trust Center 1209 Orange Street  
Wilmington, Delaware, 19801

Jared S. Florian  
Universal Screen Arts, Inc.  
Universal Direct Brands, LLC  
5581 Hudson Industrial Parkway  
Hudson, OH 44236

1600 CNB Corp.  
Registered Agent for Universal Screen Arts, Inc./Universal Direct Brands, LLC.  
1600 Central National Bank Building  
Cleveland, OH, 44114

Jared S. Florian  
Registered Agent  
2451 E. Enterprise Parkway  
Twinsburg, Ohio, 44087

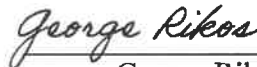
### **Name and address of each public prosecutor to whom documents were mailed:**

**SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST**

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

Date of Mailing: April 17, 2020

By:



George Rikos

# MAIL SERVICE LIST

The Honorable Michael Atwell  
Alpine County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 248  
Markleeville, CA 96120

The Honorable Todd Riebe  
Amador County District Attorney  
708 Court Street  
Jackson, CA 95642

The Honorable Michael Ramsey  
Butte County District Attorney  
25 County Center Drive, Suite 245  
Oroville, CA 95965

The Honorable Barbara Yook  
Calaveras County District Attorney  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249

The Honorable Matthew R. Beauchamp  
Colusa County District Attorney  
346 Fifth Street, Suite 101  
Colusa, CA 95932

The Honorable Diana Becton  
Contra Costa County District Attorney  
900 Ward Street  
Martinez, CA 94553

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

The Honorable Vern Pierson  
El Dorado County District Attorney  
515 Main Street  
Placerville, CA 95667

The Honorable Lisa Smittcamp  
Fresno County District Attorney  
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000  
Fresno, CA 93721

The Honorable Dwayne Stewart  
Glenn County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 430  
Willows, CA 95988

The Honorable Maggie Fleming  
Humboldt County District Attorney  
825 5th Street, Fourth Floor  
Eureka, CA 95501

The Honorable Gilbert Otero  
Imperial County District Attorney  
940 West Main Street, Suite 102  
El Centro, CA 92243

The Honorable Thomas Hardy  
Inyo County District Attorney  
P.O. Box Drawer D  
Independence, CA 93526

The Honorable Lisa Green  
Kern County District Attorney  
1215 Truxtun Avenue, 4th Floor  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

The Honorable Keith Fagundes  
Kings County District Attorney  
1400 West Lacey Boulevard  
Hanford, CA 93230

The Honorable Donald Anderson  
Lake County District Attorney  
255 North Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

The Honorable Stacey Montgomery  
Lassen County District Attorney  
2950 Riverside Drive, Suite 102  
Susanville, CA 96130

The Honorable Jackie Lacey  
Los Angeles County District Attorney  
211 West Temple Street, Suite 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable David Linn  
Madera County District Attorney  
209 West Yosemite Avenue  
Madera, CA 93637

The Honorable Edward Berberian  
Marin County District Attorney  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 145  
San Rafael, CA 94903

The Honorable Thomas Cooke  
Mariposa County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 730  
Mariposa, CA 95338

The Honorable C. David Eyster  
Mendocino County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 1000  
Ukiah, CA 95482

The Honorable Larry Morse II  
Merced County District Attorney  
550 W. Main Street  
Merced, CA 95340

The Honorable Jordan Funk  
Modoc County District Attorney  
204 S. Court Street, Suite 202  
Alturas, CA 96101

The Honorable Tim Kendall  
Mono County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 617  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

The Honorable Clifford Newell  
Nevada County District Attorney  
201 Commercial Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959

The Honorable Tony Rackauckas  
Orange County District Attorney  
401 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

The Honorable R. Scott Owens  
Placer County District Attorney  
10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240  
Roseville, CA 95678

The Honorable David Hollister  
Plumas County District Attorney  
520 Main Street, Room 404  
Quincy, CA 95971

The Honorable Anne Marie Schubert  
Sacramento County District Attorney  
901 G Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Candice Hooper  
San Benito County District Attorney  
419 4th Street  
Hollister, CA 95023

The Honorable Michael Ramos  
San Bernardino County District Attorney  
303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0502

The Honorable Summer Stephan  
San Diego County District Attorney  
330 W. Broadway Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

The Honorable Tori Verber Salazar  
San Joaquin County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 990  
Stockton, CA 95201

The Honorable Stephen Wagstaffe  
San Mateo County District Attorney  
400 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063

The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen  
Santa Clara County District Attorney  
70 West Hedding Street, West Wing  
San Jose, CA 95110

The Honorable Jeff Rosell  
Santa Cruz County District Attorney  
701 Ocean Street, Room 200  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

The Honorable Stephanie Bridgett  
Shasta County District Attorney  
1355 West Street  
Redding, CA 96001

The Honorable Lawrence Allen  
Sierra County District Attorney  
P.O. Box 886  
Downieville, CA 95936

The Honorable James Kirk Andrus  
Siskiyou County District Attorney  
311 4th Street  
Yreka, CA 96097

The Honorable Krishna Abrams  
Solano County District Attorney  
675 Texas Street, Suite 4500  
Fairfield, CA 94533

The Honorable Jill Ravitch  
Sonoma County District Attorney  
600 Administration Drive, Room 212 J  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

The Honorable Birgit Fladager  
Stanislaus County District Attorney  
832 12th Street, Suite 300  
Modesto, CA 95354

The Honorable Amanda Hopper  
Sutter County District Attorney  
463 Second Street, Suite 102  
Yuba City, CA 95991

The Honorable Gregg Cohen  
Tehama County District Attorney  
444 Oak Street, Room L  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

The Honorable Megan D. Marshall  
Trinity County Acting District Attorney  
P.O. Box 310  
Weaverville, CA 96093

The Honorable Tim Ward  
Tulare County District Attorney  
221 South Mooney Boulevard, Rm 224  
Visalia, CA 93291-4593

The Honorable Laura Krieg  
Tuolumne County District Attorney  
423 North Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

The Honorable Gregory Totten  
Ventura County District Attorney  
800 South Victoria Avenue, Suite 314  
Ventura, CA 93009

The Honorable Patrick McGrath  
Yuba County District Attorney  
215 Fifth Street  
Marysville, CA 95901

The Honorable Mike Feuer  
Office of the City Attorney, Los Angeles  
James K. Hahn City Hall East  
200 North Main Street, 8th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable James Sanchez  
Office of the City Attorney, Sacramento  
915 I Street, 4th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Mara Elliott  
Office of the City Attorney, San Diego  
1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620  
San Diego, CA 92101

The Honorable Dennis Herrera  
Office of the City Attorney, San Francisco  
City Hall, Room 234  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

The Honorable Richard Doyle  
Office of the City Attorney, San Jose  
200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

## EMAIL SERVICE LIST

Nancy O'Malley, District Attorney  
Alameda County  
7776 Oakport Street, Suite 650  
Oakland, CA 94621  
CEPDProp65@acgov.org

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

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

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

Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney  
San Luis Obispo County  
County Govt 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 St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

## ELECTRONIC UPLOAD SERVICE LIST

Office of the California Attorney General  
Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting  
ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator  
P.O. Box 70550  
Oakland, CA 94612-0550  
<https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice>