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CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. 6

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# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## **COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC., CASE NO. in the public interest,

Plaintiff,

v.

BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE CORPORATION, a

Delaware Corporation;

BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT CORPORATION, a New Jersey Corporation;

BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF

CALIFORNIA, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company;

AZZURE HOME, INC., a New York Corporation;

L2T, INC., a California Corporation;

MGA ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a

California Corporation;

REPORT FOOTWEAR INC., a Washington Corporation;

BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF

TEXAS, INC., a Delaware Corporation;

and DOES 1-90,

Defendants.

23CV036731

## COMPLAINT FOR PENALTY AND **INJUNCTION**

Violation of Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.5, et seg.)

ACTION IS AN UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE (exceeds \$25,000)

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Plaintiff CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. alleges nine causes of action against defendants BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE CORPORATION; BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT CORPORATION; BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, LLC; AZZURE HOME, INC.; MGA ENTERTAINMENT, INC.; L2T, INC.; REPORT FOOTWEAR INC.; BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS, INC. and DOES 1-90 as follows:

## THE PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. ("Plaintiff" or "CAG") is an organization qualified to do business in the State of California. CAG is a person within the meaning of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.11, subdivision (a). CAG, acting as a private attorney general, brings this action in the public interest as defined under Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7, subdivision (d).
- Defendant BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE CORPORATION, ("BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE") is a Delaware Corporation qualified to do business in Delaware and doing business in the State of California at all relevant times herein.
- Defendant BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT CORPORATION,
   ("BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT") is a New Jersey Corporation qualified
   to do business in California and doing business in the State of California at all relevant
   times herein.
- 4. Defendant BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, LLC. ("BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA") is a California Corporation qualified to do business in California and doing business in the State of California at all relevant times herein.
- 5. Defendant BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS, INC. ("BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS") is a California Corporation qualified to do business in California and doing business in the State of California at all relevant times herein.

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6.	Defendant AZZURE HOME, INC. ("AZZURE HOME") is a New York Corporation
	qualified to do business in New York and doing business in the State of California at al
	relevant times herein.

- 7. Defendant L2T, INC. ("L2T") is a California Corporation qualified to do business in California and doing business in the State of California at all relevant times herein.
- 8. Defendant MGA ENTERTAINMENT, INC. ("MGA") is a California Corporation qualified to do business in California and doing business in the State of California at all relevant times herein.
- 9. Defendant REPORT FOOTWEAR INC. ("REPORT") is a Washington Corporation qualified to do business in Washington and doing business in the State of California at all relevant times herein.
- 10. Plaintiff is presently unaware of the true names and capacities of defendants DOES 1-90, and therefore sues these defendants by such fictitious names.
- 11. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each fictitiously named defendant is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged and the damages caused thereby.
- 12. At all times mentioned herein, the term "Defendants" includes BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS, AZZURE, L2T, MGA, REPORT FOOTWEAR and DOES 1-90.
- 13. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each of the Defendants at all times mentioned herein have conducted business within the State of California.
- 14. Upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, each of the Defendants, including DOES 1-90, was an agent, servant, or employee of each of the other Defendants. In conducting the activities alleged in this Complaint, each of the

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Defendants was acting within the course and scope of this agency, service, or employment, and was acting with the consent, permission, and authorization of each of the other Defendants. All actions of each of the Defendants alleged in this Complaint were ratified and approved by every other Defendant or their officers or managing agents. Alternatively, each of the Defendants aided, conspired with and/or facilitated the alleged wrongful conduct of each of the other Defendants.

15. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that at all relevant times, each of the Defendants was a person doing business within the meaning of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.11, subdivision (b), and that each of the Defendants had ten (10) or more employees at all relevant times.

## **JURISDICTION**

- 16. The Court has jurisdiction over this lawsuit 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. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7, which allows enforcement of violations of Proposition 65 in any Court of competent jurisdiction.
- 17. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants named herein because Defendants either reside or are located in this State or are foreign corporations authorized to do business in California, are registered with the California Secretary of State, or who do sufficient business in California, have sufficient minimum contacts with California, or otherwise intentionally avail themselves of the markets within California through their manufacture, distribution, promotion, marketing, or sale of their products within California to render the exercise of jurisdiction by the California courts permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.
- 18. Venue is proper in the County of Alameda because one or more of the instances of wrongful conduct occurred, and continues to occur, in the County of Alameda and/or

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because Defendants conducted, and continue to conduct, business in the County of Alameda with respect to the consumer product that is the subject of this action.

## **BACKGROUND AND PRELIMINARY FACTS**

- 19. In 1986, California voters approved an initiative to address growing concerns about exposure to toxic chemicals and declared their right "[t]o be informed about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm." Ballot Pamp., Proposed Law, Gen. Elec. (Nov. 4, 1986) at p. 3. The initiative, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, codified at Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5, et seq. ("Proposition 65"), helps to protect California's drinking water sources from contamination, to allow consumers to make informed choices about the products they buy, and to enable persons to protect themselves from toxic chemicals as they see fit.
- 20. Proposition 65 requires the Governor of California to publish a list of chemicals known to the state to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm. *Health & Safety Code* § 25249.8. The list, which the Governor updates at least once a year, contains over 700 chemicals and chemical families. Proposition 65 imposes warning requirements and other controls that apply to Proposition 65-listed chemicals.
- 21. All businesses with ten (10) or more employees that operate or sell products in California must comply with Proposition 65. Under Proposition 65, businesses are: (1) prohibited from knowingly discharging Proposition 65-listed chemicals into sources of drinking water (*Health & Safety Code* § 25249.5), and (2) required to provide "clear and reasonable" warnings before exposing a person, knowingly and intentionally, to a Proposition 65-listed chemical (*Health & Safety Code* § 25249.6).
- 22. Proposition 65 provides that any person "violating or threatening to violate" the statute may be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. *Health & Safety Code* § 25249.7. "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(e).

- Defendants are also liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per violation, recoverable in a civil action. *Health & Safety Code* § 25249.7(b).
- 23. Plaintiff identified certain practices of manufacturers and distributors of consumer products of exposing, knowingly and intentionally, persons in California to Diethyl Hexyl Phthalate and Bis (2-ehtylhexyl) phthalate and Diisononyl Phthalate of such products without first providing clear and reasonable warnings of such to the exposed persons prior to the time of exposure. Plaintiff later discerned that Defendants engaged in such practice.
- 24. On January 1, 1988, the Governor of California added Diethyl Hexyl Phthalate and Bis (2-ehtylhexyl) phthalate ("DEHP") to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause cancer, (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27, § 27001(b)) and on October 24, 2003, the Governor added DEHP to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause developmental male reproductive toxicity (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27, § 27001(c)). Pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 25249.9 and 25249.10, twenty (20) months after addition of DEHP to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, DEHP became fully subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements and discharge prohibitions.
- 25. On December 20, 2013, the Governor of California added Diisononyl Phthalate ("DINP") to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause cancer (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27, § 27001(b)). Pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 25249.9 and 25249.10, twenty (20) months after addition of DINP to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause cancer, DINP became fully subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements and discharge prohibitions.

## SATISFACTION OF PRIOR NOTICE

- 26. Plaintiff served the following notices for alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures:
  - a. On or about November 13, 2020, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products

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exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, AZZURE HOME, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Bathmat with PVC Components.

- b. On or about January 12, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Nursing Pillow.
- c. On or about February 3, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Square Travel Bag.
- d. On or about February 10, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA,

BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the High Heeled Shoes.

- e. On or about February 16, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the High Heeled Shoes.
- f. On or about May 3, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, MGA ENTERTAINMENT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Children Shoes.
- g. On or about May 26, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose

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Association of Law Corporations jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Travel Bags with PVC Components.

- h. On or about November 3, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to L2T, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Handbags.
- i. On or about December 22, 2022, Plaintiff gave notice of alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, concerning consumer products exposures subject to a private action to REPORT FOOTWEAR, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and to the California Attorney General, County District Attorneys, and City Attorneys for each city containing a population of at least 750,000 people in whose jurisdictions the violations allegedly occurred, concerning the Sandals.
- 27. Before sending the notice of alleged violations, Plaintiff investigated the consumer products involved, the likelihood that such products would cause users to suffer significant exposures to DEHP and DINP, and the corporate structure of each of the Defendants.
- 28. Plaintiff's notice of alleged violation included a Certificate of Merit executed by the attorney for the noticing party, CAG. The Certificate of Merit stated that the attorney for Plaintiff who executed the certificate had consulted with at least one person with relevant and appropriate expertise who reviewed data regarding the exposures to DEHP and DINP, the subject Proposition 65-listed chemical of this action. Based on that information, the attorney for Plaintiff who executed the Certificate of Merit believed

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Association of Law Corporations there was a reasonable and meritorious case for this private action. The attorney for Plaintiff attached to the Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General the confidential factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the Certificate of Merit.

- 29. Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations also included a Certificate of Service and a document entitled "The Safe Drinking Water & Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65) A Summary." Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d).
- 30. Plaintiff is commencing this action more than sixty (60) days from the dates that Plaintiff gave notice of the alleged violations to BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, AZZURE, L2T, MGA, REPORT FOOTWEAR, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and the public prosecutors referenced in Paragraph 26.
- 31. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that neither the Attorney General, nor any applicable district attorney or city attorney has commenced and is diligently prosecuting an action against the Defendants.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against AZZURE HOME, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY WAREHOUSE, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 1-10 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

#### **Bathroom Accessories**

- 32. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 31 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 33. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of Bathmat with PVC Components ("Bath Mat"), including but not limited to Clear Glittered Bath Mat; "Brooke & Bedford"; "The Hotel

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Collection"; "Non Slip Bath Mat"; "26.5 x 15in (67.3 x 38.1 cm); "UPC 1 95010 00119 9".

- 34. Bath Mat contains DEHP.
- 35. Defendants knew or should have known that DEHP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer, and reproductive toxicity and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DEHP in Bath Mat within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26a.
- 36. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Bath Mat concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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. tit. 27, § 25602(b). Bath Mat is consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DEHP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 37. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between November 13, 2017 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of Bath Mat, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DEHP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Bath Mat in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Bath Mat, thereby exposing them to DEHP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Bath Mat under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DEHP into product or knowingly caused DEHP to be created in Bath Mat; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to Bath Mat by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Bath Mat; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure

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from Bath Mat without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DEHP from Bath Mat.

Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

- 38. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Bath Mat without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Bath Mat, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Bath Mat.
- 39. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Bath Mat have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Bath Mat, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DEHP by Bath Mat as mentioned herein.
- 40. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 41. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DEHP from Bath Mat, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 42. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 11-20 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

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#### **Pillow**

- 43. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 42 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 44. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of Nursing Pillow ("Pillow"), including but not limited to "Kidilove Nursing Pillow;" "Oreiller D'allaitement;" "Almohada De Lactancia;" "0-12 M;" "Kidiway;" "Style 3556;" "V 699610".
- 45. Pillow contains DINP.
- 46. Defendants knew or should have known that DINP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DINP in Pillow within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26b.
- 47. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Pillow concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). Pillow is consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DINP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 48. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between January 12, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of Pillow, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DINP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Pillow in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Pillow, thereby exposing them to DINP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Pillow

under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DINP into product or knowingly caused DINP to be created in Pillow; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to Pillow by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Pillow; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from Pillow without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DINP from Pillow. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

- 49. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Pillow without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Pillow, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Pillow.
- 50. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Pillow have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Pillow, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DINP by Pillow as mentioned herein.
- 51. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 52. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DINP from Pillow, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).

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53. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 21-30 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (*Health & Safety Code*, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

## Bag

- 54. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 53 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 55. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of Square Travel Bag ("Travel Bag"), including but not limited to "Macbeth Collection by Margaret Josephs"; "3PC Train Case Set"; "Kitten"; "Care Instructions: Wipe Clean with Damp Cloth"; "UPC 0 9114139397 7"; "Made in China".
- 56. Travel Bag contains DEHP.
- 57. Defendants knew or should have known that DEHP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DEHP in Travel Bag within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26c.
- 58. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Travel Bag concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). Travel Bag is consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DEHP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.

- 59. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between February 3, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of Travel Bag, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DEHP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Travel Bag in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Travel Bag, thereby exposing them to DEHP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Travel Bag under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DEHP into product or knowingly caused DEHP to be created in Travel Bag; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to Travel Bag by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Travel Bag; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from Travel Bag without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DEHP from Travel Bag. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.
- 60. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Travel Bag without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Travel Bag, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Travel Bag.
- 61. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Travel Bag have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Travel

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- Bag, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DEHP by Travel Bag as mentioned herein.
- 62. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 63. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DEHP from Travel Bag, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 64. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 31-40 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

#### Shoes I

- 65. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 64 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 66. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of High Heeled Shoes, including but not limited to "Lady Godiva"; "Style Melody"; "Color Rose Gold"; "SC Ladies Dress Size 8 X M"; "UPC 11593994938642".
- 67. High Heeled Shoes contains DINP.
- 68. Defendants knew or should have known that DINP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DINP in High Heeled Shoes within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26d.

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- 69. Plaintiff's allegations regarding High Heeled Shoes concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). High Heeled Shoes are consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DINP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 70. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between February 10, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of High Heeled Shoes, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DINP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold High Heeled Shoes in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume High Heeled Shoes, thereby exposing them to DINP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling High Heeled Shoes under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DINP into product or knowingly caused DINP to be created in High Heeled Shoes; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to High Heeled Shoes by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of High Heeled Shoes; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from High Heeled Shoes without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DINP from High Heeled Shoes. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.
- 71. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation.

  Persons sustain exposures by handling High Heeled Shoes without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes

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Association of Law Corporations with gloves after handling High Heeled Shoes, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from High Heeled Shoes.

- 72. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to High Heeled Shoes have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of High Heeled Shoes, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DINP by High Heeled Shoes as mentioned herein.
- 73. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 74. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DINP from High Heeled Shoes, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 75. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 41-50 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

#### Shoes II

- 76. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 75 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 77. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of High Heeled Shoes, including but not limited to

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"Lady Godiva"; "Style Melody"; "Color Rose Gold"; "SC Ladies Dress Size 8 X M"; "UPC 11593994938642".

- 78. High Heeled Shoes contains DINP.
- 79. Defendants knew or should have known that DINP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DINP in High Heeled Shoes within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26e.
- 80. Plaintiff's allegations regarding High Heeled Shoes concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). High Heeled Shoes are consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DINP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 81. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between February 16, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of High Heeled Shoes, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DINP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold High Heeled Shoes in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume High Heeled Shoes, thereby exposing them to DINP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling High Heeled Shoes under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DINP into product or knowingly caused DINP to be created in High Heeled Shoes; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to High

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Heeled Shoes by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of High Heeled Shoes; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from High Heeled Shoes without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DINP from High Heeled Shoes. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

- 82. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling High Heeled Shoes without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling High Heeled Shoes, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from High Heeled Shoes.
- 83. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to High Heeled Shoes have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of High Heeled Shoes, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DINP by High Heeled Shoes as mentioned herein.
- 84. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 85. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DINP from High Heeled Shoes, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 86. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

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#### **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against MGA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY DIRECT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 51-60 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

#### **Footwears**

- 87. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 86 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 88. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of Children Shoes ("Shoes"), including but not limited to "L.O.L Surprise! TM;" "© MGA;" "Ground Up Intl." "Pink Girls Youth Shoes;" "691115;" "ECLS4075;" "UPC 11133926055656"
  - "L.O.L Surprise! TM;" "© MGA;" "Ground Up Intl." "Pink Girls Youth Shoes;" "691115;" "ECLS4032;" "UPC 11133926020928".
- 89. Shoes contains DEHP.
- 90. Defendants knew or should have known that DEHP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DEHP in Shoes within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26f.
- 91. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Shoes concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). Shoes are consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DEHP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 92. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between May 3, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California

consumers and users of Shoes, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DEHP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Shoes in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Shoes, thereby exposing them to DEHP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Shoes under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DEHP into product or knowingly caused DEHP to be created in Shoes; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to Shoes by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Shoes; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from Shoes without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DEHP from Shoes. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

- 93. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Shoes without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Shoes, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Shoes.
- 94. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Shoes have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Shoes, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DEHP by Shoes as mentioned herein.

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- 95. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 96. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DEHP from Shoes, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 97. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 61-70 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

## **Bags**

- 98. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 97 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 99. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of Travel Bags with PVC Components ("Travel Bag"), including but not limited to "Macbeth Collection® By Margaret Josephs"; "4PC Gift Set"; "39398"; "UPC 0 91141 39398 4".
- 100. Travel Bag contains DEHP.
- 101. Defendants knew or should have known that DEHP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DEHP in Travel Bag within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26g.
- 102. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Travel Bag concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that results from a person's acquisition, purchase,

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storage, consumption, or other reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer good, or any exposure that results from receiving a consumer service." Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27, § 25602(b). Travel Bag is consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DEHP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.

103. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between May 26, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of Travel Bag, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DEHP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Travel Bag in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Travel Bag, thereby exposing them to DEHP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Travel Bag under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DEHP into product or knowingly caused DEHP to be created in Travel Bag; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to Travel Bag by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Travel Bag; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from Travel Bag without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DEHP from Travel Bag. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

104. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Travel Bag without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Travel Bag, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Travel Bag.

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- 105. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Travel Bag have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Travel Bag, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DEHP by Travel Bag as mentioned herein.
- 106. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 107. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DEHP from Travel Bag, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 108. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against L2T, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 71-80 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

#### **Fashion Accessories**

- 109. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 108 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 110. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer, distributor, promoter, or retailer of Handbags, including but not limited to "Trina Turk"; "Light Blue Handbag"; "Style TTT31017BLSW"; "trinaturk.com"; "UPC 4 890808 260265".
- 111. Handbags contains DEHP.

- 113. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Handbags concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). Handbags are consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DEHP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 114. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between November 3, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of Handbags, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DEHP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Handbags in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Handbags, thereby exposing them to DEHP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Handbags under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DEHP into product or knowingly caused DEHP to be created in Handbags; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that has been affixed to Handbags by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Handbags; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from Handbags without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DEHP from Handbags. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

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Association of Law Corporations 115. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Handbags without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Handbags, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Handbags.

- 116. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Handbags have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Handbags, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DEHP by Handbags as mentioned herein.
- 117. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 118. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DEHP from Handbags, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 119. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(By CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. and against REPORT, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF CALIFORNIA, BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY OF TEXAS and DOES 81-90 for Violations of Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code, §§ 25249.5, et seq.))

#### **Footwear**

120. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 119 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.

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12	21. Each of the Defendants is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a manufacturer,
	distributor, promoter, or retailer of Sandals, including but not limited to "Report";
	"Black Sandals"; "All Man Made Materials"; "Made in China"; "Style: Susana"; "V
	29040"; "FLTHK 5546246"; "SHO 11 750 44144456 6 1/1".

- 122. Sandals contains DINP.
- 123. Defendants knew or should have known that DINP has been identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer, and therefore was subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements. Defendants were also informed of the presence of DINP in Sandals within Plaintiff's notice of alleged violations further discussed above at Paragraph 26i.
- 124. Plaintiff's allegations regarding Sandals concerns "[c]onsumer products exposure[s]," which "is an exposure that 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.* tit. 27, § 25602(b). Sandals are consumer products, and, as mentioned herein, exposures to DINP took place as a result of such normal and foreseeable consumption and use.
- 125. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that between December 22, 2019 and the present, each of the Defendants knowingly and intentionally exposed California consumers and users of Sandals, which Defendants manufactured, distributed, or sold as mentioned above, to DINP, without first providing any type of clear and reasonable warning of such to the exposed persons before the time of exposure. Defendants have distributed and sold Sandals in California. Defendants know and intend that California consumers will use and consume Sandals, thereby exposing them to DINP. Further, Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants are selling Sandals under a brand or trademark that is owned or licensed by the Defendants or an entity affiliated thereto; have knowingly introduced DINP into product or knowingly caused DINP to be created in Sandals; have covered, obscured or altered a warning label that

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\*An Independent association of Law Corporations has been affixed to Sandals by the manufacturer, producer, packager, importer, supplier or distributor of Sandals; have received a notice and warning materials for exposure from Sandals without conspicuously posting or displaying the warning materials; and/or have actual knowledge of potential exposure to DINP from Sandals. Defendants thereby violated Proposition 65.

- 126. The principal routes of exposure are through dermal contact, ingestion and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling Sandals without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling Sandals, as well as through direct and indirect hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from Sandals.
- 127. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each of Defendants' violations of Proposition 65 as to Sandals have been ongoing and continuous, as Defendants engaged and continue to engage in conduct which violates Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6, including the manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Sandals, so that a separate and distinct violation of Proposition 65 occurred each and every time a person was exposed to DINP by Sandals as mentioned herein.
- 128. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thereon alleges that each violation of Proposition 65 mentioned herein is ever continuing. Plaintiff further alleges and believes that the violations alleged herein will continue to occur into the future.
- 129. Based on the allegations herein, Defendants are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposure to DINP from Sandals, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b).
- 130. Plaintiff has engaged in good faith efforts to resolve the claims alleged herein prior to filing this Complaint.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

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Plaintiff demands against each of the Defendants as follows: 131. A permanent injunction mandating Proposition 65-compliant warnings; 132. Penalties pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7, subdivision (b); 133. Costs of suit; 134. Reasonable attorney fees and costs; and 135. Any further relief that the court may deem just and equitable. Dated: June 22, 2023 YEROUSHALMI & YEROUSHALMI\* Reuben Yeroushalmi Attorneys for Plaintiff, CONSUMER ADVOCACY GROUP, INC. 

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