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FILED
ALAMEDA COUNTY

AUG 18 2020

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

By *[Signature]* Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

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

Plaintiff,

vs.

WEST THOMAS PARTNERS, LLC,
individually and dba THE GFB: GLUTEN
FREE BAR and DOES 1-100

Defendants.

Case No. RG20061663

~~PROPOSED~~ STATUTORY FINDINGS
AND ORDER APPROVING
PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT

ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO
JUDGE DELBERT C. GEE
DEPARTMENT 514

Hearing Date: August 18, 2020
Hearing Time: 3:00 p.m.
Reservation Number: R-2183459

This matter having come on calendar pursuant to a regularly noticed motion and the Court having reviewed all the evidence submitted in support of Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC")'s motion to approve the settlement between ERC and Defendant West Thomas Partners, LLC, individually and dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar, in this case, the Court hereby makes the following findings pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (f)(4):

- 1) Any warnings that may be required by the Stipulated Consent Judgment fully comply with Proposition 65.

2) The attorneys' fees provision in the Stipulated Consent Judgment is reasonable under California law; and

3) The civil penalty imposed by the Stipulated Consent Judgment is reasonable based on the criteria set forth in Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (b)(2) and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 11, section 3203.

4) The Court further finds that allocation of the Additional Settlement Payment to ERC is in the public interest as set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 3203 subsection (d).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Stipulated Consent Judgment submitted in this matter is approved.

DATED: AUG 18 2020

Delbert C. Allen SB

HON. DELBERT C. GEE

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Attorney for Defendant West Thomas Partners, LLC, individually and
dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
CENTER, INC., a California non-profit
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Plaintiff,

vs.

**WEST THOMAS PARTNERS, LLC,
individually and dba THE GFB: GLUTEN
FREE BAR; and DOES 1-100**

Defendants.

CASE NO. RG20061663

**STIPULATED CONSENT
JUDGMENT**

Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 *et seq.*

Action Filed: May 19, 2020

Trial Date: None set

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 On May 19, 2020, Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC"), a non-profit corporation, as a private enforcer and in the public interest, initiated this action by filing a Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief and Civil Penalties (the "Complaint") pursuant to the provisions of California Health and Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.* ("Proposition 65"), against West Thomas Partners, LLC, individually and dba The GFB:

1 Gluten Free Bar ("West Thomas Partners") and Does 1-100. In this action, ERC alleges that a
2 number of products manufactured, distributed, or sold by West Thomas Partners contain lead
3 and/or cadmium, chemicals listed under Proposition 65 as carcinogens and reproductive toxins,
4 and expose consumers to these chemicals at a level requiring a Proposition 65 warning. These
5 products (referred to hereinafter individually as a "Covered Product" or collectively as
6 "Covered Products") are: (1) The GFB Gluten Free Oatmeal Coconut + Cashew (lead), (2) The
7 GFB Gluten Free Oatmeal Maple + Raisin (lead), (3) The GFB Gluten Free Bites Chocolate +
8 Cherry + Almond (lead), (4) The GFB Gluten Free Bites Dark Chocolate + Almond (lead), (5)
9 The GFB Gluten Free Bar Cranberry + Toasted Almond (lead), (6) The GFB Gluten Free Bar
10 Dark Chocolate + Almond (lead), (7) The GFB Gluten Free Bar Coconut + Cashew (lead), (8)
11 The GFB Gluten Free Bar Oatmeal + Raisin (lead, cadmium), (9) The GFB Gluten Free Bar
12 Dark Chocolate + Coconut (lead, cadmium), (10) The GFB Gluten Free Bar Chocolate +
13 Peanut Butter (lead, cadmium), (11) The GFB Gluten Free Bar Peanut Butter (lead), and (12)
14 The GFB Gluten Free Oatmeal Apple + Cinnamon (cadmium).

15 1.2 ERC and West Thomas Partners are hereinafter referred to individually as a
16 "Party" or collectively as the "Parties."

17 1.3 ERC is a 501 (c)(3) California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other
18 causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by reducing the use and misuse of
19 hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees,
20 and encouraging corporate responsibility.

21 1.4 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the Parties agree that West Thomas
22 Partners is a business entity that has employed ten or more persons at all times relevant to this
23 action, and qualifies as a "person in the course of doing business" within the meaning of
24 Proposition 65. West Thomas Partners manufactures, distributes, and/or sells the Covered
25 Products.

26 1.5 The Complaint is based on allegations contained in ERC's Notice of Violation
27 dated January 16, 2020 that was served on the California Attorney General, other public
28 enforcers, and West Thomas Partners ("Notice"). A true and correct copy of the 60-Day Notice

1 dated January 16, 2020 is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein by reference.
2 More than 60 days have passed since the Notice was served on the Attorney General, public
3 enforcers, and West Thomas Partners and no designated governmental entity has filed a
4 Complaint against West Thomas Partners with regard to the Covered Products or the alleged
5 violations.

6 **1.6** ERC's Notice and Complaint allege that use of the Covered Products exposes
7 persons in California to lead and/or cadmium without first providing clear and reasonable
8 warnings in violation of California Health and Safety Code section 25249.6. West Thomas
9 Partners denies all material allegations contained in the Notice and Complaint.

10 **1.7** The Parties have entered into this Consent Judgment in order to settle,
11 compromise, and resolve disputed claims and thus avoid prolonged and costly litigation.
12 Nothing in this Consent Judgment nor compliance with this Consent Judgment shall constitute
13 or be construed as an admission by any of the Parties or by any of their respective officers,
14 directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions,
15 franchisees, licensees, customers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, or retailers of any fact,
16 issue of law, or violation of law.

17 **1.8** Except as expressly set forth herein, nothing in this Consent Judgment shall
18 prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have in
19 any current or future legal proceeding unrelated to these proceedings.

20 **1.9** The Effective Date of this Consent Judgment is the date on which ERC serves
21 notice on West Thomas Partners that it has been entered as a Judgment by this Court.

22 **2. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

23 For purposes of this Consent Judgment and any further court action that may become
24 necessary to enforce this Consent Judgment, the Parties stipulate that this Court has subject matter
25 jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint, personal jurisdiction
26 over West Thomas Partners as to the acts alleged in the Complaint, that venue is proper in
27 Alameda County, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment as a full and
28 final resolution of all claims up through and including the Effective Date which were or could

1 have been asserted in this action based on the facts alleged in the Notice and Complaint.

2 **3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, REFORMULATION, TESTING AND WARNINGS**

3 **3.1** Beginning thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, or October 1, 2020,
4 whichever date is later (hereafter referred to as the "Compliance Date"), West Thomas Partners
5 shall be permanently enjoined from manufacturing for sale in the State of California,
6 "Distributing into the State of California," or directly selling in the State of California, any
7 Covered Products which expose a person to a "Daily Lead Exposure Level" of more than 0.5
8 micrograms of lead per day and/or "Daily Cadmium Exposure Level" of more than 4.1
9 micrograms of cadmium per day unless it meets the warning requirements under Section 3.2.

10 **3.1.1** As used in this Consent Judgment, the term "Distributing into the State
11 of California" shall mean to directly ship a Covered Product into California for sale in
12 California or to sell a Covered Product to a distributor that West Thomas Partners knows or has
13 reason to know will sell the Covered Product in California.

14 **3.1.2** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the "Daily Lead Exposure
15 Level" shall be measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula:
16 micrograms of lead per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the
17 product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings
18 of the product per day (using the largest number of recommended daily servings appearing on
19 the label), which equals micrograms of lead exposure per day, excluding, pursuant to Section
20 3.1.3, amounts of allowances of lead in the ingredients listed in **Table 1** below. If the label
21 contains no recommended daily servings, then the number of recommended daily servings
22 shall be one.

23 **3.1.3** In calculating the Daily Lead Exposure Level for a Covered Product,
24 West Thomas Partners shall be allowed to deduct the amount of lead that is deemed "naturally
25 occurring" in any ingredient listed in **Table 1** that is contained in that Covered Product under
26 the following conditions: For each year that West Thomas Partners claims entitlement to a
27 "naturally occurring" allowance, West Thomas Partners shall provide ERC with the following
28 information: (a) West Thomas Partners must produce to ERC a list of each ingredient in the

1 Covered Product for which a "naturally occurring" allowance is claimed; (b) West Thomas
2 Partners must provide ERC with documentation of laboratory testing that complies with
3 Sections 3.4.3 and 3.4.4 and that shows the amount of lead, if any, contained in any ingredient
4 listed in **Table 1** that is contained in the Covered Product and for which West Thomas Partners
5 intends to deduct "naturally occurring" lead; (c) If the laboratory testing reveals the presence of
6 lead in any ingredient listed in **Table 1** that is contained in the Covered Product, West Thomas
7 Partners shall be entitled to deduct up to the full amount of the allowance for that ingredient, as
8 listed in **Table 1**, but not to exceed the total amount of lead actually contained in that
9 ingredient in the Covered Product; and (d) If the Covered Product does not contain an
10 ingredient listed in **Table 1**, West Thomas Partners shall not be entitled to a deduction for
11 "naturally occurring" lead in the Covered Product for that ingredient. The information
12 required by Sections 3.1.3 (a) and (b) shall be provided to ERC within thirty (30) days of the
13 Effective Date or anniversary thereof for any year that West Thomas Partners shall claim
14 entitlement to the "naturally occurring" allowance.

TABLE 1

<u>INGREDIENT</u>	<u>NATURALLY OCCURRING AMOUNTS OF LEAD</u>
Calcium (Elemental)	Up to 0.8 micrograms/gram (up to maximum amount of 1.2 micrograms of lead if there are 1.5 grams or more of elemental calcium in the Covered Product)
Ferrous Fumarate	Up to 0.4 micrograms/gram
Zinc Oxide	Up to 8.0 micrograms/gram
Magnesium Oxide	Up to 0.4 micrograms/gram
Magnesium Carbonate	Up to 0.332 micrograms/gram
Magnesium Hydroxide	Up to 0.4 micrograms/gram
Zinc Gluconate	Up to 0.8 micrograms/gram
Potassium Chloride	Up to 1.1 micrograms/gram
Cocoa Powder	Up to 1.0 micrograms/gram
Chocolate Liquor	Up to 1.0 micrograms/gram

Cocoa Butter	Up to 0.1 micrograms/gram
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3.1.4 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the “Daily Cadmium Exposure Level” shall be measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula: micrograms of cadmium per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings of the product per day (using the largest number of recommended daily servings appearing on the label), which equals micrograms of cadmium exposure per day. If the label contains no recommended daily servings, then the number of recommended daily servings shall be one.

3.2 Clear and Reasonable Warnings

If West Thomas Partners is required to provide a warning pursuant to Section 3.1, the following warning must be utilized (“Warning”):

WARNING: Consuming this product can expose you to chemicals including [lead] [and] [cadmium] which is [are] known to the State of California to cause [cancer and] birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food.

West Thomas Partners shall use the phrase “cancer and” in the Warning if West Thomas Partners has reason to believe that the the “Daily Lead Exposure Level” is greater than 15 micrograms of lead as determined pursuant to the quality control methodology set forth in Section 3.4 or if West Thomas Partners has reason to believe that another Proposition 65 chemical is present which may require a cancer warning. As identified in the brackets, the warning shall appropriately reflect whether there is lead, cadmium, or both chemicals present in each of the Covered Products.

The Warning shall be securely affixed to or printed upon the container or label of each Covered Product. If the Warning is provided on the label, it must be set off from other surrounding information and enclosed in a box. In addition, for any Covered Product sold over the internet, the Warning shall appear on the checkout page when a California delivery address is indicated for any purchase of any Covered Product. An asterisk or other identifying method

1 must be utilized to identify which products on the checkout page are subject to the Warning.

2 In no event shall any internet or website Warning be contained in or made through a link.

3 The Warning shall be at least the same size as the largest of any other health or safety
4 warnings also appearing on the website or on the label or container of West Thomas Partners'
5 product packaging and the word "WARNING" shall be in all capital letters and in bold print. No
6 statements intended to or likely to have the effect of diminishing the impact of the Warning on the
7 average lay person shall accompany the Warning. Further, no statements may accompany the
8 Warning that state or imply that the source of the listed chemical has an impact on or results in a
9 less harmful effect of the listed chemical.

10 West Thomas Partners must display the above Warning with such conspicuousness, as
11 compared with other words, statements or designs on the label or container, or on its website, if
12 applicable, to render the Warning likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under
13 customary conditions of purchase or use of the product.

14 3.3 Conforming Covered Products

15 A Conforming Covered Product is a Covered Product for which the "Daily Lead Exposure
16 Level" is no greater than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day and/or "Daily Cadmium Exposure
17 Level" is no more than 4.1 micrograms of cadmium per day as determined by the quality control
18 methodology described in Section 3.4.

19 3.4 Testing and Quality Control Methodology

20 3.4.1 Beginning within one year of the Effective Date, West Thomas Partners
21 shall arrange for lead and cadmium testing of the Covered Products at least once a year for a
22 minimum of three consecutive years by arranging for testing of one randomly selected sample
23 of each of the Covered Products, in the form intended for sale to the end-user, which West
24 Thomas Partners intends to sell or is manufacturing for sale in California, directly selling to a
25 consumer in California or "Distributing into the State of California." If tests conducted
26 pursuant to this Section demonstrate that no Warning is required for a Covered Product during
27 each of three consecutive years, then the testing requirements of this Section will no longer be
28 required as to that Covered Product. However, if during or after the three-year testing period,

West Thomas Partners changes ingredient suppliers for any of the Covered Products and/or reformulates any of the Covered Products, West Thomas Partners shall test that Covered Product annually for at least two (2) consecutive years after such change is made. The total period for testing required by this Section shall not exceed five (5) years.

3.4.2 For purposes of measuring the "Daily Lead Exposure Level" and/or "Daily Cadmium Exposure Level," the lead and/or cadmium detection result of the one (1) randomly selected sample of the Covered Products will be controlling.

3.4.3 All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed using a laboratory method that complies with the performance and quality control factors appropriate for the method used, including limit of detection, qualification, accuracy, and precision that meets the following criteria: Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry ("ICP-MS") achieving a limit of quantification of less than or equal to 0.010 mg/kg.

3.4.4 All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed by an independent third party laboratory certified by the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program or an independent third-party laboratory that is registered with the United States Food & Drug Administration.

3.4.5 Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall limit West Thomas Partners' ability to conduct, or require that others conduct, additional testing of the Covered Products, including the raw materials used in their manufacture.

3.4.6 Within thirty (30) days of ERC's written request, West Thomas Partners shall deliver lab reports obtained pursuant to Section 3.4 to ERC. West Thomas Partners shall retain all test results and documentation for a period of three years from the date of each test.

4. SETTLEMENT PAYMENT

4.1 In full satisfaction of all potential civil penalties, additional settlement payments, attorney's fees, and costs, West Thomas Partners shall make a total payment of \$75,000.000 ("Total Settlement Amount") to ERC in six periodic payments (the "Periodic Payments") according to the following payment schedule ("Due Dates"):

- Payment 1 -- \$11,000.00 within 5 days of the Effective Date

- Payment 2 -- \$11,000.00 within 35 days of the Effective Date
- Payment 3 -- \$11,000.00 within 65 days of the Effective Date
- Payment 4 -- \$11,000.00 within 95 days of the Effective Date
- Payment 5 -- \$11,000.00 within 125 days of the Effective Date
- Payment 6 -- \$20,000.00 within 155 days of the Effective Date.

West Thomas Partners shall make these Periodic Payments by wire transfer to ERC's account, for which ERC will give West Thomas Partners the necessary account information. The Total Settlement Amount shall be apportioned as follows:

4.2 \$38,750.00 shall be considered a civil penalty pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b)(1). ERC shall remit 75% (\$29,062.50) of the civil penalty to the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") for deposit in the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Fund in accordance with California Health and Safety Code section 25249.12(c). ERC will retain the remaining 25% (\$9,687.50) of the civil penalty.

4.3 \$3,991.47 shall be distributed to ERC as reimbursement to ERC for reasonable costs incurred in bringing this action.

4.4 \$28,995.53 shall be distributed to ERC as an Additional Settlement Payment ("ASP"), pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 11, sections 3203, subdivision (d) and 3204. ERC will utilize the ASP for activities that address the same public harm as allegedly caused by Defendant in this matter. These activities are detailed below and support ERC's overarching goal of reducing and/or eliminating hazardous and toxic chemicals in dietary supplement products in California. ERC's activities have had, and will continue to have, a direct and primary effect within the State of California because California consumers will be benefitted by the reduction and/or elimination of exposure to lead and/or cadmium in dietary supplements and/or by providing clear and reasonable warnings to California consumers prior to ingestion of the products.

Based on a review of past years' actual budgets, ERC is providing the following list of activities ERC engages in to protect California consumers through Proposition 65 citizen enforcement, along with a breakdown of how ASP funds will be utilized to facilitate those

activities: (1) ENFORCEMENT (65-80%): obtaining, shipping, analyzing, and testing dietary supplement products that may contain lead and/or cadmium and are sold to California consumers. This work includes continued monitoring and enforcement of past consent judgments and settlements to ensure companies are in compliance with their obligations thereunder, with a specific focus on those judgments and settlements concerning lead and/or cadmium. This work also includes investigation of new companies that ERC does not obtain any recovery through settlement or judgment; (2) VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM (10-20%): maintaining ERC's Voluntary Compliance Program by acquiring products from companies, developing and maintaining a case file, testing products from these companies, providing the test results and supporting documentation to the companies, and offering guidance in warning or implementing a self-testing program for lead and/or cadmium in dietary supplement products; and (3) "GOT LEAD" PROGRAM (up to 5%): maintaining ERC's "Got Lead?" Program which reduces the numbers of contaminated products that reach California consumers by providing access to free testing for lead in dietary supplement products (Products submitted to the program are screened for ingredients which are suspected to be contaminated, and then may be purchased by ERC, catalogued, sent to a qualified laboratory for testing, and the results shared with the consumer that submitted the product).

ERC shall be fully accountable in that it will maintain adequate records to document and will be able to demonstrate how the ASP funds will be spent and can assure that the funds are being spent only for the proper, designated purposes described in this Consent Judgment. ERC shall provide the Attorney General, within thirty days of any request, copies of documentation demonstrating how such funds have been spent.

4.5 \$3,263.00 shall be distributed to ERC for its in-house legal fees. Except as explicitly provided herein, each Party shall bear its own fees and costs.

4.6 In the event that West Thomas Partners fails to remit, in full, any of the Periodic Payments owed under Section 4.1 of this Consent Judgment on or before the applicable Due Date, West Thomas Partners shall be deemed to be in material breach of its obligations under this Consent Judgment. ERC shall provide written notice of the delinquency to West Thomas

Partners via electronic mail. If West Thomas Partners fails to deliver the delinquent payment within ten (10) days from the written notice, the Total Settlement Amount, less any amounts previously paid to ERC pursuant to Section 4.1, shall be immediately due and owing and shall accrue interest at the statutory judgment interest rate provided in the California Code of Civil Procedure section 685.010. Additionally, West Thomas Partners agrees to pay ERC's reasonable attorney's fees and costs for any efforts to collect the payment due under this Consent Judgment.

5. MODIFICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT

5.1 This Consent Judgment may be modified only as to injunctive terms (i) by written stipulation of the Parties and upon entry by the Court of a modified consent judgment or (ii) by motion of either Party pursuant to Section 5.3 and upon entry by the Court of a modified consent judgment.

5.2 If any Party seeks to modify this Consent Judgment under Section 5.1, then that Party must provide written notice to the other Party of its intent ("Notice of Intent"). The Parties shall meet and confer in good faith regarding the proposed modification within sixty (60) days of the receiving Party's receipt of the Notice of Intent. Within thirty (30) days of the meet and confer conference, if the Parties are not able to fully resolve the issues regarding the proposed modification, the Party disputing the modification shall provide the other Party with a written basis for its position. The Parties shall continue to meet and confer for an additional thirty (30) days in an effort to resolve any remaining disputes. Should it become necessary, the Parties may agree in writing to different deadlines for the meet-and-confer period.

5.3 In the event that West Thomas Partners initiates or otherwise requests a modification under Section 5.1, and the meet and confer process leads to a joint motion or application for a modification of the Consent Judgment, West Thomas Partners shall reimburse ERC its costs and reasonable attorney's fees for the time spent in the meet-and-confer process and filing and arguing the motion or application. ERC shall not be reimbursed for costs or attorney's fees for an uncontested motion, or for a ministerial motion (such as a change in name or contact information) or if ERC does not expend more than two (2) hours of attorney

1 time in the joint motion.

2 **5.4** In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed, and as a result of such repeal the
3 Covered Products are no longer subject to Proposition 65, then West Thomas Partners shall
4 have no further obligations as to injunctive terms pursuant to this Consent Judgment with
5 respect to the Covered Products.

6 **6. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION, ENFORCEMENT OF CONSENT**
7 **JUDGMENT**

8 **6.1** This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce, modify, or
9 terminate this Consent Judgment.

10 **6.2** If ERC alleges that any Covered Product fails to qualify as a Conforming
11 Covered Product (for which ERC alleges that no Warning has been provided), then ERC shall
12 inform West Thomas Partners in a reasonably prompt manner pursuant to Paragraph 11 herein
13 of its test results received from a laboratory described in Paragraph 3.4.4 herein, including
14 information sufficient to permit West Thomas Partners to identify the Covered Products at issue
15 and of ERC's calculation of the Daily Lead Exposure Level and/or Daily Cadmium Exposure
16 Level. West Thomas Partners shall, within thirty (30) days following such notice, provide ERC
17 with testing information, from an independent third-party laboratory meeting the requirements
18 of Sections 3.4.3 and 3.4.4, demonstrating West Thomas Partners' compliance with the
19 Consent Judgment. The Parties shall first attempt to resolve the matter prior to ERC taking any
20 further legal action.

21 **7. APPLICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

22 This Consent Judgment may apply to, be binding upon, and benefit the Parties and their
23 respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries,
24 divisions, franchisees, licensees, customers (excluding private labelers), distributors, wholesalers,
25 retailers, predecessors, successors, and assigns. This Consent Judgment shall have no application
26 to any Covered Product that is distributed or sold exclusively outside the State of California and
27 that is not used by California consumers.

28 ///

1 **8. BINDING EFFECT, CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED**

2 **8.1** This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between ERC,
3 on behalf of itself and in the public interest, and West Thomas Partners and its respective past,
4 present and future officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, representatives,
5 attorneys, accountants, insurers, receivers, advisors, consultants, partners, third-party vendors,
6 partnerships, members, divisions, assigns, agents, independent contractors, successors, heirs,
7 predecessors in interest, joint venturers, commonly-controlled corporations, holding
8 companies, controlling entities, sister companies, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions,
9 suppliers, franchisees, licensees, customers (not including private label customers of West
10 Thomas Partners unless (a) within thirty (30) days after the private label customer receives a
11 Notice of Violation ("Private Label Notice") from ERC pertaining to a Covered Product that is
12 private labeled ("Private Label Covered Product"), West Thomas Partners notifies ERC that it
13 is the manufacturer of the Private Label Covered Product and identifies the corresponding
14 Covered Product covered by this Consent Judgment, and (b) West Thomas Partners agrees to
15 reimburse ERC for the fees and costs incurred for the Private Label Notice through the date the
16 private label customer receives the Private Label Notice, with such fees and costs being limited
17 to those relating to the Private Label Covered Product and not to exceed \$5,000.00),
18 distributors, wholesalers, retailers, and all other upstream and downstream entities in the
19 distribution chain of any Covered Product, and the predecessors, successors, and assigns of any
20 of them (collectively, "Released Parties") with regard to the Covered Products. ERC, on behalf
21 of itself and in the public interest, hereby fully releases and discharges the Released Parties
22 from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, suits, demands, liabilities, damages,
23 penalties, fees, costs, and expenses asserted, or that could have been asserted from the
24 handling, use, or consumption of the Covered Products, as to any alleged violation of
25 Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations arising from the failure to provide Proposition
26 65 warnings on the Covered Products regarding lead and/or cadmium up to and including the
27 Compliance Date.

28 **8.2** ERC on its own behalf only, and West Thomas Partners on its own behalf

1 only, further waive and release any and all claims they may have against each other for all
2 actions or statements made or undertaken in the course of seeking or opposing enforcement of
3 Proposition 65 in connection with the Notice and Complaint up through and including the
4 Compliance Date, provided, however, that nothing in Section 8 shall affect or limit any Party's
5 right to seek to enforce the terms of this Consent Judgment.

6 **8.3** It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties, arising out of the facts
7 alleged in the Notice and Complaint, and relating to the Covered Products, will develop or be
8 discovered. ERC on behalf of itself only, and West Thomas Partners on behalf of itself only,
9 acknowledge that this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and include all such
10 claims up through and including the Compliance Date, including all rights of action therefor.
11 ERC and West Thomas Partners acknowledge that the claims released in Sections 8.1 and 8.2
12 above may include unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code section
13 1542 as to any such unknown claims. California Civil Code section 1542 reads as follows:

14 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE
15 CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO
16 EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE
17 AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY
AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED
PARTY.

18 ERC on behalf of itself only, and West Thomas Partners on behalf of itself only, acknowledge
19 and understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil
20 Code section 1542.

21 **8.4** Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed to
22 constitute compliance with Proposition 65 by any releasee regarding alleged exposures to lead
23 and/or cadmium in the Covered Products as set forth in the Notice and Complaint.

24 **8.5** Nothing in this Consent Judgment is intended to apply to any occupational or
25 environmental exposures arising under Proposition 65, nor shall it apply to any of West
26 Thomas Partners' products other than the Covered Products.

27 **9. SEVERABILITY OF UNENFORCEABLE PROVISIONS**

28 In the event that any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court to be

unenforceable, the validity of the remaining enforceable provisions shall not be adversely affected.

10. GOVERNING LAW

The terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

11. PROVISION OF NOTICE

All notices required to be given to either Party to this Consent Judgment by the other shall be in writing and sent to the following agents listed below via first-class mail or via electronic mail where required. Courtesy copies via email may also be sent.

FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.:

Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director, Environmental Research Center
3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108
Ph: (619) 500-3090
Email: chris.heptinstall@erc501c3.org

With a copy to:

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

FOR WEST THOMAS PARTNERS, LLC, individually and dba THE GFB: GLUTEN FREE BAR

Marshall Rader
The Gluten Free Bar
4053 Brockton Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
Ph: (616) 755-8432
Email: marshall@theglutenfreebar.com

With a copy to:

Christopher G. Foster
Hamrick & Evans, LLP
2600 W Olive Avenue, Ste 1020
Burbank, CA 91505
Ph: (818) 763-5292
Email: cfoster@hamricklaw.com

1 **12. COURT APPROVAL**

2 12.1 Upon execution of this Consent Judgment by the Parties, ERC shall notice a
3 Motion for Court Approval. The Parties shall use their best efforts to support entry of this
4 Consent Judgment.

5 12.2 If the California Attorney General objects to any term in this Consent Judgment,
6 the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the concern in a timely manner, and if possible,
7 prior to the hearing on the motion.

8 12.3 If this Stipulated Consent Judgment is not approved by the Court, it shall be
9 void and have no force or effect.

10 **13. EXECUTION AND COUNTERPARTS**

11 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts, which taken together shall be
12 deemed to constitute one document. A facsimile or .pdf signature shall be construed to be as valid
13 as the original signature.

14 **14. DRAFTING**

15 The terms of this Consent Judgment have been reviewed by the respective counsel for
16 each Party prior to its signing, and each Party has had an opportunity to fully discuss the terms
17 and conditions with legal counsel. The Parties agree that, in any subsequent interpretation and
18 construction of this Consent Judgment, no inference, assumption, or presumption shall be drawn,
19 and no provision of this Consent Judgment shall be construed against any Party, based on the fact
20 that one of the Parties and/or one of the Parties' legal counsel prepared and/or drafted all or any
21 portion of the Consent Judgment. It is conclusively presumed that all of the Parties participated
22 equally in the preparation and drafting of this Consent Judgment.

23 **15. GOOD FAITH ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DISPUTES**

24 If a dispute arises with respect to either Party's compliance with the terms of this Consent
25 Judgment entered by the Court, the Parties shall meet and confer in person, by telephone, and/or
26 in writing and endeavor to resolve the dispute in an amicable manner. No action or motion may
27 be filed in the absence of such a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute beforehand.

28 ///

1 **16. ENFORCEMENT**

2 ERC may, by motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of Alameda
3 County, enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. In any action
4 brought by ERC to enforce this Consent Judgment, ERC may seek whatever fines, costs,
5 penalties, or remedies as are provided by law for failure to comply with the Consent Judgment.

6 **17. ENTIRE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZATION**

7 **17.1** This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and
8 understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter herein, and any and all
9 prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related hereto. No
10 representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have
11 been made by any Party. No other agreements, oral or otherwise, unless specifically referred to
12 herein, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any Party.

13 **17.2** Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully
14 authorized by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment.

15 **18. REQUEST FOR FINDINGS, APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AND ENTRY OF**
16 **CONSENT JUDGMENT**

17 This Consent Judgment has come before the Court upon the request of the Parties. The
18 Parties request the Court to fully review this Consent Judgment and, being fully informed
19 regarding the matters which are the subject of this action, to:

20 (1) Find that the terms and provisions of this Consent Judgment represent a fair and
21 equitable settlement of all matters raised by the allegations of the Complaint that the matter has
22 been diligently prosecuted, and that the public interest is served by such settlement; and

23 (2) Make the findings pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section
24 25249.7(f)(4), approve the Settlement, and approve this Consent Judgment.

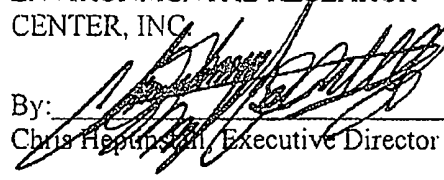
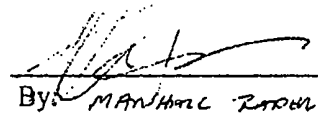

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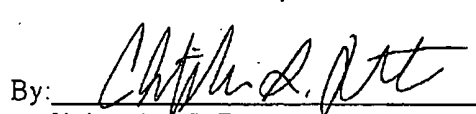
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1 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

2
3 Dated: 5/29/, 2020ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
CENTER, INC.By: 
Chris Hepburn, Executive Director6
7 Dated: 6/5/20, 2020WEST THOMAS PARTNERS, LLC,
individually and dba THE GFB: GLUTEN
FREE BARBy: 
Its: CEO14
15 APPROVED AS TO FORM:16 Dated: May 29, 2020ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
CENTER, INC.By: 
Charles W. Poss
In-House Counsel20
21 Dated: 6/8, 2020

HAMRICK & EVANS, LLP

By: 
Christopher G. Foster
Attorney for Defendant West Thomas
Partners, LLC, individually and dba The
GFB: Gluten Free Bar

ORDER AND JUDGMENT

Based upon the Parties' Stipulation, and good cause appearing, this Consent Judgment is approved and Judgment is hereby entered according to its terms.

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.

Dated: Aug 18, 2020

Delbert C. Allen SO

Judge of the Superior Court

EXHIBIT A

**Environmental Research Center**

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

January 16, 2020

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

Dear Alleged Violator and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

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

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

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

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

West Thomas Partners, LLC, individually and dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar

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

- 1. The GFB Gluten Free Oatmeal Coconut + Cashew - Lead**
- 2. The GFB Gluten Free Oatmeal Maple + Raisin - Lead**

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*
January 16, 2020
Page 2

3. The GFB Gluten Free Bites Chocolate + Cherry + Almond - Lead
4. The GFB Gluten Free Bites Dark Chocolate + Almond - Lead
5. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Cranberry + Toasted Almond - Lead
6. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Dark Chocolate + Almond - Lead
7. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Coconut + Cashew - Lead
8. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Oatmeal + Raisin - Lead, Cadmium
9. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Dark Chocolate + Coconut - Lead, Cadmium
10. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Chocolate + Peanut Butter - Lead, Cadmium
11. The GFB Gluten Free Bar Peanut Butter - Lead
12. The GFB Gluten Free Oatmeal Apple + Cinnamon - Cadmium

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

Cadmium was officially listed as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity and male reproductive toxicity on May 1, 1997, while cadmium and cadmium compounds were listed as chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1987.

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

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

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least January 16, 2017, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

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

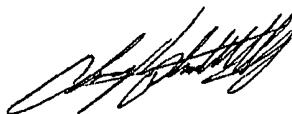
Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

January 16, 2020

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

Sincerely,



Chris Heptinstall
Executive Director
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to West Thomas Partners, LLC, individually and dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar and its Registered Agent for Service of Process only)

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

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*
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CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by West Thomas Partners, LLC, individually and dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

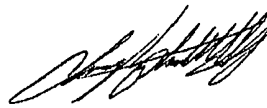
1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

2. I am the Executive Director for the noticing party.

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

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, and on other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff's case can be established and that the information did not prove that the alleged Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

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



Dated: January 16, 2020

Chris Heptinstall

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*
January 16, 2020
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903

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

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

On January 16, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY"** on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO
West Thomas Partners, LLC
individually and dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar
4053 Brockton Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Marshall Rader
(Registered Agent for West Thomas Partners, LLC,
individually and dba The GFB: Gluten Free Bar)
4053 Brockton Dr SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

On January 16, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General's website, which can be accessed at <https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice> :

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

On January 16, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

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

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

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

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

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

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Page 6

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney
San Francisco City Attorney
1390 Market Street, 7th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

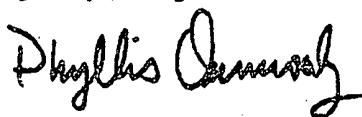
Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney
Ventura County
800 S Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA 93009
daspecialops@ventura.org

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

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*
January 16, 2020
Page 7

On January 16, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on January 16, 2020, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.



Phyllis Dunwoody

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

January 16, 2020

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Service List

District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120	District Attorney, Los Angeles County Hall of Justice 211 West Temple St., Ste 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012	District Attorney, San Bernardino County 303 West Third Street San Bernadino, CA 92415	Los Angeles City Attorney's Office City Hall East 200 N. Main Street, Suite 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012
District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street, Suite 202 Jackson, CA 95642	District Attorney, Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637	District Attorney, San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1300 San Diego, CA 92101	San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113
District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965	District Attorney, Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903	District Attorney, San Mateo County 400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA 94063	
District Attorney, Colusa County 346 Fifth Street Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932	District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338	District Attorney, Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001	
District Attorney, Del Norte County 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531	District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482	District Attorney, Sierra County 100 Courthouse Square, 2 nd Floor Downieville, CA 95936	
District Attorney, El Dorado County 778 Pacific St. Placerville, CA 95667	District Attorney, Merced County 550 W. Main Street Merced, CA 95340	District Attorney, Siskiyou County Post Office Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097	
District Attorney, Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721	District Attorney, Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020	District Attorney, Solano County 675 Texas Street, Ste 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533	
District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988	District Attorney, Mono County Post Office Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517	District Attorney, Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95354	
District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4 th Floor Eureka, CA 95501	District Attorney, Nevada County 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959	District Attorney, Sutter County 463 2 nd Street Yuba City, CA 95991	
District Attorney, Imperial County 940 West Main Street, Ste 102 El Centro, CA 92243	District Attorney, Orange County 401 West Civic Center Drive Santa Ana, CA 92701	District Attorney, Tehama County Post Office Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080	
District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301	District Attorney, Placer County 10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240 Roseville, CA 95678	District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093	
District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230	District Attorney, Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971	District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370	
District Attorney, Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453	District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor Hollister, CA 95023	District Attorney, Yuba County 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152 Marysville, CA 95901	

APPENDIX A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCYTHE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986
(PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

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

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

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

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

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

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

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

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

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

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

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

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

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

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

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

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses “no significant risk.” This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific “No Significant Risk Levels” (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

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

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

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

² See Section 25501(a)(4).

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

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

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

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

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

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

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

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

Revised: May 2017

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

Case Number: RG20061663

Case Name: Environmental Research Center vs. West Thomas Partners, LLC

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(CCP 1013a)**

I certify that the following is true and correct:


I am a Deputy Clerk employed by the Alameda County Superior Court. I am over the age of 18 years. My business address is 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, California 94544. I served **Statutory Findings and Order Approving Proposition 65 Settlement** by placing copies in envelope(s) addressed as shown below and then by sealing and placing them for collection, stamping or metering with prepaid postage, and mailing on the date stated below, in the United States mail at **Hayward**, California, following standard court practices.

Enviornmental Research Center, Inc.
Attn: Poss, Charles
3111 Camino Del Rio North
Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108

Executed on 08/20/2020

Chad Finke Executive Officer / Clerk of the Superior Court

By


digital

Sharon Becerra, Deputy Clerk