



Environmental Research Center
3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108
619-500-3090

April 15, 2026

**NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF
CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 ET SEQ.
(PROPOSITION 65)**

Dear Alleged Violator and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I represent Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”). 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.

ERC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violator identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violator and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

General Information about Proposition 65. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violator identified below.

Alleged Violator. The name of the company covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violator”) is:

Performance Nutrition Formulators, LLC, individually and dba VMI Sports

Consumer Products and Listed Chemicals. The specific types of products causing the violations are dietary and/or nutritional protein powders and which contain lead and/or perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (“Products”). Exemplars of the Products that are the subject of this notice and the specific chemicals in those Products identified as exceeding allowable levels include but are not limited to:

1. **VMI Sports Greens + Reds Dragon Fruit Naturally Flavored - Lead**
2. **VMI Sports Natural Protolyte Electrolytes + Enzymes Plant Protein Chocolate Peanut Butter Natural Flavors - Lead**
3. **VMI Sports Natural Protolyte Electrolytes + Enzymes Plant Protein Vanilla Peanut Butter Natural Flavors - Lead**
4. **VMI Sports Greens + Reds Peach Iced Tea Naturally Flavored - Lead**
5. **VMI Natural Protolyte Electrolytes + Enzymes Plant Protein Vanilla Cake Batter Natural Flavors – Lead, Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)**
6. **VMI Natural Protolyte Electrolytes + Enzymes Plant Protein Chocolate Fudge Cookie Natural Flavors - Lead**
7. **VMI Sports Major Mass Lean Mass Gainer Apple Pie a la Mode Natural Flavors - Lead**
8. **VMI Sports Major Mass Lean Mass Gainer Marshmallow Charms Natural Flavors - Lead**
9. **VMI Sports Major Mass Lean Mass Gainer Chocolate Milkshake Natural Flavors - Lead**

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.

On November 10, 2017, the State of California officially listed Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity. On February 25, 2022, the State of California officially listed Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) as a chemical known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

Route of Exposure. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to these chemicals has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least April 15, 2023, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until these known toxic chemicals are either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemicals. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violator violated Proposition 65 because it failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to these chemicals.

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

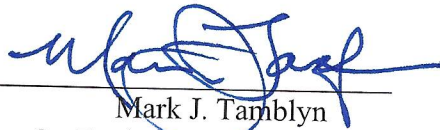
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constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violator to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals, or provide appropriate warnings on the 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 as legal counsel in connection with this matter. **Please direct all communications regarding this Notice of Violation to my attention at the office address and telephone number indicated on the letterhead or at mjtamblyn@gmail.com** or Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director of ERC, or Charles Poss, In-House Counsel for ERC, at charles.poss@erc501c3.org.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Tamblyn

Attorney for Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Performance Nutrition Formulators, LLC, individually and dba

VMI Sports and its 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 Performance Nutrition Formulators, LLC, individually and dba VMI Sports

I, Mark J. Tamblyn, hereby 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.

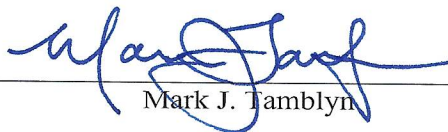
2. I am the attorney for the noticing party, Environmental Research Center.

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 chemical that is 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 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: April 15, 2026


Mark J. Tamblyn

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 April 15, 2026, 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:

Frank Fenimore Jr., Chief Executive Officer
or Current President or CEO
Performance Nutrition Formulators, LLC, individually
and dba VMI Sports
285 Robbins Lane
Syosset, NY 11791

Jennifer Stephens
(Registered Agent for Performance Nutrition
Formulators, LLC, individually and dba VMI Sports)
3838 Oak Lawn Avenue, Ste 510
Dallas, TX 75219

The LLC
(Registered Agent for Performance Nutrition
Formulators, LLC, individually and dba VMI Sports)
3838 Oak Lawn Avenue, Ste 510
Dallas, TX 75219

On April 15, 2026, 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
Post Office Box 70550
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On April 15, 2026, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, 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:

Ursula Jones Dickson, District Attorney
Alameda County
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650
Oakland, CA 94621
CEPDProp65@acgov.org

Robert K. Priscaro, District Attorney
Alpine County
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Markleville, CA 96120
prop65enf@alpinecountyca.gov

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

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550 West Main St
Merced, CA 95340
Prop65@countyofmerced.com

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Monterey, CA 93940
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

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Nevada City, CA 95959
DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us

Todd Spitzer, District Attorney
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Santa Ana, CA 92703
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Morgan Briggs Gire, District Attorney
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10810 Justice Center Drive
Roseville, CA 95678
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David Hollister, District Attorney
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520 Main St
Quincy, CA 95971
davidhollister@countyofplumas.com

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney
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3072 Orange Street
Riverside, CA 92501
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Summer Stephan, District Attorney
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Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

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Mark Ankorn, Deputy City Attorney
San Diego City Attorney
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CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov

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San Francisco District Attorney's Office
350 Rhode Island Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Prop65@sfgov.org

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Santa Rosa CA 95403
ECLD@sonoma-county.org

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

Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney
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800 S Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA 93009
daspecialops@ventura.org

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

On April 15, 2026, 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 April 15, 2026, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.


Morgan Ralis

Service List

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

District Attorney, Colusa
County
310 6th St
Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Del Norte
County
450 H Street, Room 171
Crescent City, CA 95531

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

District Attorney, Humboldt
County
825 5th Street 4th Floor
Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial
County
940 West Main Street, Ste 102
El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Kern County
1215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings
County
1400 West Lacey Boulevard
Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County
255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Los Angeles
County
Hall of Justice
211 West Temple St., Ste 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney, Madera
County
300 South G Street, Ste 300
Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney, Mendocino
County
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Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Modoc
County
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Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono
County
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Bridgeport, CA 93517

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County
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Hollister, CA 95023

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Bernardino County
303 West Third Street
San Bernadino, CA 92415

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Redwood City, CA 94063

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Redding, CA 96001

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Modesto, CA 95354

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District Attorney, Trinity
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Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba
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Marysville, CA 95901

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City Hall East
200 N. Main Street, Suite 800
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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915 I Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814