# SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION

SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)

**DATE:** June 5, 2025

To: Joshua D. Silverman, CEO – Etsy, Inc.

California Attorney General's Office;

District Attorneys and Certain City Attorneys Throughout California

FROM: Jay Epps

My name is Jay Epps. I am a citizen of the State of California acting in furtherance of the public interest. I seek to promote awareness of exposures to certain toxic chemicals in products sold in California and, if possible, to improve human health by reducing hazardous substances contained in such items. This notice is provided to the public agencies listed above pursuant to California Health & Safety Code §25249.6 *et seq.* (Proposition 65). As noted above, this letter is also being provided to the alleged violator, Etsy, Inc. (in its role as an online retailer), which is a person in the course of doing business in California (Violator). The violations covered by this notice consist of the product exposure, routes of exposure and types of harm potentially resulting from exposure to the hazardous substances identified below (listed chemical), as follows:

Products: Artist Paste Paints

Listed Chemical: Cadmium

Routes of Exposure: Inhalation, Ingestion and Dermal Types of Harm: Developmental; Male Reproductive

Products: Artist Paste Paints

Listed Chemicals: Cadmium and Cadmium Compounds
Routes of Exposure: Inhalation, Ingestion and Dermal

Types of Harm: Cancer

## I. NATURE OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS (CONSUMER PRODUCT EXPOSURE)

The specific products that are causing consumer exposures and potentially occupational exposures, in violation of Proposition 65, and that are covered by this letter shall be referred to hereinafter as the "Products." Exposures to cadmium and cadmium compounds (listed chemical or cadmium) from the use of the Products have been occurring without the "clear and reasonable warning" required by Proposition 65, dating as far back as June 5, 2021. Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to the listed chemical resulting from the use of the Products, California citizens lack the information necessary to make informed decisions on whether and how to eliminate (or reduce) the risk of exposure to the listed chemical from a reasonably foreseeable use of the Products.

California citizens, through the act of buying, acquiring, receiving and/or utilizing the Products, are exposed to the listed chemical. By way of example, consumers and other individuals, including men,

ingest the listed chemical when they, during as well as after use, touch the Products and transfer the listed chemical from their fingers to their mouths through hand-to-mouth activities. Further, a reasonably foreseeable use of the Products results in cadmium exposure through the pathway of inhalation which may continue to occur for a significant period of time after contact with the Product ceases.

Additionally, consumers, workers and other individuals are exposed to the listed chemical through: (a) direct dermal contact when they, among other activities, touch the paste paint; as well as (b) direct ingestion when the paste paint touches their mouth directly.

The California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions with regard to occupational exposures on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers, by which the Products are branded (e.g., manufacturer's name appears on Product label), occurring outside the State of California so long as the named manufacturer is in the United States. The approval also provides that a United States employer may use the means of compliance in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement be subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Any settlement, civil complaint or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the state Attorney General. It is important to note that the sale of the Products through online transactions must provide the customer with a clear and reasonable warning for the risk of cancer and reproductive toxicity pursuant to Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations, even if the Violator's role is limited that of an online retail seller.

### II. <u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u>

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to me through my counsel's office at the following address, email and/or telephone number:<sup>1</sup>

Jay Epps c/o Clifford A. Chanler Chanler, LLC 72 Huckleberry Hill Road New Canaan, CT 06840-3801 Telephone: (203) 722-4514 clifford@chanlerllc.com Jay Epps c/o Steven Y. Chen Steven Y. Chen, APLC 2650 River Avenue, Unit A Rosemead, California 91770 Telephone: (626) 782-5017 schen@schenlaw.com

#### III. PROPOSITION 65 INFORMATION

Etsy.CD.Paints.060525

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Should your attempt to contact me through my counsel be unsuccessful, I can be reached by mail at 1010 Liberty Drive, Suisun, CA 94585, or by phone at (415) 849-6181.

For general information concerning the provisions of Proposition 65, please feel free to contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's (OEHHA) Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900. For the Violator's reference, I have attached a copy of "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary" which has been prepared by OEHHA.

### IV. POTENTIAL RESOLUTION OF NOTICED CLAIMS

Based on the assertions set forth in this notice, I intend to file a citizen enforcement action against the Violator unless it enters into a binding written agreement (and/or upstream parties enter into an agreement) to: (a) recall Products already sold; (b) provide "clear and reasonable warnings" for Products to be sold online in the future or, preferably, undertake best efforts to ensure upstream selling entities in the chain of commerce reformulate such Products to eliminate the cadmium content in the Products; or delist the offending Products from the Violator's website; and (c) pay an appropriate civil fine, if any, based on the factors enumerated in California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(b). If the alleged Violator is particularly interested in resolving this dispute without resorting to litigation, please feel free to contact my counsel identified in Section II above. It should be noted that neither my counsel nor I can finalize any settlement with any Violator until after the statutory sixty-day notice period has expired for the covered Products; nor speak for the state Attorney General, any state district attorney or the city attorneys whom received this notice.

### V. ADDITIONAL NOTICE INFORMATION

Examples of the Products that were recently purchased by California consumers and remain available for purchase or use in California are identified on Exhibit A. I allege that the sale of the offending Products has also occurred without the requisite Proposition 65 "clear and reasonable warning," as far back as June 5, 2021.

The examples on the attachment are for the recipients' benefit to assist in its investigation of, among other things, the magnitude of potential exposures to the listed chemical from other items within the product category at issue. To reiterate, the exemplars noted on Exhibit A are <u>not</u> meant to be a list of each offending Product within the specific type of artist paste paints.

The alleged Violator is obligated to conduct a good faith investigation into Products in addition to the exemplars that were offered for sale especially since the notice recipient has had actual or constructive notice of the cadmium content, since June 5, 2021, to determine whether a clear and reasonable warning was provided for the applicable toxic endpoints. The requisite warning shall be provided on the product display pages prior to each Product purchased by a California citizen (or purchases made by non-California residents, but shipped to an address in California). Further, such investigation should also ensure that all online offering pages for the Products going forward contain the requisite conspicuous placement of, and clear language for, the risk of cancer and reproductive toxicity associated with exposure to the listed chemical.

# **EXHIBIT A**

Products	Listing ID
Grumbacher Pre Tested Artist Permanant Oil Colors, Vintage 37 ml Tubes in Original Plastic Cases - Cadmium Orange	1656769015
Ferrario Designer Gouache Tiepolo 20ml - Cadmium Red Deep #13	717346716
Ferrario Designer Gouache Tiepolo 20ml - Cadmium Yellow Deep4	717346716
Ferrario Designer Gouache Tiepolo 20ml - Cadmium Red Light #12	717346716
Ferrario Designer Gouache Tiepolo 20ml - Cadmium Yellow Lit#3	717346716
Ferrario Idroil Professional Artist Quality Water-soluble Oil Colours - 60ml Tube - Cadmium Red Light #9	596521606
Ferrario Idroil Professional Artist Quality Water-soluble Oil Colours - 60ml Tube - Cadmium Yellow Med#7	596521606

### PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury:

I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My business address is 2650 River Avenue, Unit A, Rosemead, CA 91770.

On June 5, 2025, I caused to be served the following documents:

SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d); CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; AND THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

XXXX By Personal Service by causing true and correct copies of the above documents to be personally delivered to each alleged violator, their agents or to the party or person authorized to receive the above documents for the alleged violator listed below.

Joshua D. Silverman, CEO Etsy, Inc. c/o United Agent Group Inc. 7801 Folsom Boulevard, #202 Sacramento, CA 95826

On June 5, 2025, I caused to be served the following documents:

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

XXXX By Electronic Mail by sending true and correct copies of the above documents to the electronic notification addresses on the attached "Email Service List."

On June 5, 2025, I caused to be served the following documents:

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

XXXX By Electronic Upload by causing true and correct copies of the above documents to be uploaded to the California Attorney General's website at the web address on the attached "Electronic Upload Service List."

Executed on June 5, 2025, in Rosemead, California.

Steven Chen

Etsy.CD.Paints.060525 5

### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d)

### I, Clifford A. Chanler, hereby declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the party identified in the notice has violated Health and Safety Code §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 has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the alleged exposure to the listed chemical that are the subject of this action and/or the listed chemical in substantially similar products and exposes individuals through the same potential routes;
- 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 plaintiff's 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 under Health and Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2) including (i) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (ii) certain facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: June 5, 2025

Clifford A. Chanler

# **EMAIL SERVICE LIST**

The Honorable Todd Riebe Amador County District Attorney 708 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642 amadorda@amadorgov.org

The Honorable Michael Ramsey Butte County District Attorney 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965 DA@ButteCounty.net

Devin Chandler, Program Coordinator 2950 Riverside Drive Susanville, CA 96130 Phone: 530-251-8284 dchandler@co.lassen.ca.us

The Honorable David Hollister Plumas County District Attorney 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971 davidhollister@countyofplumas.com

The Honorable Lisa A. Smittcamp Fresno County District Attorney 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721 consumerprotection@fresnocountyca.gov

The Honorable Maggie Fleming Humboldt County District Attorney 825 5th Street, Fourth Floor Eureka, CA 95501 districtattorney@co.humboldt.ca.us

The Honorable Pamela Y. Price Alameda County 7776 Oakport Street, Suite 650 Oakland, CA 94621 CEPDProp65@acgov.org

The Honorable Allison Haley Napa County 1127 First Street, Suite C Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org

The Honorable Phillip J. Cline Tulare County District Attorney 221 South Mooney Boulevard Visalia, CA 93291-4593 Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

The Honorable Tori Verber Salazar San Joaquin County District Attorney P.O. Box 990 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95201 DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org

The Honorable Clifford H. Newell Nevada County District Attorney 201 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959 DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us

The Honorable Summer Stephan San Diego County District Attorney 330 West Broadway Street San Diego, CA 92101 SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org The Honorable Donna Daly Trinity County District Attorney P.O. Box 310 11 Court Street Weaverville, CA 96093 trinityjournal@dcacable.net

The Honorable Sally O. Moreno Madera County District Attorney 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637 Sally.Moreno@co.madera.ca.gov

The Honorable Thomas L. Hardy Inyo County District Attorney P.O. Box Drawer D Independence, CA 93526 inyoda@inyocounty.us

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The Honorable C. David Eyster Mendocino County District Attorney 100 North State Street, Room G-10 P.O. Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482 enviroh@mendocinocounty.org

The Honorable Kimberly Lewis Merced County District Attorney 550 West Main Street Merced, CA 95340 Prop65@countvofmerced.com

The Honorable Samuel D. Kyllo Modoc County District Attorney 204 South Court Street, Suite 202 Alturas, CA 96101 da@co.modoc.ca.us

The Honorable Tim Kendall Mono County District Attorney 278 Main Street P.O. Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517 districtattorney@mono.ca.gov

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The Honorable Jill R. Ravitch Sonoma County District Attorney 600 Administration Drive Sonoma, CA 95403 ECLD@sonoma-county.org

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James Clinchard, Assistant DA County of El Dorado 778 Pacific Street Placerville, CA 95667 EDCDAPROP65@edcda.us The Honorable Jeff W. Reisig Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.gov

The Honorable Jason Anderson San Bernardino County District Attorney 303 West 3rd Street, 6th Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0502 da@sbcda.org

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The Honorable Laura L. Krieg Tuolumne County District Attorney 423 North Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370 da@tuolumnecounty.ca.gov

Stacey Grassini, Deputy DA Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553 sgrassini@contracostada.org

The Honorable Susan J. Krones Lake County District Attorney 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453 Susan.Krones@lakecountyca.gov

The Honorable Jeffrey S. Rosell Santa Cruz County District Attorney 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

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The Honorable Krishna A. Abrams Solano County District Attorney 675 Texas Street, Suite 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533 SolanoDA@solanocounty.com

# **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