# CLIFFWOOD LAW FIRM, PC

12100 WILSHIRE BLVD, SUITE 800 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90025 (310)200-3227

#### **60-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE**

for violations of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986

July 22, 2024

Current President/CEO Item Beauty, LLC Attn: Legal Dept. 903 Colorado Avenue Santa Monica, CA 90401 Current President/CEO
Amazon.com Services, LLC
% CSC - Lawyers Incorporating Service
2710 Gateway Oaks Drive #150N
Sacramento, CA 95833

Current President/CEO
Item Beauty, LLC
% CSC - Lawyers Incorporating Service
251 Little Falls Drive
Wilmington, DE 19808

Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AGAINST ITEM BEAUTY, LLC, AMAZON.COM SERVICES, LLC, OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6

To Whom It May Concern and to Public Prosecutors:

We represent Initiative for Safer Cosmetics ("IFSC"), an organization in the State of California acting in the interest of the general public. This letter serves as notice that the parties listed above are in violation of Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, commencing with section 25249.5 of the Health and Safety Code ("Proposition 65"). In particular, the violations alleged by this notice consist of types of harm that may potentially result from exposures to the toxic chemical Diethanolamine ("DEA"). This chemical was listed as a carcinogen on June 22, 2012.

The specific type of product that is causing exposures in violation of Proposition 65 is Lengthening Mascara, including but not limited to:

| Product Name                    | Violative Chemical | Violators                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| ITEM Beauty by Addison Rae Lash | Diethanolamine     | Item Beauty, LLC         |
| Snack Clean Lengthening Mascara | (DEA)              | Amazon.com Services, LLC |
| UPC: 810061490456               |                    |                          |

The routes of exposure for the violations include dermal absorption by consumers. These exposures occur through the reasonably foreseeable use of the product. The sales of this product have been occurring since at least May 28, 2024, are continuing to this day and will continue to occur as long as the product subject to this notice is sold to and used by consumers.

Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning is provided with these products regarding the exposures to DEA caused by ordinary use of the product. The Parties are in violation of Proposition

65 by failing to provide such warning to consumers and as a result of the sales of this product, exposures to DEA have been occurring without proper warnings.

Pursuant to Proposition 65, notice and intent to sue shall be provided to violators 60 days before filing a complaint. This letter provides notice of the alleged violation to the parties listed above and the appropriate governmental authorities. A summary of Proposition 65 is attached. IFSC identifies Dekee Yangzom as a responsible individual within the entity; 2934 1/2 Beverly Glen Blvd.,

Suite 46, Los Angeles, CA 90077; 310-892-5658. Ms. Yangzom requests all communications be directed to IFSC's attorneys.

Please direct all communication regarding this notice to IFSC's attorney, Elham Shabatian (ellie@cliffwoodlaw.com), Cliffwood Law Firm PC, 12100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90025, 310-200-3227.

Sincerely,

Elham Shabatian

CLIFFWOOD LAW FIRM, PC

Cc: see attached distribution list

#### Attachments:

- Certificate of Merit; 1.
- 2. Certificate of Service;
- 3. Appendix "A" - "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary" (to the Noticed Parties only);
- 4. Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy); Factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the certificate of merit (only sent to Attorney General)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

Re: Initiative for Safer Cosmetics' (IFSC) Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Item Beauty, LLC, Amazon.com Services, LLC

- I, Elham Shabatian, attorney at law, 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 and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am the 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, and/or other data regarding the alleged exposures to the listed chemical that is the cause of 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: July 22, 2024

By \_\_\_\_\_\_

Elham Shabatian

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

I, Elham Shabatian, am over the age of 18 and am not a party to this case. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My business address is 12100 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90025

On July 22, 2024, I served the following documents:

- 1. 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health and Safety Code section 25249.6
- 2. Certificate of Merit; Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7 (d)
- 3. Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy); Factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the certificate of merit (only sent to Attorney General)
- 4. The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary on the alleged violator (s) listed below via First Class Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the entity listed below and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

| Current President/CEO  | Current President/CEO         | Current President/CEO         |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Item Beauty, LLC       | Item Beauty, LLC              | Amazon.com Services, LLC      |
| Attn: Legal Dept.      | % CSC - Lawyers Incorporating | % CSC - Lawyers Incorporating |
| 903 Colorado Avenue    | Service                       | Service                       |
| Santa Monica, CA 90401 | 251 Little Falls Drive        | 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive #150N |
|                        | Wilmington, DE 19808          | Sacramento, CA 95833          |

as well as by filing electronically a true and correct copy thereof as permitted through the website of the California Office of the Attorney General via link at oag.ca.gov/prop65:

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

Filing link: oag.ca.gov/prop65

Copies of the notice were provided to the public enforcers by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the District Attorney and City Attorney offices the parties listed on the attached Distribution List. The District Attorney and City Attorney offices that have requested electronic service only were served electronically via the email addresses listed on the Distribution List.

I declare under penalty of perjury that under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature

Elham Shabatian

July 22, 2024

# **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

|   | DISTRIBUTION LIST                          |   |
|---|--|---|
| District Attorney Alpine County         | District Attorney Lake County              | District Attorney Sierra County           |
| PO Box 248                              | 255 North Forbes Street                    | PO Box 457                                |
| Markleeville, CA 96120                  | Lakeport, CA 95453                         | Downieville, CA 95936                     |
| District Attorney Amador County         | District Attorney Los Angeles County       | District Attorney's Office Siskiyou       |
| 708 Court Street, Suite 202             | Hall of Justice 211 W. Temple St. Ste 1200 | County Courthouse                         |
| Jackson, CA 95642                       | Los Angeles, CA 90012                      | 311 Fourth Street, Room 204               |
|   |  | Yreka, CA 96097                           |
| District Attorney Butte County          | District Attorney Madera County            | District Attorney Solano County           |
| 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245       | 209 West Yosemite Avenue                   | 675 Texas Street, Ste 4500                |
| Oroville, CA 95965                      | Madera, CA 93637                           | Fairfield, CA 94533                       |
| District Attorney Colusa County         | District Attorney Marin County             | District Attorney Stanislaus County       |
| 310 6th Street                          | 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130          | 832 12th Street, Ste 300                  |
| Colusa, CA 95932                        | San Rafael, CA 94903                       | Modesto, CA 95354                         |
| District Attorney Del Norte County      | District Attorney Mendocino County         | District Attorney Sutter County           |
| 450 H Street, Suite 171                 | PO Box 1000                                | 446 Second Street                         |
| Crescent City, CA 95531                 | Ukiah, CA 95482                            | Yuba City, CA 95991                       |
| District Attorney EL Dorado County      | District Attorney Modoc County             | District Attorney Tehama County           |
| 778 Pacific Street                      | 204 S Court Street, Room 202               | PO Box 519                                |
| Placerville, CA 95667                   | Alturas, CA 96101-4020                     | Red Bluff, CA 96080                       |
| District Attorney Mono County           | District Attorney Orange County            | District Attorney Trinity County          |
| Post Office Box 617                     | 300 N Flower St.                           | Post Office Box 310                       |
| Bridgeport, CA 93517                    | Santa Ana, CA 92703                        | Weaverville, CA 96093                     |
| District Attorney Glenn County          | District Attorney San Benito County        | District Attorney Tuolumne County         |
| Post Office Box 430                     | 419 4th Street                             | 423 North Washington St.                  |
| Willows, CA 95988                       | Hollister, CA 95023                        | Sonora, CA 95370                          |
| District Attorney Humboldt County       | District Attorney San Bernardino County    | District Attorney Yuba County             |
| 825 5th Street 4th Floor                | 316 No. Mountain View Avenue               | 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152               |
| Eureka, CA 95501                        | San Bernardino, CA 92415                   | Marysville, CA 95901                      |
| District Attorney Imperial County       | District Attorney San Mateo County         | Los Angeles City Attorney's Office        |
| 940 West Main Street, Suite 102         | 400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor                 | City Hall East 200 N. Main St., Suite 800 |
| El Centro, CA 92243                     | Redwood City, CA 94063                     | Los Angeles, CA 90012                     |
| District Attorney Kern County           | District Attorney Shasta County            | District Attorney Kings County            |
| 1215 Truxtun Avenue                     | 1355 West Street                           | 1400 West Lacey Blvd.                     |
| Bakersfield, CA 93301                   | Redding, CA 96001                          | Hanford, CA 93230                         |
| Alameda County District Attorney        | Calaveras County District Attorney         | Contra Costa County District Attorney     |
| CEPDProp65@acgov.org                    | Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us               | sgrassini@contracostada.org               |
| Inyo County District Attorney           | Lassen County District Attorney            | Mariposa County District Attorney         |
| inyoda@inyocounty.us                    | mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us                   | mcda@mariposacounty.org                   |
| Merced County District Attorney         | Monterey County District Attorney          | Napa County District Attorney             |
| Prop65@countyofmerced.com               | Pro65DA@co.monterey.ca.us                  | CEPD@countyofnapa.org                     |
| Nevada County District Attorney         | Placer County District Attorney            | Plumas County District Attorney           |
| DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us               | Prop65@placer.ca.gov                       | davidhollister@countyofplumas.com         |
| Riverside County District Attorney      | Sacramento County District Attorney        | San Diego City Attorney                   |
| Prop65@rivcoda.org                      | Prop65@sacda.org                           | CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov               |
| San Diego County District Attorney      | San Francisco County District Attorney     | San Francisco City Attorney               |
| SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org              | alexandra.grayner@sfgov.org                | Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org              |
| San Joaquin County District Attorney DA | San Luis Obispo County District Attorney   | Santa Barbara County District Attorney    |
| DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org      | edobroth@co.slo.ca.us                      | DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us           |
| Santa Clara County District Attorney    | Santa Cruz County District Attorney        | Sonoma County District Attorney           |
| EPU@da.sccgov.org                       | Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us                | jbarnes@sonoma-county.org                 |
| Tulare County District Attorney         | Ventura County District Attorney           | Yolo County District Attorney             |
| Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us                  | daspecialops@veutura.org                   | cfepd@yolocounty.org                      |
| San Jose City Attorney's Office         | District Attorney Fresno                   | District Attorney of Roseville            |
| proposition65notices@sanjoseca.gov      | consumerprotection@fresnocountyca.gov      | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·     |
| propositionosnotices@sanjoseca.gov      | consumerprotection@rresnocountyca.gov      | pwp65@place.ca.gov                        |

#### **APPENDIX A**

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA PROTECTION AGENCY THE SAFE
DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACTION

1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the Lead and Toxic Enforcement Act 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 law. The reader is directed to the statue and its implementing regulations (See citations below) for further information.

Proposition 65 appears in California law as Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13. 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 Regulations, Sections 250000 through 27000.

### WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The "Governor's List" Proposition 65 requires the Governor to publish a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm. This list must be updated at least once a year. Over 725 chemicals have been listed as of November 16, 2001. Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under this law. Businesses that produce, use, release, or otherwise engage in activities involving those 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. 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.

Exposures are exempt from the warning requirement if they occur less than twelve months after the date of the listing of the chemical.

*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. Discharges are exempt from this requirement if they occur less than twenty months after the date of the listing of chemicals.

## DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. The law exempts:

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.

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12100 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 800 ♦ Los Angeles, CA 90025 ♦ ellie@cliffwoodlaw.com

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed as known to the State to cause cancer ("carcinogens"), a warning is not required if the business 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 for more than 250 listed carcinogens.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm ("reproductive toxicants"), a warning is not required if the business 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 (NOEL)," divided by a 1,000-fold safety or uncertainty factor. The "no observable effect level" is the highest dose level which has not been associated with an observable adverse reproductive or developmental effect.

Discharge that does not result in a "significant amount" of the listed chemical entering into 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 list chemical has not, does not, or will not enter any drinking water source, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A "significant amount" means any detectable amount; expect an amount that would meet the " no significant risk" or "no observable effect" test if an individual were exposed to such an amount in drinking water.

#### **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 (those in cities with a population exceeding 750,000). 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. A notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in regulations (Title 27. California Code of Regulations, Section 25903). A private party may not pursue an enforcement action directly under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an action within sixty days of 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 of law to stop committing the violation.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION....

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment=s Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916)445-6900