

October 28, 2014

Blankiet Estate, LLC c/o Julie Jones PO Box 2100 Yountville, CA 94599

Re: <u>NOTICE OF VIOLATION AGAINST BLANKIET ESTATE, LLC, OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH &</u> <u>SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6</u>

To Whom It May Concern and to Public Prosecutors:

John Bonilla ("Bonilla") 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. As described below, Mr. Bonilla has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65" or "Act"), codified at Cal. Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* by Blankiet Estate, LLC, a California limited liability company (the "Violator"). This letter serves to provide Mr. Bonilla's notification of these violations to the Violator and elected prosecutors. Pursuant to §25249.7(d) of the statute, Mr. Bonilla intends to bring an enforcement action sixty (60) days or more after effective service of this notice unless the appropriate public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

The products which are causing an exposure without a warning in violation of Proposition 65, are alcoholic beverages manufactured, distributed, offered for sale, and/or served to California consumers by Violator ("Products"). The location of the violations include Beltramo's Wines & Spirits, 1540 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025, where the Products were sold without a warning on or before October 9, 2014, and continuing thereafter.

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.

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;

2) Ethyl alcohol in alcoholic beverages; and 3) Ethanol in alcoholic beverages.

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."

Mr. Bonilla 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, Mr. Bonilla 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 Bonilla's attorneys. Such resolution will avoid further unwarned consumer exposures, as well as resource intensive litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to Mr. Bonilla'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: see attached distribution list

Attachments: Proposition 65 summary Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

Re: John Bonilla's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Blankiet Estate, LLC.

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 Exhibit 1 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: October 28, 2014

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:

Blankiet Estate, LLC c/o Julie Jones PO Box 2100 Yountville, CA 94599

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 parties listed on the attached Distribution List.

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

October 28, 2014

Vineet Dubey

Distribution List

Alamada County District Attant		
Alameda County District Attorney 1225 Fallon St. Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612	Los Angeles County District Attorney 210 W Temple St. 18th Floor	Mono County District Attorney P0 Box 617
	Los Angeles. CA 90012	Bridgeport. CA 93517
Alpine County District Attorney PO Box 248	Madera County District Attorney 209 W Yosemite Ave	San Joaquin County District Attorney PO Box 990
Markleeville, CA 96120	Madera, CA 93637	Stockton, CA 95201-0990
Amador County District Attorney 708 Court, Suite 202	Mariposa County District Attorney	San Francisco County District Attorney
Jackson, CA 95642	P.O. Box 730 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	220 W/ Decodword ato 1200
Oroville, CA 95965-3385 Calaveras County District Attorney	San Rafael. CA 94903	San Diego, CA 92101-3803
891 Mountain Ranch Road	Mendocino County District Attorney P.O. Box 1000	San Bernardino County District Attorney 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	San Francisco City Attorney
P.O. Box 70550	200 N Main St Ste 1800	# 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 234
Oakland, CA 94612-0550 Colusa County District Attorney	Los Angeles CA 90012	San Francisco, CA 94102
Courthouse, 547 Market St	Inyo County District Attorney P.O. Drawer D	Placer County District Attorney
Colusa, CA 95932	Independence. CA 93526	10810 Justice Center Drive Suite 240
		Roseville, CA 95678-6231
Contra Costa County District Attorney 725 Court St., Room 402	Orange County District Attorney P0 Box 808	Merced County District Attorney
Martínez, CA 94553	Santa Ana. CA 92702	550 W. Main St. Merced. CA 95340
Del Norte County District Attorney	Nevada County District Attorney	Napa County District Attorney
450 "H" St.	10075 Levon Ave.	P0 Box 720
Crescent City, CA 95531 El Dorado County District Attorney	Truckee, CA 96161	Nana, CA 94559-0720
515 Main St.	Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Rm 404	Riverside County District Attorney 3960 Orange Street, Suite 6
Placerville, CA 95667-5697	Ouincy, CA 95971	Riverside, CA 92501
Fresno County District Attorney	Sacramento County District Attorney	San Benito County District Attorney
2220 Tulare Št, Ste. 1000 Fresno, CA 93721	901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814	419 4th St
Glenn County District Attorney	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney	Hollister, CA 95023 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 825 5th St., 4th Floor	San Mateo County District Attorney 400 County Center	Solano County District Attorney
Eureka. CA 95501	Redwood City, CA 94063	600 Union Ave Fairfield. CA 94533
Imperial County District Attorney	Santa Barbara County District Attorney	Sonoma County District Attorney
939 W. Main St., 2nd Floor El Centro. CA 92243-2860	1112 Santa Barbara St.	600 Administration Dr.
	Santa Barbara, CA 93101 =	Rm 212-J
Kern County District Attorney	Santa Clara County District Attorney	Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Shasta County District Attorney
1215 Truxtun Ave.	70W Hedding St.	1355 West St.
Bakersfield, CA 93301 Kings County District Attorney	San Jose, CA 95110	Redding, CA 96001-1632
Gov't Ctr. 1400 W Lacey Blvd	Santa Cruz County District Attorney 701 Ocean St., Room 200	Sierra County District Attorney P0 Box 457
Hanford, CA 93230	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	Downieville. CA 95936-0457
Lake County District Attorney	Stanislaus County District Attorney	Trinity County District Attorney
255 N Forbes St _akeport, CA 95453-4790	P0 Box 442 Modesto. CA 95353	PO Box 310
•		Weaverville, CA 96093
Modoc County District Attorney 204 S. Court Street	Sutter County District Attorney	Yuba County District Attorney
Alturas, CA 96101-4020	446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991	215 5th St 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
200 3rd Ave # 1100 San Diego, CA 92101	Susanville, CA 96130	Salinas, CA 93902
Fuolumne County District Attorney	Tulare County District Attorney	Yolo County District Attorney
S Green St	County Civic Center, Rm 224	310 Second St
onora, CA 95370	Visalia, CA 93291	Woodland, CA 95695
	Tehama County District Attorney	SanJose City Attorney
Ventura County District Attorney 300 S Victoria Ave Ventura. CA 93009	P.O. Box 519 Red Bluff: CA 96080	200 E. Santa Clara St 16th Floor