# AMENDED RENEWED NOTICE OF VIOLATION

# California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act

## Perfluorooctanoic Acid in Cosmetics Products

November 11, 2021

This Amended Renewed Notice of Violation (the "Notice") is provided to you pursuant to and in compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d). This Notice amends and supersedes the Renewed Notice of Violation previously issued on December 23, 2020 (Attorney General No. 2020-03499).

- For general information regarding the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, see the attached summary provided by the California EPA (copies not provided to public enforcement agencies).
- This Notice is provided by the Center for Environmental Health ("CEH"), 2201 Broadway, Suite 508, Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 655-3900. CEH is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health and supporting environmentally sound practices. Kaya Sugerman is the Illegal Toxic Threats Program Director and a responsible individual within CEH.

# **Description of Violation:**

• <u>Violators</u>: The names and addresses of the violators are:

#### The Estée Lauder Companies Inc.

767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153

## Estée Lauder Inc.

7 Corporate Center Drive Melville, NY 11747

## Clinique Laboratories, LLC

767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153

#### Make-Up Art Cosmetics Inc.

767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153

### Make-Up Art Cosmetics (U.S.), Inc.

767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153

• <u>Time Period of Exposure</u>: The violations have been occurring since at least November 10, 2018, and are continuing to this day.

- Provision of Proposition 65: This Notice covers the "exposure/warning provision" of Proposition 65, which is found at California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.
- <u>Chemical(s) Involved</u>: The name of the listed chemical involved in these violations is perfluorooctanoic acid ("PFOA"). Exposures to PFOA occur from the use of the products identified in this Notice.
- <u>Type of Product</u>: The specific type of product causing these violations is cosmetics products. Non-exclusive examples of this specific type of product are: (1) Estée Lauder Bronze Goddess Powder Bronzer in 03 Medium Deep (UPC No. 0-27131-24050-1); (2) Clinique Superbalanced Makeup in Cream Chamois CN 40 (UPC No. 0-20714-14962-8); (3) MAC Mineralize Concealer in NC42 (UPC No. 7-73602-24043-2); and (4) Origins Stay Tuned Balancing Foundation in 19 Fair (UPC No. 7-17334-23966-1).
- <u>Description of Exposure</u>: This Notice addresses consumer exposures to PFOA. Use of the products identified in this Notice results in human exposures to PFOA. The routes of exposure for the violations are dermal absorption directly through the skin when consumers touch the products or apply them to the body, and ingestion via hand-to-mouth contact after consumers touch or handle the products. No clear and reasonable Proposition 65 warning is provided with these products regarding the presence of PFOA in the products.

#### **Resolution of Noticed Claims:**

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, CEH intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against each alleged violator unless such violator agrees in a binding written instrument to: (1) recall products already sold or otherwise provided to consumers; (2) provide clear and reasonable warnings for products sold or otherwise provided to consumers in the future or reformulate such products to eliminate the PFOA exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b). If any alleged violator is interested in resolving this dispute without resort to expensive and time-consuming litigation, please feel free to contact CEH through its counsel identified below. It should be noted that CEH cannot: (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 CEH's 60-day Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with CEH will resolve its claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

# **Preservation of Relevant Evidence:**

This Notice also serves as a demand that each alleged violator preserve and maintain all relevant evidence, including all electronic documents and data, pending resolution of this matter. Such relevant evidence includes but is not limited to all documents relating to the presence or potential presence of PFOA in the products; purchase, sales and usage information for such products; efforts to comply with Proposition 65 with respect to such products; communications with any person relating to the presence or potential presence of PFOA in such

products; and representative exemplars of any such products provided to customers or consumers by the alleged violator since November 10, 2018, through the date of any trial of the claims alleged in this Notice.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this Notice to CEH's counsel Joseph Mann at Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 913-7800, jmann at lexlawgroup.com.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d)

I, Joseph Mann, 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 an attorney with the Lexington Law Group, and I represent the noticing

party, the Center for Environmental Health.

3. Members of my firm and 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 exposures to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on 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 the 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 & 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.

November 11, 2021

Joseph Mann

Attorney for CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

1	PROOF (	OF SERVICE
2		
3	I, Owen Sutter, declare:	
4	I am a citizen of the United States and e	employed in the County of San Francisco, State of
5	address is 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco osutter@lexlawgroup.com.	ears and not a party to this action. My business o, CA 94117 and my email address is
6		llowing document(s) on all interested parties in this
7	action by placing a true copy thereof in the man	
8	NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALL TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT;	IFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND
9   10	CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; and	
10	THE SAFE DRINKING AND TOXIO	C ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (only sent to those on service list marked with an
12	asterisk).	(only sent to those on service list marked with an
13		irm's practice for collecting and processing mail  Output  Description:  Under that practice, mail would be deposited
14		fully prepaid at San Francisco, California in the
15		g following my firm's ordinary business practices.
	Please see attached service list.	
16 17		PDF version of the document(s) listed above via attached service list [or noted above] before 5 p.m.
18	on the date executed.	Bud Porter
19	Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney Contra Costa County	Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County
20	900 Ward Street	70 West Hedding Street, West Wing
	Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org	San Jose, CA 95110 epu@da.sccgov.org
21		op a classication and a classical and a classi
22	Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney 168 North Edwards Street	Allison Haley, District Attorney
23	Independence, CA 93526 inyoda@inyocounty.us	Napa County 1127 First Street, Suite C
24	Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator	Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org
25	Lassen County	• • •
26	220 S. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130	Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney Sonoma County
	mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us	600 Administration Drive, Rm. 212J
27		Santa Rosa, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org
28		· · ·

1	Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney	Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney
2	Tulare County 221 S. Mooney Avenue, Rm. 224 Visalia, CA 93291	San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95202
3	Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us	DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org
4	Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney	Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District
5	Riverside County 4075 Main Street	Attorney, Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street
6	Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org	Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
7		·
8	Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney Yolo County	Valery Lopez, Deputy City Attorney 1390 Market Street, 7th Floor
8	301 Second Street	Valerie.lopez@sfcityatty.org
9	Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org	San Francisco, CA 94102
10		Summer Stephan, District Attorney
11	Walter W. Hall, District Attorney Mariposa County	San Diego County 330 West Broadway
- 11	P.O. Box 730	San Diego, CA 92101
12	Mariposa, CA 95338	SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org
13	mcda@mariposacounty.org	Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney
14	Kimberly Lewis, District Attorney	San Diego County
	Merced County 550 West Main Street	1200 Third Avenue San Diego, CA 92101
15	Merced, CA 95340	CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov
16	Prop65@countyofmerced.com	
	Lagaria M. Dagiani Dagusto DA	Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney
17	Jeannine M. Pacioni, Deputy DA  Monterey County	Ventura County 800 South Victoria Avenue
18	1200 Aguajito Road	Ventura, CA 93009
10	Monterey, CA 93940	daspecialops@ventura.org
19	Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us	1 1 -
		Athea M. Sargeant, Assistant DA
20	Clifford H. Newell, District Attorney	350 Rhode Island Street
21	Nevada County 201 Commercial Street	San Francisco, CA 94103 Athea.sargeant@sfgov.org
21	Nevada City, CA 95959	Alliea.sargeant@sigov.org
22	DA.prop65@co.nevada.ca.us	Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney
23	Morgan Briggs Gire, District Attorney	Sacramento Country 901 G Street
24	Placer County	Sacramento, CA 95814
∠ <del>-1</del>	Rosevile, CA 95678	Prop65@sacda.org
25	Prop65@placer.ca.gov	Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney
26	David Hollister, District Attorney	San Luis Obispo County
	Plumas County	County Government Center Annex, 4th
27	520 Main Street	Floor
20	Quincy, CA 95971 davidhollister@countyofplumas.com	San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us
28	adviditionister & county or plumas.com	000010ti1@00.3i0.0a.u3

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2	701 Cocan Check		
3	Santa Cruz, CA 95060 San Andreas, CA 95249 Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us		
4	Namey O Mailey, District Attorney		
5	5 Alameda County 7776 Oakport Street, Suite 650		
6	Ookland CA 04621		
7	7		
8	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.		
9	Executed on November 11, 2021 at San Francisco, California.		
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11			
12	Owen Sutter		
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#### **SERVICE LIST**

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

District Attorney of Amador County 708 Court Street, Ste. 202 Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney of Butte County Administration Building 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965

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

District Attorney of Del Norte County 450 H Street, Ste. 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney of El Dorado County 778 Pacific Street Placerville, CA 95667

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District Attorney of Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

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District Attorney of Mendocino County P.O. Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney of Modoc County 204 S. Court Street, Rm. 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney of Mono County P.O. Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93546

District Attorney of Orange County 300 N Flower St. Santa Ana, CA 92703

District Attorney of San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Fl. Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney of San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415

District Attorney of San Mateo County 400 County Center, 3rd Fl. Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney of Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney of Sierra County Courthouse 100 Courthouse Sq., 2nd Fl. Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney of Siskiyou County P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097 District Attorney of Solano County 675 Texas Street, Ste. 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney of Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste. 300 Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney of Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991

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District Attorney of Trinity County P.O. Box 310 11 Court Street Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney of Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney of Yuba County 215 Fifth Street Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office City Hall East 200 N. Main Street, Rm. 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA 95113

California Attorney General's Office Attention: Proposition 65 Coordinator and Robert Thomas 1515 Clay Street, Ste. 2000 P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

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