# **60-Day Notice of Violation**

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

Date: February 18, 2020

To: Current President/CEO/Manager; 99 Cents Only Store LLC

(at corporate address and registered agent per CA SOS); Current President/CEO/Manager; ES Distribution LLC (at corporate address and registered agent per CA SOS);

California Attorney General's Office;

District Attorney's Office for 58 Counties; and

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

From: Sara Hammond

Re: Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

My name is Sara Hammond, a citizen of the State of California acting in the interest of the general public. I seek to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals in products sold in California and, if possible, to improve human health by reducing hazardous substances contained in such items. 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 alleged violators, 99 Cents Only Stores LLC (hereinafter referred to as "99 Cents Only) and ES Distribution LLC ("ES")(99 Cents Only and ES and related entities may also be referred to hereinafter as the alleged "Violators"). The alleged violations covered by this Notice consist of the product exposures, routes of exposure, and type 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: Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ("DEHP")

Routes of Exposure: Ingestion, Dermal

Types of Harm: Cancer, Birth Defects and Other Reproductive Harm

### 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 Section VII below. Exposures to the listed chemical from the use of the specified product have been occurring without the clear and reasonable warning required by Proposition 65, dating as far back as February 6, 2020. 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 listed chemical from the reasonably foreseeable use of the products.

California citizens, through the act of buying, acquiring or utilizing the products, are exposed to the listed chemical. By way of example, consumers and other individuals, including women of childbearing age, ingest the listed chemical when they, among other activities, touch the products and transfer the listed chemical from the products to their mouths through hand-to-mouth activities that may continue to occur

for a significant period after contact with the products stops. Additionally, consumers and other individuals, including women of childbearing age, are exposed to the listed chemical through direct dermal contact when they, among other activities, handle, touch or otherwise use the products. The California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions with regard to occupational exposures on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers occurring outside the State of California. The approval also provides that an employer may use the means of compliance in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement is subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Accordingly, any settlement, civil complaint, or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the Attorney General.

#### III. CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Sara Hammond c/o Joseph D. Agliozzo Joseph D. Agliozzo, Law Corporation 1601 N. Sepulveda Blvd, #649 Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 Mailing Address: PO Box 3582, Manhattan Beach CA 90266 Telephone: (424) 241-3614

#### 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 Violator's reference, I have attached 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, I intend to file a citizen enforcement 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 DEHP exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b). If the alleged Violator is interested in resolving this dispute without resorting to time-consuming and expensive litigation, please feel free to contact my counsel identified in Section III above. It should be noted that neither my counsel nor I 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 me will resolve my claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

#### VI. ADDITIONAL NOTICE INFORMATION

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. I believe and allege that the sale of the offending products also has occurred without the requisite Proposition 65 "clear and reasonable warning" 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 Violator and other retailers and distributors of the manufacturer.

| Product(s)*                                  | Retailer(s)                 | Manufacturer(s)/Distributor(s)/<br>Importers |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Gear Beast Armband (Pink) - SKU 852670627519 | 99 Cents Only Stores<br>LLC | ES Distribution LLC                          |

#### VII. EXHIBIT A

| Product Category/Type       | Such As*                        | Toxin                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gear Beast Armband (Pink) - | Gear Beast Armband (Pink) - SKU | Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate |
| SKU 852670627519            | 852670627519                    | (DEHP)                    |

\*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/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 this citizen'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.

### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I, Joseph D. Agliozzo, hereby declare:

- (1) This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices have violated Health and Safety Code section 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 the 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 plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator 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 the information identified in Health and 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.

Joseph D. Agliozzo

Dated: February 17, 2020

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury:

I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action; my business address is 1601 N. Sepulveda Boulevard, #649 Manhattan Beach CA 90266.

On February 18, 2020, I served the following documents:

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

PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY (APPENDIX A) (SERVED ONLY ON ALLEGED VIOLATOR);

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; AND** 

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT ATTACHMENTS (SERVED ONLY ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL)

on the entities listed below via First Class Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, along with an unsigned copy of this declaration, addressed to the entity listed below and providing each envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

| Registered Agent for Service of Process | JOON PARK                               |
|---|---|
| 99 Cents Only Stores LLC                | Registered Agent for service of Process |
| c/o CT Corporation System               | ES Distribution LLC                     |
| 818 W. 7th Street, Suite 930            | 1632 Dixon Street                       |
| Los Angeles, CA 90017                   | Redondo Beach CA 90278                  |
| Current President/CEO                   | Current President/CEO                   |
| 99 Cents Only Stores LLC                | ES Distribution LLC                     |
| 4000 E. Union Pacific Ave               | 365 Boston Post RD #26                  |
| Commerce CA 90023                       | Sudbury MA 01776                        |

as well as by providing copies of the above documents electronically uploaded or emailed to the public enforcers according to directions from their respective offices, and/or by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, along with an unsigned copy of this declaration, addressed to each party listed below, and served as follows:

| Electronically Uploaded to the Attorney<br>General's website:                                     | The Attorney General of the State of California;  |
|---|---|
| By placing each envelope in a United States Postal Service mailbox, postage prepaid, or at the    | The District Attorney for Each of the 58 counties in California; and                    |
| request of the District or City Attorney, emailing a copy of the notice to the specified address: | The City Attorney for Los Angeles, San Diego,<br>San Jose, San Francisco and Sacramento |

*A list of addresses for each of these recipients is attached.* 

Executed on February 18, 2020, at Gardena, California.

### **Service List**

| Service List                            |                                 |                                   |                                     |  |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| The Honorable Michael Atwell            | The Honorable Sally O. Moreno   | The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen       | The Honorable Mara W. Elliott       |  |  |  |
| Alpine County District Attorney         | Madera County District Attorney | Santa Clara County Dist Attorney  | Office of the City Atty, San Diego  |  |  |  |
| P.O. Box 248                            | 209 West Yosemite Avenue        | 70 West Hedding St, West Wing     | 1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620       |  |  |  |
| Markleeville, CA 96120                  | Madera, CA 93637                | San Jose, CA 95110                | San Diego, CA 92101                 |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Todd Riebe                | The Honorable Lori Frugoli      | The Honorable Jeffrey S. Rosell   | Gair Biogo, Gri GE 101              |  |  |  |
| Amador County District Attorney         | Marin County District Attorney  | Santa Cruz County Dist Attorney   |                                     |  |  |  |
|   |                                 | , ,                               |                                     |  |  |  |
| 708 Court Street                        | 3501 Civic Center DR, Suite 145 | 701 Ocean Street, Room 200        |                                     |  |  |  |
| Jackson, CA 95642                       | San Rafael, CA 94903            | Santa Cruz, CA 95060              |                                     |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Michael Ramsey            | The Honorable Walter Wall       | The Hon Stephanie A. Bridgett     | Via Email:                          |  |  |  |
| Butte County District Attorney          | Mariposa County Dist. Attorney  | Shasta County District Attorney   |                                     |  |  |  |
| 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245       | 5101 Jones Street P.O. Box 730  | 1355 West Street                  |                                     |  |  |  |
| Oroville, CA 95965                      | Mariposa, CA 95338              | Redding, CA 96001                 |                                     |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Richard Doyle             | The Honorable C. David Eyster   | The Honorable Sandra Groven       | Nancy O'Malley DA Alameda Cty       |  |  |  |
|   | Mendocino County Dist Attorney  | Sierra County District Attorney   | 7776 Oakport Street, Suite 650      |  |  |  |
| Office of the City Atty, San Jose       | 100 N. State Street, RM G-10    | 100 Courthouse Square, RM B1      | Oakland, CA 94621                   |  |  |  |
| 200 East Santa Clara St,16th FL         | P.O. Box 1000                   | P.O. Box 457                      | CEPDProp65@acgov.org                |  |  |  |
| San Jose, CA 95113                      | Ukiah, CA 95482                 | Downieville, CA 95936             |                                     |  |  |  |
| The Hon. Matthew R. Beauchamp           | The Honorable Kimberly Lewis    | The Hon James Kirk Andrus         | Paul Zellerbach, DA Riverside Cty   |  |  |  |
| Colusa County District Attorney         | Merced County District Attorney | Siskiyou County District Attorney | 3072 Orange Street                  |  |  |  |
| 346 Fifth Street, Suite 101             | 550 West Main Street            | 311 4th Street                    | Riverside, CA 92501                 |  |  |  |
| Colusa, CA 95932                        | Merced, CA 95340                | Yreka, CA 96097                   | Prop65@rivcoda.org                  |  |  |  |
| Del Norte County District Attorney      | The Honorable Samuel D. Kyllo   | The Hon Krishna A. Abrams         | Christopher Dalbey, DDA SB Cty      |  |  |  |
| 450 H Street, RM 171                    | Modoc County District Attorney  | Solano County District Attorney   | 1112 Santa Barbara St.              |  |  |  |
| Crescent City, CA 95531                 | 204 South Court ST, Suite 202   | 675 Texas Street, Suite 4500      | Santa Barbara, CA 93101             |  |  |  |
| Groscent Oity, OA 90001                 | Alturas, CA 96101               | Fairfield, CA 94533               | DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us     |  |  |  |
| The Henerable Vern Diereen              |                                 | The Honorable Jill Ravitch        | '                                   |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Vern Pierson              | The Honorable Tim Kendall       |                                   | Stacey Grassini, DDA CC County      |  |  |  |
| El Dorado County District Attorney      | Mono County District Attorney   | Sonoma County District Attorney   | 900 Ward Street                     |  |  |  |
| 778 Pacific Street                      | 278 Main Street, P.O. Box 617   | 600 Administration Dr, RM 212 J   | Martinez, CA 94553                  |  |  |  |
| Placerville, CA 95667                   | Bridgeport, CA 93517            | Santa Rosa, CA 95403              | sgrassini@contracostada.org         |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Lisa Smittcamp            | The Honorable Clifford Newell   | The Honorable Birgit Fladager     | Gregory Alker, ADA SF County        |  |  |  |
| Fresno County District Attorney         | Nevada County District Attorney | Stanislaus County Dist Attorney   | 732 Brannan Street                  |  |  |  |
| 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000          | 201 Commercial Street           | 832 12th Street, Suite 300        | San Francisco, CA 94103             |  |  |  |
| Fresno, CA 93721                        | Nevada City, CA 95959           | Modesto, CA 95354                 | gregory.alker@sfgov.org             |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Dwayne Stewart            | The Honorable Todd Spitzer      | The Hon Amanda L. Hopper          | Jeff W. Reisig, DA Yolo County      |  |  |  |
| Glenn County District Attorney          | Orange County District Attorney | Sutter County District Attorney   | 301 Second Street                   |  |  |  |
| P.O. Box 430                            | 401 Civic Center Drive West     | 463 Second Street, Suite 102      | Woodland, CA 95695                  |  |  |  |
| Willows, CA 95988                       | Santa Ana, CA 92701             | Yuba City, CA 95991               | cfepd@yolocounty.org                |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Maggie Fleming            | The Honorable R. Scott Owens    | The Honorable Matthew Rogers      | Dije Ndreu, DDA Monterey Cty        |  |  |  |
| Humboldt County District Attorney       | Placer County District Attorney | Tehama County District Attorney   | 1200 Aguajito Road                  |  |  |  |
| 825 5th Street, Fourth Floor            | 10810 Justice Center Dr, St 240 | 444 Oak Street, Room L            | Monterey, CA 93940                  |  |  |  |
| Eureka, CA 95501                        | Roseville, CA 95678             | Red Bluff, CA 96080               | Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us          |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Gilbert Otero             | The Honorable David Hollister   | The Hon Donna Daly                | Valerie Lopez, Dep. City Atty       |  |  |  |
| Imperial County District Attorney       | Plumas County District Attorney | Trinity County District Attorney  | Off of the City Atty, San Francisco |  |  |  |
| 940 West Main Street, Suite 102         | 520 Main Street, Room 404       | P.O. Box 310                      | 1390 Market Street, 7th Floor       |  |  |  |
| El Centro, CA 92243                     | Quincy, CA 95971                | 11 Court Street                   | San Francisco, CA 94102             |  |  |  |
|   |                                 | Weaverville, CA 96093             | Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org        |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Thomas Hardy              | The Hon Anne Marie Schubert     | The Honorable Tim Ward            | Allison Haley, DA Napa County       |  |  |  |
| Inyo County District Attorney           | Sacramento Cty Dist. Attorney   | Tulare County District Attorney   | 1127 First Street, Suite C          |  |  |  |
| P.O. Box Drawer D                       | 901 G Street                    | 221 South Mooney Blvd, Rm 224     | Napa, CA 94559                      |  |  |  |
| Independence, CA 93526                  | Sacramento, CA 95814            | Visalia, CA 93291-4593            | CEPD@countyofnapa.org               |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Cynthia Zimmer            | The Honorable Candice Hooper    | The Honorable Laura L. Krieg      | Eric J. Dobroth, DDA                |  |  |  |
| Kern County District Attorney           | San Benito County Dist Attorney | Tuolumne County Dist Attorney     | San Luis Obispo County              |  |  |  |
| 1215 Truxtun Avenue, 4th Floor          | 419 4th Street                  | 423 North Washington Street       | County Govt Center Annex, 4th FI    |  |  |  |
| Bakersfield, CA 93301                   | Hollister, CA 95023             | Sonora, CA 9537                   | San Luis Obispo, CA 93408           |  |  |  |
|   |                                 |                                   | edobroth@co.slo.ca.us               |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Keith Fagundes            | The Honorable Jason Anderson    | The Honorable Gregory D. Totten   | The Honorable Barbara Yook          |  |  |  |
| Kings County District Attorney          | San Bernardino Cty. Dist. Att.  | Ventura County District Attorney  | Calaveras County District Atty      |  |  |  |
| 1400 West Lacey Boulevard               | 303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor  | 800 South Victoria Ave, Ste 314   | 891 Mountain Ranch Road             |  |  |  |
| Hanford, CA 93230                       | San Bernardino, CA 92415-0502   | Ventura, CA 93009                 | San Andreas, CA 95249               |  |  |  |
| , | ,                               | ,                                 | Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us        |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Susan J. Krones           | The Hon Summer Stephan          | The Honorable Clint Curry         | Via upload:                         |  |  |  |
| Lake County District Attorney           | San Diego County Dist Attorney  | Yuba County District Attorney     | _                                   |  |  |  |
| 255 North Forbes Street                 | 330 West Broadway Street        | 215 Fifth Street                  |                                     |  |  |  |
| Lakeport, CA 95453                      | San Diego, CA 92101             | Marysville, CA 95901              |                                     |  |  |  |
| The Hon Stacie Montgomery               | The Hon Tori Verber Salazar     | The Honorable Mike Feuer          | Office of the California Attorney   |  |  |  |
| Lassen County District Attorney         | San Joaquin Cty Dist Attorney   | Off of the City Atty, Los Angeles | General Proposition 65              |  |  |  |
| 2950 Riverside Drive, Suite 102         | P.O. Box 990                    | James K. Hahn City Hall East      | Enforcement Reporting ATTN:         |  |  |  |
| Susanville, CA 96130                    | Stockton, CA 95201              | 200 North Main Street, Suite 800  | Prop 65 Coordinator                 |  |  |  |
|   |                                 | Los Angeles, CA 90012             | P.O. Box 70550                      |  |  |  |
| The Honorable Jackie Lacey              | The Hon Stephen M. Wagstaffe    | The Hon Susan Acala Wood          | Oakland, CA 94612-0550              |  |  |  |
| LA County District Attorney             | San Mateo County Dist Attorney  | Off of the City Atty, Sacramento  | https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-   |  |  |  |
| 211 W. Temple Street, Suite 1200        | 400 County Center, 3rd Floor    | 915 I Street, 4th Floor           | day-notice                          |  |  |  |
| Los Angeles, CA 90012                   | Redwood City, CA 94063          | Sacramento, CA 95814              |                                     |  |  |  |
| ,                                       |                                 |                                   |                                     |  |  |  |