



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS

November 4, 2022

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I represent CalSafe Research Center, Inc. (“CRC”), 4533 MacArthur Blvd., Ste. 165, Newport Beach, CA 92660; Tel. (949) 630-0413. CRC’s Executive Director is Eric Fairon. CRC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

CRC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 et seq., with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d), CRC intends to pursue a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

General Information about Proposition 65. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

Alleged Violators. The names of the person/company covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violators”) are:

1. Cento Fine Foods, Inc.
2. Gelson’s Markets



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Consumer Products and Listed Chemical. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemical in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

Cento, White Clam Sauce, UPC#070796699986

Cento, Double Concentrated Tomato Paste, UPC#070796400100

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that CRC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

Route of Exposure. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to this chemical has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least **July 3, 2022**, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, CRC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemical, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above products in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.



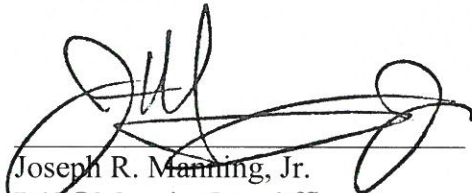
MANNING LAW_{APC}

20062 SW Birch St, Suite 200
Newport Beach, CA 92660
Office: 949.200.8755
Facsimile: 866.843.8308
P65@manninglawoffice.com

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CRC has retained me as legal counsel in connection with this matter. **Please direct all communications regarding this Notice of Violation to my attention at the law office address and telephone number indicated on the letterhead or at P65@ManningLawOffice.com.**

Sincerely,



Joseph R. Manning, Jr.
P65@ManningLawOffice.com

Attachments

- Certificate of Merit
- Certificate of Service
- OEHHA Summary (to Alleged Violators only)
- Factual Information in Support of Certificate of Merit (to AG only)



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CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Re: Calsafe Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Cento Fine Foods, Inc., and Gelson's Markets

I, Joseph R. Manning, Jr., declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day notice in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.
3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.
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 that 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. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California 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.

Dated: November 4, 2022

Joseph R. Manning, Jr.
P65@ManningLawOffice.com



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 20062 S.W. Birch, Newport Beach, CA 92660. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Newport Beach, California.

On November 4, 2022 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, 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 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 each of the parties listed below and depositing it at a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

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|--|--|---|
| Cento Fine Foods, Inc. Richard Gendrachi 100 Cento Blvd PO Box 565 West Deptford, NJ 08086 | Gelson’s Markets Mark Motsenbocker 13833 Freeway Dr Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 | Robert G. McDougall Gelson’s Markets 16400 Ventura Blvd, Suite 240 Encino, CA 91436 |
|--|--|---|

On November 4, 2022 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT INCLUDING A SUMMARY OF CONFIDENTIAL FACTUAL INFORMATION; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General’s website, which can be accessed at <https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice>:

Office of the California Attorney General
Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting
1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000
Oakland, CA 94612-0550



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On November 4, 2022 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

| | |
|--|--|
| Nancy O'Malley, District Attorney Alameda County 7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650 Oakland, CA 94621 CEPDProp65@acgov.org | Barbara Yook, District Attorney Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249 Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us |
| Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org | Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney Inyo County 168 North Edwards Street Independence, CA 93526 inyoda@inyocounty.us |
| Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator Lassen County 220 S. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130 mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us | Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney Monterey County 1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us |
| Allison Haley, District Attorney Napa County 1127 First Street, Suite C Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org | Michael Hestrin, District Attorney Riverside County 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org |
| Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney Sacramento County 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Prop65@sacda.org | Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney San Diego City Attorney 1200 Third Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov |
| Gregory Alker, Assistant District Attorney San Francisco County 732 Brannan Street San Francisco, CA 94103 gregory.alker@sfgov.org | Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney San Francisco City Attorney 1390 Market Street, 7 th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102 Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org |
| Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney San Joaquin County | Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney San Luis Obispo County |



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS

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| 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95202 DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org | County Government Center Annex, 4th Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us |
| Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us | Bud Porter, Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 EPU@da.sccgov.org |
| Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney Sonoma County 600 Administration Dr Sonoma, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org | Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney Tulare County 221 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 95370 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us |
| Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney Ventura County 800 S Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009 daspecialops@ventura.org | Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org |

On November 4, 2022 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto, and depositing it at a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on November 4, 2022, in Newport Beach, California.

Krystal Garzon



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS

Service List

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| District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120 | District Attorney, Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637 | District Attorney, San Mateo County 400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA 94063 |
| District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street, Suite 202 Jackson, CA 95642 | District Attorney, Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903 | District Attorney, Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001 |
| District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965 | District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338 | District Attorney, Sierra County 100 Courthouse Square, 2nd Floor Downieville, CA 95936 |
| District Attorney, Colusa County 310 6 th Street Colusa, CA 95932 | District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482 | District Attorney, Siskiyou County Post Office Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097 |
| District Attorney, Del Norte County 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531 | District Attorney, Merced County 550 W. Main Street Merced, CA 95340 | District Attorney, Solano County 675 Texas Street, Ste 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533 |
| District Attorney, El Dorado County 778 Pacific St Placerville, CA 95667 | District Attorney, Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020 | District Attorney, Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95354 |
| District Attorney, Fresno County 2100 Tulare St., Fresno, CA 93721 | District Attorney, Mono County Post Office Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517 | District Attorney, Sutter County 463 2nd Street Yuba City, CA 95991 |
| District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988 | District Attorney, Nevada County 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959 | District Attorney, Tehama County Post Office Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080 |
| District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4 th Floor Eureka, CA 95501 | District Attorney, Placer County 10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240 Roseville, CA 95678 | District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093 |
| District Attorney, Imperial County 940 West Main Street, Ste 102 El Centro, CA 92243 | District Attorney, Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971 | District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370 |
| District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301 | District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor Hollister, CA 95023 | District Attorney, Yuba County 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152 Marysville, CA 95901 |
| District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230 | Los Angeles City Attorney's Office City Hall East 200 N. Main Street, Suite 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012 | San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 95113 |
| District Attorney, Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453 | District Attorney, San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1300 San Diego, CA 92101 | District Attorney, Los Angeles County Hall of Justice 211 West Temple St., Ste 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012 |