

## NOTICE OF VIOLATION

### California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act

#### Bisphenol A in Socks Made Primarily of Polyester with Spandex

December 20, 2021

This Notice of Violation (the "Notice") is provided to you pursuant to and in compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d).

- 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 Allan Sugerman is the Illegal Toxic Threats Program Director of and a responsible individual within CEH.

#### Description of Violation:

- Violator: The names and addresses of the violators are identified on the attached Exhibit 1.
- Time Period of Exposure: The violations have been occurring since at least December 20, 2018 and are continuing to this day.
- Provision of Proposition 65: This Notice covers the "warning provision" of Proposition 65, which is found at California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.
- Chemical(s) Involved: The name of the listed chemical involved in these violations is bisphenol A ("BPA"). Exposures to BPA occur from use of the products identified in this Notice.
- Type of Product: The specific type of product causing these violations is socks made primarily of polyester with spandex. The products are worn by females.
- Description of Exposure: This Notice addresses female exposures to BPA. Ordinary use of the products identified in this Notice results in human exposures to BPA. BPA is found in, and comes out of, the products. The routes of exposure for the violations are dermal absorption directly through the skin when individuals wear the products, and ingestion via hand-to-mouth contact after individuals touch or handle the products. No clear and reasonable Proposition

65 warning is provided with these products regarding the presence of BPA 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 the alleged violators unless such violators agree 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 BPA exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b). If the alleged violators are 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 the alleged violators 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 BPA in socks; purchase 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 BPA in such products; and representative exemplars of any such products provided to customers or consumers by the alleged violator in the year preceding this Notice through the date of any trial of the claims alleged in this Notice.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this Notice to CEH's counsel Mark N. Todzo at Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 913-7800, [mtodzo@lexlawgroup.com](mailto:mtodzo@lexlawgroup.com).

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

I, Mark N. Todzo, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the party identified in the notice has 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.

December 20, 2021



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Mark N. Todzo  
Attorney for CENTER FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

**EXHIBIT 1**  
**December 20, 2021 Notice of Violation**  
**Bisphenol A in Socks Made Primarily of Polyester with Spandex**

<b>Names and Addresses of Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products</b>	<b>Further Description of Non-Exclusive Exemplar</b>
<p><b>Wiesner Products, Inc.</b>            1333 Broadway, 6th Fl.            New York, NY 10018</p>	<p>Xhilaration Low-Cut Socks</p>	<p>Size 4-10            Gray KX7W            UPC No. 4-90250-54220-5</p>
<p><b>ABG-Jones, LLC</b>            1411 Broadway 21<sup>st</sup> Floor            New York, NY 10018</p>	<p>Jones New York Low Cut Socks</p>	<p>Socks Shoe Size 4-10 (6 Pairs)            JN5180            UPC No. 7-5103874663-6            RN#33702</p>
<p><b>Hot Topic Inc.</b>            18305 E. San Jose Ave            City of Industry, CA 91748</p>	<p>Hot Topic Women's Crew Pastel Kawaii Heart Wing Socks</p>	<p>Socks (Sock Size 9-11) RN # 120684            14803842; Dept 0017</p>
<p><b>Pacific Sunwear of California, LLC</b>            3450 E. Miraloma Ave            Anaheim, CA 92806</p> <p><b>Pacific Sunwear Stores, LLC</b>            3450 E. Miraloma Ave            Anaheim CA 92806</p> <p><b>Ripple Junction Design Co.</b>            6183 Centre Park Drive            West Chester Township            Ohio 45069</p>	<p>PacSun Los Angeles Deathrow Records Crew Sock</p>	<p>One Size, UPC No. 1-94594-13822-2</p>

<b>Names and Addresses of Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products</b>	<b>Further Description of Non-Exclusive Exemplar</b>
<p><b>Foot Locker, Inc.</b> 330 West 34<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10001</p> <p><b>IQ Brands Inc.</b> 129 NC Hwy 801 S Advance, NC 27006</p>	<p>CSG Performance Tab No Show Sock</p>	<p>(Adult Large – Size 10-13) (6 Pair) UPC No. 6-84516-16364-2; RN # 105325 PL-5850-010-100W</p>
<p><b>Rite Aid Corp.</b> 30 Hunter Lane Camp Hill, PA 17011</p>	<p>Women’s Crew Socks</p>	<p>(Size 9-11) RX-81696 ITEM 9052212-MMXXI UPC 6-28722-92219-8</p>
<p><b>Unified Inc.</b> 225 Dupont St. Plainview, NY 11803</p>	<p>PGA Tour Pro Series Anti Slip Heel (3 Pair)</p>	<p>Women’s Shoe Size: 6.5-9.5 Style: PGWS4021-913 SKU: 7-21467-28630-0</p>

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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3 I, Alexis Pearson, declare:

4 I am a citizen of the United States and employed in the County of San Francisco, State of  
5 California. I am over the age of eighteen (18) years and not a party to this action. My business  
6 address is 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 and my email address is  
apearson@lexlawgroup.com.

7 On December 20, 2021, I served the following document(s) on all interested parties in this  
8 action by placing a true copy thereof in the manner and at the addresses indicated below:

9 **NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND  
10 TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT;**

11 **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT;** and

12 **THE SAFE DRINKING AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986  
13 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY** (only sent to those on service list marked with an  
14 asterisk).

15  **BY MAIL:** I am readily familiar with the firm’s practice for collecting and processing mail  
16 with the United States Postal Service (“USPS”). Under that practice, mail would be deposited  
17 with USPS that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid at San Francisco, California in the  
18 ordinary course of business. On this date, I placed sealed envelopes containing the above  
19 mentioned documents for collection and mailing following my firm’s ordinary business practices.

20 *Please see attached service list.*

21  **BY ELECTRONIC MAIL:** I transmitted a PDF version of the document(s) listed above via  
22 email to the email address(es) indicated on the attached service list [or noted above] before 5 p.m.  
23 on the date executed.

24 Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney  
25 Contra Costa County  
26 900 Ward Street  
27 Martinez, CA 94553  
28 sgrassini@contracostada.org

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22 Morgan Briggs Gire, District Attorney  
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25 David Hollister, District Attorney  
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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on December 20, 2021 at San Francisco, California.



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Alexis Pearson



## SERVICE LIST

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Jose City Attorney's Office  
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San Jose, CA 95113

California Attorney General's Office  
Attention: Proposition 65 Coordinator and  
Robert Thomas  
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Oakland, CA 94612-0550

President/CEO\*  
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