### **60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

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

DATE: May 2, 2019

TO: World and Main (Cranbury), LLC; World and Main, LLC; and the public prosecutors

listed on the service list accompanying the attached proof of service.

FROM: APS&EE, LLC

#### I. INTRODUCTION

APS&EE is an organization based in the State of California with an interest in protecting the environment, which includes promoting awareness of exposure to toxic chemicals and reducing exposure to hazardous substances found in consumer products. It is providing this Notice to the violators and the public agencies listed above pursuant to California Health & Safety Code §25249.6 et seq. ("Proposition 65"). Please direct all questions concerning this Notice to it through its designated person within the entity, its attorney: 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.

#### II. NATURE OF THE VIOLATION

- A. <u>Violators</u>: World and Main (Cranbury), LLC, 324A Half Acre Road, Cranbury, NJ 08512; World and Main, LLC, 324A Half Acre Road, Cranbury, NJ 08512.
- B. <u>Time Period of Exposure</u>: Violations have been occurring since at least May 2, 2016, and continue to occur to this day.
- C. Listed Chemicals: Lead.
- D. <u>Types of Harm</u>: Lead is listed as known to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.
- E. <u>Types of Products</u>: The specific type of products causing the violations is the HBC Home & Hardware brand of Guard Tools Utility Wire, including #12 Gauge, 35112, 0-75877-35112-8, being sold by Violators throughout California. All products within the type covered by this Notice shall be hereinafter referred to as the "products."
- F. <u>Routes of Exposure</u>: Ingestion and dermal contact.
- G. <u>Description of Exposure</u>: The sales of these products in California dating as far back as May 2, 2016 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, display, clean, pack, unpack, arrange, store, mouth, 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. PROPOSITION 65 INFORMATION

For the Violators' 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.

# IV. 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 Violators unless such Violators 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).

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Dated: May 2, 2019	
	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 May 2, 2019, 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:

World and Main (Cranbury), LLC	World and Main (Cranbury), LLC
Attn: Current President or CEO	c/o Corporation Service Company
324A Half Acre Road	2710 Gateway Oaks Drive Suite 150N
Cranbury, NJ 08512	Sacramento, CA 95833
World and Main, LLC c/o Corporation Service Company 251 Little Falls Drive Wilmington, DE 19808	World and Main, LLC Attn: Current President or CEO 324A Half Acre Road Cranbury, NJ 08512

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:

District Attorney of Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org	District Attorney of Monterey County PO Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us	District Attorney of Napa County 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org
District Attorney of Riverside County 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org	District Attorney of Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 epu@da.sccgov.org	District Attorney of Sonoma County 600 Administration Dr Sonoma, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org
District Attorney of Tulare County 221 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 95370 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us	District Attorney of Ventura County 800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009 daspecialops@ventura.org	District Attorney of Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Prop65@standa.org
District Attorney of Yolo County 301 Second St. Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org	District Attorney of Lassen County 220 S. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130 mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us	District Attorney of Sacramento County 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Prop65@sacda.org
District Attorney of San Francisco County 732 Brannan Street San Francisco, CA 94103 gregory.alker@sfgov.org	District Attorney of San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Avenue, Rm 202 Stockton, CA 95202 DAConsumer.Environmental @sjcda.org	District Attorney of San Luis Obispo County County Government Center Annex 4th Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us
District Attorney of Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street, Rm. 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us	San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 Third Avenue, Ste 1620 San Diego, CA 92101 CityAttyCrimProp65@sandiego.gov	District Attorney of Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara St. Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
District Attorney of Alameda County 1225 Fallon Street, Rm 900 Oakland, CA 94612 CEPDProp65@acgov.org		

The electronic transmissions were reported as sent and without error.

Executed on May 2, 2019, at Los Angeles, California.

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Lucas Novak, Esq.

# SERVICE LIST

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office 800 City Hall East	District Attorney of Alpine County	District Attorney of Amador County
200 N. Main Street	270 Laramie St., P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120	708 Court Street, Suite 202
	Markieeville, CA 96120	Jackson, CA 95642
Los Angeles, CA 90012 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		,
25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965	San Andreas, CA 95249	Colusa, CA 95932
District Attorney of Del Norte County	District Attorney of El Dorado County	District Attorney of Fresno County
450 H Street, Ste 171	515 Main Street	2220 Tulare Street, Ste 1000
Crescent City, CA 95531	Placerville, CA 95667	Fresno, CA 93721
District Attorney of Glenn County	District Attorney of Humboldt County	District Attorney of Imperial County
P.O. Box 430	825 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	940 W. Main Street, Ste 102
Willows, CA 95988	Eureka, CA 95501	El Centro, CA 92243
District Attorney of Inyo County	District Attorney of Kern County	District Attorney of Kings 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 Los Angeles County	District Attorney of Madera County
255 N. Forbes Street	211 W. Temple Street, Ste 1200	209 West Yosemite Avenue
Lakeport, CA 95453	Los Angeles, CA 90012-3210	Madera, CA 93637
District Attorney of Marin County	District Attorney of Mariposa County	District Attorney of Mendocino County
3501 Civic Center Drive, Rm. 130	5101 Jones St., P.O. Box 730	P.O. Box 1000
San Rafael, CA 94903	Mariposa, CA 95338	Ukiah, CA 95482
District Attorney of Merced County	District Attorney of Modoc County	District Attorney of Mono County
2222 "M" Street	204 S. Court Street, Rm. 202	P.O. Box 617
Merced, CA 95340	Alturas, CA 96101-4020	Bridgeport, CA 93517
District Attorney of Nevada County	District Attorney of Orange County	District Attorney of Placer County
201 Commercial Street	401 Civic Center Drive West	10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240
Nevada City, CA 95959	Santa Ana, CA 92701	Roseville, CA 95678
District Attorney of Plumas County	District Attorney of San Benito County	District Attorney of San Bernardino County
520 Main Street, Rm. 404	419 Fourth Street, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	316 N. Mountain View Avenue
Quincy, CA 95971	Hollister, CA 95023	San Bernardino, CA 92415
District Attorney of San Diego County	District Attorney of San Mateo County	San Francisco City Attorney's Office
330 West Broadway	400 County Center, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	City Hall, Room 234
San Diego, CA 92101	Redwood City, CA 94063	1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
2 /		San Francisco, CA 94102
San Jose City Attorney's Office	Sacramento City Attorney's Office	District Attorney of Shasta County
200 East Santa Clara Street	915 I Street, 4th Floor	1355 West Street
San Jose, CA 95113	Sacramento, CA 95814	Redding, CA 96001
District Attorney of Sierra County Courthouse	District Attorney of Siskiyou County	District Attorney of Solano County
100 Courthouse Sq., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	P.O. Box 986	675 Texas Street, Ste 4500
Downieville, CA 95936	Yreka, CA 96097	Fairfield, CA 94533
District Attorney of Sutter County	District Attorney of Tuolumne County	District Attorney of Tehama County
463 2nd Street, Suite 102	423 N. Washington Street	P.O. Box 519
Yuba City, CA 95991	Sonora, CA 95370	Red Bluff, CA 96080
District Attorney of Trinity County	District Attorney of Yuba County	
P.O. Box 310	215 Fifth Street	
Weaverville, CA 96093	Marysville, CA 95901	