#### LAW OFFICES

## **BRODSKY & SMITH**

9595 WILSHIRE BLVD., STE. 900 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212 877.534.2590 www.brodskysmith.com

NEW JERSEY OFFICE 1310 NORTH KINGS HIGHWAY CHERRY HILL, NJ 08934 856.795.7250 NEW YORK OFFICE 240 MINEOLA BOULEVARD MINEOLA, NY 11501 516.741.4977 PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE TWO BALA PLAZA, STE. 805 BALA CYNWYD, PA 19004 610.667.6200

### February 22, 2022

President/CEO	President/CEO/Owner
Duty Man, Inc.	The Surplus Store
c/o Wing W. Chow	10341 Venice Blvd.
6460 Camino Real	Los Angeles, CA 90034
P.O. Box 39	
Maxwell, TX 78656	

60-Day Notice of Violation of California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act1

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Brodsky & Smith ("Brodsky Smith") represents Donatus McCoy ("McCoy"), a citizen of the State of California acting in the interest of the general public to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals from use of consumer products sold in California and to improve human health and the environment by reducing hazardous substances.

With respect to the Product herein, McCoy has identified a violation of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65") codified at Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq. This violation has occurred and continues to occur because the alleged Violator(s) failed to provide a clear and reasonable health hazard warning in connection with the sale or use of the Product in California. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 provides that "[n]o person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the State to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first providing a clear and reasonable warning to such individual ..." Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to the Listed Chemical resulting from use of the Product, California citizens lack the information necessary to make informed decisions on whether and/or how to eliminate (or reduce) the risk of exposure to the Listed Chemical from the reasonably foreseeable use of the Product.

#### I. DESCRIPTION OF THE VIOLATION

- 1. Enforcer: Donatus McCoy; 910 N. Tajauta, Compton, CA 90220; 424-302-3405.
- 2. Alleged Violator(s): Duty Man, Inc.; The Surplus Store
- 3. Time Period of Exposure: Violations have been occurring since at least February 22, 2022 and are continuing to this day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The public enforcement agencies that have been served with copies of this Notice are identified in the attached distribution list accompanying the Certificate of Service.

**4. Listed Chemical**: Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP). DEHP is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity.

#### 5. Product:

Product <sup>2</sup>	Non- Exclusive Examples of the Product
ID Case	Dutyman ID Case w/Shield
	UPC# 873542008571

6. Description of Exposure: The exposures that are the subject of this Notice result from the purchase, acquisition, handling and recommended use of the Product. The primary route of exposure to the Listed Chemical is through dermal absorption directly through the skin when consumers use, touch, or handle the Products. Some amount of exposure through ingestion can occur by touching the Product with subsequent touching of the user's hand to mouth. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with the Products regarding the health hazards of exposure to the Listed Chemical.

#### II. PROPOSITION 65 INFORMATION

For the Violators' reference, enclosed is a copy of "Proposition 65: A Summary" that has been prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA"). For more information concerning the provisions of Proposition 65, contact OEHHA at 916.445.6900.

#### III. RESOLUTION OF THE CLAIMS

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, Brodsky Smith intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit on behalf of McCoy against the alleged Violator(s) unless such Violator(s) agree in a binding written agreement to: (1) recall Products already sold; (2) provide Proposition 65 compliant exposure warnings for Products sold in the future or reformulate the Products to eliminate exposures to the Listed Chemical; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b). Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and the desire to have these violations of California law quickly rectified, McCoy is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of the claims in this Notice without engaging in costly and protracted litigation.

McCoy has retained me as legal counsel in connection with this Notice. Please direct all communications regarding this Notice to my attention at Brodsky & Smith, 9595 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, (877) 534-2590, esmith@brodskysmith.com.

Evan J. Smith

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The specifically identified example of the Product in this Notice is to assist the recipients' investigation of, among other things, the magnitude of potential exposures to the Listed Chemical from other items within the definition of Products. This example is not intended to be an exhaustive or comprehensive identification of each specific offending Product. It is McCoy's position that the alleged Violators are obligated to conduct a good faith investigation into other Products that may have been manufactured, distributed, sold, shipped, stored (or otherwise within the alleged Violators' custody or control) during the relevant period to ensure that requisite health hazard warnings were and are provided to California citizens prior to purchase and use.

# Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service
The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within action. My business address is 2 Bala Plaza, Suite 805, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania. I am employed in Montgomery County where the mailing occurred.

On February 22, 2022, I served the following documents: Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq.; Certificate of Merit; The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary on the following entities and individuals listed below by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the person or entity listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

President/CEO	President/CEO/Owner
Duty Man, Inc.	The Surplus Store
c/o Wing W. Chow	10341 Venice Blvd.
6460 Camino Real	Los Angeles, CA 90034
P.O. Box 39	
Maxwell, TX 78656	

On February 22, 2022, I served the following documents: Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5, et seq.; Certificate of Merit; The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary on each of the individuals on the service list attached hereto as Appendix B by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the person or entity listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with postage fully prepaid for delivery by Priority Mail.

Executed on February 22, 2022, in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania.

Evan J. Smith

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

# I, Evan J. Smith, 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 & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- (2) I am the attorney for the noticing party, Donatus McCoy.
- (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 chemicals that are the subject of the action.
- (4) Based on the information obtained through these 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 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(s) 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 & 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: February 22, 2022

Evan J. Smith

Attorney for Donatus McCoy

# **SERVICE LIST**

The Honorable Nancy O'Malley	The Honorable Stacey Montgomery	The Honorable Candice Hooper	The Honorable Gregg Cohen
Alameda County District Attorney	Lassen County District Attorney	San Benito County District Attorney	Tehama County District Attorney
1225 Fallon Street, Room 900	220 South Lassen Street, Ste. 8	419 4th Street, Second Floor	444 Oak Street, Room L
Oakland, CA 94612	Susanville, CA 96130	Hollister, CA 95203	Red Bluff, CA 96080
The Honorable Terese Drabec	The Honorable Jackle Lacey	The Honorable Michael Ramos	The Honorable Eric Heryford
Alpine County District Attorney	Los Angeles County District Attorney	San Bernardino County District Attorney	Trinity County District Attorney
270 Lärämië Street, PO BOX 248	211 West Temple Street, Suite 1200	303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor	P.O. Box 310
Markleeville, CA 95120	Los Angeles, CA 90012	San Bernardino, CA 92415-0502	Weaverville, CA 96093
The Honorable Todd Riebe	The Honorable David Linn	The Honorable Bonnie Dumanis	The Honorable Tim Ward Tulare County District Attorney 221 South Mooney Boulevard, Rm 224 Visalia, CA 93291-4593
Amador County District Attorney	Madera County District Attorney	San Diego County District Attorney	
708 Court Street	209 West Yosemite Avenue	330 W, Broadway Street	
Jackson, CA 95842	Madera, CA 93637	San Diego, CA 92101	
The Honorable Michael Ramsey	The Honorable Edward Berberian	The Honorable George Gascon	The Honorable Laura Krieg
Butte County District Attorney	Marin County District Attorney	San Francisco County District Attorney	Tuolumne County District Attorney
25 County Center Drive	3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130	850 Bryant Street, Room 322	423 North Washington Street
Oroville, CA 95965	San Rafael, CA 94903	San Francisco, CA 94103	Sonora, CA 95370
The Honorable Barbara Yook	The Honorable Thomas Cooke	The Honorable Tori Verber Salazar	The Honorable Gregory Totten
Calaveras County District Attorney	Mariposa County District Attorney	San Joaquin County District Attorney	Ventura County District Attorney
891 Mountain Ranch Road	5101 Jones Street, P.O. Box 730	222 East Weber Avenue, Room 202	800 South Victoria Avenue
San Andreas, CA 95249	Mariposa, CA 95338	Stockton, CA 95201	Ventura, CA 93009
The Honorable John Poyner	The Honorable C. David Eyster	The Honorable Dan Dow	The Honorable Jeff Reisig Yolo County District Attorney 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695
Colusa County District Attorney	Mendocino County District Attorney	San Luis Obispo County District Atty	
346 Fifth Street	100 North State Street, P.O. Box 1000	1035 Palm Street, 4th Floor	
Colusa, CA 95932	Ukiah, CA 95482	San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	
The Honorable Mark Peterson	The Honorable Larry Morse II	The Honorable Stephen Wagstaffe	The Honorable Patrick McGrath
Contra Costa County District Attorney	Merced County District Attorney	San Mateo County District Attorney	Yuba County District Attorney
900 Ward Street	550 W. Main Street	400 County Center, Third Floor	215 Fifth Street
Martinez, CA 94553	Merced, CA 95340	Redwood City, CA 94063	Marysville, CA 95901
The Honorable Dale Trigg	The Honorable Jordan Funk	The Honorable Joyce Dudley	The Honorable Mike Feuer Office of the City Attorney, Los Angeles 800 City Hall East 200 North Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90012
Del Norte County District Attorney	Modoc County District Attorney	Santa Barbara County District Attorney	
450 H Street, Room 171	204 S. Court Street, Suite 202	1112 Santa Barbara Street	
Crescent City, CA 95531	Alturas, CA 96101	Santa Barbara, CA 93101	
The Honorable Vern Pierson El Dorado County District Attorney 778 Pacífic Street Placerville, CA 95667 The Honorable Lisa Smittcamp	The Honorable Tim Kendall Mono County District Attorney P.O. Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517	The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen Santa Clara County District Attorney 70 West Hedding Street, West Wing San Jose, CA 95110	The Honorable James Sanchez Office of the City Attorney, Sacramento 915 I Street, 4th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
Fresno County District Attorney 2220 Tulare Street, #1000 Fresno, CA 93721 The Honorable Dwayne Stewart	The Honorable Dean Flippo	The Honorable Jeff Rosell	The Honorable Jan Goldsmith
	Monterey County District Attorney	Santa Cruz County District Attorney	Office of the City Attorney, San Diego
	P.O. Box 1131	701 Ocean Street, Room 200	1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620
	Salinas, CA 93902	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	San Diego, CA 92101
Glenn County District Attorney P.O. Box 430 Willows, CA 95988	The Honorable Allison Haley Napa County District Attorney 1127 First Street, Suite C Napa, CA 94559	The Honorable Stephen Carlton Shasta County District Attorney 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001	The Honorable Dennis Herrera Office of the City Attorney, San Francisco 1 Dr. Carlton B, Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102
The Honorable Maggle Fleming Humboldt County District Attorney 825 5th Street, Fourth Floor Eureka, CA 95501 The Honorable Gilbert Otero	The Honorable Clifford Newell Nevada County District Attorney 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959	The Honorable Lawrence Allen Sierra County District Attorney 100 Courthouse Square Downieville, CA 95936	The Honorable Richard Doyle Office of the City Attorney, San Jose 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113
Imperial County District Attorney 940 West Main Street, Suite 102 El Centro, CA 92243	The Honorable Tony Rackauckas Orange County District Attorney 401 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701	The Honorable James Kirk Andrus Siskiyou County District Attorney P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097	Office of the California Attorney General Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612-0550
The Honorable Thomas Hardy Inyo County District Attorney P.O. Drawer D Independence, CA 93526 The Honorable Lisa Green	The Honorable R. Scott Owens Placer County District Attorney 10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240 Roseville, CA 95678	The Honorable Krishna Abrams Solano County District Attorney 675 Texas Street, Suite 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533	
Kern County District Attorney 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301	The Honorable David Hollister Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971	The Honorable Jill Ravitch Sonoma County District Altorney 600 Administration Drive, Room 212J Santa Rosa, CA 95403	
The Honorable Keith Fagundas	The Honorable Michael Hestrin	The Honorable Birgit Fladager	
Kings County District Attorney	Riverside County District Attorney	Stanislaus County District Attorney	
1400 West Lacey Boulevard	3960 Orange Street	832 12th Street, Suite 300	
Hanford, CA 93230	Riverside, CA 92501	Modesto, CA 95354	
The Honorable Donald Anderson	The Honorable Anne Marie Schubert	The Honorable Amanda Hopper	
ake County District Attorney	Sacramento County District Attorney	Sutter County District Attorney	
155 North Forbes Street	901 G Street	463 Second Street, Suite 102	
akeport CA 95453	Sacramento CA 95814	Yuba City CA 95991	