

282 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 2612 New York, New York 10001

contact@PoulsenLaw.org

## VIA CERTIFIED FIRST CLASS MAIL

Current Manager or Managing Member Iya Foods LLC 348 Smoke Tree Business Park North Aurora, IL 60542

Current Manager or Managing Member Iya Foods LLC c/o Oluwatoyin Kolawole (Agent) 31W290 Schoger Dr. Naperville, IL 60564

Current President or CEO Amazon.com, Inc. and Amazon.com Services LLC c/o Corporation Service Company 251 Little Falls Dr. Wilmington, DE 19808

Michael D. Deal or Current Manager or Managing Member Amazon.com Services LLC 410 Terry Avenue N. Seattle, Washington 98109

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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



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contact@PoulsenLaw.org

RE: Lead and lead compounds in

Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services LLC products

September 16, 2022

#### 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 the 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 Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services LLC's products (referred to collectively as the "Noticed Parties").

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 Parties. 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 Parties responsible for sales of the Specified Products, are as follows:

| Specified Products                                       | Violative<br>chemical   | Noticed Party  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Iya Foods Spinach Whole Food Powder,<br>UPC 850011845103 | Lead and lead compounds | Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com,<br>Inc., and Amazon.com<br>Services LLC |

The primary route of exposure has been through ingestion.

Noticed Parties have manufactured, marketed, distributed and/or sold the Specified Product 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 Parties are in violation of Proposition 65 because the Noticed Parties have failed to provide a warning to consumers that they are being exposed to lead. While in the course of doing business, the Noticed Parties are 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 Parties have 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 Product are being exposed to lead.

With respect to the 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 the Specified Product, reduced to allowable levels, or until a "clear and reasonable" warning is provided to consumers by the Noticed Parties, 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 Parties agree 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 Parties 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 Parties the opportunity to avoid increasing costs associated with incompliance and costly litigation.

Please direct all communications regarding this Notice to this office.

Sincerely,

Aida Poulsen | Managing attorney | NY | CA contact@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 Parties only);



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| То:                  | California Attorney General  |
|----------------------|--|
| Notice of Violation: | September 16, 2022   |
| Noticing Party:      | Chemical Toxin Working Group Inc. dba Healthy Living Foundation Inc. |
| Noticed Parties:     | Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services LLC         |

September 16, 2022

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

## **Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)**

To the Notice of Violation

I, Aida Poulsen, 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 with 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 attached Notice of Violation dated September 16, 2022 (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.

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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 16, 2022

By:

Aida Poulsen | Managing attorney | NY | CA contact@poulsenlaw.org



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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jonathan Newell, 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 18653 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 136, Tarzana, CA 91356.

On September 16, 2022, 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 Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services 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:

| Current Manager or Managing Member<br>Iya Foods LLC<br>348 Smoke Tree Business Park<br>North Aurora, IL 60542                                   | Current Manager or Managing Member<br>Iya Foods LLC<br>c/o Oluwatoyin Kolawole (Agent)<br>31W290 Schoger Dr.<br>Naperville, IL 60564    |
|---|---|
| Current President or CEO Amazon.com, Inc. and Amazon.com Services LLC c/o Corporation Service Company 251 Little Falls Dr. Wilmington, DE 19808 | Michael D. Deal or Current Manager or<br>Managing Member<br>Amazon.com Services LLC<br>410 Terry Avenue N.<br>Seattle, Washington 98109 |

On September 16, 2022, 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 Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services 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:

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

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- 1. Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq. by Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services 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:

| District Attorney Alpine County PO Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120 District Attorney Amador County | District Attorney Lake County 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453 District Attorney Los Angeles County | District Attorney Sierra County PO Box 457 Downieville, CA 95936 District Attorney's Office Siskiyou County Courthouse |
|---|---|--|
| 708 Court Street, Suite 202<br>Jackson, CA 95642  | Hall of Justice 211 West<br>Temple St. Ste 1200<br>Los Angeles, CA 90012                                      | 311 Fourth Street, Room 204<br>Yreka, CA 96097   |
| District Attorney Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965               | District Attorney<br>Madera County<br>209 West Yosemite Avenue<br>Madera, CA 93637                            | District Attorney<br>Solano County<br>675 Texas Street, Ste 4500<br>Fairfield, CA 94533                                |
| District Attorney<br>Colusa County<br>310 6 <sup>th</sup> Street<br>Colusa, CA 95932              | District Attorney Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903                         | District Attorney<br>Stanislaus County<br>832 12th Street, Ste 300<br>Modesto, CA 95354                                |
| District Attorney Del Norte County 450 H Street, Suite 171 Crescent City, CA 95531                | District Attorney Mendocino County PO Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482  | District Attorney Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991  |
| District Attorney EL Dorado County 778 Pacific Street Placerville, CA 95667                       | District Attorney Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020                            | District Attorney Tehama County PO Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080   |
| District Attorney Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street  | Orange County<br>300 N Flower St.   | District Attorney Trinity County Post Office Box 310   |

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| 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         |
|                                      | San Bernardino, CA 92415   | <u> </u>                     |
| 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                  | _                          | 800                          |
|                                      |                            | Los Angeles, CA 90012        |
| District Attorney                    | District Attorney          | San Jose City Attorney's     |
| Kern County                          | Shasta County              | Office                       |
| 1215 Truxtun Avenue                  | 1355 West Street           | 200 East Santa Clara Street, |
| Bakersfield, CA 93301                | Redding, CA 96001          | 16 <sup>th</sup> Floor       |
|                                      |                            | 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       |                              |

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- 1. Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq. by Iya Foods LLC, Amazon.com, Inc., and Amazon.com Services 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      | Calaveras County District Attorney |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CEPDProp65@acgov.org                  | Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us       |
| Contra Costa County District Attorney | Inyo County District Attorney      |
| sgrassini@contracostada.org           | inyoda@inyocounty.us               |
| Lassen County District Attorney       | Mariposa County District Attorney  |
| mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us              | mcda@mariposacounty.org            |
| Merced County District Attorney       | Monterey County District Attorney  |
| Prop65@countyofmerced.com             | Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us         |



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| Napa County District Attorney<br>CEPD@countyofnapa.org                     | Nevada County District Attorney DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us   |
|--|---|
| Placer County District Attorney Prop65@placer.ca.gov                       | Plumas County District Attorney<br>davidhollister@countyofplumas.com<br>Sacramento County District Attorney |
| Riverside County District Attorney<br>Prop65@rivcoda.org                   | Prop65@sacda.org San Diego County District Attorney   |
| San Diego City Attorney<br>CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov                     | SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org  |
| San Francisco County District Attorney alexandra.grayner@sfgov.org         | San Francisco City Attorney Valerie Lopez@sfcityatty.org  |
| San Joaquin County District Attorney DA DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org | San Luis Obispo County District Attorney edobroth@co.slo.ca.us  |
| Santa Barbara County District Attorney DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us     | Santa Clara County District Attorney<br>EPU@da.sccgov.org   |
| Santa Cruz County District Attorney Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us            | Sonoma County District Attorney jbarnes@sonoma-county.org   |
| Tulare County District Attorney Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us                     | Ventura County District Attorney daspecialops@ventura.org   |
| Yolo County District Attorney cfepd@yolocounty.org                         |   |

I, Jonathan Newell, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature

Jonathan Mewell 18653 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 136

Tarzana, CA 91356

September 16, 2022