NOTICE OF VIOLATION

California Safe Drinking Water
and Toxic Enforcement Act

Lead in Wallets, Handbags, Purses and Clutches
Made With Leather, Vinyl or Imitation Leather Materials

March 27, 2012

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 the Center for Environmental Health ("CEH"), 2201 Broadway, Suite 302, Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 655-3900. CEH is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health and supporting environmentally sound practices. Charlie Pizarro is the Associate Director of and a responsible individual within CEH.

Description of Violation:

- Violators: The names and addresses of the violators are listed on the attached Exhibit 1.
- Time Period of Exposure: The violations have been occurring since at least March 27, 2009, and are continuing to this day.
- Provision of Proposition 65: This Notice of Violation covers the "warning provision" of Proposition 65, which is found at California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.
- Chemical(s) Involved: The names of the listed chemicals involved in these violations are lead and lead compounds ("Lead"). Exposures to Lead occur from use of the products identified in this Notice.
- Types of Products: The specific types of products causing this violation are wallets, handbags, purses and clutches made with leather, vinyl or imitation leather materials. Non-exclusive examples of these specific types of products are listed on the attached Exhibit 1.
- Description of Exposure: This Notice addresses consumer exposures to Lead. Use of the products identified in this Notice results in human exposures to Lead. Lead is found in the products as a stabilizer in the vinyl or imitation leather materials, as a chemical ingredient in some of the dies, paints and other coloring agents used in the products and in the chemicals used in the leather tanning process. Lead is also found in the metallic components such as zippers and zipper pulls used on the products. The route of exposure for the violations is direct ingestion when consumers (including children) place the products or items that have been stored in the products in their mouths; ingestion via hand to mouth contact after consumers touch or handle the products or items that have

been stored in the products; and dermal absorption directly through the skin when consumers touch or handle the products or items that have been stored in the products. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with these products regarding the carcinogenic or reproductive hazards of Lead.

Resolution of Noticed Claims:

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, CEH intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against each of the alleged violators unless such violator agrees in a binding written instrument to: (1) recall products already sold; (2) provide clear and reasonable warnings for products sold in the future or reformulate such products to eliminate the Lead exposures; and (3) pay 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 expensive and time-consuming litigation, please feel free to contact CEH through its counsel identified below. It should be noted that CEH 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 CEH's 60-day Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with CEH will resolve its claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this Notice to CEH through its counsel Eric S. Somers (esomers at lexlawgroup.com) or Howard Hirsch (hhirsch at lexlawgroup.com) at Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 913-7800.

EXHIBIT 1
March 27, 2012 Notice of Violation
Lead in Wallets, Handbags, Purses, and Clutches

Names and Addresses of Responsible Party	Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products	Item or SKU # or Further Description
The Wheat Group, Inc. 17075 Camino San Bernardo San Diego, CA 92127 **Wheat Accessories, LLC** 17075 Camino San Bernardo San Diego, CA 92127 **Nzania, LLC** 17462 Von Karman Ave Irvine, CA 92614	Hurley One and Only Bi-Fold Wallet in Red	UPC No. 8-45301-00330-1 SKU No. 7655420
Mele Manufacturing Co., LLC 2007 Beechgrove Place Utica, New York 13501 **Mele Companies, Inc.** 2007 Beechgrove Place Utica, New York 13501	Mele Ellis Travel Clutch in Red	SKU No. 7802353 UPC No. 7-39175-97919-3

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

I, Howard Hirsch, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the notice have violated Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

2. I am an attorney with the Lexington Law Group, and I represent the noticing party, the Center for Environmental Health.

3. Members of 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 chemical that is the subject of the action.

4. Based on the information obtained through those 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 & 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.

March 27, 2012

Howard Hirsch
Attorney for CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

I declare that:

I am employed in San Francisco County, California; my business address is 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, California 94117. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within cause and my electronic notification address is pcarey@lexlawgroup.com.

On March 27, 2012, I served true copies of the following documents:

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

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; and

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).

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.

Also on this date, I transmitted via electronic mail the documents listed above to the electronic mail addresses set forth below at 2:57p.m. on March 27, 2012:

Lon Wixson, Deputy District Attorney
Contra Costa County
900 Ward Street
Martinez, CA 94553
lwixson@contracostada.org

Karyn Sinunu-Towery,
Assistant District Attorney
Santa Clara County
70 West Hedding Street, West Wing
San Jose, CA 95110
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Prop65@standa.org

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney
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CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney
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230 Church Street, Bldg. 2
Salinas, CA 93901
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney
Sonoma County
600 Administration Drive, Rm. 212J
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
jbarnes@sonoma-county.org

Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney
Tulare County
221 S. Mooney Avenue, Rm. 224
Visalia, CA 93291
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

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

Rod Pacheco, District Attorney
Riverside County
4075 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501
Prop65@rivcoda.org

The transmission was reported as complete and without error.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on March 27, 2012, at San Francisco, California.

Signed: Patrick Carey
Patrick Carey

SERVICE LIST

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

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

District Attorney of Amador County
708 Court Street, Ste. 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, Ste. 102
Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney of Del Norte County
450 H Street, Ste. 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, Ste. 1000
Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney of Glenn County
P.O. Box 430
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District Attorney of Humboldt County
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney of Imperial County
939 Main Street, Ste. 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 Blvd.
Hanford, CA 93230

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

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

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

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

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District Attorney of Mariposa County
P.O. Box 730
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Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney of Modoc County
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Alturas, CA 96101-4020

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

District Attorney of Nevada County
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Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney of Orange County
401 Civic Center Drive West
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District Attorney of Placer County
10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste. 240
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District Attorney of Sacramento County
901 "G" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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316 N. Mountain View Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

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330 West Broadway, Ste. 1300
San Diego, CA 92101

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850 Bryant Street, Rm. 325
San Francisco, CA 94103

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San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

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P.O. Box 519
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Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
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San Diego City Attorney's Office
1200 Third Avenue, Ste. 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, Ste. 2000
P.O. Box 70550
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

President*
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