

June 21, 2016

**60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF
CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 ET. SEQ.
(PROPOSITION 65)**

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I represent Erika McCartney in this matter. Ms. McCartney has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et. seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with the identified products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, Ms. McCartney intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of the is notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

General Information about Proposition 65. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is an attachment with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

Alleged Violators. The name of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter "the Violators") are:

Trader Joe's Company

Consumer Products and Listed Chemical. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemical in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

Trader Joe's Cocoa Nibs Drenched in 65% Cacao Chocolate -- Cadmium

On May 1, 1997, the State of California officially listed cadmium as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male reproductive toxicity.

It should be noted that Ms. McCartney may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

Route of Exposure. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the purchase, acquisition, and recommended use of these products. Consequently, the primary route of exposure to these chemicals has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least June 21, 2015, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until these known toxic chemicals are either

removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemicals. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because it failed to provide persons using these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to these chemicals.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, Ms. McCartney is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) recall any 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) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals, as well as expensive and time-consuming litigation. It should be noted that counsel cannot (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; or (2) speak for the California Attorney General or any District or City Attorney who has received this notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement may satisfy the claims alleged herein, such agreement may not be satisfactory to public prosecutors.

Ms. McCartney has retained me as legal counsel in connection with this matter. Her address is 1341 58th Ave. #11, Oakland, California, 94621. Her telephone number is 707.502.8635. **Please direct all communications regarding this Notice of Violations to my attention at the law office address and telephone number indicated on the letterhead.**

Sincerely,



Robert B. Hancock

Attachments

- Certificate of Merit
- Certificate of Service
- OEHHA Summary (to Violators only)
- Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Re: Notice of Proposition 65 Violations

Robert B. Hancock declares:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties 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 or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposures to the listed chemicals that are the subject of the action.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California 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.

Dated: June 21, 2016



Robert B. Hancock

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within action.

On June 21, 2016, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET. SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY"** on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current CEO or President
Trader Joe's Company
800 South Shamrock Avenue
Monrovia, California 91016

On June 21, 2016, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(l)** on the following parties by uploading the foregoing documents at the webpage listed below:

Office of the California Attorney General
Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting
1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000
Post Office Box 70550
Oakland, CA 94612-0550
<https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice>

On June 21, 2016, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties **on the Service List attached hereto**, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Priority Mail.

Executed under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California on June 21, 2016.



Robert B. Hancock

Service List

District Attorney, Alameda County 1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612	District Attorney, Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453	District Attorney, Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971	District Attorney, Solano County 675 Texas Street, Ste 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533
District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120	District Attorney, Lassen County 220 South Lassen Street, Ste. 8 Susanville, CA 96130	District Attorney, Riverside County 3960 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92502	District Attorney, Sonoma County 600 Administration Drive, Room 212J Santa Rosa, CA 95403
District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street, #202 Jackson, CA 95642	District Attorney, Los Angeles County 210 W. Temple St., Ste. 18000 Los Angeles, CA 90012	District Attorney, Sacramento County 901 "G" Street Sacramento, CA 95814	District Attorney, Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95353
District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965	District Attorney, Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637	District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor Hollister, CA 95023	District Attorney, Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991
District Attorney, Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249	District Attorney, Marin County 3501 Civic Center Dr., Rm 1300 San Rafael, CA 94903	District Attorney, San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415	District Attorney, Tehama County Post Office Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080
District Attorney, Colusa County 547 Market Street Colusa, CA 95932	District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338	District Attorney, San Diego County 330 W. Broadway, Room 1300 San Diego, CA 92101	District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093
District Attorney, Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553	District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482	District Attorney, San Francisco County 850 Bryant Street, Room 322 San Francisco, CA 94103	District Attorney, Tulare County 221 S. Mooney Ave., Rm. 224 Visalia, CA 93291
District Attorney, Del Norte County 450 H Street, Ste. 171 Crescent City, CA 95531	District Attorney, Merced County 2222 M Street Merced, CA 95340	District Attorney, San Joaquin County Post Office Box 990 Stockton, CA 95201	District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370
District Attorney, El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667	District Attorney, Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020	District Attorney, San Luis Obispo County 1035 Palm St. Room 450 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	District Attorney, Ventura County 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009
District Attorney, Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, #1000 Fresno, CA 93721	District Attorney, Mono County Post Office Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517	District Attorney, San Mateo County 400 County Cr., 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA 94063	District Attorney, Yolo County 301 2nd Street Woodland, CA 95695
District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988	District Attorney, Monterey County Post Office Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902	District Attorney, Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101	District Attorney, Yuba County 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152 Marysville, CA 95901
District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street Eureka, CA 95501	District Attorney, Napa County 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559	District Attorney, Santa Clara County 70 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA 95110	Los Angeles City Attorney's Office City Hall East 200 N. Main Street, Rm 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012
District Attorney, Imperial County 940 West Main Street, Ste 102 El Centre, CA 92243	District Attorney, Nevada County 201 Commercial St. Nevada City, CA 95959	District Attorney, Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060	San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 3rd Avenue, Ste 1620 San Diego, CA 92101
District Attorney, Inyo County 230 W. Line Street Bishop, CA 93514	District Attorney, Orange County 401 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701	District Attorney, Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001	San Francisco City Attorney's Office City Hall, Room 234 1 Drive Carlton B Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102
District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301	District Attorney, Placer County 10810 Justice Center Dr., Ste. 240 Roseville, CA 95678	District Attorney, Sierra County PO Box 457 Downieville, CA 95936	San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 E. Santa Clara St., 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113
District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230		District Attorney, Siskiyou County Post Office Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097	