

800.222.2766 tel 310.860.0476 fax 310.860.0480

9465 Wilshire Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90212-2603

October 27, 2010

BY FIRST CLASS U.S. MAIL

Current President or CEO GIB, Inc. dba Brazilian Blowout 6855 Tujunga Avenue North Hollywood, CA 91605

Re: Notice of Violation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65), Section 25249.6 of the California Health and Safety Code, for Exposing Hair Stylists to Formaldehyde (gas) from Brazilian Blowout Solution.

Dear Sir/Madam:

Citizens for a Clean California ("CCC") is a California non-profit organization dedicated to the keeping our communities safe from exposure to toxic chemicals through education and enforcement of environmental laws.

This letter constitutes notice that you have violated and continue to violate provisions of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health and Safety Code sections 25249.5 et seq. Specifically, you have violated and continue to violate the warning requirement at section 25249.6 of the California Health and Safety Code, which provides, "No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual..."

Brazilian Blowout Solution manufactured, distributed and/or sold by you contains formaldehyde (gas), a chemical known to the State to cause cancer. On each and every day from October 27, 2009 through the present, you have exposed and continue to expose hair stylists who purchase your product and apply it to the hair of others to formaldehyde (gas). Exposure of the hair stylists to formaldehyde (gas) has occurred primarily through inhalation, but also via dermal absorption. Such exposure occurs when the hair stylists apply the product as directed by you, which includes blow drying the hair after application of Brazilian Blowout Solution, and then applying a flat iron to the hair.

This notice alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect to occupational exposures governed by the California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health. The State Plan incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions with regard to occupational exposures on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers occurring outside the State of California. The approval also provides that an employer may use the means of compliance in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement is subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Accordingly, any settlement, civil complaint, or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the Attorney General.

This notice also alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect the consumer products exposures and environmental exposures of hair stylists who purchase your product and apply it to the hair of others, thus exposing the hair stylists to formaldehyde (gas).

Because formaldehyde (gas) is a chemical listed in Proposition 65 as a human carcinogen, pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.6 you were, and are, required to provide clear and reasonable warnings to all hair stylists and others who purchase your product before exposing them to formaldehyde (gas). Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(d), CCC intends to bring suit in the public interest against you in sixty days hereafter to correct the violation occasioned by the failure to warn all hair stylists and other purchasers of your product of the exposure to formaldehyde (gas).

Pursuant to 27 California Code of Regulations § 25903(b)(1), attached is a copy of "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary," a summary of Proposition 65 prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(d)(1), the undersigned hereby includes with the copy of this notice to the Attorney General a confidential Certificate of Merit.

While violations are occurring throughout the State of California, the noticing parties are unable to know for certain if violations are occurring in all of the 58 counties in California. Therefore, pursuant to 27 California Code of Regulations § 25903(c)(3), the noticing parties are providing this notice to the district attorney for each of the 58 counties in California. Further, the noticing parties provide this notice to the California Attorney General and the city attorneys for the cities of Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose.

CCC is located at: 2633 Lincoln Blvd., #915, Santa Monica, CA 90405, telephone: (310) 266-5266. The president of CCC is Sara Howell. CCC is represented in this matter by the law firms of Baron & Budd, P.C. and the Law Offices of April Strauss. All communications concerning this matter should be directed to:

Laura Baughman Baron & Budd, P.C. 3102 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 1100 Dallas, TX 75219 (214) 521-3605 Laura Baughman Baron & Budd, P.C. (address will change in 2 weeks to) 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 3450 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Sincerely,

BARON & BUDD, P.C.

Laura J. Baughman Attorneys for CCC

LJB/abw Enclosures

cc: Attorney General of California

(with attached confidential factual information supporting Certificate of Merit)

Los Angeles City Attorney
San Diego City Attorney
City Attorney of San Francisco
San Jose City Attorney
District Attorneys for California's 58 Counties
(see attached certificate of service)

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

I, Laura J. Baughman, hereby declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached notice of violation in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the notice have violated Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am an attorney representing Citizens for a Clean California.
- 3. 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 exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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., (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: October 27, 2010

Laura J. Baughman, Attorney for Citizens for a Clean California

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 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, 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 its implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

Proposition 65 appears in California law as Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13. 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 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 12000 through 14000.

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The "Governor's List." Proposition 65 requires the Governor to publish a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm. This list must be updated at least once a year. Over 735 chemical listings have been included as of November 16, 2001. Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under this law. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving those 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. 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. Exposures are exempt from the warning requirement if they occur less than twelve months after the date of listing of the chemical.

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. Discharges are exempt from this requirement if they occur less than twenty months after the date of listing of the chemical.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. The law exempts: 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. Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed as known to the State to cause cancer ("carcinogens"), a warning is not required if the business 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 for more than 250 listed carcinogens.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm ("reproductive toxicants"), a warning is not required if the business 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 (NOEL)," divided by a 1,000-fold safety or uncertainty factor. The "no observable effect level" is the highest dose level which has not been associated with an observable adverse reproductive or developmental effect.

Discharges that do not result in a "significant amount" of the listed chemical entering into 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 enter any drinking water source, 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" or "no observable effect" test if an individual were exposed to such an amount in drinking water.

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 (those in cities with a population exceeding 750,000). 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. A notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in regulations (Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section 25903). A private party may not pursue an enforcement action directly under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an 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 of law to stop committing the violation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I am employed in the City of Beverly Hills in the County of Los Angeles, California. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action. My business address is 9465 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 460, Beverly Hills, CA 90212-2603.

On October 27, 2010 I served the following document(s):

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65), SECTION 25249.6 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, FOR EXPOSING HAIR STYLISTS TO FORMALDEHYDE (GAS) FROM BRAZILIAN BLOWOUT SOLUTION.

by UNITED STATES FIRST CLASS MAIL by causing to be placed a true and correct copy thereof in an envelope addressed to each of the persons named below at the addresses shown, and by causing to be deposited said envelope into the United States mail at Beverly Hills, California, with postage fully prepaid to:

See Attached List.

Executed on this 27th day of October, 2010 at Beverly Hills, California. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

SANDRA PIERCE

SERVICE LIST

Current President or CEO GIB, Inc. dba Brazilian Blowout 6855 Tujunga Avenue North Hollywood, CA 91605

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, #202 Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney of Butte County 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 Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney of Contra Costa County 725 Court Street, Room 402 Martinez, CA 94553

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

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

District Attorney of Lassen County 220 S. Lassen St., Ste 8 Susanville, CA 96130 District Attorney of El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney of Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, #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 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 Hanford, CA 93230

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 Los Angeles County 210 W. Temple Street, Room 345 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

District Attorney of Marin County 3501 Civic Center Dr., Room 183 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 Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney of Mono County P.O. Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney of Monterey County PO Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93901

District Attorney of San Joaquin County P.O. Box 990 Stockton, CA 95201

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

District Attorney of San Mateo County 400 County Ctr, 3rd Fl Redwood City, CA 94063 District Attorney of Orange County 401 Civic Ctr 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 3960 Orange Street, Ste 5 Riverside, CA 92501

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

District Attorney of San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415-0004

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

District Attorney of San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1320 San Diego, CA 92112

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

District Attorney of Stanislaus County 800 11th Street, Room 200 Modesto, CA 95353

District Attorney of Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney of Tulare County 221 S. Mooney Ave, Room 224 Visalia, CA 93291 District Attorney of Santa Barbara County 1105 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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

District Attorney of Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95061

District Attorney of Sierra County Courthouse, P.O. Box 457 Downieville, CA 95936

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

District Attorney of Solano County 600 Union Avenue Fairfield, CA 94533

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

District Attorney of Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001_1652

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

District Attorney of Trinity County P.O. Box 1310 Weaverville, CA 96093 District Attorney of Tuolumne County 2 South Green Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney of Ventura County 800 South Victoria Ave 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

San Jose City Attorney's Office 151 West Mission Street San Jose, CA 95110

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office Room 1800, City Hall East 200 N. Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 3rd Avenue, 12th Floor San Diego, CA 92101

San Francisco City Attorney's Office City Hall, Room 234 San Francisco, CA 94102

California Attorney General's Office Attn: Proposition 65 Coordinator 1515 Clay Street Oakland, CA 94612