NOTICE OF VIOLATION

California Safe Drinking Water And Toxic Enforcement Act

Arsenic and Cadmium in the EAS Myoplex product

June 28, 2010

This Notice of Violation is provided to you pursuant to and in compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d).

- For general information regarding the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, see the attached summary provided by the California EPA (copies not provided to public enforcement agencies).
- This Notice of Violation is provided by Zachary Hallstrom, c/o Newport Trial Group, 610 Newport Center Drive, Suite 700, Newport Beach, California 92660. Mr. Hallstrom is a consumer who has purchased and ingested the EAS Myoplex product that is the subject of this Notice of Violation.

Description of Violation:

- <u>Violators</u>: The names and addresses of the violators known to Mr. Hallstrom are:
 - EAS, a subsidiary of Abbott Laboratories, 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, IL 60064
 - Abbott Laboratories, 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, IL 60064
 - Abbott Laboratories, Inc., doing business in California as Abbott Distribution Co., 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, IL 60064
 - Ralphs Grocery Company, P.O. Box 54143, Los Angeles, CA 90054
 - Walgreen Company, 200 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015
 - Walmart, 702 SW 8th Street, Bentonville, Arkansas, 72716

- <u>Time Period of Exposure</u>: The violations have been occurring since at least June 28, 2009, and are ongoing.
- <u>Provision of Proposition 65</u>: This Notice of Violation covers the "warning provision" of Proposition 65, which is found at California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.
- <u>Chemicals Involved</u>: The listed chemicals involved in these violations are arsenic and cadmium.
- Type of Product: The product at issue in this Notice of Violation is the EAS Myoplex Original Rich Dark Chocolate Shake manufactured and distributed by the Violators identified above. Three daily servings of the ready-to-drink liquid product provide an average of 16.9 microgram of arsenic, exceeding the proposed USP limit of 15 micrograms per day, and an average 5.1 micrograms of cadmium, which exceeds the USP limit of 5 micrograms per day.
- Description of Exposure: Use of the EAS Myoplex Original Rich Dark Chocolate Shake, which is ingested directly by drinking the product, results in human exposures to arsenic and cadmium. These exposures occur in homes, workplaces and everywhere else throughout California where these products are ingested or used. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with the product regarding the hazards of arsenic and cadmium.

Resolution of Noticed Claims:

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, Mr. Hallstrom intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against each of the alleged violators unless such alleged violator enters in to a binding written agreement to remedy the violations alleged herein by: (1) recalling products already sold; (2) reformulating such products to eliminate the arsenic exposure and cadmium exposure or taking appropriate measures otherwise to comply with Proposition 65; and (3) paying an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b). If any of the alleged violators is interested in resolving this dispute without resort to litigation, please contact Mr. Hallstrom through his counsel, Scott J. Ferrell, Newport Trial Group, 610 Newport Center Drive, Suite 700, Newport Beach, CA 92660, (949) 706-6464, sferrell@trialnewport.com. It should be noted that Mr. Hallstrom cannot: (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; nor (2) speak for the Attorney General or any District or City Attorney who received Mr. Hallstrom's 60-day Notice. Therefore, while reaching any agreement with Mr. Hallstrom will resolve his claims, such an agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT (Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d))

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June 28, 2010

I, Scott J. Ferrell, declare as follows:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day Notice in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the Notice have violated Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am the principal attorney of Newport Trial Group. Newport Trial Group represents the noticing party, Mr. Zachary Hallstrom.
- 3. Attorneys with my firm and 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 exposures to the listed chemicals that are the subject of the action.
- 4. Based on the information obtained through these consultations, 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 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. The copy of the Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this Certificate, including the information identified in Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relief upon by the certifier; and (2) the facts, studies or other data reviewed by those persons.

Scott J. Ferrell

Attorney for Zachary Hallstrom

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that:

I am employed in Orange County, California; my business address is 610 Newport Center Drive, Suite 700, Newport Beach, CA 92660. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within cause.

On June 30, 2010, I served true copies of the following documents:

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT:

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY (only sent to those on service list marked with an asterisk).

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; and

FACTUAL STATEMENT

On this date, I deposited fully prepaid and sealed envelopes containing the above-mentioned documents with the United States Postal Service, addressed to the following individuals:

Please see attached service list.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on June 30, 2010, at Newport Beach, California.

Carla Wise

SERVICE LIST

District Attorney of Alameda County 1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612

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

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

District Attorney of Butte County Administration Building 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney of Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney of Colusa County 547 Market Street, Suite 102 Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney of Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553

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

District Attorney of El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney of Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney of Glenn County P.O. Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney of Humboldt County 825 5th Street Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney of Imperial County 939 Main Street, Suite 102 El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney of Inyo County P.O. Drawer D Independence, CA 93526 District Attorney of Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield. CA 93301

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

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

District Attorney of Lassen County 220 S. Lassen Street, Suite 8 Susanville, CA 96130

District Attorney of Los Angeles County 210 W. Temple Street, Suite 1800 Los Angeles, CA 90012-3210

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

District Attorney of Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney of Mariposa County P.O. Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney of Mendocino County P.O. Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney of Merced County 2222 "M" Street Merced, CA 95340

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

District Attorney of Mono County P.O. Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93546

District Attorney of Monterey County 230 Church Street, Building 2 Salinas, CA 93901

District Attorney of Napa County 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559 District Attorney of Nevada County 110 Union Street Nevada City. CA 95959

District Attorney of Orange County 401 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney of Placer County 10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240 Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney of Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney of Riverside County 4075 Main Street Riverside, CA 92501

District Attorney of Sacramento County 901 "G" Street Sacramento, CA 95814

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

District Attorney of San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415

District Attorney of San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1300 San Diego, CA 92101

District Attorney of San Francisco County 850 Bryant Street, Room 325 San Francisco, CA 94103

District Attorney of San Joaquin County P.O. Box 990 Stockton, CA 95202

District Attorney of San Luis Obispo County 1050 Monterey Street, Room 450 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

District Attorney of San Mateo County 400 County Center, 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA 94063

SERVICE LIST

District Attorney of Santa Clara County 70 West Hedding Street, West Wing San Jose, CA 95110

District Attorney of Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

District Attorney of Santa Barbara County Attn: Jerry Lule-Jian 312-D E. Cook Street Santa Maria, CA 93454

District Attorney of Shasta County 1525 Court Street, 3rd Floor Redding, CA 96001-1632

District Attorney of Sierra County Courthouse 100 Courthouse Square, 2nd Floor Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney of Siskiyou County P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

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

District Attorney of Sonoma County 600 Administration Drive, Room 212J Santa Rosa, CA 95403

District Attorney of Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354 District Attorney of Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney of Tehama County P.O. Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney of Trinity County P.O. Box 310 11 Court Street Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney of Tulare County 221 S. Mooney Avenue, Room 224 Visalia, CA 93291

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

District Attorney of Ventura County 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

District Attorney of Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695

District Attorney of Yuba County 215 Fifth Street Marysville, CA 95901

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

San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620 San Diego, CA 92101 San Francisco City Attorney's Office City Hall, Room 234 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102

San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA 95113

California Attorney General's Office Attention: Proposition 65 Coordinator and Robert Thomas 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

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