

contact@PoulsenLaw.org

## VIA CERTIFIED FIRST CLASS MAIL VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Julian Klenda or Current Chief Executive Officer or President Maine Lobster Now LLC 58 City Line Drive Portland, Maine 04102

Maine Lobster Now LLC % Paul D. Weinstein 431 Main Street Saco, Maine 04072 State of California Department of Justice

Office of Attorney General of California Filing link: oag.ca.gov/prop65

# VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

District Attorneys of California Counties and City Attorneys, as in the Certificate of Service

## **VIA E-MAIL**

District Attorneys of California Counties and City Attorneys, as in the Certificate of Service



+1 (646) 776 5999

www.PoulsenLaw.org



contact@PoulsenLaw.org

RE: Lead and Maine Lobster Now LLC's products lead

compounds in

September 1, 2021

#### 60-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE

for violations of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986

Dear alleged violators and public enforcement agencies,

Poulsen Law P.C. represents The Chemical Toxin Working Group, Inc., a California non-profit corporation, doing business as Healthy Living Foundation Inc. ("HLF," "Noticing Party"), a non-profit consumer health organization engaged in supporting public health, implementing measures reducing the amount of chemical toxins in consumer products, improvement of worker and consumer safety from chemical exposures. as well as publishing comparative results of testing foods and consumer products and educating public.

HLF has enforced a large number of Cal. Health & Safety Code violations in the public interest and developed an extensive expertise in prosecuting manufacturers and distributors of food and consumer products for violations of health laws and consumer safety. These cases have resulted in significant public benefit, including reformulation of products to remove toxic chemicals to make them safer, and putting label warnings on products tested as contaminated with lead, cadmium, acrylamide, dioxane, or removing them from the California market.

HLF's Chief Officer David Steinman is a journalist, a publisher and an author of a bestseller *Diet For A Poisoned Planet* (Crown ed., 1990, Ballantine 2d ed., 1992, Running Press 3d ed., 2007); his major books also include *The Safe Shopper's Bible* (Macmillan ed., 1995, Wiley 2d ed., 2000), *The Breast Cancer Prevention Program* (Macmillan ed., 1997), *Living Healthy In A Toxic World* (Perseus ed., 1996), *Safe Trip To Eden:Ten Steps To Save The Planet Earth From The Global Warming Meltdown* (Running Press ed., 2007), along with many publications in periodicals and other media.

The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, codified in the California Health & Safety Code sections 25249.5, et seq. ("Proposition 65"), requires that a 60-day notice of intent to sue be provided to a violator of Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6.

With this notice of violation (Notice), HLF gives a written notice of the alleged violation, bringing this action in the public interest as defined under the Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d), seeking to prosecute the alleged continuing noncompliance and to warn consumers about their exposure to the violative chemical(s), or reduce and/or eliminate consumer exposures from product(s) (collectively, the "Specified Products" and each a "Specified Product") listed in the table below, which are manufactured, distributed and/or sold by Maine Lobster Now LLC (referred to collectively as the "Noticed Party").



This Notice covers the violations of Proposition 65 that are currently known to the Noticing Party from information now available as specifically related to the violating products listed below and manufactured, distributed or/and sold by and through the Noticed Party. HLF is continuing its investigation that may reveal further violations.

The Specified Product(s) subject to this Notice, the chemical(s) in the Specified Product(s) identified as exceeding allowable levels, and the Noticed Party responsible for sales of the Specified Products, are as follows:

<b>Specified Products</b>	Violative chemical	Noticed Party
Maine Lobster Now Bangs Island Maine	Lead and	Maine Lobster Now LLC
Mussels	lead	
	compounds	
Maine Lobster Now Gulf of Maine Steamer	Lead and	Maine Lobster Now LLC
Clams	lead	
	compounds	

The primary route of exposure has been through ingestion.

Noticed Party has manufactured, marketed, distributed and/or sold the Specified Products which, according to the test results, have exposed and continue to expose consumers within the State of California to lead.

Lead and lead compounds ("lead") is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause developmental toxicity, reproductive toxicity and cancer. Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 requires that a "clear and reasonable" warning be provided prior to exposure to chemicals listed under Proposition 65. The Noticed Party is in violation of Proposition 65 because the Noticed Party has failed to provide a warning to consumers that they are being exposed to lead. While in the course of doing business, the Noticed Party is knowingly and intentionally exposing consumers to lead without first providing a "clear and reasonable" warning.

The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product's label. See Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27, § 25602, subd. (a)(3), and subd. (b) for internet purchases also at the point of sale, as applicable. The Noticed Party has not provided any Proposition 65 warnings as required by law or any other appropriate warnings that persons handling, ingesting and/or otherwise using the Specified Products are being exposed to lead.

With respect to each Specified Product listed above, the violation commenced on the latter of the date that the Specified Product was first offered for sale in California or the date upon which California law codified the allowable level of the relevant chemical; has continued every day since the relevant date the violation commenced; and will continue every day henceforth until lead is removed from each Specified Product, reduced to allowable levels, or until a "clear and reasonable" warning is provided to consumers by the Noticed Party, as applicable, in accordance with the law.

Pursuant to Title 27, C.C.R. § 25903(b), copies of the following documents are attached hereto for reference by the Notices Parties:

(i) "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary."

Pursuant to Title 11, C.C.R. § 3100, the "Certificate of Merit" is attached hereto.



HLF intends to file a lawsuit after 60 days based on the facts set forth in this Notice. Meanwhile we encourage a prompt resolution of this matter within the said period of 60 days where the Noticed Party agrees in a written agreement to (1) eliminate or reduce lead to an allowable level in the Specified Products or, as an alternative, (2) provide a Proposition 65-compliant warning on the label of the Specified Products and at the point of sale; and (3) pay applicable civil penalties and costs of bringing this action.

Prompt action of the Noticed Party on this Notice will prevent further consumer exposures to a dangerous chemical without warning, therefore rectifying these alleged ongoing violations of the California law and afford the Noticed Party the opportunity to avoid increasing costs associated with incompliance and costly litigation.

Please direct all communications regarding this Notice to this office.

Sincerely,

Peter T. Sato, Esq. | CA

Poulsen law P.C.

282 11th Avenue, Suite 2612 New York, New York, 10001 Tel: + 1 646 776 5999

Tel: +1 626 888 1906 Direct

ps@poulsenlaw.org www.poulsenlaw.org



# **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Certificate of Merit;
- 2. Confidential Factual Information supporting Certificate of Merit (to Attorney General only);
- 3. Certificate of Service;
- 4. Appendix "A" "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary" (to the Noticed Party only);



282 11th Avenue, #2612, New York, NY 10001



+1 (646) 776 5999

contact@PoulsenLaw.org

To: California Attorney General

Notice of Violation: September 1, 2021

Noticing Party: Chemical Toxin Working Group Inc. dba Healthy Living

Foundation Inc.

Noticed Party: Maine Lobster Now LLC

September 1, 2021

### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

# Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

To the Notice of Violation

I, Peter T. Sato, attorney at law, hereby declare:

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.

I am the attorney for the Noticing Party.

I have reviewed the facts of this case and have consulted with one or more persons wi th relevant and appropriate experience and expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, and/or other data regarding the alleged exposures to the listed chemical that is the subject of the attac hed Notice of Violation dated September 1, 2021 (the "Notice").

I have reviewed the laboratory testing results for the chemical subject to the Notice and rely on these results. The testing was conducted by a reputable accredited testing laboratory and by experienced scientists with doctoral and other degrees in relevant sciences. The facts, studies and other data derived through this investigation overwhelmingly demonstrate that the alleged violators have exposed persons to the listed chemical that is the subject of the Notice and is known to the State of California to cause reproductive and/or developmental harm, and/or cancer.

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.

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.

Dated: September 1, 2021

By:

TOULSEN LAW P.C.

+1 (646) 776 5999

contact@PoulsenLaw.org

282 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue #2642 Nam Yark NV 40004



Peter T. Sato | CA

Poulsen law P.C.

282 11th Avenue, Suite 2612 New York, New York, 10001 Tel: +1 646 776 5999 Tel: +1 626 888 1906 Direct ps@poulsenlaw.org www.poulsenlaw.org

contact@PoulsenLaw.org

TOULSEN LAW P.C.
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Lucas Zahn, am over the age of eighteen years and am not a party to the action, process or

case related to or arising out of the Notice of Violation being served under this Certificate of Service. My address is 1420 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404.

On September 1, 2021, between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, I served the followin g documents:

- 1. Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq. by Maine Lobster Now LLC;
- 2. Certificate of Merit;
- 3. Appendix "A" "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary;"

on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the parties below, and causing it to be deposited at a United States Postal Service Office in Los Angeles County, California, for delivery by Certified Mail:

Julian Klenda or Current	Maine Lobster Now LLC
Chief Executive Officer or President	% Paul D. Weinstein
Maine Lobster Now LLC	431 Main Street
58 City Line Drive	Saco, Maine 04072
Portland, Maine 04102	

On September 1, 2021, between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Pacific Time, I served the following documents:

- 1. Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq. by Maine Lobster Now LLC;
- 2. Certificate of Merit;
- 3. Confidential Factual Information and Supporting Documentation Required by Title 11, C.C.R. § 3102

on the following parties by filing electronically a true and correct copy thereof as permitted through the website of the California Office of the Attorney General via link at oag.ca.gov/prop65:

State of California Department of Justice; Office of the Attorney General of California.

On September 1, 2021, between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, I served the following documents:

- 1. Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq. by Maine Lobster Now LLC;
- 2. Certificate of Merit

on the following parties below by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the District Attorney and City Attorney offices listed below, and causing each envelope to be deposited at a United States Postal Service mail box for delivery by First Class Mail:



contact@PoulsenLaw.org

F	T	Ι	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Alpine County	Lake County	Sierra County	
PO Box 248	255 North Forbes Street	PO Box 457	
Markleeville, CA 96120	Lakeport, CA 95453	Downieville, CA 95936	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Amador County	Los Angeles County	Siskiyou County	
708 Court Street, Suite 202	Hall of Justice 211 West	Post Office Box 986	
Jackson, CA 95642	Temple St. Ste 1200	Yreka, CA 96097	
######################################	Los Angeles, CA 90012	Trona, erry ooy	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Butte County	Madera County	Solano County	
25 County Center Drive,	209 West Yosemite Avenue	675 Texas Street, Ste 4500	
Suite 245		Fairfield, CA 94533	
_	Madera, CA 93637	ranneid, CA 94333	
Oroville, CA 95965	District Attach	District Attacus	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Colusa County	Marin County	Stanislaus County	
310 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	3501 Civic Center Drive,	832 12th Street, Ste 300	
Colusa, CA 95932	Room 130	Modesto, CA 95354	
	San Rafael, CA 94903		
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Del Norte County	Mendocino County	Sutter County	
450 H Street, Suite 171	PO Box 1000	446 Second Street	
Crescent City, CA 95531	Ukiah, CA 95482	Yuba City, CA 95991	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
EL Dorado County	Modoc County	Tehama County	
778 Pacific Street	204 S Court Street, Room	PO Box 519	
Placerville, CA 95667	202	Red Bluff, CA 96080	
	Alturas, CA 96101-4020		
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Fresno County	Orange County	Trinity County	
2220 Tulare Street	300 N Flower St.	Post Office Box 310	
Suite 1000	Santa Ana, CA 92703	Weaverville, CA 96093	
Fresno, CA 93721	,	,	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Glenn County	San Benito County	Tuolumne County	
Post Office Box 430	419 4 <sup>th</sup> Street	423 North Washington St.	
Willows, CA 95988	Hollister, CA 95023	Sonora, CA 95370	
District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney	
Humboldt County	San Bernardino County	Yuba County	
825 5th Street 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor	316 No. Mountain View	215 Fifth Street, Suite 152	
Eureka, CA 95501	Avenue	Marysville, CA 95901	
Luicka, CA 93301	San Bernardino, CA 92415	iviarysvinic, CA 93901	
District Attorney	District Attorney	Los Angeles City Attorney's	
Imperial County	San Mateo County	Office	
940 West Main Street, Suite	400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor	City Hall East	
102	Redwood City, CA 94063	200 N. Main Street, Suite	
El Centro, CA 92243	Redwood City, CA 94003	800 N. Main Street, Suite	
El Celluo, CA 92243		Los Angeles, CA 90012	
District Attorney	District Attorney	San Jose City Attorney's	
L DISTRICT AHOTHEV		L SAU LOSE L HV A HOTHEV S	
· ·	District Attorney	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Kern County	Shasta County	Office	
· ·	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

+1 (646) 776 5999

282 11th Avenue, #2612, New York, NY 10001 | TOULSEN LAW P.C.

HE HEDIE, NEW TOIR, NY 100U1	, IOULSEN LAW F	P.C.	contact@PoulsenLaw.org
		San Jose, CA 95113	
District Attorney	District Attorney		
Kings County	Mono County		
1400 West Lacey Blvd.	Post Office Box 617		
Hanford, CA 93230	Bridgeport, CA 93517		

On September 1, 2021, between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Pacific Time, I served the following documents:

- 1. Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq. by Maine Lobster Now LLC;
- 2. Certificate of Merit

on each of the parties below, all of which have requested electronic service only via the following email addresses:

Alameda County District Attorney	Colovieros Courte Di Link
CEPDProp65@acgov.org	Calaveras County District Attorney
Contra Costa County District Attorney	Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us
sgrassini@contracostada.org	Inyo County District Attorney
Lassen County District Attorney	inyoda@inyocounty.us
mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us	Mariposa County District Attorney
	mcda@mariposacounty.org
Merced County District Attorney	Monterey County District Attorney
Prop65@countyofmerced.com	Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us
Napa County District Attorney	Nevada County District Attorney
CEPD@countyofnapa.org	DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us
Placer County District Attorney	Plumas County District Attorney
Prop65@placer.ca.gov	davidhollister@countyofplumas.com
Riverside County District Attorney	Sacramento County District Attorney
Prop65@rivcoda.org	Prop65@sacda.org
San Diego City Attorney	San Diego County District Attorney
CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov	SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org
San Francisco County District Attorney	San Francisco City Attorney
alethea.sargent@sfgov.org	Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org
San Joaquin County District Attorney DA	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney
DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org	edobroth@co.slo.ca.us
Santa Barbara County District Attorney	Santa Clara County District Attorney
DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us	EPU@da.sccgov.org
Santa Cruz County District Attorney	
Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us	Sonoma County District Attorney
Tulare County District Attorney	jbarnes@sonoma-county.org
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us	Ventura County District Attorney
Yolo County District Attorney	daspecialops@ventura.org
cfepd@yolocounty.org	,
erepate yorocounty.org	

I, Lucas Zahn, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature

September 1, 2021

www.PoulsenLaw.org

282  $11^{\text{th}}$  Avenue, #2612, New York, NY 10001



+1 (646) 776 5999

contact@PoulsenLaw.org

1420 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404