

November 13, 2014

James Harte Ol Republic Brewery 124 Argall Way Nevada City, CA 95959

Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AGAINST JAMES HARTE AN INDIVIDUAL DBA OL' REPUBLIC BREWERY, OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6

To Whom It May Concern and to Public Prosecutors:

Jesse Garrett ("Garrett") 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. Garrett 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 James Harte an individual dba Ol' Republic Brewery (the "Violator"). This letter serves to provide Mr. Garrett's notification of these violations to the Violator and elected prosecutors. Pursuant to §25249.7(d) of the statute, Mr. Garrett 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 Holbrooke, 212 W. Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945, where the Products were sold without a warning on or before November 7, 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. Garrett intends to file a private enforcement action as provided for in the Act for the alleged violations by the Violator, unless Violator 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. Garrett 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 Garrett'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. Garrett'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: Jesse Garrett's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by James Harte an individual dba Ol Republic Brewery.

- 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  $\S12601(b)(1)(D)(2)$ , 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: November 13, 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:

James Harte Ol Republic Brewery 124 Argall Way Nevada City, CA 95959

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.

November 13, 2014

Vineet Dubey

## **Distribution List**

Alameda County District Attorney 1225 Fallon St. Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612	Los Angeles County District Attorney 210 W Temple St. 18th Floor Los Angeles. CA 90012	Mono County District Attorney P0 Box 617 Bridgeport. CA 93517
Alpine County District Attorney PO Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120	Madera County District Attorney 209 W Yosemite Ave Madera, CA 93637	San Joaquin County District Attorney PO Box 990
Amador County District Attorney 708 Court, Suite 202 Jackson, CA 95642	Mariposa County District Attorney P.O. Box 730	Stockton, CA 95201 -0990 San Francisco County District Attorney 850 Bryant St, Rm 322
Butte County District Attorney 25 County Center Dr.	Mariposa, CA 95338  Marin County District Attorney 3501 Civic Center Drive, #130	San Francisco, CA 94103  San Diego County District Attorney
Oroville. CA 95965-3385  Calaveras County District Attorney 891 Mountain Ranch Road	San Rafael, CA 94903  Mendocino County District Attorney P.O. Box 1000	San Diego, CA 92101-3803 San Bernardino County District Attorney
San Andreas, CA 95249 Office of the Attorney General	Ukiah, CA 95482  Los Angeles City Attorney	316 N Mountain View Ave San Bernardino. CA 92415-0004
P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550	200 N Main St Ste 1800 Los Angeles CA 90012	San Francisco City Attorney # 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 234 San Francisco, CA 94102
Colusa County District Attorney Courthouse, 547 Market St Colusa, CA 95932	Inyo County District Attorney P.O. Drawer D Independence, CA 93526	Placer County District Attorney 10810 Justice Center Drive Suite 240 Roseville, CA 95678-6231
Contra Costa County District Attorney 725 Court St., Room 402 Martinez, CA 94553	Orange County District Attorney P0 Box 808 Santa Ana. CA 92702	Merced County District Attorney 550 W. Main St.
Del Norte County District Attorney 450 "H" St. Crescent City, CA 95531	Nevada County District Attorney 10075 Levon Ave. Truckee, CA 96161	Merced, CA 95340  Napa County District Attorney P0 Box 720
El Dorado County District Attorney 515 Main St. Placerville, CA 95667-5697	Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Rm 404 Ouiney, CA 95971	Nana, CA 94559-0720 Riverside County District Attorney 3960 Orange Street, Suite 6
Fresno County District Attorney 2220 Tulare St, Ste. 1000 Fresno, CA 93721	Sacramento County District Attorney 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814	Riverside, CA 92501 San Benito County District Attorney 419 4th St
Glenn County District Attorney PO Box 430 Willows. CA 95988	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney County Government Center, Rm 450 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	Hollister, CA 95023 Siskiyou County District Attorney PO Box 986
Humboldt County District Attorney 825 5th St., 4th Floor Eureka, CA 95501	San Mateo County District Attorney 400 County Center Redwood City, CA 94063	Yreka, CA 96097 Solano County District Attorney 600 Union Ave
Imperial County District Attorney 939 W. Main St., 2nd Floor El Centro. CA 92243-2860	Santa Barbara County District Attorney 1112 Santa Barbara St. Santa Barbara. CA 93101	Fairfield, CA 94533  Sonoma County District Attorney 600 Administration Dr. Rm 212-J
Kern County District Attorney 1215 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301	Santa Clara County District Attorney 70W Hedding St. San Jose, CA 95110	Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Shasta County District Attorney 1355 West St.
Kings County District Attorney Gov't Ctr. 1400 W Lacey Blvd Hanford, CA 93230	Santa Cruz County District Attorney 701 Ocean St., Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060	Redding, CA 96001-1632 Sierra County District Attorney P0 Box 457
Lake County District Attorney 255 N Forbes St Lakeport, CA 95453-4790	Stanislaus County District Attorney P0 Box 442 Modesto, CA 95353	Downieville, CA 95936-0457 Trinity County District Autorney PO Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093
Modoc County District Attorney 204 S. Court Street Alturas, CA 96101-4020	Sutter County District Attorney 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991	Yuba County District Attorney 215 5th St
San Diego City Attorney City Center Plaza 1200 3rd Ave # 1100 San Diego, CA 92101	Lassen County District Attorney 200 S Lassen St. Suite 8 Susanville, CA 96130	Marysville, CA 95901  Montercy County District Attorney PO Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902
Tuolumne County District Attorney 2 S Green St Sonora, CA 95370 Ventura County District Attorney	Tulare County District Attorney County Civic Center, Rm 224 Visalia, CA 93291	Yolo County District Attorney 310 Second St Woodland, CA 95695
800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009	Tehama County District Attorney P.O. Box 519 Red Bluff; CA 96080	San Jose City Attorney 200 E. Santa Clara St 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95110