**60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION** 

# SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)

DATE:

December 8, 2014

TÓ:

Sioux Chief Mfg. Co., Inc.; SupplyHouse.com; and the public prosecutors listed on the

service list accompanying the attached proof of service.

FROM:

Isabel Ruggeri

### I. INTRODUCTION

I, Isabel Ruggeri, am a citizen of the State of California acting in the interest of the general public. I am dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health and the health of ecosystems, and supporting environmentally sound practices. This Notice is provided to the public agencies listed above pursuant to California Health & Safety Code §25249.6 et seq. ("Proposition 65"). As noted above, notice is also being provided to the violators, Sioux Chief Mfg. Co., Inc. and SupplyHouse.com (collectively, the "Violators").

### II. NATURE OF THE VIOLATION

- A. <u>Violators</u>: Sioux Chief Mfg. Co., Inc., 24110 South Peculiar Drive, Peculiar, MO 64078; SupplyHouse.com, 185 Price Pkwy, Farmingdale, NY 11735.
- B. <u>Time Period of Exposure</u>: Violations have been occurring since at least December 8, 2013, and continue to occur to this day.
- C. <u>Listed Chemical</u>: Lead and lead compounds.
- D. Types of Harm: Carcinogen; birth defects and other reproductive harm.
- E. Types of Products: The specific types of products causing the violations are brass water hammer arresters. A non-exclusive example of this type of product is the Sioux Chief Mini-Rester (1/2" Pex Tee Connection) being sold by Violators throughout California via their websites and retail locations, including but not limited to Home Improvement Solutions, 7601 Telegraph Rd, Montebello, CA 90640. All products within the type covered by this Notice shall be hereinafter referred to as the "products."
- F. Routes of Exposure: Ingestion and dermal contact.
- G. <u>Description of Exposure</u>: The sales of these products in California dating as far back as December 8, 2013 are subject to this notice. As a result of the sales of these products, exposures to the listed chemical have been occurring without clear and reasonable warnings as required by Proposition 65. Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to the listed chemical, resulting from contact with the products, California citizens lack the information necessary to make informed decisions on whether and how to eliminate (or reduce) the risk of exposure to the toxic chemical from the

reasonably foreseeable use of the products. California consumers, including children, through the act of buying, acquiring or using the products, are exposed to the listed chemical. By way of example but not limitation, exposures occur when California citizens use, install, repair, drink downstream from, or otherwise handle the products. These actions cause consumers to be exposed directly or indirectly through the routine touching of the parts or portions of the products containing readily available surface amounts of the listed chemical. Additionally, exposure can occur through the routine touching and ingesting of other materials that are contaminated with the listed chemical from the products as a result of these tasks. People likely to be exposed include both children and adults.

### III. CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to me through my attorney's office at the following address:

Lucas T. Novak, Esq. Law Offices of Lucas T. Novak 8335 W Sunset Blvd., Suite 217 Los Angeles, CA 90069 Tel: (323) 337-9015

Email: lucas.nvk@gmail.com

### IV. PROPOSITION 65 INFORMATION

For the Violator's reference, attached is a copy of "Proposition 65: A Summary" which has been prepared by Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA"). For more information concerning the provisions of Proposition 65, contact OEHHA at (916) 445-6900.

## V. RESOLUTION OF NOTICED CLAIMS

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, the noticing party intends to file a Private Enforcer lawsuit against the alleged Violator unless such Violator enters into a binding written agreement to: (1) recall products already sold or undertake best efforts to ensure that the requisite health hazard warnings are provided to those who have received such products; (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 & Safety Code §25249.7(b). If the alleged Violators are interested in resolving this dispute without resorting to expensive and time-consuming litigation, please feel free to contact counsel identified above. It should be noted that a Private Enforcer cannot: (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; or (2) speak for the Attorney General or any District or City Attorney who received this Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with me will resolve my claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

# **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

# I, Lucas Novak, Esq. hereby declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice have violated Health and Safety Code §25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings;
- 2. I am the attorney for the noticing party;
- 3. 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 alleged exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of this action;
- 4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all 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 this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including information identified in Health and 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).

Dated: December 8, 2014

Lucas Novak, Esq.

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Lucas Novak, Esq., declare under penalty of perjury:

I am an active member of the California State Bar, a citizen of the United States over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action; my business address is 8335 W Sunset Blvd., Suite 217, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

On December 8, 2014, I served the following documents:

60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d);

PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY (not sent to the public enforcement agencies);

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; AND

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT ATTACHMENTS (served only on the Attorney General)

by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage for first class mail thereon fully prepaid in Los Angeles, California, in the United States mail addressed as follows, and to the public prosecutors listed in the attached service list:

Sioux Chief Mfg. Co., Inc. Attn: Current President or CEO 24110 South Peculiar Drive Peculiar, MO 64078	Sioux Chief Mfg. Co., Inc. Attn: Current President or CEO 24110 South Peculiar Drive Peculiar, MO 64078
SupplyHouse.com Attn: Current President or CEO 185 Price Pkwy Farmingdale, New York 11735-1318	SupplyHouse.com Attn: Current President or CEO P.O. Box 416 Farmingdale, NY 11735

Additionally, on this date, I uploaded the documents listed above to the California Attorney General via its website:

Office of the California Attorney General Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550 http://oag.ca.gov/prop65

Also on this date, I transmitted via electronic mail the documents listed above to the electronic mail addresses as follows:

Lon Wixson, Deputy District Attorney 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 costerlund@contracostada.org	Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney PO Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us	Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org
Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org	Karyn Sinunu-Towery, Assistant District Attorney 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 epu@da.sccgov.org	Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney 600 Administration Dr Sonoma, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org
Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney 221 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 95370 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us	Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney 800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009 daspecialops@ventura.org	Birgit Fladager, District Attorney of Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Prop65@standa.org

The electronic transmissions were reported as sent and without error.

Executed on December 8, 2014, at Los Angeles, California.

Lucas Novak, Esq.

## SERVICE LIST

District Attorney of Alameda County	District Attorney of Alpine County	District Attorney of Amador County
1225 Fallon Street, Rm 900	270 Laramie St., P.O. Box 248	708 Court Street, Suite 202
Oakland, CA 94612	Markleeville, CA 96120	Jackson, CA 95642
District Attorney of Butte County	District Attorney of Calaveras County	District Attorney of Colusa County
	891 Mountain Ranch Road	547 Market Street, Ste 102
Administration Building	San Andreas, CA 95249	Colusa, CA 95932
25 County Center Drive	Sali Alidicas, CA 93249	Colusti, Cri 75752
Oroville, CA 95965	District Attack of FIL Donado County	District Attorney of Fresno County
District Attorney of Del Norte County	District Attorney of El Dorado County	2220 Tulare Street, Ste 1000
450 H Street, Ste 171	515 Main Street	Fresno, CA 93721
Crescent City, CA 95531	Placerville, CA 95667	District Attorney of Imperial County
District Attorney of Glenn County	District Attorney of Humboldt County	940 W. Main Street, Ste 102
P.O. Box 430	825 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	El Centro, CA 92243
Willows, CA 95988	Eureka, CA 95501	District Attorney of Kings County
District Attorney of Inyo County	District Attorney of Kern County	
P.O. Drawer D	1215 Truxtun Avenue	1400 West Lacey Blvd.
Independence, CA 93526	Bakersfield, CA 93301	Hanford, CA 93230
District Attorney of Lake County	District Attorney of Lassen County	District Attorney of Los Angeles County
255 N. Forbes Street	220 S. Lassen Street, Ste 8	210 W. Temple Street, Ste 18000
Lakeport, CA 95453	Susanville, CA 96130	Los Angeles, CA 90012-3210
District Attorney of Madera County	District Attorney of Marin County	District Attorney of Mariposa County
209 West Yosemite Avenue	3501 Civic Center Drive, Rm. 130	5101 Jones St., P.O. Box 730
Madera, CA 93637	San Rafael, CA 94903	Mariposa, CA 95338
District Attorney of Mendocino County	District Attorney of Merced County	District Attorney of Modoc County
P.O. Box 1000	2222 "M" Street	204 S. Court Street, Rm. 202
Ukiah, CA 95482	Merced, CA 95340	Alturas, CA 96101-4020
District Attorney of Mono County	District Attorney of Nevada County	District Attorney of Orange County
P.O. Box 617	110 Union Street	401 Civic Center Drive West
Bridgeport, CA 93517	Nevada City, CA 95959	Santa Ana, CA 92701
District Attorney of Placer County	District Attorney of Plumas County	District Attorney of Sacramento County
10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240	520 Main Street, Rm. 404	901 "G" Street
Roseville, CA 95678	Quincy, CA 95971	Sacramento, CA 95814
District Attorney of San Benito County	District Attorney of San Bernardino County	District Attorney of San Diego County
419 Fourth Street, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	316 N. Mountain View Avenue	330 West Broadway
Hollister, CA 95023	San Bernardino, CA 92415	San Diego, CA 92101
District Attorney of San Francisco County	District Attorney of San Joaquin County	District Attorney of San Luis Obispo County
850 Bryant Street, Rm 322	P.O. Box 990	1050 Monterey Street, Rm 450
San Francisco, CA 94103	Stockton, CA 95201	San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
District Attorney of San Mateo County	District Attorney of Santa Barbara County	District Attorney of Santa Cruz County
400 County Center, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	1112 Santa Barbara Street	701 Ocean Street, Rm. 200
Redwood City, CA 94063	Santa Barbara, CA 93101	Santa Cruz, CA 95060
District Attorney of Shasta County	District Attorney of Sierra County Courthouse	District Attorney of Siskiyou County
1355 West Street	100 Courthouse Sq., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	P.O. Box 986
Redding, CA 96001	Downieville, CA 95936	Yreka, CA 96097
District Attorney of Solano County	District Attorney of Sutter County	District Attorney of Tuolumne County
675 Texas Street, Ste 4500	446 Second Street	423 N. Washington Street
The state of the s	Yuba City, CA 95991	Sonora, CA 95370
Fairfield, CA 94533  District Attorney of Tehama County	District Attorney of Trinity County	Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
	P.O. Box 310	800 City Hall East
P.O. Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080	Weaverville, CA 96093	200 N. Main Street
Keu Bluff, CA 70000	The state of the s	Los Angeles, CA 90012
District Attornory of Volo County	District Attorney of Yuba County	San Jose City Attorney's Office
District Attorney of Yolo County	215 Fifth Street	200 East Santa Clara Street
301 Second Street	Marysville, CA 95901	San Jose, CA 95113
Woodland, CA 95695	San Francisco City Attorney's Office	
San Diego City Attorney's Office	City Hall, Room 234	
1200 Third Avenue, Ste 1620	1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place	
San Diego, CA 92101	San Francisco, CA 94102	
	San Francisco, CA 34102	<u> </u>