LAW OFFICES

BRODSKY & SMITH, LLC

TWO BALA PLAZA, SUITE 510 BALA CYNWYD, PA 19004

610.667.6200 FAX 610.667.9029 www.brodsky-smith.com

NEW JERSEY OFFICE 1040 KINGS HIGHWAY NORTH, STE 601 CHERRY HILL, NJ 08034 856.795.7250 NEW YORK OFFICE 240 MINEOLA BOULEVARD MINEOLA, NY 11501 516.741.4977

CALIFORNIA OFFICE 9595 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 900 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212 877.534.2590

March 9, 2018

Owner/President/CEO	President/CEO
ESI Cases & Accessories	ESI Cellular, Inc.
44 E. 32 nd Street, Suite 601	c/o Corporation Service Company
New York, NY 10016	251 Little Falls Drive
	Wilmington, DE 19808
President/CEO	President/CEO
Kmart Corporation	Everlast World's Boxing Headquarters Corporation
c/o The Corporation Company	c/o Corporation Service Company
40600 Ann Arbor Road E	80 State Street
Suite 201	Albany, NY 12207-2543
Plymouth, Michigan 48170-4675	
President/CEO	ESI Cases & Accessories, Inc. t/a Wireless Gear
Everlast World's Boxing Headquarters Corporation	44 E. 32 nd Street, Suite 601
42 West 39th Street	New York, NY 10016
New York, NY 10018	
President/CEO	President/CEO
OMX, Inc.	The Office Club, Inc. t/a Office Depot
Corporate Creations Network, Inc.	Corporate Creations Network, Inc.
8275 South Eastern Avenue, #200	1430 Truxtun Ave., 5 th Floor
Las Vegas, NV 89123	Bakersfield, CA 93301
President/CEO	President/CEO
OfficeMax Incorporated	Office Depot, Inc.
Corporate Creations Network, Inc.	c/o Corporate Creations Network, Inc.
3411 Silverside Road	3411 Silverside Road
Tatnall Building, Suite 104	Tatnall Building, Suite 104
Wilmington, DE 19810	Wilmington, DE 19810

AND THE PUBLIC PROSECUTORS LISTED ON THE DISTRIBUTION LIST ACCOMPANYING THE ATTACHED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq.

To Whom It May Concern:

Brodsky & Smith, LLC ("Brodsky Smith") represents Hector Velarde ("Velarde"), a citizen of the State of California acting in the interest of the general public to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals in products sold in California and to improve human health by reducing hazardous substances contained in such items.

With respect to the product identified below, Velarde has identified a violation of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), which is codified at Cal. Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq. This violation has occurred and continues to occur because the alleged Violator(s) identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with this product. Section 25249.6 of the statute provides that "[n]o person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the State to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first providing a clear and reasonable warning to such individual ..." Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to this listed chemical that results from contact with this product, California citizens lack the information necessary to make an informed decision on whether and/or how to eliminate (or reduce) their risk of exposure to the listed chemical from the reasonably foreseeable use of the product.

Please allow this letter to serve as notice of this violation to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, Brodsky Smith intends to file a private enforcement action on behalf of Velarde sixty (60) days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies¹ have commenced and are earnestly prosecuting an action to redress these violations.

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

ESI Cases & Accessories, Inc, ESI Cellular, Inc. Everlast World's Boxing Headquarters Corporation Kmart Corporation OMX, Inc. The Office Club, Inc. t/a Office Depot OfficeMax Incorporated Office Depot, Inc.

Product Category/Type: The type of product causing this violation is:

Product ²	Retailer(s)	Manufacturer(s)/Distributor(s)
Everlast Bike Frame Pouch – Clear Plastic	Kmart Corporation	Everlast World's Boxing
UPC#6 8098855612 8		Headquarters Corporation
EV5612		ESI Cases & Accessories
		ESI Cellular, Inc.
Wireless Gear Universal Water Proof Bag	The Office Club, Inc. t/a	ESI Cases & Accessories
UPC#6 80988 10364 3	Office Depot, Inc.	ESI Cellular, Inc.
Model G0364	OfficeMax Incorporated	Everlast World's Boxing
		Headquarters Corporation

¹ The public enforcement agencies that have been served with copies of this notice of violations are identified in the attached distribution list accompanying the Certificate of Service.

² The specifically identified example of the type of product that is subject to this Notice is for the recipient's benefit to assist in its investigation of, among other things, the magnitude of potential exposures to the listed chemical from other items within the product category. It is important to note that this example is not meant to be an exhaustive or comprehensive identification of each specific offending product of the type listed under "Product." Further, it is Velarde's position that the alleged Violator is obligated to continue to conduct in good faith an investigation into other specific products within the type or category described above that may have been manufactured, distributed, sold, shipped, stored (or otherwise within the notice recipient's custody or control) during the relevant period so as to ensure that the requisite toxic warnings were and are provided to California citizens prior to purchase.

<u>Listed Chemicals</u>: This violation involves exposure to the chemical Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP). On January 1, 1988, the State of California listed DEHP as a chemical known to the State to cause cancer. On October 24, 2003, the State of California listed Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) as a chemical known to cause developmental male reproductive toxicity. Both additions took place more than twenty (20) months before Velarde served this Notice.

<u>Violations</u>: The alleged Violators knowingly and intentionally have exposed and continue to knowingly and intentionally expose consumers within the State of California to Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) at levels that, upon reasonable use of the product, exceed the No Significant Risk Level and the Maximum Allowable Dose Level without providing clear and reasonable warning of this exposure. In particular, the product does not warn that it contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause both cancer and reproductive toxicity, developmental, male.

Route of Exposure - Everlast Bike Frame Pouch: The exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the purchase, acquisition, handling and recommended use of the product. Consequently, the primary route of exposure to these chemicals is through dermal absorption. The product can be expected to emit gas phase DEHP into the air and accumulate DEHP at the surface over the lifetime of the product. Dermal absorption of DEHP can occur through direct skin contact with the clear plastic during routine use when the clear plastic window is grasped, opened, or manipulated with bare hands. If the plastic window becomes wet due to contact with water and is handled or held in contact with wet skin, aqueous DEHP skin permeation rates have been reported to be faster than neat DEHP permeation. Concentrations of gas phase DEHP can be expected to build within the small, enclosed interior contents, including but not limited to smartphones that are subsequently handled, held in direct contact with skin, mouthed, or ingested by the user. If the pouch is stored or transported in a carrier, DEHP that leaches from the clear plastic may contaminate other articles contained within the storage area or carrier that are subsequently handled, worn, mouthed, or ingested by the user. Finally, while mouthing of the product does not seem likely, some amount of exposure through ingestion can occur by touching the clear plastic with subsequent touching of the user's hand to mouth, through touching the DEHP contaminated smartphone screen after it is removed from the pouch with subsequent touching of the user's hand to mouth, or if the smartphone surface is contaminated with DEHP and comes into contact with the user's mouth during use.

Route of Exposure - Wireless Gear Universal Water Proof Bag: The exposures that are subject of this notice result from the purchase, acquisition, handling and recommended use of the product. Consequently, the primary route of exposure to these chemicals is through dermal absorption. Dermal absorption of DEHP can occur through direct skin contact with the clear plastic during routine use when the pouch is grasped, opened, or manipulated with bare hands. If the plastic window becomes wet due to contact with water and is handled or held in contact with wet skin, aqueous DEHP skin permeation rates have been reported to be faster than neat DEHP permeation. Concentrations of gas phase DEHP can be expected to build within the small, enclosed interior of the pouch. This gas phase and surface DEHP can potentially be absorbed to the surface of the interior contents, including but not limited to smartphones or tablet computers that are subsequently handled, held in direct contact with skin or mouthed by the user. If the pouch is stored or transported in a carrier, DEHP that leaches from the clear plastic may contaminate other articles contained within the storage area or carrier that are subsequently handled, worn, mouthed, or ingested by the user. Finally, while mouthing of the product does not seem likely, some amount of exposure through ingestion can occur by touching the clear plastic with subsequent touching of the users hand to mouth, through touching the DEHP contaminated smartphone screen after it is removed from the pouch with subsequent touching of the user's hand to mouth, or if the smartphone surface is contaminated with DEHP and comes into contact with the user's mouth during use.

<u>Duration of the Violations</u>: Each of these ongoing violations has occurred on every day since at least August 7, 2017 as to the Everlast Bike Frame Pouch and October 23, 2017 as to the Wireless Gear Universal Water Proof Bag; as well as every day since the product was introduced to the California marketplace and following the one-year anniversary date of the listing at issue; and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is removed from the product.

Pursuant to Title 11, C.C.R. §3100, a certificate of merit is attached hereto. Pursuant to Title 27, C.C.R. §25903(b), a copy of "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary" is also enclosed.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, Velarde is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter without engaging in costly and protracted litigation.

Hector Velarde has retained me as legal counsel in connection with this matter. Please direct all communications regarding this Notice of Violations to my attention at the law office address and telephone number indicated on the letterhead.

Since

Evan J. Smitl

Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary

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. My business address is 2 Bala Plaza, Suite 510, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania. I am employed in Montgomery County where the mailing occurred.

On March 9, 2018, I served the following documents: Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq.; Certificate of Merit; The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary on the following entities and individuals listed below by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the person or entity listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

T	
President/CEO	President/CEO
Everlast World's Boxing Headquarters Corporation	Everlast World's Boxing Headquarters Corporation
c/o Corporation Service Company	42 West 39 th Street
80 State Street	New York, NY 10018
Albany, NY 12207-2543	
Owner/President/CEO	President/CEO
ESI Cases & Accessories	Kmart Corporation
44 E. 32 nd Street, Suite 601	c/o The Corporation Company
New York, NY 10016	40600 Ann Arbor Road E
, ,	Suite 201
	Plymouth, Michigan 48170-4675
President/CEO	ESI Cases & Accessories, Inc. t/a Wireless Gear
ESI Cellular, Inc.	44 E. 32 nd Street, Suite 601
c/o Corporation Service Company	New York, NY 10016
251 Little Falls Drive	·
Wilmington, DE 19808	
President/CEO	President/CEO
OMX, Inc.	The Office Club, Inc. t/a Office Depot
Corporate Creations Network, Inc.	Corporate Creations Network, Inc.
8275 South Eastern Avenue, #200	1430 Truxtun Ave. 5th Floor
Las Vegas, NV 89123	Bakersfield, CA 93301
President/CEO	President/CEO
OfficeMax Incorporated	Office Depot, Inc.
Corporate Creations Network, Inc.	c/o Corporate Creations Network, Inc.
3411 Silverside Road	3411 Silverside Road
Tatnall Building, Suite 104	Tatnall Building, Suite 104
Wilmington, DE 19810	Wilmington, DE 19810

On March 9, 2018, I served the following documents: Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq.; Certificate of Merit; The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary on each of the individuals on the service list attached hereto as Appendix B by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the person or entity listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with postage fully prepaid for delivery by Priority Mail.

Executed on March 9, 2018, in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania.

Evan J. Smith

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I, Evan J. Smith, 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 & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- (2) I am the attorney for the noticing party, Hector Velarde.
- 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 chemicals that are the subject of the action.
- (4) Based on the information obtained through these 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 private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator(s) 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 & Safety Code Section 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: March 9, 2018

Evan J. Smith

Attorney for Hector Velarde

SERVICE LIST

The Honorable Nancy O'Malley Alameda County District Attorney 1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612

The Honorable Michael Atwell Alpine County District Attorney 17300 Hwy 89, PO Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120

The Honorable Todd Riebe Amador County District Attorney 708 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642

The Honorable Michael Ramsey Butte County District Attorney 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965

The Honorable Barbara Yook Calaveras County District Attorney 891 Mountain Banch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

The Honorable John Matthew Beauchamb Coluse County District Attorney 346 Fifth Street, #101 Colusa, CA 95932

The Honorable Mark Peterson Contra Costa County District Attorney 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94552

The Honorable Dale Trigg Del Norte County District Attorney 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

The Honorable Vern Pierson El Dorado County District Attorney 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

The Honorable Lisa Smittramp Fresno County District Attorney 2220 Tulare Street, #1000 Fresno, CA 93721

The Honorable Dwayne Stewart Glenn County District Attorney 125 S. Murdock Street Willows, CA 95988

The Honorable Maggie Fleming Humboldt County District Attorney 825 5th Street, Fourth Floor Eureka, CA 95501

The Honorable Gilbert Otero Imperial County District Attorney 940 West Main Street, Suite 102 El Centro, CA 92243

The Honorable Thomas Hardy Inyo County District Attorney PO Box, Drawer D Independence, CA 93526

The Honorable Lisa Green Kern County District Attorney 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

The Honorable Keith Fagundes Kings County District Attorney 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

The Honorable Donald Anderson Lake County District Attorney 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453 The Honorable Stacey Montgomery Lassen County District Actorney 2950 Riverside Drive, Suite 102 Susanvile, CA 96130

The Honorable Jackie Lacey Los Angeles County District Attorney 210 West Temple Street, Suite 18600 Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable David Linn Madera County District Attorney 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637

The Honorable Edward Berberian Marin County District Attorney 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

The Honorable Thomas Cooke Mariposa County District Attorney 5101 Jones Street, P.O. Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

The Honorable C. David Eyster Mendocino County District Attorney 160 North State Streat, P. G., Box 1660 Ukiah, CA 95482

The Honorable Larry Morse II Merced County District Attorney 550 W Main Street Merced, CA 95340

The Honorable Jordan Funk Modoc County District Actorney 204 S. Court Street, Suite 202 Alturas. CA 96101

The Honorable Tim Kendail Mono County District Attorney P.O. Box 617 Birdgeport, CA 93517

The Honorable Dean Flippo Monterey County District Attorney P.O. Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902

The Honorable Allison Haley Napa County District Attorney Carithers Building 931 Parkway Mall P.O. Box 720 Napa, CA 94559

The Hoorable Clifford Newell Nevada County District Attorney 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959

The Honorable Tony Rackauckas Orange County District Attorney 401 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

The Honorable R. Scott Owens Placer County District Attorney 10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240 Roseville, CA 95678

The Honorable David Hollister Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Room 464 Quincy, CA 95971

The Honorable Michael Hestrin Riverside County District Attorney 3960 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501

The Honorable Anne Marie Schubert Sacramento County District Attorney 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Candice Hooper San Benito County District Attorney 419 4th Street, Second Floor Hoillster, CA 95203

The Honorable Michael Ramos San Bernai dino County District Attorney 303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0502

The Honorable Donnie Dumanis San Diego County District Attorney 330 W. Broadway Street San Diego, CA 92101

The Honorable George Gascon San Francisco County District Attorney 850 Bryant Street, Room 322 San Francisco, CA 94103

The Honorable Tori Verber Salazar San Joaquin County District Attorney 222 East Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95201

The Honorable Dan Dow San Luis Obispo County District Attorney 1035 Palm Street, 4th Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

The Honorable Stephen Wagstaffe San Mateo County District Attorney 400 County Center, #4 Redwood City, CA 94063

The Honorable Joyce Dudley Santa Barbara County District Attorney 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 33101

The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen Santa Clara County District Aftorney 70 West Hedding Street, West Wing San Jose, CA 95110

The Honorable Jeff Rusell Santa Cruz County District Attorney 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

The Honorable Stephanie Bridgett Shasta County District Attorney 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001

The Honorable Lawrence allen Sierra County District Attorney 100 Courthouse Square Downleville, CA 95936

The Honorable James Kirk Andrus Sistiyou County District Attorney P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

The Honorable Krishna Abrams Solano County District Attorney 675 Texas Street, Suite 4500 Fairfield. CA 94533

The Honorable Jill Ravitch Sonoma County District Attorney 600 Administration Drive, Room 212J Santa Rosa, CA 95403

The Honorable Birgit Fladager Stanislaus County District Attorney 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354

The Honorable Amanda Hopper Sutter County District Attorney 463 Second Street, Suite 102 Yuba City, CA 95991 The Honorable Gregg Cohen Tehama County District Attorney 444 Oak Street, Room L Red Bluff, CA 96080

The Honorable Eric Heryford Trinity County District Attorney P.O. Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093

The Honorable Tim Ward Tulare County District Attorney 221 South Mooney Boulevard Rm 224 Visalia, CA 93291-4593

The Honorable Laura Krieg Tuclumne County District Attorney 423 North Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

The Honorable Gregory Totten Ventura County District Actorney 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

The Honorable Jeff Reisig Yolo County District Altorney 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695

The Honorable Patrick McGrath Yuba County District Attorney 215 Fifth Street Marysville, CA 95901

The Honorable Mike Feuer
Office of the City Attorney, Los Angeles
800 City Hall East
200 North Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable James Sanchez Office of the City Attorney, Sacramento 915 | Street, 4th Floor Sacramento, UA 95814

The Honorable Mara W. Elliott Office of the City Attorney, San Diego 1200 Third Avenue, Sutie 1620 San Diego, CA 92101

The Honorable Dennis Herrera
Office of the City Attorney, San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

The Honorable Richard Doyle Office of the City Attorney, San Jose 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113

Office of the California Attorney General Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

27 CCR Appendix A Appendix A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as "Proposition 65"). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. Please refer to the statute and OEHHA's implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information. FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at:

http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in <u>Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102</u> through 27001. These implementing regulations are available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html.

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The "Proposition 65 List." Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html.

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before "knowingly and intentionally" exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be "clear and reasonable." This means that the warning must: (1) clearly say that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below. Prohibition from discharges into drinking water. A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed helow.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Periods. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical. Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employe a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses "no significant risk." This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific "No Significant Risk Levels" (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 et seq. of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the "no observable effect level" divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 et seq. of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant' it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a "significant amount" of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a "significant amount" of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A "significant amount" means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the "no significant risk" level for chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the "no observable effect" level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if

one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

In exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law; In exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off- premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination; In exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator

Lin exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;

Lian exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form.

A private party may not file an action against the alleged violator for these exposures, or recover in a settlement any payment in lieu of penalties any reimbursement for costs and attorney's fees, if the notice was served on or after October 5, 2013, and the alleged violator has done all of the following within 14 days of being served notice:

industrial orrected the alleged violation;

Agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$500 (subject to change as noted below) to the private party within 30 days; and

Notified the private party serving the notice in writing that the violation has been corrected.

The written notification to the private-party must include a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form completed by the alleged violator as directed in the notice. On A pril 1, 2019, and every five years thereafter, the dollar amount of the civil penalty will be adjusted by the Judicial Council based on the change in the annual California Consumer Price Index. The Judicial Council will publish the dollar amount of the adjusted civil penalty at each five-year interval, together with the date of the next scheduled adjustment.

An alleged violator may satisfy these conditions only one time for a violation arising from the same exposure in the same facility or on the same premises. The satisfaction of these conditions does not prevent the Altorney General, a district attorney, a city attorney of a city of greater than 750,000 population, or any full-time city prosecutor with the consent of the district attorney, from filing an enforcement action against an alleged violator. The amount of any civil penalty for a violation shall be reduced to reflect any payment made by the alleged violator for the same alleged violation to a private-party.

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included with this notice and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html. The notice is reproduced here:

Page 1

Date:

Name of Noticing Party or attorney for Noticing Party

Address:

Phone number:

SPECIAL COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE

PROOF OF COMPLIANCE

You are receiving this form because the Noticing Party listed above has alleged that you are violating <u>California Health and Safety Code §25249.6</u> (Prop. 65).

The Noticing Party may not bring any legal proceedings against you for the alleged violation checked below if

- 1. You have actually taken the corrective steps that you have certified in this form
- 2. The Noticing Party has received this form at the address shown above, accurately completed by you, postmarked within 14 days of your receiving this notice
- 3. The Noticing Party receives the required \$500 penalty payment from you at the address shown above postmarked within 30 days of your receiving this notice.
- 4..This is the first time you have submitted a Proof of Compliance for a violation arising from the same exposure in the same facility on the same premises.

PART 1: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE NOTICING PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR THE NOTICING PARTY

The alleged violation is for an exposure to: (check one)

___Alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent on-site consumption is permitted by law.

___A chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises for immediate consumption on or off premises to the extent: (1) the chemical was not intentionally added; and (2) the chemical was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination.

___Environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises.

____Chemicals known to the State to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking noncommercial vehicles.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- 1. You have no potential liability under California Health and Safety Code §25249.6 if your business has nine (9) or fewer employees.
- 2. Using this form will NOT prevent the Attorney General, a district attorney, a city attorney, or a prosecutor in whose jurisdiction the violation is alleged to have occurred from filing an action over the same alleged violations, and that in any such action, the amount of civil penalty shall be reduced to reflect any payment made at this time.

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Date:

Name of Noticing Party or attorney for Noticing Party:

A ddroce

Phone number:

PART 2: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ALLEGED VIOLATOR OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Certification of Compliance

A ccurate completion of this form will demonstrate that you are now in compliance with <u>California Health and Safety Code §25249.6</u> for the alleged violation listed above. You must complete and submit the form below to the Noticing Party at the address shown above, postmarked within 14 days of you receiving

this notice. I hereby agree to pay, within 30 days of completion of this notice, a civil penalty of \$500 to the Noticing Party only and certify that I have complied with Health and Safety Code §25249.6 by (check only one of the following):
Posting a warning or warnings about the alleged exposure that complies with the law, and attaching a copy of that warning and a photograph accurately showing its placement on my premises;
Posting the warning or warnings demanded in writing by the Noticing Party, and attaching a copy of that warning and a photograph accurately its placement on my premises; OR
Eliminating the alleged exposure, and attaching a statement accurately describing how the alleged exposure has been eliminated.
C ertification My statements on this form, and on any attachments to it, are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and are made in good faith. I have carefully read the instructions to complete this form. I understand that if I make a false statement on this form, I may be subject to additional penalties under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65).
Signature of alleged violator or authorized representative Date
Name and title of signatory

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS....