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60 Day Notice of Intent to Sue The Yard House Restaurants Under Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6

This letter constitutes notification that The Yard House, LP, Yard House Restaurants, LLC, Yard House Irvine Spectrum, LLC, Yard House Pasadena, LLC, Yard House Rancho Mirage, LLC, Yard House San Diego, LLC, Yard House Triangle Square, LLC, all doing business as "Yard House Restaurants" (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Violator") has violated Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act (commencing with Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5). This notice is given by the Consumer Defense Group Action (hereinafter "Consumer Defense Group"), which may be contacted through the following entity: Law Offices of Graham & Martin, LLP, 3 Park Plaza, Suite 2030, Irvine, California 92614.

Summary of Violation:

Proposition 65 requires that when a party, such as the Violator, has been and is knowingly and intentionally exposing its customers, the public and/or its employees to chemicals designated by the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity ("the Designated Chemicals") it has violated the statute unless, prior to such exposure, it provides clear and reasonable warning of that potential exposure to the potentially exposed persons (Health & Safety Code Section 24249.6). Mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds are Designated Chemicals. Methyl mercury compounds were listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer on May 1, 1996. Methyl mercury was listed as a chemical known to the State of California to cause reproductive toxicity on July 1, 1987. Mercury and mercury compounds were listed as chemicals known to the State of California to cause reproductive toxicity on July 1, 1987. 22 CCR § 12000.

The Violator owns and/or operates the "Yardhouse" chain of restaurants which operate at each of the facilities listed on Exhibit A to this Notice (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Facilities"). In the ordinary course of business, the Violator sells food for consumption by its customers. One of the foods it sells and serves are various kinds of fish in the form of meals containing ahi tuna, swordfish, cod, halibut and lobster (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Fish"). Fish contains mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds.

At the "Yard Housert" restaurants listed on Exhibit A the Violator serves ahi tuna in the form of "spicy tuna roll", "seared ahi sashimi", "pan seared ahi", "seared ahi tuna" and "ahi crunchy salad", swordfish in the form of "crab crusted swordfish", cod in the form of "classic fish & chips", halibut in the form of "porcini crusted halibut", and lobster in the form of "lobster garlic noodles". Each of these Fish contains mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds. Customers and employees are exposed to these Designated Chemicals when they ingest the Fish by eating it in the form of the meals delineated above.

The Violator knows or has known since at least July 1, 1988 that the Fish served at the restaurants it owns and/or operates contain methyl mercury; since May 1, 1997 that the Fish contain methyl mercury compounds; and since July 1, 1991 that the Fish contain mercury and mercury compounds, and that persons eating the Fish are exposed to these chemicals.

Although the Violator has chosen to allow its customers and employees to be exposed to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds by serving its customers and employees Fish, the Violator has specifically chosen to ignore the requirements of Proposition 65 and has failed to post clear and reasonable warnings at the entrances to the Facilities, inside the Facilities or on its menus so that its customers and employees, who may not wish to be exposed, can be warned that, upon eating (ingesting) the Fish offered at the Facilities, they may be exposed to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds.

Investigators for the Consumer Defense Group have conducted an investigation of the Facilities between December 3, 2002 and February 6, 2003 (the "Investigation Period"). During those investigations the Consumer Defense Group discovered that the properties are owned and/or operated by the Violator. Further, the Consumer Defense Group discovered that the Violator has more than nine employees, and not only permits but requires the preparation and sale of Fish at each of the Facilities. Finally, the investigators for the Consumer Defense Group saw that at none of the Facilities during the Investigation Period was there a clear and reasonable warning sign at the front entrances, inside the Facilities at the reception area, or on the menus in use at the Facilities.

Product Exposures:

While in the course of doing business, at the locations in the attached Exhibit A, from at least the period between December 3, 2002 and February 6, 2003, the Violator has been and is knowingly and intentionally exposing its customers and employees to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds by serving its customers and employees Fish in the form as delineated above, without providing a clear and reasonable warning at the entrances to the Facilities, inside the Facilities or on its menus so that its customers and employees, who may not wish to be exposed, can be warned that, upon eating (ingesting) the Fish offered at the Facilities, they may be exposed to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds. The source of exposures is the Fish prepared and offered for sale at each of the Facilities. The exposure takes place when the customers and/or employees ingest the Fish at the Facilities.

Environmental Exposures:

While in the course of doing business, at the locations in the attached Exhibit A, from at least the period between December 3, 2002 and February 6, 2003, the Violator has been and is knowingly and intentionally exposing its customers and employees to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds by serving its customers and employees Fish in the form as delineated above, without providing a clear and reasonable warning at the entrances to the Facilities, inside the Facilities or on its menus so that its customers and employees, who may not wish to be exposed, can be warned that, upon eating (ingesting) the Fish offered at the Facilities, they may be exposed to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds. The source of exposures is the Fish prepared and offered for sale at each of the Facilities. The exposure takes place when the customers and/or employees ingest the Fish at the Facilities.

Occupational Exposures:

While in the course of doing business, at the locations in the attached Exhibit A, from at least the period between December 3, 2002 and February 6, 2003, the Violator has been and is knowingly and intentionally exposing its employees to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds by serving its customers and employees Fish in the form as delineated above, without providing a clear and reasonable warning at the entrances to the Facilities, inside the Facilities or on its menus so that its customers and employees, who may not wish to be exposed, can be warned that, upon eating (ingesting) the Fish offered at the Facilities, they may be exposed to mercury, mercury compounds, methyl mercury and methyl mercury compounds. The source of exposures is the Fish prepared and offered for sale at each of the Facilities. The exposure takes place when the employees ingest the Fish at the Facilities. Employees include and are not limited to bartenders, cashiers, waiters, waitresses, cooks, service personnel and administrative personnel. Such exposures take place inside the Facilities when and where meals containing Fish are consumed.

The route of exposure for Product, Occupational and Environmental Exposures to the Designated Chemicals has been ingestion, that is via the eating of the Fish contained in the meals delineated above.

Proposition 65 requires that notice and intent to sue be given to the violators (60) days before the suit is filed. With this letter, Consumer Defense Group gives notice of the alleged violations to the Violator and the appropriate governmental authorities. This notice covers all violations of Proposition 65 that are currently known to Consumer Defense Group from information now available to them. With the copy of this notice submitted to the violations, a copy is provided of "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary."

Dated: February 18, 2003

By: _____

EXHIBIT A

Shoreline Village
401 Shoreline Village Dr.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Triangle Square
1875 Newport Boulevard.
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Irvine Spectrum
71 Fortune Dr.
Irvine, CA 92618

The River at Rancho Mirage
71800 Highway 111
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

I, Anthony G. Graham, declare as follows:

1. I am a member of the State Bar of California, a partner of the law firm of Graham & Martin LLP, and one of the attorneys principally responsible for representing plaintiff Consumer Defense Group Action, Inc. (hereinafter “Consumer Defense Group”, the “noticing party” as to the “60 Day Notice of Intent to Sue” (the “Notice”) served concurrently herewith. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and, if called upon, could and would testify competently thereto. This certificate of merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice have violated Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

2. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the alleged exposures to the listed chemicals that are the subject of the action.

3. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that “reasonable and meritorious case for the private action” means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiffs’ case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

4. The copy of this Certificate of merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health & Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e. the identity of the persons consulted with and relied upon by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed

by those persons.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Irvine, California on February 17, 2003.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this case. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My business address is 3 Park Plaza, Suite 2030, Irvine, California 92614.

I SERVED THE FOLLOWING:

- 1.) 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health & Safety Code Section 24249.6 and Certificate of Merit;
- 2.) The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary (*only sent to Violator*);
- 3.) Supporting documents for Certificate of Merit (only sent to Office of Attorney General, Office of Proposition 65 Enforcement).;

by enclosing a true copy of the same in a sealed envelope addressed to each person whose name and address is shown below and depositing the envelope in the United States mail with the postage fully prepaid on February 18, 2003 in Irvine, California.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EACH PERSON TO WHOM DOCUMENTS WERE MAILED:

Harald Herrmann President & COO Steele Platt, Agent Yard House Restaurants, LLC and related entities 8001 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 1170 Irvine, CA 92618	California Attorney General P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
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Steele Platt Agent for Service of Process The Yard House, LP and related entities 407 Shoreline Drive Long Beach, CA 90802	Los Angeles City Attorney 200 N. Main St. N.E. Los Angeles, CA 90012
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Los Angeles County District Attorney 210 W. Temple Street, 18th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012	Riverside County DA 4075 Main St., 1 st Fl. Riverside, CA 92501
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Orange County District Attorney
700 Civic Center Dr. W., 2nd Fl.
Santa Ana, CA 92701,

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

Dated: February 18, 2003
