# **60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

(Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.5, et seq.)

November 12, 2018

To:

Managing Member SF Markets, LLC c/o CSC –Lawyers Incorporating Service 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N Sacramento, CA 95833 President
Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.
c/o CSC –Lawyers Incorporating Service
2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N
Sacramento, CA 95833

CC: Calif

California Attorney General's Office;

District Attorney's Offices for All California Counties; and

City Attorneys for San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, Sacramento, and Los Angeles

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Safe Products for Californians, LLC ("SPFC") is the noticing entity, acting in the interest of the general public. It seeks to reduce or eliminate the presence of hazardous substances in consumer products sold in California, and to ensure that California consumers are aware of the presence of such substances in consumer goods so that they can make an educated effort to limit their own exposure where deemed necessary.

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, SF Markets, LLC and Sprouts Farmers Markets, Inc. (the "Violators"). The violations covered by this Notice consist of the product exposures, routes of exposure, and types of harm potentially resulting from exposure to the toxic chemical ("listed chemical") identified below, as follows:

**Product Exposure:** 

See Section VII, Exhibit A

Listed Chemical:

Lead and Lead Compounds

Routes of Exposure:

Ingestion, Inhalation

Types of Harm:

Birth Defects and Other Reproductive Harm

Cancer

## II. NATURE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION (PRODUCT EXPOSURE)

The specific type of product that is causing consumer exposures in violation of Proposition 65, and that is covered by this Notice, is listed under "Product Category/Type" in Exhibit A in Section VII below. All products within the type covered by this Notice shall be referred to hereinafter as the "products." The sales of these products in California dating back to at least January 16, 2018 are subject to this Notice. As a result of 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 are exposed to the listed chemical through the act of buying, acquiring or utilizing the products. By way of example but not limitation, direct exposures occur when people (including children) ingest the product per the product label instructions, which recommend that such supplement be regularly consumed. The concentration of the noted contaminant compound present within each recommended serving (as suggested by the product manufacturer) constitutes a significant contaminant dose exposure to consumers through the intended daily ingestion of the product. Exposure to the contaminant present within the noted product may also occur through inhalation of airborne powder supplement experienced while handling, dispensing, and mixing of the product under typical and foreseeable use of the food supplement product.

#### III. CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to SPFC at the following address:

Tanya E. Moore, Esq.
MOORE LAW FIRM, P.C.
332 North Second Street
San Jose, CA 95112
Telephone (408) 298-2000
Email: service@mission.legal

#### IV. PROPOSITION 65 INFORMATION

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

### V. RESOLUTION OF NOTICED CLAIMS

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, SFPC intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against the alleged Violators unless such Violators enter 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 exposure of California citizens to the listed chemical(s); 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 time-consuming and expensive litigation, please feel free to contact SPFC's counsel identified in Section III above. It should be noted that neither SPFC's counsel nor SPFC can: (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; nor (2) speak for the Attorney

General or any district or city attorney who received this Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with SPFC will resolve its claims; such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

#### VI. ADDITIONAL NOTICE INFORMATION

(THIS INFORMATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNDER CAL. CODE REGS., TITLE 22 § 12903(b)(4).)

Identified below is a specific example of a product recently purchased and witnessed as being available for purchase or use in California that is within the category or type of offending product covered by this Notice. Based on publicly available information, the retailers, distributors, and/or manufacturers of the example within the category or type of product are also provided below. SPFC believes and alleges that the sale of the offending products also has occurred without the requisite Proposition 65 "clear and reasonable warnings" at one or more locations and/or via other means including, but not limited to, transactions made over-the-counter, business-to-business, through the internet, and/or via a catalog by the Violators and other distributors and retailers of the manufacturer.

Product*	Retailer(s)	Manufacturer(s)/Distributor(s)
Sprouts Organic Moringa Powder UPC# 6-46670-68151-6	SF Markets, LLC	Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.

### VII. EXHIBIT A

Product Category/Type Su	Such As*	Toxins
1 -	Sprouts Organic Moringa Powder JPC# 6-46670-68151-6	Lead and Lead Compounds

\*The specifically identified example of the type of product that is subject to this Notice is for the recipients' benefit to assist in their investigation of, among other things, the magnitude of potential exposures to the listed chemical from other items within the product category/type listed in Exhibit A. 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 Category/Type" in Exhibit A. Further, it is SPFC's position that the alleged Violators are 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 recipients' 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.

# **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

(Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d))

## I, Tanya E. Moore, hereby declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached Sixty-Day Notice in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the Notice have violated Health & 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 experience 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 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 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; and
- 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 § 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: November 12, 2018

Talya More
Tanya E. Moore

Page 4 of 4

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAIL

# I, Jessica Mendoza, hereby declare:

- 1. I am, and was at the time of service hereinafter mentioned, a resident of the State of California, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the within action. My business address is 332 North Second Street, San Jose, California, 95112.
- 2. On November 15, 2018, I served the following documents:
  - 60-Day Notice of Violation
  - Certificate of Merit
  - "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary"

on the following party by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below, and depositing it at a United States Postal Service Office for delivery by First Class Mail:

Managing Member SF Markets, LLC c/o CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N Sacramento, CA 95833 President Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc. c/o CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N Sacramento, CA 95833

- 3. On November 15, 2018, I served the following documents:
  - 60-Day Notice of Violation
  - 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 at a United States Postal Service Office for delivery by First Class Mail.

- 4. On November 15, 2018, I served the following documents:
  - 60-Day Notice of Violation
  - Certificate of Merit

on the following party by causing a true and correct .PDF copy thereof to be sent via electronic mail to the party listed below, pursuant to Cal. Code Regs., title. 27, § 25903(c)(1):

Contra Costa County District Attorney sgrassini@contracostada.org	Lassen County District Attorney mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us
Monterey County District Attorney Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney edobroth@co.slo.ca.us
Napa County District Attorney CEPD@countyofnapa.org	Santa Clara County District Attorney EPU@da.sccgov.org
Riverside County District Attorney Prop65@rivcoda.org	Sonoma County District Attorney jbarnes@sonoma-county.org
Sacramento County District Attorney Prop65@sacda.org	Tulare County District Attorney Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us
San Francisco County District Attorney gregory.alker@sfgov.org	Ventura County District Attorney daspecialops@ventura.org
San Joaquin County District Attorney DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org	Yolo County District Attorney cfepd@yolocounty.org
San Diego County District Attorney CityAttyCrimProp65@sandiego.gov	Alameda County District Attorney CEPDProp65@acgov.org
Santa Barbara County District Attorney DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us	Santa Cruz County District Attorney Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

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

Dated: November 15, 2018

#### SERVICE LIST

Alpine County District Attorney P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120

Amador County District Attorney 708 Court Street #202 Jackson, CA 95642

Butte County District Attorney 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965

Calaveras County District Attorney 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

Colusa County District Attorney 346 Fifth Street, Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932

Del Norte County District Attorney 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

El Dorado County District Attorney 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

Fresno County District Attorney 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721

Glenn County District Attorney P.O. Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

Humboldt County District Attorney 82S 5th Street, 4th Floor Eureka, CA 95501

Imperial County District Attorney 940 West Main Street, Suite 102 El Centro, CA 92243

Inyo County District Attorney P.O. Drawer D 168 N Edwards St Independence, CA 93526

Kern County District Attorney 1215 Truxtun Avenue, 4th Floor Bakersfield, CA 93301

Kings County District Attorney 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

Lake County District Attorney 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453

Los Angeles County District Attorney 211 West Temple Street Suite 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Madera County District Attorney 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637 Marin County District Attorney 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

Mariposa County District Attorney 5101 Jones Street, P.O. Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

Mendocino County District Attorney 100 North State Street, P.O. Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

Merced County District Attorney 550 W. Main Street Merced, CA 95340

Modoc County District Attorney 204 S. Court Street, Suite 202 Alturas, CA 96101

Mono County District Attorney 278 Main St Bridgeport, CA 93517

Nevada County District Attorney 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959

Orange County District Attorney 401 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Placer County District Attorney 10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240 Roseville, CA 95678

Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971

San Benito County District Attorney 419 4th Street, Second Floor Hollister, CA 95203

San Bernardino County District Attorney 303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0502

San Mateo County District Attorney 400 County Center, Third Floor Redwood City, CA 94063

Shasta County District Attorney 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001

Sierra County District Attorney 100 Courthouse Square Downieville, CA 95936

Siskiyou County District Attorney P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

Solano County District Attorney 675 Texas Street, Suite 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533 Stanislaus County District Attorney 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354

Sutter County District Attorney 466 Second Street, Suite 102 Yuba City, CA 95991

Tehama County District Attorney 444 Oak Street, Room L Red Bluff, CA 96080

Trinity County District Attorney P.O. Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093

Tuolumne County District Attorney 423 North Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

Yuba County District Attorney 215 Fifth Street Marysville, CA 95901

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

Office of the City Attorney, Sacramento 915 I Street, 4th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Office of the City Attorney, San Diego 1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620 San Diego, CA 92101

Office of the City Attorney, San Francisco 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 234 San Francisco, CA 94102

Office of the City Attorney, San Jose 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 9S113