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15 L.L.C.

**FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of Alameda  
12/19/2024  
Clad Filke, Executive Officer / Clerk of the Court  
By: A. Mendola Deputy

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

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

**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**THE FROZEN BEAN INC.; THE FROZEN  
BEAN L.L.C.; and DOES 1-100**

**Defendants.**

**CASE NO. 24CV066119**

~~**PROPOSED**~~ **STIPULATED  
CONSENT JUDGMENT**

Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 *et seq.*

Action Filed: March 1, 2024

Trial Date: None set

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 On March 1, 2024, 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.*

1 (“Proposition 65”), against The Frozen Bean Inc. and The Frozen Bean L.L.C. (collectively  
2 “The Frozen Bean”) and Does 1-100. In this action, ERC alleges that a number of products  
3 manufactured, distributed, or sold in California by The Frozen Bean contain lead, a chemical  
4 listed under Proposition 65 as a carcinogen and reproductive toxin, and expose consumers to  
5 this chemical at a level requiring a Proposition 65 warning. These products (referred to  
6 hereinafter individually as a “Covered Product” or collectively as “Covered Products”) that are  
7 manufactured, distributed, or sold in California by The Frozen Bean are: (1) Frozen Bean  
8 Ultra-Premium Latte & Frappe Mix Hazelnut Latte Double Shot 2x Caffeine, (2) Frozen Bean  
9 Ultra-Premium Latte & Frappe Mix Pumpkin Spice Double Shot 2x Caffeine, (3) Frozen Bean  
10 Ultra Premium Bubble Tea Mix Tiger Milk, (4) Frozen Bean Ultra Premium Bubble Tea Mix  
11 Matcha Green Tea, (5) Frozen Bean Ultra Premium Latte & Frappe Mix London Fog Earl  
12 Grey, (6) Frozen Bean Birthday Cake Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix, (7)  
13 Frozen Bean Frozen Hot Chocolate Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix, (8) Frozen  
14 Bean Egg Nog Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix, and (9) Frozen Bean Java Chip  
15 Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix.

16 **1.2** ERC and The Frozen Bean are hereinafter referred to individually as a “Party”  
17 or collectively as the “Parties.”

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

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

26 **1.5** The Complaint is based on allegations contained in ERC’s Notice of Violation  
27 dated December 21, 2023 that was served on the California Attorney General, other public  
28 enforcers, and The Frozen Bean (“Notice”). A true and correct copy of the 60-Day Notice dated

1 December 21, 2023 is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and each is incorporated herein by  
2 reference. More than 60 days have passed since the Notice was served on the Attorney  
3 General, public enforcers, and The Frozen Bean and no designated governmental entity has  
4 filed a Complaint against The Frozen Bean 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 by  
7 California consumers exposes them to lead without first receiving clear and reasonable  
8 warnings from The Frozen Bean, which is in violation of California Health and Safety Code  
9 section 25249.6. The Frozen Bean denies all material allegations contained in the Notice and  
10 Complaint.

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

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

21 **1.9** The Effective Date of this Consent Judgment is the date on which it is entered  
22 as a Judgment by this Court.

## 23 **2. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

24 For purposes of this Consent Judgment and any further court action that may become  
25 necessary to enforce this Consent Judgment, the Parties stipulate that this Court has subject matter  
26 jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint and personal jurisdiction  
27 over The Frozen Bean as to the acts alleged in the Complaint, that venue is proper in Alameda  
28 County, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment as a full and final

1 resolution of all claims up through and including the Effective Date that were or could have been  
2 asserted in this action based on the facts alleged in the Notice and Complaint.

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

4 **3.1** Beginning on the Effective Date, The Frozen Bean shall be permanently  
5 enjoined from manufacturing for sale in the State of California, “Distributing into the State of  
6 California,” or directly selling in the State of California, any Covered Product that exposes a  
7 person to a “Daily Lead Exposure Level” of more than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day unless it  
8 meets the warning requirements under Section 3.2.

9 **3.1.1** As used in this Consent Judgment, the term “Distributing into the State  
10 of California” shall mean to directly ship a Covered Product into California for sale in  
11 California or to sell a Covered Product to a distributor that The Frozen Bean knows or has  
12 reason to know will sell the Covered Product in California.

13 **3.1.2** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the “Daily Lead Exposure  
14 Level” shall be measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula:  
15 micrograms of lead per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the  
16 product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings  
17 of the product per day (using the largest number of recommended daily servings appearing on  
18 the label), which equals micrograms of lead exposure per day. If the label contains no  
19 recommended daily servings, then the number of recommended daily servings shall be one.

20 **3.2 Clear and Reasonable Warnings**

21 If The Frozen Bean is required to provide a warning pursuant to Section 3.1, the following  
22 warning must be utilized (“Warning”):

23 **WARNING:** Consuming this product can expose you to chemicals including [lead] which  
24 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](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food).

25 The Frozen Bean shall use the phrase “cancer and” in the Warning if The Frozen Bean has  
26 reason to believe that the “Daily Lead Exposure Level” is greater than 15 micrograms of lead as  
27 determined pursuant to the quality control methodology set forth in Section 3.4 or if The Frozen  
28 Bean has reason to believe that another Proposition 65 chemical is present which may require a

1 cancer warning. As identified in the brackets, the warning shall appropriately reflect whether there  
2 is lead or another chemical that requires a Proposition 65 warning present in each of the Covered  
3 Products, but if there is a chemical present at a level that requires a cancer warning, the chemical  
4 requiring use of the phrase “cancer and” in the Warning shall always be identified.

5 The Warning shall be securely affixed to or printed upon the label of each Covered  
6 Product and it must be set off from other surrounding information and enclosed in a box. In  
7 addition, for any Covered Product sold over the internet, the Warning shall appear on the  
8 checkout page when a California delivery address is indicated for any purchase of any Covered  
9 Product. An asterisk or other identifying method must be utilized to identify which products on  
10 the checkout page are subject to the Warning. In no event shall any internet or website Warning  
11 be contained in or made through a link.

12 The Warning shall be at least the same size as the largest of any other health or safety  
13 warnings also appearing on the website or on the label and the word “**WARNING**” shall be in all  
14 capital letters and in bold print. No statements intended to or likely to have the effect of  
15 diminishing the impact of the Warning on the average lay person shall accompany the Warning.  
16 Further, no statements may accompany the Warning that state or imply that the source of the listed  
17 chemical has an impact on or results in a less harmful effect of the listed chemical.

18 The Frozen Bean must display the above Warning with such conspicuousness, as  
19 compared with other words, statements or designs on the label, or on its website, if applicable, to  
20 render the Warning likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary  
21 conditions of purchase or use of the product. Where a sign or label used to provide the Warning  
22 for a Covered Product includes consumer information about the Covered Product in a language  
23 other than English, the Warning must also be provided in that language in addition to English.

24 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term “label” means a display of written,  
25 printed or graphic material that is printed on or affixed to a Covered Product or its immediate  
26 container or wrapper.

### 27 **3.3 Conforming Covered Products**

28 A Conforming Covered Product is a Covered Product for which the “Daily Lead Exposure

1 Level” is no greater than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day as determined by the exposure  
2 methodology set forth in Section 3.1.2 and the quality control methodology described in Section  
3 3.4, and that is not known by The Frozen Bean to contain other chemicals that violate Proposition  
4 65’s safe harbor thresholds.

### 5 **3.4 Testing and Quality Control Methodology**

6 **3.4.1** Beginning within one year of the Effective Date, The Frozen Bean shall  
7 arrange for lead testing of the Covered Products at least once a year for a minimum of five  
8 consecutive years by arranging for testing of three (3) randomly selected samples of each of the  
9 Covered Products, in the form intended for sale to the end-user, which The Frozen Bean intends to  
10 sell or is manufacturing for sale in California, directly selling to a consumer in California or  
11 “Distributing into the State of California.” If tests conducted pursuant to this Section demonstrate  
12 that no Warning is required for a Covered Product during each of five consecutive years, then the  
13 testing requirements of this Section will no longer be required as to that Covered Product. However,  
14 if during or after the five-year testing period, The Frozen Bean changes ingredient suppliers for any  
15 of the Covered Products and/or reformulates any of the Covered Products, The Frozen Bean shall  
16 test that Covered Product annually for at least four (4) consecutive years after such change is made.

17 **3.4.2** For purposes of measuring the “Daily Lead Exposure Level,” the highest  
18 lead detection result of the three (3) randomly selected samples of the Covered Products will be  
19 controlling.

20 **3.4.3** All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed using a  
21 laboratory method that complies with the performance and quality control factors appropriate for the  
22 method used, including limit of detection and limit of quantification, sensitivity, accuracy and  
23 precision that meets the following criteria: Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (“ICP-  
24 MS”) achieving a limit of quantification of less than or equal to 0.005 mg/kg.

25 **3.4.4** All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed by an  
26 independent third party laboratory certified by the California Environmental Laboratory  
27 Accreditation Program or an independent third-party laboratory that is registered with the United  
28 States Food & Drug Administration.

1           **3.4.5** Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall limit The Frozen Bean’s ability to  
2 conduct, or require that others conduct, additional testing of the Covered Products, including the  
3 raw materials used in their manufacture.

4           **3.4.6** Within thirty (30) days of ERC’s written request, The Frozen Bean shall  
5 deliver lab reports obtained pursuant to Section 3.4 to ERC. The Frozen Bean shall retain all test  
6 results and documentation for a period of five years from the date of each test.

7           **3.5** Nothing in Section 3 of this Consent Judgment shall prevent or preclude ERC from  
8 obtaining and relying upon its own testing for purposes of enforcement, so long as such testing  
9 meets the requirements of Sections 3.4.3 and 3.4.4.

10           **3.6 Changes in Warning Regulations or Statutes**

11           If subsequently enacted changes to Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations require  
12 the use of additional or different information on any warning specifically applicable to the  
13 Covered Products (the “New Safe Harbor Warning”), the Parties agree that the New Safe Harbor  
14 warning may be utilized in place of or in addition to, as applicable, the warnings set forth in this  
15 Section.

16           **4. SETTLEMENT PAYMENT**

17           **4.1** In full satisfaction of all potential civil penalties, additional settlement  
18 payments, attorney’s fees, and costs, The Frozen Bean shall make a total payment of  
19 \$20,000.00 (“Total Settlement Amount”) to ERC in five periodic payments (the “Periodic  
20 Payments”) according to the following payment schedule (“Due Dates”):

- 21           • Payment 1 -- \$4,000.00 within 5 days of the Effective Date
- 22           • Payment 2 -- \$4,000.00 within 35 days of the Effective Date
- 23           • Payment 3 -- \$4,000.00 within 65 days of the Effective Date
- 24           • Payment 4 -- \$4,000.00 within 95 days of the Effective Date
- 25           • Payment 5 -- \$4,000.00 within 125 days of the Effective Date

26           The Frozen Bean shall make these payments by wire transfer to ERC’s account, for  
27 which ERC will give The Frozen Bean the necessary account information. The Total  
28 Settlement Amount shall be apportioned and distributed by ERC as follows:

1           **4.2**     \$2,000.00 shall be considered a civil penalty pursuant to California Health and  
2 Safety Code section 25249.7(b)(1). ERC shall remit 75% (\$1,500.00) of the civil penalty to the  
3 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”) for deposit in the Safe  
4 Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Fund in accordance with California Health and Safety  
5 Code section 25249.12(c). ERC will retain the remaining 25% (\$500.00) of the civil penalty.

6           **4.3**     \$11,673.44 shall be distributed to ERC as reimbursement to ERC for reasonable  
7 costs incurred in bringing this action.

8           **4.4**     \$6,326.56 shall be distributed to ERC for its in-house legal fees. Except as  
9 explicitly provided herein, each Party shall bear its own fees and costs.

10          **4.5**     In the event that The Frozen Bean fails to remit, in full, any of the Periodic  
11 Payments owed under Section 4.1 of this Consent Judgment on or before the applicable Due  
12 Date, The Frozen Bean shall be deemed to be in material breach of its obligations under this  
13 Consent Judgment. ERC shall provide written notice of the delinquency to The Frozen Bean via  
14 electronic mail. If The Frozen Bean fails to deliver the delinquent payment, in full, within five  
15 (5) days from the written notice, the Total Settlement Amount, less any amounts previously paid  
16 pursuant to Section 4.1, shall be immediately due and owing and shall accrue interest at the  
17 statutory judgment interest rate provided in the California Code of Civil Procedure section  
18 685.010. Additionally, The Frozen Bean agrees to pay ERC’s reasonable attorney’s fees and  
19 costs for any efforts to collect the payment due under this Consent Judgment.

20          **5.     MODIFICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

21          **5.1**     This Consent Judgment may be modified only as to injunctive terms (i) by  
22 written stipulation of the Parties and upon entry by the Court of a modified consent judgment  
23 or (ii) by motion of either Party pursuant to Section 5.3 and upon entry by the Court of a  
24 modified consent judgment.

25          **5.2**     If The Frozen Bean seeks to modify this Consent Judgment under Section 5.1,  
26 then The Frozen Bean must provide written notice to ERC of its intent (“Notice of Intent”). If  
27 ERC seeks to meet and confer regarding the proposed modification in the Notice of Intent, then  
28 ERC must provide written notice to The Frozen Bean within thirty (30) days of receiving the



1 Notice of Intent. If ERC notifies The Frozen Bean in a timely manner of ERC's intent to meet  
2 and confer, then the Parties shall meet and confer in good faith as required in this Section. The  
3 Parties shall meet in person, via remote meeting, or by telephone within thirty (30) days of  
4 ERC's notification of its intent to meet and confer. Within thirty (30) days of such meeting, if  
5 ERC disputes the proposed modification, ERC shall provide to The Frozen Bean a written basis  
6 for its position. The Parties shall continue to meet and confer for an additional thirty (30) days  
7 in an effort to resolve any remaining disputes. Should it become necessary, the Parties may  
8 agree in writing to different deadlines for the meet-and-confer period.

9 **5.3** In the event that The Frozen Bean initiates or otherwise requests a modification  
10 under Section 5.1, and the meet and confer process leads to a joint motion or joint application  
11 for a modification of the Consent Judgment, The Frozen Bean shall reimburse ERC its costs  
12 and reasonable attorney's fees for the time spent in the meet-and-confer process and filing and  
13 arguing the motion or application.

## 14 **6. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION, ENFORCEMENT OF CONSENT** 15 **JUDGMENT**

16 **6.1** This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce, modify, or  
17 terminate this Consent Judgment.

18 **6.2** If ERC alleges that any Covered Product fails to qualify as a Conforming  
19 Covered Product (for which ERC alleges that no Warning has been provided), then ERC shall  
20 inform The Frozen Bean in a reasonably prompt manner of its test results, including  
21 information sufficient to permit The Frozen Bean to identify the Covered Products at issue. The  
22 Frozen Bean shall, within thirty (30) days following such notice, provide ERC with testing  
23 information, from an independent third-party laboratory meeting the requirements of Sections  
24 3.4.3 and 3.4.4, demonstrating The Frozen Bean's compliance with the Consent Judgment. The  
25 Parties shall first attempt to resolve the matter prior to ERC taking any further legal action.

## 26 **7. APPLICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

27 This Consent Judgment may apply to, be binding upon, and benefit the Parties and their  
28 respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries,

1 divisions, franchisees, licensees, customers (excluding private labelers), distributors, wholesalers,  
2 retailers, predecessors, successors, and assigns. This Consent Judgment shall have no  
3 application to any Covered Product that is distributed or sold exclusively outside the State of  
4 California and that is not used by California consumers.

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

6 **8.1** This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between ERC, on  
7 behalf of itself and in the public interest, and The Frozen Bean and its respective officers,  
8 directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, suppliers,  
9 franchisees, licensees, customers (not including private label customers of The Frozen Bean),  
10 distributors, wholesalers, retailers, and all other upstream and downstream entities in the  
11 distribution chain of any Covered Product, and the predecessors, successors, and assigns of any  
12 of them (collectively, “Released Parties”).

13 **8.2** ERC, acting in the public interest, releases the Released Parties from any and all  
14 claims for violations of Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on exposure to lead  
15 from the Covered Products as set forth in the Notice of Violation. ERC, on behalf of itself  
16 only, hereby fully releases and discharges the Released Parties from any and all claims,  
17 actions, causes of action, suits, demands, liabilities, damages, penalties, fees, costs, and  
18 expenses asserted, or that could have been asserted from the handling, use, or consumption of  
19 the Covered Products, as to any alleged violation of Proposition 65 or its implementing  
20 regulations arising from the failure to provide Proposition 65 warnings on the Covered  
21 Products regarding lead to and including the Effective Date.

22 **8.3** ERC on its own behalf only, and The Frozen Bean on its own behalf only,  
23 further waive and release any and all claims they may have against each other for all actions or  
24 statements made or undertaken in the course of seeking or opposing enforcement of  
25 Proposition 65 in connection with the Notice and Complaint up through and including the  
26 Effective Date, provided, however, that nothing in Section 8 shall affect or limit any Party’s  
27 right to seek to enforce the terms of this Consent Judgment.

28 **8.4** It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties, arising out of the facts

1 alleged in the Notice and Complaint, and relating to the Covered Products, will develop or be  
2 discovered. ERC on behalf of itself only, and The Frozen Bean on behalf of itself only,  
3 acknowledge that this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and include all such  
4 claims up through and including the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefore.  
5 ERC and The Frozen Bean acknowledge that the claims released in Sections 8.2 and 8.3 above  
6 may include unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code section 1542 as to  
7 any such unknown claims. California Civil Code section 1542 reads as follows:

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

14 ERC on behalf of itself only, and The Frozen Bean on behalf of itself only, acknowledge and  
15 understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code  
16 section 1542.

17           **8.5**     Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed to  
18 constitute compliance with Proposition 65 by any of the Released Parties regarding alleged  
19 exposures to lead in the Covered Products as set forth in the Notice and Complaint.

20           **8.6**     Nothing in this Consent Judgment is intended to apply to any occupational or  
21 environmental exposures arising under Proposition 65, nor shall it apply to any of The Frozen  
22 Bean's products other than the Covered Products.

## 23 **9. SEVERABILITY OF UNENFORCEABLE PROVISIONS**

24           In the event that any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court to be  
25 unenforceable, the validity of the remaining enforceable provisions shall not be adversely  
26 affected.

## 27 **10. GOVERNING LAW**

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

///

1       **11. PROVISION OF NOTICE**

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

5       **FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.:**

6 Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director, Environmental Research Center  
7 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
8 San Diego, CA 92108  
9 Ph: (619) 500-3090  
10 Email: chris.heptinstall@erc501c3.org

11 With a copy to:  
12 Charles W. Poss  
13 Environmental Research Center, Inc.  
14 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
15 San Diego, CA 92108  
16 Ph: (619) 500-3090  
17 Email: charles.poss@erc501c3.org

18       **FOR THE FROZEN BEAN INC.; THE FROZEN BEAN L.L.C.:**

19 John Bae  
20 President  
21 9238 Bally Court  
22 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730  
23 Email: john@frozenbean.com

24       **12. COURT APPROVAL**

25           **12.1** Upon execution of this Consent Judgment by the Parties, ERC shall notice a  
26 Motion for Court Approval. The Parties shall use their best efforts to support entry of this  
27 Consent Judgment.

28           **12.2** If the California Attorney General objects to any term in this Consent Judgment,  
the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the concern in a timely manner, and if possible  
prior to the hearing on the motion.

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

///

1     **13. EXECUTION AND COUNTERPARTS**

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

5     **14. DRAFTING**

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

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

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

20     **16. ENFORCEMENT**

21             ERC may, by motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of Alameda  
22 County, enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. In any action  
23 brought by ERC to enforce this Consent Judgment, ERC may seek whatever fines, costs,  
24 penalties, or remedies as are provided by law for failure to comply with the Consent Judgment.  
25 To the extent the failure to comply with the Consent Judgment constitutes a violation of  
26 Proposition 65 or other laws, ERC shall not be limited to enforcement of this Consent  
27 Judgment, but may seek in another action whatever fines, costs, penalties, or remedies as are  
28 provided by law for failure to comply with Proposition 65 or other laws.

1 **17. ENTIRE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZATION**

2 **17.1** This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and  
3 understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter herein, including any and  
4 all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related thereto. No  
5 representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have  
6 been made by any Party. No other agreements, oral or otherwise, unless specifically referred to  
7 herein, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any Party.

8 **17.2** Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully  
9 authorized by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment.

10 **18. REQUEST FOR FINDINGS, APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AND ENTRY OF**  
11 **CONSENT JUDGMENT**

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

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

18 (2) Make the findings pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section  
19 25249.7(f)(4), approve the Settlement, and approve this Consent Judgment.

20 (3) Retain jurisdiction, pursuant to Section 664.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, after  
21 the Consent Judgment is entered in order to enforce, modify, or terminate this Consent Judgment.

22 **IT IS SO STIPULATED:**

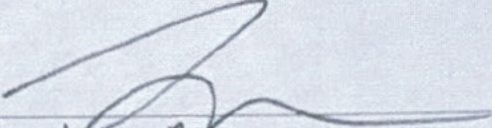
23 Dated: 10/21, 2024

24 ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH  
25 CENTER, INC

26 By:   
27 Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director

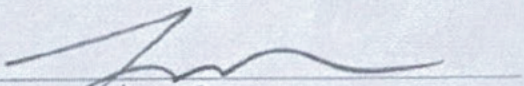
1 Dated: 10/1/a, 2024

THE FROZEN BEAN INC.

  
By: John Bae  
Its: president

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6 Dated: 10/1, 2024

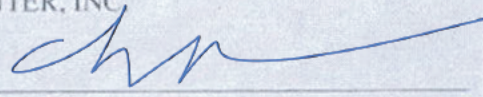
THE FROZEN BEAN L.L.C.

  
By: John Bae  
Its: president

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11 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

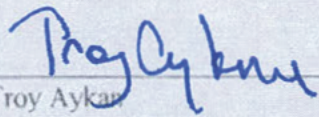
12  
13 Dated: October 2, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH  
CENTER, INC

By:   
Charles W. Poss  
In-House Counsel

14  
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16  
17 Dated: 10/2/, 2024

LAW OFFICES OF TROY AYKAN

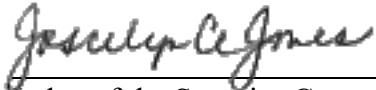
By:   
Troy Aykan  
Attorney for The Frozen Bean Inc., The  
Frozen Bean L.L.C.

**ORDER AND JUDGMENT**

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

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.

Dated:           08/26/2024          

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge of the Superior Court  
**Joscelyn Jones / Judge**

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# **EXHIBIT A**



## Environmental Research Center

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

December 21, 2023

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

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

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

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

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

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

**The Frozen Bean Inc.**  
**The Frozen Bean L.L.C.**

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

1. **Frozen Bean Ultra-Premium Latte & Frappe Mix Hazelnut Latte Double Shot 2x Caffeine - Lead**
2. **Frozen Bean Ultra-Premium Latte & Frappe Mix Pumpkin Spice Double Shot 2x Caffeine - Lead**
3. **Frozen Bean Ultra Premium Bubble Tea Mix Tiger Milk Tea - Lead**
4. **Frozen Bean Ultra Premium Bubble Tea Mix Matcha Green Tea - Lead**
5. **Frozen Bean Ultra Premium Latte & Frappe Mix London Fog Earl Grey - Lead**
6. **Frozen Bean Birthday Cake Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix - Lead**
7. **Frozen Bean Frozen Hot Chocolate Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix - Lead**
8. **Frozen Bean Egg Nog Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix - Lead**
9. **Frozen Bean Java Chip Naturally and Artificially Flavored Frappe Mix - Lead**

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

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

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

**Approximate Time Period of Violations.** Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least December 21, 2020, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

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

December 21, 2023

Page 3

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to my attention, or Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director of ERC, at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,



---

Charles Poss  
In-House Counsel  
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to The Frozen Bean Inc., The Frozen Bean L.L.C., and their Registered Agents for Service of Process only)

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

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

**Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by The Frozen Bean Inc. and The Frozen Bean L.L.C**

I, Charles Poss, 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.

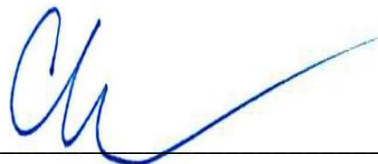
2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.

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: December 21, 2023



---

Charles Poss

**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 December 21, 2023, 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  
The Frozen Bean Inc. and The Frozen Bean L.L.C.  
9238 Bally Court  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

John Bae  
(Registered Agent for The Frozen Bean Inc.)  
9238 Bally Court  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Current President or CEO  
The Frozen Bean Inc. and The Frozen Bean L.L.C.  
872 E Webster St  
Ferndale, MI 48220

Brian Mele  
(Registered Agent for The Frozen Bean L.L.C.)  
872 E Webster St  
Ferndale, MI 48220

On December 21, 2023, 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 December 21, 2023, 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:

Pamela Y. Price, 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

James Clinchard, Assistant District Attorney  
El Dorado County  
778 Pacific Street  
Placerville, CA 95667  
EDCDAPROP65@edcda.us

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

December 21, 2023

Page 6

Lisa A. Smittcamp, District Attorney  
Fresno County  
2100 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
consumerprotection@fresnocountyca.gov

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

Devin Chandler, Program Coordinator  
Lassen County  
2950 Riverside Dr  
Susanville, CA 96130  
dchandler@co.lassen.ca.us

Lori E. Frugoli, District Attorney  
Marin County  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 145  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
consumer@marincounty.org

Walter W. Wall, District Attorney  
Mariposa County  
P.O. Box 730  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
mcda@mariposacounty.org

Kimberly Lewis, District Attorney  
Merced County  
550 West Main St  
Merced, CA 95340  
Prop65@countyofmerced.com

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

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

Clifford H. Newell, District Attorney  
Nevada County  
201 Commercial St  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us

Todd Spitzer, District Attorney  
Orange County  
300 N Flower St  
Santa Ana, CA 92703  
Prop65notice@ocdapa.org

Morgan Briggs Gire, District Attorney  
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10810 Justice Center Drive  
Roseville, CA 95678  
Prop65@placer.ca.gov

David Hollister, District Attorney  
Plumas County  
520 Main St  
Quincy, CA 95971  
davidhollister@countyofplumas.com

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

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

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

Alexandra Grayner, Assistant District Attorney  
San Francisco District Attorney's Office  
350 Rhode Island Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Alexandra.grayner@sfgov.org

Henry Lifton, Deputy City Attorney  
San Francisco City Attorney  
1390 Market Street, 7th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Prop65@sfcityatty.org

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

December 21, 2023

Page 7

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

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

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

Jill Ravitch, District Attorney  
Sonoma County  
600 Administration Dr  
Sonoma, CA 95403  
Jeannie.Barnes@sonoma-county.org

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

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

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

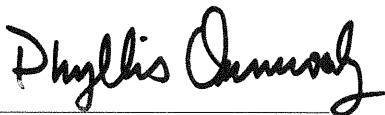
Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney  
Ventura County  
800 S Victoria Ave  
Ventura, CA 93009  
daspecialops@ventura.org

Nora V. Frimann, City Attorney  
Santa Clara City Attorney  
200 E. Santa Clara Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 96113  
Proposition65notices@sanjoseca.gov

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

On December 21, 2023, 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 December 21, 2023, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.



Phyllis Dunwoody



**Service List**

District Attorney, Alpine  
County  
P.O. Box 248  
Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador  
County  
708 Court Street, Suite 202  
Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte  
County  
25 County Center Drive, Suite  
245  
Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Colusa  
County  
310 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Colusa, CA 95932

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

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

District Attorney, Humboldt  
County  
825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Eureka, CA 95501

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

District Attorney, Kern County  
1215 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings  
County  
1400 West Lacey Boulevard  
Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County  
255 N. Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Los Angeles  
County  
Hall of Justice  
211 West Temple St., Ste 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

District Attorney, Mendocino  
County  
Post Office Box 1000  
Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Modoc  
County  
204 S Court Street, Room 202  
Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono  
County  
Post Office Box 617  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney, San Benito  
County  
419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor  
Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San  
Bernardino County  
303 West Third Street  
San Bernadino, CA 92415

District Attorney, San Mateo  
County  
400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Shasta  
County  
1355 West Street  
Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney, Sierra  
County  
Post Office Box 457  
100 Courthouse Square, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Floor  
Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney, Siskiyou  
County  
Post Office Box 986  
Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney, Solano  
County  
675 Texas Street, Ste 4500  
Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney, Stanislaus  
County  
832 12th Street, Ste 300  
Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter  
County  
463 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney, Tehama  
County  
Post Office Box 519  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity  
County  
Post Office Box 310  
Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney, Tuolumne  
County  
423 N. Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba  
County  
215 Fifth Street, Suite 152  
Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's  
Office  
City Hall East  
200 N. Main Street, Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## APPENDIX A

### OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

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

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

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html>. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001.<sup>1</sup> These implementing regulations are available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html>.

#### *WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?*

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### *DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?*

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food.** Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant<sup>2</sup> it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

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

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<sup>2</sup> See Section 25501(a)(4).

## *HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?*

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

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

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

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

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

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

*FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...*

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

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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.