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October 9, 2025

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Current President or CEO SF Markets, LLC, Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc., and Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC 5455 E High Street, Suite 111 Phoenix, AZ 85054

Corporation Service Company (Registered Agent for SF Markets, LLC) 7955 S Priest Dr, Ste 102 Tempe, AZ 85284

CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service (Registered Agent for SF Markets, LLC) 2710 Gateway Oaks Dr, Ste 150N Sacramento, CA 95833

Corporation Service Company (Registered Agent for Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC and Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.) 251 Little Falls Dr Wilmington, DE 19808

Corporation Service Company (Entity Principal Office Address for SF Markets, LLC) 2711 Centerville Rd, Ste 400 Wilmington, DE 19808)

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Royl Roberts, Interim District Attorney Alameda County 7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650 Oakland, CA 94621 CEPDProp65@acgov.org

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Summer Stephan, District Attorney San Diego County 330 West Broadway San Diego, CA 92101 SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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Bud Porter, Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 EPU@da.sccgov.org

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org

VIA ONLINE SUBMISSION

Office of the California Attorney General

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

District Attorneys of Select California Counties and Select City Attorneys (See Attached Certificate of Service)

Re: Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq.

Dear Addressees:

I represent the Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC") in connection with this Notice of Violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, which is codified at California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 *et seq.* and also referred to as Proposition 65.

ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

The names of the Companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the "Violators") are:

SF Markets, LLC Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc. Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC

The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemicals in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

- 1. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Coconut Chocolate Almond Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 2. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Chocolate Fudge Brownie Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 3. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Chocolate Mint Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 4. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Vanilla Almond Crunch Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 5. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 6. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Chocolate Caramel Pecan Plant-Based Protein Lead, Cadmium
- 7. Aloha Limited Edition Organic Protein Bar Maple Sea Salt Plant-Based Protein Lead, Cadmium
- 8. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Chocolate Espresso Plant-Based Protein Lead, Cadmium
- 9. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Lemon Cashew Plant-Based Protein Lead

- 10. Aloha Limited Edition Organic Protein Bar Peppermint White Chocolate Plant-Based Protein - Lead
- 11. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Peanut Butter Cup Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 12. Aloha Limited Edition Organic Protein Bar Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 13. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Almond Butter Cup Plant-Based Protein Lead
- 14. Aloha Organic Protein Bar Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Plant-Based Protein Lead, Cadmium, Mercury

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

Cadmium was officially listed as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity and male reproductive toxicity on May 1, 1997, while cadmium and cadmium compounds were listed as chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1987.

On July 1, 1990, the State of California officially listed mercury and mercury compounds as chemicals known to cause developmental toxicity and male and female reproductive toxicity.

This letter is a notice to the Violators and the appropriate governmental authorities of the Proposition 65 violations concerning the listed products. This notice covers all violations of Proposition 65 involving the Violators currently known to ERC from the information now available. ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations. A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with the copy of this letter to the Violators.

The Violators have manufactured, marketed, distributed, and/or sold the listed products, which have exposed and continue to expose numerous individuals within California to the identified chemicals, lead, cadmium, and mercury. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products by consumers. The route of exposure to lead, cadmium, and mercury has been through ingestion. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to lead, cadmium, and mercury. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product's label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide an appropriate warning to persons ingesting these products that they are being exposed to lead, cadmium, and mercury. Each of these ongoing violations has occurred on every day since October 9, 2022, as well as every day since the products were introduced in the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (2) pay an

appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above products in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals, as well as expensive and time-consuming litigation.

ERC's Executive Director is Chris Heptinstall, and is located at 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92108; Tel. 619-500-3090. ERC has retained me in connection with this matter. We suggest that communications regarding this Notice of Violations should be directed to my attention at the above listed law office address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

Rick Franco

Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to SF Markets, LLC, Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc., and Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC and their Registered Agents for Service of Process only) Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7 (d)

Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by SF Markets, LLC, Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc., and Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC

- I, Rick Franco, declare:
- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices 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, Environmental Research Center.
- 3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the alleged exposure to the listed chemicals that are the subject of the action.
- 4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violators 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: October 9, 2025

Rick Franco

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On October 9, 2025, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY" on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO SF Markets, LLC, Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc., and Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC 5455 E High Street, Suite 111 Phoenix, AZ 85054

Corporation Service Company (Registered Agent for SF Markets, LLC) 7955 S Priest Dr, Ste 102 Tempe, AZ 85284

CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service (Registered Agent for SF Markets, LLC) 2710 Gateway Oaks Dr, Ste 150N Sacramento, CA 95833 Corporation Service Company (Registered Agent for Sprouts Farmers Markets Holdings, LLC and Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.) 251 Little Falls Dr Wilmington, DE 19808

Corporation Service Company (Entity Principal Office Address for SF Markets, LLC) 2711 Centerville Rd, Ste 400 Wilmington, DE 19808)

On October 9, 2025, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1) were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General's website, which can be accessed at https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice:

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On October 9, 2025 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Royl Roberts, Interim District Attorney Alameda County 7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650 Oakland, CA 94621 CEPDProp65@acgov.org Barbara Yook, District Attorney Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249 Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us

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

James Clinchard, Assistant District Attorney El Dorado County 778 Pacific Street Placerville, CA 95667 EDCDAPROP65@edcda.us

Lisa A. Smittcamp, District Attorney Fresno County 2100 Tulare Street Fresno, CA 93721 consumerprotection@fresnocountyca.gov

Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney Inyo County 168 North Edwards Street Independence, CA 93526 inyoda@inyocounty.us

Devin Chandler, Program Coordinator Lassen County 2950 Riverside Dr Susanville, CA 96130 dchandler@co.lassen.ca.us

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Kimberly Lewis, District Attorney Merced County 550 West Main St Merced, CA 95340 Prop65@countyofmerced.com

Jeannine M. Pacioni, District Attorney Monterey County 1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940 Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us Allison Haley, District Attorney Napa County 1127 First Street, Ste C Napa, CA 94559 CEPD@countyofnapa.org

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

Todd Spitzer, District Attorney Orange County 300 N Flower St Santa Ana, CA 92703 Prop65notice@ocdapa.org

Morgan Briggs Gire, District Attorney Placer County 10810 Justice Center Drive Roseville, CA 95678 Prop65@placer.ca.gov

David Hollister, District Attorney Plumas County 520 Main St Quincy, CA 95971 davidhollister@countyofplumas.com

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney Riverside County 3072 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501 Prop65@rivcoda.org

Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney Sacramento County 901 G Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Prop65@sacda.org

Summer Stephan, District Attorney San Diego County 330 West Broadway San Diego, CA 92101 SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org

Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney San Diego City Attorney 1200 Third Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov

Alexandra Grayner, Assistant District Attorney San Francisco District Attorney's Office 350 Rhode Island Street San Francisco, CA 94103 Alexandra.grayner@sfgov.org

Henry Lifton, Deputy City Attorney San Francisco City Attorney 1390 Market Street, 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102 Prop65@sfcityatty.org

Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202 Stockton, CA 95202 DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org

Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney San Luis Obispo County County Government Center Annex, 4th Floor San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 edobroth@co.slo.ca.us

Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Bud Porter, Supervising Deputy District Attorney Santa Clara County 70 W Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110 EPU@da.sccgov.org Nora V. Frimann, City Attorney Santa Clara City Attorney 200 E. SantaClara Street, 16th Floor San Jose, CA 96113 Proposition65notices@sanjoseca.gov

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

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Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 cfepd@yolocounty.org

On October 9, 2025, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties **on the Service List attached hereto**, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on October 9, 2025, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Debra Wright

Page 11

Service List

District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 17300 Hwy 89 Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street, Suite 202 Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm District\ Attorney,\ Colusa} \\ {\rm County} \\ {\rm 310\ 6^{th}\ St} \end{array}$

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County 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

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1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301 District Attorney, Kings

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