KJT LAWGROUP LLP
Jivalagian | Thomassian

230 N. Maryland Ave. Suite 306
Glendale, CA 91206
P: 818.507.8525
F: 818.507.8588
info@KJTLawGroup.com

December 2, 2022

SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE FOR VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986
(*Cal. Health & Safety Code* § 25249.5, *et seq.*) ("Proposition 65")

Re: Violations of Proposition 65 concerning Shiitake Jerky, containing Lead and Cadmium.

Dear Alleged Violators and Public Enforcement Agencies:

Tamar Kaloustian ("Claimant"), serves this Notice of Violation ("Notice") on DJ&A PTY, Ltd., and CVS Pharmacy, Inc. (collectively "Violators") pursuant to and in compliance with Proposition 65. KJT Law Group, LLP represents Tamar Kaloustian (Claimant). This Notice satisfies a prerequisite for Claimant to commence an action against Violators in any Superior Court of California to enforce Proposition 65. The violations addressed by this Notice occurred at numerous locations in each county in California as reflected in the district attorney addresses listed in the attached distribution list. Claimant is serving this Notice upon each person or entity responsible for the alleged violations, the California Attorney General, the district attorney for each county where alleged violations occurred, and the City Attorney for each city with a population (according to the most recent decennial census) of over 750,000 located within counties where the alleged violations occurred.

Claimant is a citizen of the State of California, dedicated to protecting the consumer environment, improving human health, and supporting environmentally sound commercial practices. By sending this notice of violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.5 *et seq.,* claimant is acting "in the public interest" pursuant to Proposition 65.

This Notice concerns violations of the warning prong of Proposition 65, which states 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 giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual . . ." *Cal. Health & Safety Code* § 25249.6.

Pursuant to § 25249.7(d) of the statute, Claimant intends to bring an enforcement action against the Violators sixty (60) days after the effective service of this notice unless public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations. A summary of the statute and its implementing regulations, which was prepared by the Office of Environmental Hazard Assessment, the lead agency designated under the State, is enclosed with the copy of this notice served upon the violators ("Proposition 65: A Summary"). The specific details of the violations that are the subject of this notice are provided below.

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Consumer Product and Chemical(s) Involved

Claimant has discovered that Shiitake Jerky, contains lead. Lead is known to the State of California to cause cancer. "Lead and lead compounds" have been listed as carcinogens since October 1, 1992 and "lead" has been listed as a developmental toxicant for males and females since February 27, 1987. 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.

Claimant has discovered that Shiitake Jerky, contains Cadmium. These violations involve exposures to cadmium from the products listed below. The State of California has officially listed cadmium as a chemical known to cause cancer, developmental toxicity and reproductive harm.

Identifiers for the Shiitake Jerky include but are not limited to: **"Back to Basics – Original – Dried Shiitake Jerky"; UPC #: 8 53496 00854 4.**

This Notice addresses consumer products exposures. A "'[c]onsumer products exposure' is an exposure which results from a person's acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or other reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer good, or any exposure that results from receiving a consumer service." Cal. Code Regs. 27 tit. § 25602(b).

Description of Violation

Violators caused consumer product exposures in violation of Proposition 65 by producing or making available Shiitake Jerky for distribution or sale in California to consumers. The packaging for Shiitake Jerky (meaning any label or other written, printed or graphic matter affixed to or accompanying the product or its container or wrapper) contains no Proposition 65-compliant warning. Nor did Violator, with regard to Shiitake Jerky, provide a system of signs, public advertising identifying the system and toll-free information services, or any other system, which provided clear and reasonable warnings. Nor did Violator, with regard to Shiitake Jerky, provide identification of the product at retail outlets in a manner that provided a warning through shelf labeling, signs, menus, or a combination thereof.

Route of Exposure

Use of the product identified above results in human exposure to lead and cadmium. The primary route of lead and cadmium exposure to consumers is through direct ingestion when consumers eat the **Shiitake Jerky**. These exposures take place throughout the State of California. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with regards to the carcinogenic and/or reproductive hazard of lead or cadmium as required by State law.

Duration of Violations

These violations have been occurring every day between since at least December 1, 2021, and every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided with regards to the carcinogenic and/or reproductive hazard of Lead and cadmium as required by State law or until these known toxic chemicals are removed or reduced to allowable levels in the products.

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Counsel

The Claimant is represented in connection with this matter by and may only be contacted through:

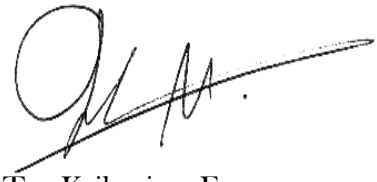
Tro Krikorian Esq.
KJT Law Group, LLP
230 N. Maryland Avenue, Suite 306, Glendale, CA 91206
Telephone: (818) 507-8525
Email: Tro@KJTLawGroup.com

In keeping with the public interest goals of the statute and the objective of protecting individuals and the community at-large from further toxic exposures, KJT Law Group, LLP is interested in seeking a constructive and immediate resolution of this matter in order to avoid continuing unwarned exposure to listed chemicals.

Proposition 65 requires that notice of intent to sue be given to the violator(s) sixty (60) days before the suit is filed. *Cal. Health & Safety Code* § 25249.7(d)(1). With this letter, Claimant gives notice of the alleged violations to Violator and the appropriate governmental authorities. In absence of any action by the appropriate governmental authorities within sixty (60) calendar days of the sending of this notice (plus ten (10) calendar days because the place of address is beyond the State of California but within the United States), Claimant may file suit. *See Cal. Code Civ. Proc.* § 1013; *Cal. Health & Safety Code* § 25249.7(d)(1); and *Cal. Code Regs.* tit. 27 § 25903(d)(1). Claimant remains open and willing to discussing the possibility of resolving its grievances short of formal litigation.

All communications regarding this notice may be made to Tro Krikorian, Esq. at the above listed firm address and telephone number.

Regards,



Tro Krikorian, Esq.
KJT Law Group, LLP

Attachments:

Certificate of Merit
Supporting Documentation for Certificate of Merit (to Attorney General Only)
Proposition 65: A Summary
Proof of Service (including DA Service List)

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Shiitake Jerky, containing Lead and Cadmium
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et. seq.

I, Tro Krikorian, hereby declare:

1) This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty (60) 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.

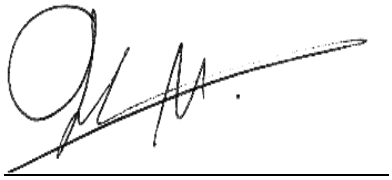
2) I am the attorney for the noticing parties.

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 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.

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 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: December 2, 2022



Tro Krikorian, Esq.
KJT Law Group, LLP

PROOF 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 action. I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California; my business address is 230 N. Maryland Avenue, Suite 306, Glendale, CA 91206.

On **December 2, 2022** I served the following documents:

60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS; 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 the party listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by **Certified Mail**:

Entity Address: **DJ&A PTY. LTD.** Unit 10A, 1 Hale Street Botany, NSW, Australia 2019	**Registered Agent for Service of Process:** **DJ&A PTY. LTD.** **Attn: Legal Department** 93 Brighton Boulevard, North Bondi Sydney 2026 Australia
Entity Address: **CVS Pharmacy, Inc.** 1 CVS Drive Woonsocket, RI 02895	**Registered Agent for Service of Process:** **CVS Pharmacy, Inc.** **c/o CT Corporation System** 330 N Brand Boulevard, STE 700 Glendale, CA 91203

On **December 2, 2022** I served the following documents:

60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

on the following parties by uploading the foregoing documents at the webpage listed below:

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Ste. 2000 Post Office Box 70550 Oakland, California 94612-0550 https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice

Executed under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California in Glendale, California on **December 2, 2022.**

Vache Thomassian

KJT LAWGROUP LLP
Jivalagian | Thomassian

PROOF OF SERVICE AFFIDAVIT
CCP 1013(a), CCP 1013(b), and CCP 1013a(3)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

My name is David Birdsall.

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the related cause(s).

I am employed at DocuCents in the county of Los Angeles, State of California, which is where the mailing occurred.

My business address is: 960 S Village Oaks Dr, Covina, CA 91724, which is where I placed the correspondence described herein for deposit in the United States Postal Service.

I am readily familiar with the business' practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service.

The following correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service this same day in the ordinary course of business.

Each envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on 12/02/2022, following ordinary business practices.

The exact TITLE of the document(s) served and the name(s) and address(s) of the people or entities being served are listed on the following attached Service List(s). This affidavit may include multiple Service Lists for documents which were mailed to many different parties on unrelated causes as part of the ordinary course of services.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing and all information contained in the attached Service List(s) is true and correct.

Printed name: David Birdsall

Dated: 12/02/2022

X _____
David Birdsall

Attachments: Service List(s) included as part of this affidavit.

SERVICE LIST

ALAMEDA COUNTY
The Honorable Nancy OMalley
District Attorney
1225 Fallon Street, Room 900
Oakland, CA 94612

ALPINE COUNTY
The Honorable Michael Atwell
District Attorney
P.O. Box 248
Markleeville, CA 96120

AMADOR COUNTY
The Honorable Todd Riebe
District Attorney
708 Court Street
Jackson, CA 95642

BUTTE COUNTY
The Honorable Michael Ramsey
District Attorney
25 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965

CALAVERAS COUNTY
The Honorable Barbara Yook
District Attorney
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249

COLUSA COUNTY
The Honorable Matthew Beauchamp
District Attorney
310 6th Street
Colusa, CA 95932

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
The Honorable Diana Becton
District Attorney
900 Ward Street
Martinez, CA 94553

DEL NORTE COUNTY
The Honorable Krishna A. Abrams
District Attorney
450 H Street, Room 171
Crescent City, CA 95531

EL DORADO COUNTY
The Honorable Vernon Pierson
District Attorney
778 Pacific Street
Placerville, CA 95667

FRESNO COUNTY
The Honorable Lisa Smittcamp
District Attorney
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000
Fresno, CA 93721

GLENN COUNTY
The Honorable Dwayne Stewart
District Attorney
P.O. Box 430
Willows, CA 95988

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
The Honorable Maggie Fleming
District Attorney
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

IMPERIAL COUNTY
The Honorable Gilbert G. Otero
District Attorney
940 W. Main Street, Suite 102
El Centro, CA 92243

INYO COUNTY
The Honorable Thomas L. Hardy
District Attorney
168 N. Edwards
Independence, CA 93526

KERN COUNTY
The Honorable Cythia Zimmer
District Attorney
1215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

KINGS COUNTY
The Honorable Keith Fagundes
District Attorney
1400 W. Lacey Boulevard
Hanford, CA 93230

LAKE COUNTY
The Honorable Susan Krones
District Attorney
255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

LASSEN COUNTY
The Honorable Melyssah Rios
District Attorney
2950 Riverside Drive, Suite 102
Susanville, CA 96130

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
The Honorable Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
211 W. Temple Street, Suite 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90012

MADERA COUNTY
The Honorable Sally Moreno
District Attorney
209 W. Yosemite Avenue
Madera, CA 93637

MARIN COUNTY
The Honorable Lori Frugoli
District Attorney
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130
San Rafael, CA 94903

MARIPOSA COUNTY
The Honorable Walter Wall
District Attorney
P.O. Box 730
Mariposa, CA 95338

MENDOCINO COUNTY
The Honorable C. David Eyster
District Attorney
P.O. Box 1000
Ukiah, CA 95482

MERCED COUNTY
The Honorable Kimberly Lewis
District Attorney
550 W. Main Street
Merced, CA 95340

MODOC COUNTY
The Honorable Jordan Funk
District Attorney
204 S. Court Street, Room 202
Alturas, CA 96101

MONO COUNTY
The Honorable Samuel Kyllo
District Attorney
P.O. Box 2053
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

MONTEREY COUNTY
The Honorable Jeannine Pacioni
District Attorney
1200 Aguajito Rd. Room 301
Monterrey, CA 93940

NAPA COUNTY
The Honorable Allison Haley
District Attorney
1127 First Street, Suite C
Napa, CA 94559

NEVADA COUNTY
The Honorable Clifford Newell
District Attorney
201 Commercial Street
Nevada City, CA 95959

ORANGE COUNTY
The Honorable Todd Spitzer
District Attorney
300 North Flower St.
Santa Ana, CA 92703

PLACER COUNTY
The Honorable R. Morgan Gire
District Attorney
10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240
Roseville, CA 95678

PLUMAS COUNTY
The Honorable David Hollister
District Attorney
520 Main Street, Room 404
Quincy, CA 95971

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
The Honorable Michael Hestrin
District Attorney
3960 Orange Street
Riverside, CA 92501

SACRAMENTO COUNTY
The Honorable Anne Marie Schubert
District Attorney
901 G Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

SAN BENITO COUNTY
The Honorable Candice Hooper-Mancino
District Attorney
419 4th Street
Hollister, CA 95023

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
The Honorable Jason Anderson
District Attorney
303 W. Third Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
The Honorable Summer Stephan
District Attorney
330 W. Broadway, Suite 1300
San Diego, CA 92101

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY
The Honorable Chesa Boudin,
District Attorney
350 Rhode Island Street
North Building, Suite 400N
San Francisco, CA 94103

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
The Honorable Tori Verber Salazar
District Attorney
P.O. Box 990
Stockton, CA 95202

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
The Honorable Dan Dow
District Attorney
Courthouse Annex, 4th Floor
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

SAN MATEO COUNTY
The Honorable Stephen M. Wagstaffe
District Attorney
400 County Center, Third Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
The Honorable Joyce Dudley
District Attorney
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen
District Attorney
70 W. Hedding Street, West Wing
San Jose, CA 95110

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
The Honorable Jeff Rosell
District Attorney
701 Ocean Street, Room 200
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SHASTA COUNTY
The Honorable Stephanie A. Bridgett
District Attorney
1355 West Street
Redding, CA 96001

SIERRA COUNTY
The Honorable Sandra Groven
District Attorney
100 Courthouse Square
Downieville, CA 95936

SISKIYOU COUNTY
The Honorable James Kirk Andrus
District Attorney
P.O. Box 986
Yreka, CA 96097

SOLANO COUNTY
The Honorable Krishna A. Abrams
District Attorney
675 Texas Street, Suite 4500
Fairfield, CA 94533

SONOMA COUNTY
The Honorable Jill Ravitch
District Attorney
600 Administration Drive, Room 212J
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

STANISLAUS COUNTY
The Honorable Birgit Fladager
District Attorney
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95353

SUTTER COUNTY
The Honorable Amanda L. Hopper
463 Second St,
Yuba City, CA 95991

TRINITY COUNTY
The Honorable Donna Daly
District Attorney
P.O. Box 310
Weaverville, CA 96093

TULARE COUNTY
The Honorable Tim Ward
District Attorney
221 S. Mooney Boulevard, Suite 224
Visalia, CA 93291

SUTTER COUNTY
District Attorney
446 Second Street, Suite 102
Yuba City, CA 95991

TUOLUMNE COUNTY
The Honorable Laura Krieg
District Attorney
423 No. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

VENTURA COUNTY
The Honorable Gregory Totten
District Attorney
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

YOLO COUNTY
The Honorable Jeffery Reisig
District Attorney
301 Second Street
Woodland, CA 95695

YUBA COUNTY
The Honorable Clint Curry
District Attorney
215 Fifth Street, Suite 152
Marysville, CA 95901

TEHAMA COUNTY
The Honorable Matthew Rogers
District Attorney
P.O. Box 519
Red Bluff, CA 96080

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
City Attorney's Office
200 N. Main Street, Room 800
Los Angeles, CA 90012

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
Office of the City Attorney
915 I Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
City Attorney's Office
1200 3rd Avenue, Suite 1620
San Diego, CA 92101

CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
City Attorney's Office
City Hall, Room 234
1 Dr. Carlton B Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

CITY OF SAN JOSE
City Attorney's Office
200 E. Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

CITY OF OAKLAND
City Attorney's Office
City Hall, 6th Floor
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612