SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE FOR VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986

(Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq.) ("Proposition 65")

December 17, 2010

Alan Nourhie, President, or current President or CEO Arsenal Gaming, Inc. 3416 Wesley Street Culver City, CA 90232

Michael Balmuth, President, or current President or CEO Ross Stores, Inc. 4440 Rosewood Drive Pleasanton, CA 94588

AND THE PUBLIC PROSECUTORS LISTED ON THE DISTRIBUTION LIST ACCOMPANYING THE ATTACHED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Violations of Proposition 65 concerning PSPTM Starter Kit (APSPK702)

Dear Mr. Nourhie and Mr. Balmuth, and to whom else this may concern:

Consumer Advocacy Group, Inc. ("CAG"), the noticing entity, serves this Notice of Violation ("Notice") on 99 Cents Only Stores and Price Point Accessories, (collectively "Violators") pursuant to and in compliance with Proposition 65. Violators may contact CAG concerning this Notice through its designated person within the entity, its attorney, Reuben Yeroushalmi 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 610E, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, telephone no. (310) 623-1926, facsimile no. (310) 623-1930. This Notice satisfies a prerequisite for CAG to commence an action against Violators in any Superior Court of California to enforce Proposition 65. The violations addressed by this Notice occurred at numerous locations in each county in California as reflected in the district attorney addresses listed in the attached distribution list. CAG is serving this Notice upon each person or entity responsible for the alleged violations, the California Attorney General, the district attorney for each county where alleged violations occurred, and the City Attorney for each city with a population (according to the most recent decennial census) of over 750,000 located within counties where the alleged violations occurred.

- CAG is a registered corporation based in California. CAG is a nonprofit entity dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health, and supporting environmentally sound practices. By sending this Notice, CAG is acting "in the public interest" pursuant to Proposition 65.
- This Notice concerns violations of the warning prong of Proposition 65, which states that "[n]o 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 . . ." Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6.
 - **PSPTM Starter Kit** contains **lead**, which is known to the State of California to cause both cancer and reproductive toxicity, developmental, female, male. On February 27, 1987, the Governor of California added lead to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, developmental, female, male, and on October 1, 1992, the Governor added lead and lead

components to the list of chemicals known to the State to cause cancer. Both additions took place more than twenty (20) months before CAG served this Notice. .

• This Notice addresses consumer products exposures. A "[c]onsumer products exposure' is an exposure which results from a person's acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or other reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer good, or any exposure that results from receiving a consumer service." Cal. Code Regs. 27 tit. § 25602(b).

Violators caused consumer product exposures in violation of Proposition 65 by producing or making available for distribution or sale in California to consumers PSPTM Starter Kit ("Starter Kit"). The packaging for Starter Kit (meaning any label or other written, printed or graphic matter affixed to or accompanying the product or its container or wrapper) contains no Proposition 65-complaint warning. Nor did Violators, with regard to Starter Kit, provide a system of signs, public advertising identifying the system and toll-free information services, or any other system, which provided clear and reasonable warnings. Nor did Violators, with regard to Starter Kit, provide identification of the product at retail outlets in a manner that provided a warning through shelf labeling, signs, menus, or a combination thereof. Starter Kit is designed for personal use by children and adults.

• This Notice also addresses environmental exposures. An "[e]nvironmental exposure' is an exposure which may foreseeably occur as the result of contact with an environmental medium, including, but not limited to, ambient air, indoor air, drinking water, standing water, running water, soil vegetation, or manmade or natural substances, either through inhalation, ingestion, skin contact or otherwise. Environmental exposures include all exposures which are not consumer products exposures, or occupational exposures." *Cal. Code Regs.* tit. 27, § 25602(c).

Violator Ross Dress For Less. caused environmental exposures by not providing any Proposition 65-compliant warnings at their distributing, shipping, warehousing, and retail facilities located at 3759 Ming Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93309 among other locations where such exposures could foreseeably occur, to persons who could foreseeably come into contact with **Starter Kit**. Such exposures also occurred beyond the property owned or controlled by Violators.

These violations occurred each day between October 27, 2007, and October 27, 2010, and are ever continuing thereafter.

The principal routes of exposure with regard to **Starter Kit** are and were through dermal contact, ingestion, and inhalation. Persons sustain exposures by handling **Starter Kit** without wearing gloves or any other personal protective equipment, or by touching bare skin or mucous membranes with gloves after handling **Starter Kit**, as well as through hand to mouth contact, hand to mucous membrane, or breathing in particulate matter dispersed from **Starter Kit**.

Proposition 65 requires that notice of intent to sue be given to the violator(s) sixty (60) days before the suit is filed. Cal. Health & Safety Code § 252549.7(d)(1). With this letter, CAG gives notice of the alleged violations to Violator and the appropriate governmental authorities. In absence of any action by the appropriate governmental authorities within sixty (60) calendar days of the sending of this notice (plus ten (10) calendar days because the place of address is beyond the State of California but within the United States), CAG may file suit. See Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 1013; Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d)(1); and Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27 § 25903(d)(1). CAG remains open to discussing the possibility of resolving its grievances short of formal litigation.

With the copy of this notice submitted to the Violator, a copy of the following is attached: The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary.

Dated: December 17, 2010

Reuben Yeroushalmi

Ycroushalmi & Associates

Attorneys for Consumer Advocacy Group, Inc.

Appendix A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACTION 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 27 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 25000 through 27000.

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 chemicals have been listed 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.

Discharge 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 list 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 27, 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.

§27000.

Chemicals Required by State or Federal Law to Have been Tested for Potential to Cause Cancer or Reproductive Toxicity, but Which Have Not Been Adequately Tested As Required.

(a) The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 requires the Governor to publish a list of chemicals formally required by state or federal agencies to have testing for carcinogenicity or reproductive toxicity, but that the state's qualified experts have not found to have been adequately tested as required [Health and Safety Code 25249.8)c)].

Readers should note a chemical that already has been designated as known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity is not included in the following listing as requiring additional testing for that particular toxicological endpoint. However, the "data gap" may continue to exist, for purposes of the state or federal agency's requirements. Additional information on the requirements for testing may be obtained from the specific agency identified below.

(b) Chemicals required to be tested by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

The Birth Defect Prevention Act of 1984(SB 950) mandates that the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) review chronic toxicology studies supporting the registration of pesticidal active ingredients. Missing or unacceptable studies are identified as data gaps. The studies are conducted to fulfill generic data requirements of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), which is administered by the United Stated Environmental Protections Agency (U.S. EPA). The studies are reviewed by CDPR according to guidelines and standards promulgated under FIFRA. Thus, older studies may not meet current guidelines.

The existence of a data gap for a compound does not indicate a total lack of information on the carcinogenicity or reproductive toxicity of the compound. In some cases, information exists in the open scientific literature, but SB 950 requires specific, additional information. A data gap does not necessarily indicate that an oncogenic or reproductive hazard exists. For the purposes of this list, a data gap is still considered to be present until the study is reviewed and found to be acceptable.

Following is a listing of SB 950 data gaps for oncogenicity, reproduction, and teratology studies for the non-200 pesticidal active ingredients. This list will change as data gaps are filled by additional data or replacement studies

[Final Paragraph and List Ommitted].

PSPTM Starter Kit

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I, Reuben Yeroushalmi, hereby declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the party(s) identified in the notice(s) has violated Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am the attorney for the noticing party.
- 3. I have consulted with at least one person with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the 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 and 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: December 17, 2010

By: Reuben Yeroushalmi

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 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 610E, Beverly Hills, CA 90212.

ON THE DATE SHOWN BELOW, I SERVED THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6
- 2) Certificate of Merit: Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)
- 3) Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy): Factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the certificate of merit (only sent to Attorney General)
- 4) The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary

by enclosing copies of the same in a sealed envelope, along with an unsigned copy of this declaration, addressed to each person shown below and depositing the envelope in the U.S. mail with the postage fully prepaid. Place of Mailing: Beverly Hills, CA

Name and address of each party to whom documents were mailed:

Alan Nourhie, President, or current President or CEO Arsenal Gaming, Inc.

3416 Wesley Street

Culver City, CA 90232

Michael Balmuth, President, or current President or CEO Ross Stores, Inc.

4440 Rosewood Drive Pleasanton, CA 94588

Name an See Distribution List	ad address of each	a public prosecutor to whon	a documents were mailed:
I declare under pe correct.	nalty of perjury ur	nder the laws of the State of	California that the foregoing is true and
Date of Mailing:	12/ <u>23</u> /10	Ву:	
		-	Alan J. Cooper

Distribution List

Alameda County District Aston	I as America Control	
Alameda County District Attorney 1225 Fallon St, Room 900	Los Angeles County District Attorney 210 W Temple St, 18th Floor	Mono County District Attorney
Oakland, CA 94612	Los Angeles, CA 90012	PO Box 617
		Bridgeport, CA 93517
Alpine County District Attorney PO Box 248	Madera County District Attorney	San Joaquin County District Attorney
Markleeville, CA 96120	209 W Yosemite Ave Madera, CA 93637	PO Box 990
Amador County District Attorney	Mariposa County District Attorney	Stockton, CA 95201 -0990
708 Court, Suite 202	P.O. Box 730	San Francisco County District Attorney
Jackson, CA 95642	Mariposa, CA 95338	850 Bryant St, Rm 322 San Francisco, CA 94103
Butte County District Attorney	Marin County District Attorney	San Diego County District Attorney
25 County Center Dr.	3501 Civic Center Drive, #130	330 W. Broadway, Ste 1300
Oroville, CA 95965-3385	San Rafael, CA 94903	San Diego, CA 92101-3803
Calaveras County District Attorney	Mendocino County District Attorney	San Bernardino County District Attorney
891 Mountain Ranch Road	P.O. Box 1000	316 N Mountain View Ave
San Andreas, CA 95249	Ukiah, CA 95482	San Bernardino, CA 92415-0004
Office of the Attorney General	Los Angeles City Attorney	
P.O. Box 70550	200 N Main St Ste 1800	San Francisco City Attorney
Oakland, CA 94612-0550	Los Angeles CA 90012	# 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 234 San Francisco, CA 94102
Colusa County District Attorney	Inyo County District Attorney	Placer County District Attorney
Courthouse, 547 Market St.	P.O. Drawer D	10810 Justice Center Drive
Colusa, CA 95932	Independence, CA 93526	Suite 240
		Roseville, CA 95678-6231
Contra Costa County District Attorney	Orange County District Attorney	Merced County District Attorney
725 Court St., Room 402	PO Box 808	650 W. 20 th Street
Martinez, CA 94553	Santa Ana, CA 92702	Merced, CA 95340
Del Norte County District Attorney	Nevada County District Attorney	Napa County District Attorney
450 "H" St. Crescent City, CA 95531	201 Church St, Suite 8	PO Box 720
El Dorado County District Attorney	Nevada City, CA 95959-2504	Napa, CA 94559-0720
515 Main St.	Plumas County District Attorney	Riverside County District Attorney
Placerville, CA 95667-5697	520 Main Street, Rm 404 Quincy, CA 95971	4075 Main St
Fresno County District Attorney	Sacramento County District Attorney	Riverside, CA 92501
2220 Tulare St, Ste. 1000	901 G Street	San Benito County District Attorney
Fresno, CA 93721	Sacramento, CA 95814	419 4th St Hollister, CA 95023
Glenn County District Attorney	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney	Siskiyou County District Attorney
PO Box 430	County Government Center, Rm 450	PO Box 986
Willows, CA 95988	San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	Yreka, CA 96097
Humboldt County District Attorney	San Mateo County District Attorney	Solano County District Attorney
825 5th St., 4 th Floor	400 County Center	600 Union Ave
Eureka, CA 95501	Redwood City, CA 94063	Fairfield, CA 94533
Imperial County District Attorney 939 W. Main St., 2 nd Floor	Santa Barbara County District Attorney	Sonoma County District Attorney
El Centro, CA 92243-2860	1112 Santa Barbara St.	600 Administration Dr.,
El Conto, CA 92245-2800	Santa Barbara, CA 93101	Rm 212-J
Kern County District Attorney	Santa Clara County District Attorney	Santa Rosa, CA 95403
1215 Truxtun Ave.	70 W Hedding St.	Shasta County District Attorney
Bakersfield, CA 93301	San Jose, CA 95110	1525 Court St, 3rd Floor
Kings County District Attorney	Santa Cruz County District Attorney	Redding, CA 96001-1632 Sierra County District Attorney
Gov't Ctr, 1400 W Lacey Blvd	PO Box 1159	PO Box 457
Hanford, CA 93230	Santa Cruz, CA 95061	Downieville, CA 95936-0457
Lake County District Attorney	Stanislaus County District Attorney	Trinity County District Attorney
255 N Forbes St	PO Box 442	PO Box 310
Lakeport, CA 95453-4790	Modesto, CA 95353	Weaverville, CA 96093
Modoc County District Attorney	Sutter County District Attorney	Vulne County District Att
204 S. Court Street	446 Second Street	Yuba County District Attorney 215 5th St
Alturas, CA 96101-4020	Yuba City, CA 95991	Marysville, CA 95901
San Diego City Attorney	Lassen County District Attorney	Monterey County District Attorney
City Center Plaza	200 S Lassen St, Suite 8	PO Box 1131
1200 3rd Ave # 1100	Susanville, CA 96130	Salinas, CA 93902
San Diego, CA 92101		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Tuolumne County District Attorney	Tulare County District Attorney	Yolo County District Attorney
2 S Green St	County Civic Center, Rm 224	310 Second St
Sonora, CA 95370	Visalia, CA 93291	Woodland, CA 95695
Ventura County District Attorney	Tehama County District Attorney	San Jose City Attorney
800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009	P.O. Box 519	151 W. Mission St.
1 STITULE CA 33003	Red Bluff, CA 96080	San Jose, CA 95110