60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION

OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d) (PROPOSITION 65)

Date: June 25, 2024

To: Gregory Miller, President, The Mill-Rose Company;

California Attorney General's Office;

District Attorney's Office for 58 Counties; and

City Attorneys for San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, Sacramento & Los Angeles

From: Blue Sky Forever

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Blue Sky Forever is a California nonprofit corporation acting in the public interest pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d). Blue Sky Forever seeks to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals in products sold in California and, if possible, to improve human health by eliminating hazardous substances contained in such items, promoting corporate responsibility.

This 60-Day Notice of Violation ("Notice") is being provided to the alleged violator, The Mill-Rose Company ("Notice Recipient"), as well as the California Attorney General's Office, the District Attorney's Offices for 58 Counties, and City Attorneys for San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, Sacramento and Los Angeles.

Blue Sky Forever provides this Notice after identifying violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, codified at California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq. ("Proposition 65"), based on the failure to provide a clear and reasonable health hazard warning in connection with the sale or use of the products, listed below, in the State of California. The Notice Recipient is hereby given notice they violated and continue to violate Proposition 65 with respect to the warning requirement, codified at California's Health & Safety Code § 25249.6: "No 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 a clear and reasonable warning to such individual." \Without proper warnings about the toxic effects of exposures to listed chemicals, citizens in California lack the information necessary to make an informed decision as to whether or how to eliminate or reduce their risk of exposure from the reasonably foreseeable use of products containing listed chemicals.

II. NATURE OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

<u>Product</u>. The specific type or category of products ("Products") that are the subject of this Notice are as follows:

Exemplar Product	Category/Type	Retailer	Manufacturer/Distributor
Blue Monster Advantage ¼ in. X 3-1/2 in. Closet Bolts Model #: 73069 Store SKU: 1007840855	Brass Closet Bolts	The Home Depot homedepot.com	The Mill-Rose Company

Identified above is a specific example of Products recently purchased and witnessed as being available for sale or use in the State of California, within the *category* of offending products

covered by this Notice. The identified retailers, manufacturers and/or distributors of the Products are based on publicly available information.

The Exemplar Product is identified for the Notice Recipient's benefit to assist in its investigation into the alleged violations that are the subject of this Notice. The specific identified Exemplar Product is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all such products potentially in violation of Proposition 65. The Notice Recipient is now obligated to conduct a good faith investigation into other products within the category or of the type, identified above, that were manufactured, imported, sold or distributed for sale, or that have otherwise been in the Notice Recipient's custody or control during the relevant period, identified below, to ensure the requisite health hazard warnings are provided to individuals in California prior to purchase.

<u>Listed Chemical.</u> The chemical that is the subject of this Notice is the heavy metal, Lead. The State of California listed Lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, male reproductive toxicity, and female reproductive toxicity on February 27, 1987, and as a chemical known to cause cancer on October 1, 1992.

Routes of Exposure. The exposures subject to this Notice result from the purchase, acquisition and handling of Products containing Lead. Exposures occur when individuals, including children and women of childbearing age, handle, touch or otherwise utilize brass closet bolts containing Lead in accordance with the Products' reasonably foreseeable and intended uses, resulting in exposures through ingestion and dermal absorption. Individuals ingest Lead when they touch or handle the Products or intermediary objects, transferring the chemical from their fingers or hands to their mouths. Dermal absorption of Lead occurs when individuals handle, touch, or utilize the Products.

<u>Violations and Time Period of Exposure.</u> Blue Sky Forever alleges the Notice Recipient knowingly and intentionally exposed, and continues to knowingly and intentionally expose, individuals within the State of California to Lead, without first giving a health hazard warning regarding the chemical's toxic effects, as required by Proposition 65, by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings to consumers and users that the Products can expose users to Lead.

Exposures caused by the use of the Products have occurred each day since the Products were introduced into the California marketplace, but, at a minimum, since June 25, 2023, and, potentially, as far back as June 25, 2021. Because the Products lack clear and reasonable warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to Lead, each Product sold during this period and not accompanied by a warning constitutes a violation by the Notice Recipient and/or other sellers of the Products, whether sold directly through retailers located in, or with locations in, California, via the internet, or through catalog purchases by customers and individuals located in California. Moreover, these exposures are ongoing and will continue either until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to protect consumers and users or until this known toxic chemical is removed from the Products or reduced to allowable levels.

III. RESOLUTION OF NOTICED CLAIMS

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65, Blue Sky Forever seeks to pursue a constructive resolution of this matter to quickly rectify ongoing violations of California law. To that end, based on the allegations set forth in this Notice and pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d), Blue Sky Forever intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest sixty (60) days after effective service of this Notice, unless the appropriate public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these allegations. If

the Notice Recipient seek to resolve the claims alleged in this Notice without litigation, it may contact Blue Sky Forever's counsel at the address listed below.

It should be noted neither Blue Sky Forever or its counsel can: (1) finalize any settlement until after the expiration of the 60-day Notice period; or (2) speak for the California Attorney General or any District or City attorney in receipt of this Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with Blue Sky Forever will satisfy its claims, the agreement may not satisfy any public prosecutors.

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSITION 65

A copy of a summary of Proposition 65's provisions, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("**OEHHA**") is enclosed with the copy of the Notice served on the Notice Recipient for its reference. For further general information concerning Proposition 65, contact OEHHA's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900.

V. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d) and Cal. Code. Regs. tit 11, § 3100, a Certificate of Merit is attached hereto. A copy of the Notice and Certificate of Merit is served on the California Attorney General and marked "Attorney General Copy: Contains Official Information Pursuant to Evidence Code Section 1040" with all supporting documentation, as required by Cal. Code. Regs. tit 11, § 3102, attached thereto.

VI. CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions, issues or communications regarding this 60-Day Notice of Violation and its potential resolution to Blue Sky Forever's counsel at the following address:

Blue Sky Forever c/o Rebecca Jackson, Esq. Seven Hills LLP 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400 San Francisco, California 94111 Telephone: (415) 926-7247

Email: rebecca@sevenhillsllp.com

Represented private enforcer's contact information:
Anthony Nguyen, CEO
Blue Sky Forever
1142 West Orangethorpe Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92833
Telephone: (657) 253-8731

<u>Attachments:</u> Certificate of Merit; Proof of Service; Appendix A: The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary (to Violator only); and Additional Confidential Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to Attorney General only.)

Printed on 100% Post-Consumer Recycled Paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(d)

Re: Blue Sky Forever's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations

- I, Kimberly Gates Johnson, hereby declare and certify:
- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the party identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code § 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 alleged exposure to and the lack of warnings for the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.
- 4. Based on the information obtained 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 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 California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., 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.

V. yor

Dated: June 25, 2024

Kimberly Gates Johnson

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury:

I am over the age of 18 years of age and not a party to this case. Seven Hills LLP's business address is 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA 94111.

On June 25, 2024, I caused to be served the following:

60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d);

APPENDIX A: THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY; and CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

XXXX by Certified First Class Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing true and correct copies of the above documents in a sealed envelope, individually addressed to each alleged violator listed below and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

Gregory Miller, President The Mill-Rose Company 7995 Tyler Blvd. Mentor, OH 44060 Victor J. Miller, Registered Agent The Mill-Rose Company 7995 Tyler Blvd. Mentor, OH 44060

On June 25, 2024, I caused to be served true and correct copies of the following documents:

60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d); and CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

XXXX by First Class Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing copies of the above documents in a sealed envelope, addressed to each entity on the attached "Service List" and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Representative, with correct postage.

XXXX via Electronic Mail, by sending copies of the above documents, addressed individually, to the Recipients listed on the attached "Electronic Mail Service List".

On June 25, 2024, I caused to be served true and correct copies of the following documents:

60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d);
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; and
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT ATTACHMENTS

XXXX via Electronic Mail, by uploading the documents, addressed to California Attorney General at their website address, listed under the "Electronic Upload Service List".

Executed on the 25th day of June 2024, at Folsom, California.

Wing Yee Mercier

SERVICE LIST

The Honorable Michael Atwell	The Honorable Jackie Lacey	The Honorable Todd Riebe	
Alpine County District Attorney	Los Angeles County District Attorney	Amador County District Attorney	
P.O. Box 248	211 West Temple Street, Ste 1200	708 Court Street, #202	
Markleeville, CA 96120	Los Angeles, CA, 90012	Jackson, CA 95642	
The Honorable Michael Ramsey Butte County District Attorney 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965	The Honorable Matthew R. Beauchamp Colusa County District Attorney 346 5th Street, Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932	Del Norte County District Attorney 450 H street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531	
The Honorable Vern Pierson El Dorado County District Attorney 778 Pacific Street Placerville, CA 95667	The Honorable Gilbert Otero Imperial County District Attorney 940 West Main Street, Suite 102 El Centro, CA 92243	The Honorable Dwayne Stewart Glenn County District Attorney P.O. Box 430 Willows CA 95988	
The Honorable Maggie Fleming	The Honorable Donald Anderson	The Honorable Lisa Green	
Humboldt County District Attorney	Lake County District Attorney	Kern County District Attorney	
825 5th Street, 4th Floor	255 N. Forbes Street	1215 Truxtun Avenue	
Eureka, CA 95501	Lakeport, CA 95453	Bakersfield, CA 93301	
The Honorable Keith Fagundes Kings County District Attorney 1400 West Lacey Blvd. Hanford, CA 93230	The Honorable Mike Feuer Office of the City Attorney, Los Angeles Kames K. Hahn Hall East 200 North Main Street, 8th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012	Sally O. Moreno, District Attorney Madera County Justice Center 300 South G Street, Suite 300 Madera, CA 93637	
The Honorable Jordan Funk	The Honorable Todd Spitzer	The Honorable C. David Eyster	
Modoc County District Attorney	Orange County District Attorney	Mendocino County District Attorney	
204 S. Court Street Room 202	300 North Flower Street	P.O. Box 1000	
Alturas, CA 96101	Santa Ana, CA 92703	Ukiah, CA 9548	
The Honorable Birgit Fladager	The Honorable Candace Hooper	The Honorable Tim Kendall	
Stanislaus County District Attorney	San Benito District Attorney	Mono County District Attorney	
832 12th street, Suite 300	419 4th Street	P.O. Box 2053	
Modesto, CA 95353	Hollister, CA 95023	Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546	
The Honorable Stephen Wagstaffe	The Honorable Michael Ramos	The Honorable Stephanie Bridgett	
San Mateo County District Attorney	San Bernardino County District Attorney	Shasta County District Attorney	
400 County Center, Third Floor	303 W. Third Street	1355 West Street	
Redwood City, CA 94063	San Bernardino, CA 92415	Redding, CA 96001	
The Honorable James Kirk Andrus	The Honorable Krishna Abrams	The Honorable Amanda Hopper	
Siskiyou County District Attorney	Solano County District Attorney	Sutter County District Attorney	
P.O. Box 986	675 Texas Street, Suite 4500	446 Second Street, Suite 102	
Redding, CA 96097	Fairfield, CA 94533	Yuba City, CA 95991	
The Honorable Laura Krieg Tuolumne County District Attorney 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370	The Honorable James Sanchez Office of the City Attorney, Sacramento 915 I Street, 4th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	The Honorable Eric Heryford Trinity County District Attorney P.O. Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093	
The Honorable Lawrence Allen	The Honorable Gregg Cohen	The Honorable Patrick McGrath	
Sierra County District Attorney	Tehama County District Attorney	Yuba County District Attorney	
100 Courthouse Square	P.O. Box 519	215 Fifth street, Suite 152	
Downieville, CA 95936	Red Bluff, CA 96080	Marysville, CA 95901	

ELECTRONIC MAIL SERVICE LIST

The Honorable Nancy O'Malley Alameda County District Attorney 7776 Oakport Street, Suite 650 Oakland, CA 94621 CEPDProp65@acgiv.org	The Honorable Tori Verber Salzar San Joaquin County District Attorney 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95202 DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org	Honorable Anne Marie Schubert Sacramento County District Attorney 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Prop65@sacda.org
The Honorable Allison Haley Napa County District Attorney 1127 First St., Suite C Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org	The Honorable Jeffrey S. Rosell Santa Cruz County District Attorney 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us	The Honorable Summer Stephan San Diego County District Attorney 300 West Broadway San Diego, CA 92101 SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org
The Honorable Jeff W. Reisig Yolo County District Attorney 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org	Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator Lassen County 220 S. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130 mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us	Mark Ankcom, Deputy City Attorney City of San Diego 1200 Third Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 City Atty Prop65@sandiego.gov
Bud Porter Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding Street San Jose, CA 95110 EPU@da.sccgov.org	Alethea M. Sargent Assistant District Attorney San Francisco District Attorney's Office 350 Rhode Island Street San Francisco, CA 94103 alethea.sargent@sfgov.org	Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
The Honorable Gregory D. Totten, Ventura County District Attorney 800 S Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009 daspecialops@ventura.org	The Honorable Barbara Yook Calaveras County District Attorney 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249 Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us	Henry Lifton, Deputy City Attorney Office of the City Attorney 1390 Market Street, 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102 Prop65@sfcityatty.org
Stacey Grassini Deputy District Attorney Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org	Eric J. Dobroth Deputy District Attorney San Luis Obispo County County Govt Center Annex, 4th Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us	Jeannine M. Pacioni Deputy District Attorney Monterey County 1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us
The Honorable Thomas Hardy Inyo County District Attorney 168 N. Edwards Street Independence, CA 93526 inyoda@inyocounty.us	The Honorable Phillip J. Cline Tulare County District Attorney 221 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 95370 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us	The Honorable Clifford Newell Nevada County District Attorney 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959 DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us
The Honorable Paul E. Zellerbach Riverside County District Attorney 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org	The Honorable Stephan Passalacqua Sonoma County District Attorney 600 Administration Drive Sonoma, CA 95403 jbarnes@sonoma-county.org	The Honorable David Hollister Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971 davidhollister@countyofplumas.com
The Honorable Walter W. Wall Mariposa County District Attorney P.O. Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338 mcda@mariposacounty.org	The Honorable Kimberly Lewis Merced County District Attorney 550 West Main Street Merced, CA 95340 Prop65@countyofmerced.com	The Honorable Morgan Briggs Gire Placer County District Attorney 10810 Justice Center Drive Roseville, CA 95678 prop65@placer.ca.gov
Nora V. Frimann, City Attorney 200 E. Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 96113 Proposition65notices@sanjoseca.gov	Lisa A. Smittcamp, District Attorney 2100 Tulare Street Fresno, CA 93721 consumerprotection@fresnocountyca.gov	The Honorable Edward Berberian Marin County District Attorney 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903 consumer@marincounty.org

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-notice