

## NOTICE OF VIOLATION

### California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act

#### Lead in Ginger Snack Food

September 4, 2013

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 September 4, 2010, 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 consumption of the products identified in this Notice.
- Type of Product: The specific type of product causing this violation is ginger snack food. Non-exclusive examples of this specific type of product are listed on the attached Exhibit 1. CEH has previously issued Notices of Violation that identify additional non-exclusive examples of ginger and fruit snack foods that contain lead. These Notices may be found on the California Attorney General's website at <http://proposition65.doj.ca.gov/default.asp>.
- Description of Exposure: This Notice addresses consumer exposures to Lead. Consumption of the products identified in this Notice results in human exposures to Lead. The products contain Lead. The primary route of exposure for the violations is direct ingestion when consumers eat the ginger snack food. These exposures occur in homes, workplaces and everywhere else throughout California where the products are consumed. 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 violators agree 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) at Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 913-7800.

**EXHIBIT 1**  
**September 4, 2013 Notice of Violation**  
**Lead in Ginger Snack Food**

Responsible Parties	Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products
<p><b>Chocolate Signatures LP</b>            166 Norseman Street            Toronto, Ontario M8Z 2R4            Canada</p>	<p>David's Fine Belgian            Dark Chocolate Dipped Australian Ginger            SKU No. 6-25252-00352-6</p>
<p><b>Marshalls of CA, LLC</b>            770 Cochituate Road            Framingham, MA 01701</p> <p><b>Marshalls of MA, Inc.</b>            770 Cochituate Road            Framingham, MA 01701</p>	<p>Walkers Chocolates of London            Luxury Chocolate Gingers            SKU No. 5-011555-031222</p>
<p><b>North American Food            Distributing Company, Inc.</b>            3969 Industrial Boulevard            West Sacramento, CA 95691</p>	<p>Miyako Sugar Ginger            SKU No. 0-68318-12571-6</p>
<p><b>Piedmont Grocery Company</b>            4038 Piedmont Avenue            Oakland, CA 94611</p>	<p>SunRidge Farms            Bulk Crystal Ginger</p>
<p><b>Roxy Trading Inc.</b>            389 Humane Way            Pomona, CA 91768</p>	<p>Ginger Candy - Ting Ting Jahe            SKU No. 0-11747-61580-8</p>
<p><b>SunRidge Farms, Inc.</b>            423 Salinas Road            Royal Oaks, CA 95076</p>	<p>SunRidge Farms            Bulk Crystal Ginger</p>

**Walkers Chocolates Ltd.**

Walker House  
Brickfield Road  
Birmingham  
Warwickshire B25 8HE  
England

Walkers Chocolates of London  
Luxury Chocolate Gingers  
SKU No. 5-011555-031222

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

I, Eric S. Somers, 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.

September 4, 2013

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric S. Somers  
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 [cfisher@lexlawgroup.com](mailto:cfisher@lexlawgroup.com).

On September 4, 2013, 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 11:42 A.m. on September 4, 2013:

Lon Wixson, Deputy District Attorney  
Contra Costa County  
900 Ward Street  
Martinez, CA 94553  
[lwixson@contracostada.org](mailto:lwixson@contracostada.org)

Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney  
Monterey County  
230 Church Street, Bldg. 2  
Salinas, CA 93901  
[Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us)

Karyn Sinunu-Towery,  
Assistant District Attorney  
Santa Clara County  
70 West Hedding Street, West Wing  
San Jose, CA 95110  
[epu@da.sccgov.org](mailto:epu@da.sccgov.org)

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney  
Napa County  
931 Parkway Mall  
Napa, CA 94559  
[CEPD@countyofnapa.org](mailto:CEPD@countyofnapa.org)

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney  
Sonoma County  
600 Administration Drive, Rm. 212J  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
[jbarnes@sonoma-county.org](mailto: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](mailto:Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us)

## 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  
Willows, CA 95988

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

District Attorney of Marin County  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Rm. 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, Rm. 202  
Alturas, CA 96101-4020

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

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, Ste.  
240  
Roseville, CA 95678

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

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

District Attorney of San Benito  
County  
419 Fourth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
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, Ste. 1300  
San Diego, CA 92101

District Attorney of San  
Francisco County  
850 Bryant Street, Rm. 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, Rm. 450  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

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Redwood City, CA 94063

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County  
701 Ocean Street, Rm. 200  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

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

Morton Cohen, President\*  
SunRidge Farms, Inc.  
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Royal Oaks, CA 95076

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County  
Attn: Jerry Lule-Jian  
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San Diego City Attorney's Office  
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San Diego, CA 92101

Morton Cohen, President\*  
SunRidge Farms, Inc.  
P.O. Box 4273  
Salinas, CA 93901

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

San Francisco City Attorney's  
Office  
City Hall, Room 234  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Barry Michael Tomlins, Director\*  
Walkers Chocolates Ltd.  
Walker House  
Brickfield Road  
Birmingham  
Warwickshire B25 8HE  
England

District Attorney of Sierra County  
Courthouse  
100 Courthouse Sq., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
Downieville, CA 95936

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

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

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

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

David Katz, President\*  
Chocolate Signatures LP  
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Yuba City, CA 95991

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770 Cochituate Road  
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District Attorney of Tehama County  
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Red Bluff, CA 96080

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Marshalls of MA, Inc.  
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Framingham, MA 01701

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

Harley Inaba, President\*  
North American Food Distributing  
Company, Inc.

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

3969 Industrial Boulevard  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

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

David C. Larson, President\*  
Piedmont Grocery Company  
4038 Piedmont Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94611

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

Elvis Tent, President\*  
Roxy Trading Inc.  
389 Humane Way  
Pomona, CA 91768

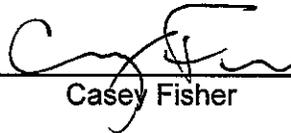
Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney  
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800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009  
[daspecialops@ventura.org](mailto:daspecialops@ventura.org)

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 September 4, 2013, at San Francisco, California.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Casey Fisher", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Casey Fisher