## LAW OFFICES BRODSKY SMITH

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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

### June 19, 2023

President/CEO	President/CEO	
Evergreen Enterprises, Inc.	Evergreen Enterprises, Inc. dba Cypress Home	
c/o Corporation Service Company	5915 Midlothian Tpke.,	
100 Shockoe Slip, Floor 2	Richmond, VA 23225	
Richmond, VA 23219	,	
Member/Manager	Member/Manager	
Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC	Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC dba Cypress	
c/o Corporation Service Company	Home	
100 Shockoe Slip, Floor 2	5915 Midlothian Tpke.,	
Richmond, VA 23219	Richmond, VA 23225	
Member/Manager	Member/Manager	
Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC	Evergreen Enterprises Global Group, LLC	
c/o Corporation Service Company	c/o Corporation Service Company	
251 Little Falls Dr.,	100 Shockoe Slip, Floor 2	
Wilmington, DE 19808	Richmond, VA 23219	
President/CEO	President/CEO	
Evergreen/Cypress Enterprises, Inc.	Alin Party Supply Co.	
c/o CSC – Lawyers Incorporating Service	c/o Elizabeth R. Jerez	
2710 Gateway Oaks Dr.,	4139 Woodruff Ave.,	
Sacramento, CA 95833	Lakewood, CA 90713	
President/CEO	President/CEO	
Alin Party Supply Co. dba Alin Party Supply –	Alin Party Supply Co.	
Lakewood	6401 Regio Ave.,	
4139 Woodruff Ave.,	Buena Park, CA 90620	
Lakewood, CA 90713	·	

### 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 represents Precila Balabbo ("Balabbo"), 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.

<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.

With respect to the Product herein, Balabbo 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. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE VIOLATION</u>

- Enforcer: Precila Balabbo, 285 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Unit 209, San Pedro, CA 90731; (Ph) 818-434-4023.
- 2. Alleged Violator(s): Evergreen Enterprises, Inc.; Evergreen Enterprises, Inc. dba Cypress Home; Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC; Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC dba Cypress Home; Evergreen Enterprises Global Group, LLC; Evergreen/Cypress Enterprises, Inc.; Alin Party Supply Co.; Alin Party Supply Co. dba Alin Party Supply Lakewood
- 3. Time Period of Exposure: Violations have been occurring since at least June 19, 2023 and are continuing to this day.
- **4. Listed Chemical**: Lead. Lead is listed under Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State to cause cancer and reproductive toxicity.

#### 5. Product:

Product<sup>2</sup>

Ceramic Coasters

Cypress Home Crackle Ceramic Coasters

UPC # 8 08412 50960 5

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.

<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 Balabbo'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.

### 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 Balabbo 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, Balabbo is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of the claims in this Notice without engaging in costly and protracted litigation.

Balabbo 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.

Sincerely,

Evan J. Smith

### Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

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

#### **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, Precila Balabbo.
- (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: June 19, 2023

Evan J. Smith

Attorney for Precila Balabbo

### **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 June 19, 2023, 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:

D 11 1/000	
President/CEO	
Evergreen Enterprises, Inc. dba Cypress Home	
5915 Midlothian Tpke.,	
Richmond, VA 23225	
Member/Manager	
Evergreen Enterprises of Virginia, LLC dba	
Cypress Home	
5915 Midlothian Tpke.,	
Richmond, VA 23225	
Member/Manager	
Evergreen Enterprises Global Group, LLC	
c/o Corporation Service Company	
100 Shockoe Slip, Floor 2	
Richmond, VA 23219	
President/CEO	
Alin Party Supply Co.	
c/o Elizabeth R. Jerez	
4139 Woodruff Ave.,	
Lakewood, CA 90713	
President/CEO	
Alin Party Supply Co.	
6401 Regio Ave.,	
Buena Park, CA 90620	

On June 19, 2023, 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 June 19, 2023, in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania.

Evan J. Smith

### ELECTRONIC MAIL SERVICE LIST

The Honorable Nancy O'Malley	The Honorible Tori Verber Salzar	Honorable Anne Marie Schubert
Alameda County District Atrongey	San Joaquin County District Automoy	Sacramento County District Attorney
1776 Oakport Street, Suite 650	222 E. Weber Avaisie, Room 202	901 G Street
Oakland, CA 94621	Stockton, CA 95202	Secremento, CA 95814
CEPDPmp65@acgiv.org	DACassuiber Epvironmental@sjeda.org	Prop65@sacdn.org
The Honorable Allison Haley	The Honorable Jeffrey S. Rosell	The Honorable Summer Stephan
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1127 First St., Suite C	10 Ocean Street	300 West Broadway
Napa, CA 94559	Sunta Cruz, CA 95060	San Diego, CA 92101
CEPD@countyofnapa.org	PrephsDA@santagenzeounty.us	SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.erg
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Woodland, CA 95695		1200 Third Avenue
eleptia yolocounty.org	Susanyille, CA 96130	San Diego, CA 92101
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Santa Clara County	Assistant District Attorney	Deputy District Attorney
0 W Hedding Street	San Francisco District Attorney's Office	Sauta Barbara County
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Prode and the	San Francisco, CA 94103	Santa Barbora, CA 93101
PU@da.scogov.org	alothun_sargent@afagov.org	DAProp65@co.santa-barbera.ce,us
he Honorable Oregory D. Totten,	The Honorable Barbara Yook	Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney
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00 S Victoria Avenue	891 Mountain Ranch Road	1390 Market Street, 7th Flour
entura, CA 93009	San Andreas, CA 95249	San Francisco, CA 94102
aspecialops@ventura.org	Prop55Env@co.culaverus.cu.us	Valerie Lenez@sfcityarty.org
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lartinez, CA 94553	San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	1200 Aguajito Road
rassini@contracostada oro	ban cuis Obispo, CA 93408	Monterey, CA 93940
te Honorable Thomas Hardy	ziobroth@co.slo.co.us	Prep65DA@co.monterey.ca.us
We County District Attorney	The Requisible Phillip 1. Cline	The Honorable Clifford Newell
S N. Edwards Street	Tulore County District Astorney	Nevada County District Attorney
departments, CA 93526	221 S Mooney Blvd	201 Commercial Street
yoda@myacounty.us	Visalia, CA 95370	Nevada City, CA 95959
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Prop65@leg.tulace.co.us	DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us
ie Honorable Paul E. Zellerbach	The Honorable Stephan Passalacqua	The Honorable David Hollister
verside County District Attorney	Satisma County District Attorney	Plamas County District Attorney
Va Urange Street	600 Administration Drive	520 Main Street, Room, 404
verside, CA 92501	Sonome, CA 95403	Quincy, CA 95971
ug65@rivcoda.org	ibunes@sonome-county.org	davidaollister@sountyofphmas.com
Honorable Walter W Wall	The Honorable Kingherly Lewis	The Honorable Morgan Briggs Gre
ariposa County District Attorney	Misroed County District Attorney	Placer County District Attorney
J. Box 730	550 Wast Main Street	
ariposa, CA 95338	Provide the state of the state	10810 Justice Center Drive
da@muripasacquaty.org	Mercud, CA 95340	Roseville, CA 95678
iva V Friedrich City of g	Prop65@countyounerced.com	prop65@placer.ca.gov
ora V. Frimann, City Attorney	Lisa A. Smitteamp, District Attemey	
O.E. Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor	2100 Tutage Street	
A Jose, CA 96113	Fresno, CA 93721	ł.
oposition65notices@sanjeseca.gov	consumerated ion for esnoughnives, g	ara 1 v

## ELECTRONIC UPLOAD SERVICE LIST

Office of the California Attorney General
Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting
ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator
P.O. Box 70550
Oakland, CA 94612-0550
https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-nextice

## SERVICE LIST

The Honeralite Nancy O'Malley Alanteda County District Attorney	The Honorable Stacey Montgomery Lassen County District Atterney	The Honorable Candice Hooper San Benito County District Attorney	The Honorable Gregg Cohen Tshama County Cistrict Attornsy
1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Dakland, CA 94612	220 South Lassen Street, Ste 8 Susanville, CA 96130	410 din Street Second Floor	444 Oak Street, Room L Red Bluff, CA 96080
The Honorable Terese Orabac	The Honorable Jackie Lacey	The Honorable Michael Plamos	The Honorable Eric Herylord
Alpine County District Attorney	Los Angeles County District Attorney	San Bernardino County District Attorney	Trinity County District Attorney
270 Laramie Street, PO BOX 248 Markleeville, CA 96120	211 West Temple Street, Suite 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012	303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor Sen Bernardino, CA 92415-0502	P.O. Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093
W V		Jan dunialismo, on see 13 door	
The Honorable Todd Riebe Amador County District Attorney	The Honorable David Linn	The Honorable Bonnie Dumanis	The Honorable Tim Ward Tulare County District Altomey
708 Court Street	Madera County District Attorney 209 West Yosemite Avenue	San Diego County District Attorney 330 W. Broadway Street	201 South Mooney Rouleyard, RM 229
Jackson, CA 96642	Madera, CA 98697	San Diego, CA 92101	Vigalia, CA 93291-4593
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Oroville, CA 95965	3501 Civic Center Orive, Room 130 San Raigel, CA 94903	850 Bryent Street, Room 322 San Francisco, CA 94103	Sonora, CA 95970
The Honorable Barbara Yook	The Honorable Thomas Cooke	The Honorable Torl Verber Salazar	The Honerable Gregory Totten
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19) Wountain Ranch Road	5101 Junes Street, P.O. Box 730	222 East Weber Avenue, Room 202	800 South Victoria Avenue
San Andreas, CA 95249 The Hondrable John Poyner	Mariposa, CA 95338	Stockton, CA 95201	Ventura, CA 93009
Colusa County District Attorney	The Honorable C. David Eyster	The Honorable Dan Dow	The Handrable Jelf Reisig Yold County District Altorney
146 Fifth Street	Mendacino County District Attorney 100 North State Street, P.O. Box 1000	San Luis Obispo County District Alty 1035 Palm Street, 4th Floor	301 Second Street
Colusa, CA 95932	Ukiah, CA 95482	San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	Woodland, CA 95695
The Honorable Mark Peterson	The Honorable Larry Morse II	The Honorable Slephen Wagstaffe	The Honorable Patrick McGrath
JOHNA Costa County District Angrosy	Merced County District Attorney	San Mateo County District Altomey	Yuba County District Attorney
900 Ward Street Marlinez, CA 94553	950 W. Main Street	400 County Center, Third Floor	215 Fifth Sirgel
he Honorable Dale Trigg	Werned, CA 95340	Fladwood City, CA 94083	Marysville, CA 95901 The Honorable Mike Feuer
Cal Marte Gaunty Olstrict Attorney	The Honorable Jerdan Funk	The Honorabie Joyce Dudley	Office of the City Attorney, Los Angeles
SU 2 Simar Floom 121	Modec County Clatrict Attorney 204 S. Court Street, Suite 202	Santa Barbara County District Attorney 1112 Santa Barbara Street	800 City Hall East
Crescent City, CA 95531	Alturas, CA 98101	Santa Barbara, CA 93101	200 North Main Street
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UDERCO County Dietrick Attorney	The Honorable Tim Kendall Mono County District Attorney	The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen Santa Clara County District Attorney	Office of the City Attorney, Sacramento
18 Padilic Street	P.O. Box 617	70 West Hedding Street, West Wing	915 I Sireet, 4th Floor
lacerville, CA 9H667	Bridgeport, CA 93517	San Jose, CA 95110	Sagramento, CA 95614
he Handrabla Lisa Smitteamp	The Honorable Osen Flippo	The Honorable Jeff Rosell	The Honovable Jan Goldsmith
resno County District Attorney	Monterey County District Altorney	Santa Cruz County District Attorney	Office of the City Attorney, San Diego
220 Tulano Street, #1000	P.O. Box 1131	701 Ocean Street, Room 200	1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620
he Honorable Owayne Stewart	Salines, CA 93902	Santa Cruz, CA 95860	San Diego, CA 92101 The Honerable Dennis Herrera
Blann County District Attorney	The Honorable Allison Haley	The Honorable Stephen Cariton	Offige of the City Attorney, San
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Villows, CA 95988	Napa, CA 34559	Redding, CA 96001	1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
e King a series		1	San Francisco, CA 94102
he Hongrable Maggin Fleming lumboldt County District Attorney	The Honorable Olliford Newell	The Honorable Lawrence Allen	The Honorable Richard Doyle Office of the City Attorney, San Jose
125 alls Street, Fourth Floor	Nevada County District Attorney	Siena County District Attorney	200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor
Eureka, CA 95501	201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959	100 Courlhouse Square Downieville, CA 95936	San Jese, CA 95113
Tie Wordershife Gillmort Charge	The Honorable Tony Radkauckas	The Handrable James Kirk Andrus	I Cittles of the California Alforney General
mostial Elembe Eletelet Attennes	Orange County District Attorney	Siskiyou County District Attorney	Proposition 66 Enforcement Reporting
140 West Main Streat Suite 109	401 Civic Center Drive West	P.O. Box 986	ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator
El Centro, CA 92243	Santa Ana, CA 92701	Yreka, CA 96097	1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, OA 94612-0550
The Honorable Thomas Hardy	The Honorable R. Soutt Owens	The Hongrable Kilshna Abrams	L Validitis VI (21X13 2443
nyo County District Attorney	Placer County District Atterney	Sglano County Olstrict Altorney	1
O. Urawer D	10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240	675 Texas Street, Sulte 4500	1
ndependence, CA 93526	Roseville, CA 95678	Fairfield, CA 94533	
The Honorable Lisa Green	The Honorable David Hollister	The Honorable JIII Havitoh	
Kem County District Attorney	Plumas County District Attorney	Senoma County District Attorney	<b>4</b>
1215 Truxlun Avenue Bakersileid, CA 93301	520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971	600 Administration Orive, Floom 212J	
the Honorable Kaith Barundas	The Honorable Michael Hestrin	Santa Rosa, CA 95403. The Honorable Sirgit Fladager	
MEGS County Printries Attacant	Riverside County District Attorney	Stanislaus County District Attorney	1
1460 West Lasey Boulevard	3960 Orange Street	832 12th Street, Suite 300	1
Hantord, CA 99230	Riverside, CA 92501	Modesto, CA 95354	
The Honorable Donald Anderson	The Honorable Anne Marle Schubert	The Honorable Amanda Hopper	
and portain winderson			
take County District Attorney		Sutter County District Attorney	1
Lake County District Attorney 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport CA 95453	Sagramento County District Attorney 901 G Street Sagramento CA 95814		1

### APPENDIX A

# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as "Proposition 65"). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. The reader is directed to the statute and OEHHA implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001.1 These implementing regulations are available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html.

## WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The "Proposition 65 List." Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to

All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html.

female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65\_list/Newlist.html.

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before "knowingly and intentionally" exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be "clear and reasonable." This means that the warning must: (1) clearly make known that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

**Prohibition from discharges into drinking water.** A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

### DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Period. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after, the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical.

Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employe a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses "no significant risk." This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific "No Significant Risk Levels" (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at:

http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 et seq. of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the "no observable effect level" divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 et seq. of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant<sup>2</sup> it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a "significant amount" of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a "significant amount" of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A "significant amount" means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the "no significant risk" level for chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the "no observable effect" level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Section 25501(a)(4).

## HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law;
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure
  occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily
  intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form.

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included in Appendix B and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

Revised: May 2017

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.

### APPENDIX B

# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): SPECIAL COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE

This Appendix B contains the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as "Proposition 65"). Under the Act, a private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. These exposures are:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law;
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared
  and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for
  immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was
  not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar
  preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or
  beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

A private party may not file an action against the alleged violator for these exposures, or recover in a settlement any payment in lieu of penalties any reimbursement for costs and attorney's fees, if the alleged violator has done all of the following within 14 days of being served notice:

- Corrected the alleged violation;
- Agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$500 (subject to change in 2019 and every five years thereafter) to the private party within 30 days; and

 Notified the private party serving the notice in writing that the violation has been corrected.

An alleged violator may satisfy these conditions only one time for a violation arising from the same exposure in the same facility or on the same premises. The satisfaction of these conditions does not prevent the Attorney General, a district attorney, a city attorney of a city of greater than 750,000 population, or any full-time city prosecutor with the consent of the district attorney, from filing an enforcement action against an alleged violator.

When a private party sends a notice of alleged violation that alleges one or more of the exposures listed above, the notice must include a notice of special compliance procedure, and a proof of compliance form to be completed by the alleged violator as directed in the notice.

The notice and proof of compliance form is reproduced here:

Date:

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Name of Noticing Party or attorney for Noticing Party:

Address:

Phone number:

## SPECIAL COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE PROOF OF COMPLIANCE

You are receiving this form because the Noticing Party listed above has alleged that you are violating California Health and Safety Code §25249.6 (Prop. 65).

The Noticing Party may <u>not</u> bring any legal proceedings against you for the alleged violation checked below if:

- (1) You have actually taken the corrective steps that you have certified in this form.
- (2) The Noticing Party has received this form at the address shown above, accurately completed by you, postmarked within 14 days of your receiving this notice.
- (3) The Noticing Party receives the required \$500 penalty payment from you at the address shown above postmarked within 30 days of your receiving this notice.
- (4) This is the first time you have submitted a Proof of Compliance for a violation arising from the same exposure in the same facility on the same premises.

# PART 1: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE NOTICING PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR THE NOTICING PARTY

The alleged violation is for an exposure to: (check one)

Alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent on-site consumption is permitted by law.
A chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises for immediate consumption on or off premises to the extent: (1) the chemical was not intentionally added; and (2) the chemical was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination.
Environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises.
Chemicals known to the State to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking noncommercial vehicles.
IMPORTANT NOTES:

(1) You have no potential liability under California Health and Safety Code §25249.6 if your business has nine (9) or fewer employees.

(2) Using this form will NOT prevent the Attorney General, a district attorney, a city attorney, or a prosecutor in whose jurisdiction the violation is alleged to have occurred from filing an action over the same alleged violations, and that in any such action, the amount of civil penalty shall be reduced to reflect any payment made at this time.

Date:

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Name of Noticing Party or attorney for Noticing Party:

Address:

Phone number:

# PART 2: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ALLEGED VIOLATOR OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

<u>Certification of Compliance</u>

Accurate completion of this form will demonstrate that you are now in compliance with California Health and Safety Code §25249.6 for the alleged violation listed above. You must complete and submit the form below to the Noticing Party at the address shown above, postmarked within 14 days of you receiving this notice.

I hereby agree to pay, within 30 days of completion of this notice, a civil penalty of \$500 to the Noticing Party only and certify that I have complied with Health and Safety Code \$25249.6 by (check only one of the following):

[] Posting a warning or warnings about the alleged exposure and attaching a copy of that warning and a photograph accumplacement on my premises; [] Posting the warning or warnings demanded in writing by the attaching a copy of that warning and a photograph accurately my premises; OR [] Eliminating the alleged exposure, and attaching a statement how the alleged exposure has been eliminated.	ately showing its  e Noticing Party, and showing its placement on			
My statements on this form, and on any attachments to it, are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and are made in good faith. I have carefully read the instructions to complete this form. I understand that if I make a false statement on this form, I may be subject to additional penalties under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65).				
Signature of alleged violator or authorized representative	Date			
Name and title of signatory				

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

Revised: May 2017

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.