



August 14, 2013

Diageo North America, Inc.  
c/o Corporate Creations Network, Inc.  
131-A Stoney Circle, Suite 500  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AGAINST DIAGEO NORTH AMERICA, INC., OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6

To Whom It May Concern and Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

Rachel Padilla ("Padilla") is a citizen of the state of California acting in the interest of the general public seeking to further, among other causes, the protection of the environment, toxics reduction, the promotion and improvement of human health, the improvement of workers and consumer rights, environmental education and corporate accountability. Ms. Padilla has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65" or "Act"), which is codified at Cal. Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

Ms. Padilla has documented violations of Proposition 65 by Diageo North America, Inc., a Connecticut corporation (the "Violator"). This letter serves to provide Ms. Padilla's notification of these violations to the Violator. Pursuant to §25249.7(d) of the statute, Ms. Padilla intends to bring an enforcement action sixty (60) days after effective service of this notice unless the appropriate public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

Information available to Ms. Padilla as of the date of this letter indicates that ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least August 14, 2012, at the restaurant The Blind Donkey located at 53 E. Union St., Pasadena, CA 91103, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to customers.

A copy of the Proposition 65 summary prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment is attached, to the copy of this letter served to the Violator.

During the relevant time periods of this Notice, the restaurant sold the Violator's Captain Morgan rum to its customers without first giving the following clear and reasonable warning to such individuals, as

required by Title 27, CCR § 25603(e)(1): "WARNING: Drinking Distilled Spirits, Beer, Coolers, Wine and Other Alcoholic Beverages May Increase Cancer Risk, and, During Pregnancy, Can Cause Birth Defects."

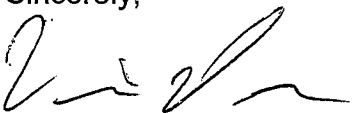
Because of this lack of a warning, consumers were exposed to the following chemicals without the proper required Proposition 65 warnings: 1) Alcoholic beverages, when associated with alcohol abuse, which have been a listed carcinogen under Proposition 65 since 1988, and; 2) Ethyl alcohol in alcoholic beverages, which has been a listed carcinogen under Proposition 65 since 1987.

**Pursuant to Title 27, CCR § 25603.3(e)(7): "For alcoholic beverages, the placement and maintenance of the warning shall be the responsibility of the manufacturer or its distributor at no cost to the retailer, and any consequence for failure to do the same shall rest solely with the manufacturer or its distributor, provided that the retailer does not remove, deface, or obscure the requisite signs or notices, or obstruct, interfere with, or otherwise frustrate the manufacturer's reasonable efforts to post, maintain, or periodically replace said materials."**

Ms. Padilla intends to file a private enforcement action as provided for in the Act for the alleged violations by the Violator, unless California agrees in an enforceable written instrument to: (1) recall the listed products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals; or (2) affix clear and reasonable Proposition 65 warning labels; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty. Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65, Ms. Padilla is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter, and invites violator, should it seek early resolution of this matter, to communicate directly with Padilla's attorneys. Such resolution will avoid further unwarned consumer exposures, as well as resource intensive litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to Ms. Padilla's attorneys, Vineet Dubey (dubey@cd-lawyers.com) or Miguel A. Custodio, Jr.(custodio@cd-lawyers.com), 766 E. Colorado Blvd., Ste 108, Pasadena, CA 91101, 213-785-2909.

Sincerely,



Vineet Dubey  
Custodio & Dubey LLP

cc: Attorney General of California  
cc: Los Angeles County District Attorney

Attachments:  
Proposition 65 summary  
Certificate of Merit  
Certificate of Service

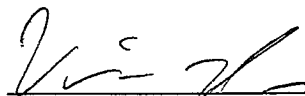
**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**  
Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

**Re: Rachel Padilla's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Diageo North America, Inc.**

I, Vineet Dubey, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the party identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.
3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience, extensively reviewed Title 22, CCR §12601(b)(1)(D)(2), and have assembled evidence attached to the copy for the California Attorney General as Exhibits 1 and 2 to this Certificate of Merit regarding the lack of warnings for the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.
4. Based on the information obtained; Title 22, CCR §12601(b)(1)(D)(2); 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 that 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 California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2).

Dated: August 14, 2013

  
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Vineet Dubey, Attorney at Law

**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 766 E. Colorado Blvd., Ste 108, Pasadena, CA 91101.

On the date shown below, I served the following:

- 1) 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health and 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 on the alleged violator listed below via First Class Certified Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the entity listed below and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

Diageo North America, Inc.  
c/o Corporate Creations Network, Inc.  
131-A Stoney Circle, Suite 500  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401


as well as providing copies of the notice to the public enforcers by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below, and served as follows:

Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 70550  
Oakland, CA 94612

Los Angeles County District Attorney  
210 W. Temple St., 18th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

August 14, 2013



Vineet Dubey