1 2 3 4	LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL FREUND Michael B. Freund (State Bar No. 99687) Ryan Hoffman (State Bar No. 283297) 1919 Addison Street, Suite 105 Berkeley, CA 94704 Tel: (510) 540-1992 Fax: (510) 540-5543 Email: freund1@aol.com	
6 7	Attorneys for Plaintiff ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER	
8 9 10 11 12 13	JOSHUA A. BLOOM (CBN 183358) BARG COFFIN LEWIS & TRAPP, LLP 350 California Street, 22nd Floor San Francisco, CA 94104-1435 Ph: (415) 228-5406 Fax: (415) 228-5450 Email: jab@bcltlaw.com Attorney for Defendant	
14 15	JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba MAX I	
16	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
18	ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, )	Case No. RG13700044
20 21 22	a non-profit California corporation,  Plaintiff,  v.  JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba MAX	[PROPOSED] STIPULATED CONSENT JUDGMENT
23	MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION, a California) corporation,	Dept:
25 26	Defendant.	
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### 1. INTRODUCTION

- A. ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER ("ERC" or "Plaintiff") is a citizen enforcer of California Health and Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq. ("Proposition 65") and is a non-profit corporation organized under California's Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation Law.
- B. JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. is a California Corporation that does business as (dba) MAX MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION, and they are referred to collectively hereinafter as "Wells" or "Defendant". "Parties" means ERC and Wells only. ERC and Wells are referred to individually as "Party".
- C. The name of the Products covered under this Consent Judgment are set forth in **Exhibit A**, attached hereto ("Covered Products").
- D. On February 27, 1987, the State of California listed the chemical lead as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code § 25249.8.
- E. On October 1, 1992, the State of California listed the chemicals lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code § 25249.8.
- F. ERC alleges that the Covered Products have been sold by Defendant in California since October 26, 2009.
- G. On October 26, 2012 ERC served Defendant and public enforcement agencies with a document entitled "60-Day Notice" that provided Defendant and the public enforcement agencies with notice alleging that Defendant was in violation of Proposition 65 for failing to warn purchasers and individuals using the Covered Products that such use exposes them to lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity ("Proposition 65 Notice"). A copy of the Proposition 65 Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- H. Concurrent with the filing of this Consent Judgment, ERC has filed a Complaint against Defendant in the Alameda County Superior Court (the "Action"), alleging violations of Proposition 65, based on the Proposition 65 Notice. The Action is brought by ERC in the public

 interest at least sixty (60) days after ERC provided notice of the alleged Proposition 65 violations to Defendant and the public enforcement agencies and none of the public enforcement agencies had commenced and/or begun diligently prosecuting an action against Defendant for such violations.

- I. This Consent Judgment shall have no application to Covered Products which are manufactured, distributed or sold by Defendant exclusively outside of the State of California.
- J. Defendant denies the material, factual and legal allegations contained in Plaintiff's Complaint and maintains that all Covered Products that the company sold and distributed in California have been and are in compliance with all laws, including Proposition 65. The Parties enter into this Consent Judgment pursuant to a settlement of disputed claims between them as alleged in the Complaint for the purposes of avoiding prolonged and costly litigation. By execution of this Consent Judgment, Defendant does not admit any facts or conclusions of law suggesting or demonstrating any violations or the applicability of Proposition 65, or any other statutory, common law or equitable requirements relating to the Covered Products. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Defendant or Plaintiff of any fact, issue of law, or violation of law, nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by Defendant or Plaintiff of any fact, issue of law, or violation of law.
- K. Except as expressly provided herein, nothing in this Consent Judgment shall prejudice, waive or impair any right, remedy or defense the Parties may have in any other or further legal proceeding. This paragraph shall not diminish or otherwise affect the obligations, responsibilities, and duties of any Party to this Consent Judgment; and,
- L. The "Effective Date" of this Consent Judgment shall be the date upon which this Consent Judgment is entered by the Court.

## 2. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has

jurisdiction over Defendant as to the allegations contained in the Complaint, that venue is proper in the County of Alameda, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter and enforce the provisions of this Consent Judgment.

### 3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

## 3.1 Warnings

On and after the Effective Date of this Consent Judgment, Defendant shall be permanently enjoined from distributing into the State of California, manufacturing for sale in California, or directly selling in the State of California any Covered Product for which the maximum dose recommended on the label contains more than 0.5 micrograms (mcg) of lead, as calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in Section 3.5, unless Defendant complies with the required warning methods set forth in Section 3.2 and Section 3.4 below. In addition to using the required warning methods in Section 3.3 and Section 3.4, Defendant may also warn by using the optional warning method in Section 3.2. The term "Distributing into California" means to ship any of the Covered Products into California for sale in California or to sell or provide any of the Covered Products to any person or entity Defendant knows intends to or will ship any of the Covered Products into or sell the Covered Products in California.

### 3.2 Warning Method No. 1 (On-Product Warning)

Defendant shall, at the point of manufacture, prior to shipment to California, or prior to distribution within California, permanently affix to or print on the Covered Product container, cap, label, or unit package (in the form intended for sale to the end user) the following warning:

WARNING: This product contains [lead,] a chemical known to the State of California to cause [cancer and] birth defects or other reproductive harm.

The words "cancer and" shall be included in the warning only if the maximum recommended dose stated on the Covered Product's label contains in excess of 15 micrograms (mcg) of lead as calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in Section 3.5 below. Inclusion of the word "lead" is optional. The warning above shall be prominently affixed to or printed on the labeling

 of each Covered Product intended for sale to a purchaser in the State of California, with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices on the labeling as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use. The warning shall not exceed the language specified in Section 3.2 and the warning label shall not be accompanied, on the Covered Product or packaging, by any explanation of Proposition 65, lead, or the "naturally occurring" exemption. The warning shall be at least the same size as the largest of any other health or safety warnings on the container or labeling, and the word "WARNING" shall be in all capital letters and in bold print. The warning shall be contained in the same section of the labeling that states other safety warnings concerning the use of the Covered Product.

## 3.3 Warning Method No. 2 (Store Warning)

3.3.1 Warning Signs in Retail Stores in California. In any "Max Muscle" retail store located in California that offers any of the Covered Products for sale, there shall be displayed one or more warning signs ("Warning Signs").

3.3.3.1 Description of Warning Signs. The Warning Signs, as shown in Exhibit C, shall be rectangular in shape, be at least 8 ½ inches wide by 11 inches high in size with margins of at least ½ inch and no more than 1 inch at all edges, have a white background, and show the warning message and list of Covered Products in black letters. Larger Warning Signs shall bear substantially the same proportions of type size and spacing as compared to Warning Signs with dimensions of 8 ½ inches by 11 inches. The warning message shall consist of the words "CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65 WARNING" in a heading at the top of the Warning Signs in all capital letters, followed by the words "The Products listed below contain chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information regarding Proposition 65, visit <a href="http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65.html">http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65.html</a>." Below the statement set forth above, Defendant shall name each Covered Product in a bullet-point list. To the extent Proposition 65 warnings are required with respect to Defendant's products, in addition to the Covered Products, in Max

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Muscle retail stores, the retail store warning signs may include reference to those products as well, provided that in any event each Covered Products is expressly and individually identified in a clear and conspicuous manner.

3.3.3.2 Placement of Warning Signs. The Warning Signs shall not be covered or obscured; they shall be displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other labeling or display, in a manner rendering them likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase or use, prior to purchase. At least one of the Warning Signs shall be posted either i) in each aisle, shelf, or display where any of the Covered Products are displayed for sale; or ii) next to the cash register or line for the cash register.

3.3.3.3 Information and Signs Provided to Retailers and Distributors. Defendant (or its agent) shall provide signs to all Max Muscle franchise retail locations in California. Defendant shall provide signs and instructions by letter ("Warning Instruction Letter," Exhibit D) to each distributor or retailer that offers any of the Covered Products for sale in California Max Muscle retail stores, requiring such retailers to post the Warning Signs as described in Section 3.3.3.2 above. The Warning Instruction Letter shall request such retailers to respond with a written acknowledgement that the Warning Signs will be posted within 30 days as indicated in the Warning Instruction Letter. A follow up communication ("Follow-Up Warning Instruction Letter," Exhibit E) shall be sent to such retailers who were provided with a Warning Instruction Letter and did not return a timely acknowledgement. The Warning Signs, Warning Instruction Letters, and Follow-Up Warning Instruction Letters shall be delivered in person or via a shipping method that is traceable to ensure such retailers receive the information. Defendant shall maintain files demonstrating compliance with this provision, including the communications provided to and acknowledgments received from such retailers, which Defendant shall provide to ERC within 60 days of the Effective Date. If Defendant learns that any retailer franchisee offering any of the Covered Products for sale in any California Max Muscle retail store does not return an acknowledgement to either the Warning Instruction Letter or Follow-Up Warning Instruction letter, or Defendant learns that a franchisee offering any of

the Covered Products for sale in any California Max Muscle retail store is failing to post or maintain the Warning Signs in accordance with Section 3.3.3.2 above, Defendant (or its agent) shall as soon as is commercially reasonable inspect the retail location, and if no Warning Sign is then posted, post the Warning Sign in such retail location. Defendant agrees that its obligation under this Consent Judgment to inspect its retail locations, and post signs upon the failure of a franchisee to do so, will continue as long as it remains obligated to post warnings. Further, Defendant shall take no action to discourage franchisees from posting signs as required.

## 3.4 Warning Method No. 3 (Website Warning)

If any Covered Products are sold via the Internet, then the warning stated in Section 3.2 shall be given in conjunction with the sale of the Covered Product via the Internet, and the warning must appear either: (a) on the same web page on which the Covered Product is displayed; (b) on the same web page as the order form for the Covered Product; (c) on the same page as the price for any Covered Product; or (d) on one or more web pages displayed to a purchaser during the checkout process. The warning stated in Section 3.2 shall be used and shall appear in any of the above instances adjacent to or immediately following the display, description, or price of the Product for which it is given in the same type size or larger than the Covered Product description text.

## 3.5 Reformulation and Testing Methodology

Defendant may reformulate the Covered Products to reduce the lead content to below levels requiring a Proposition 65 warning, in which case the Parties agree that the Covered Products may be offered for sale in California without the warning discussed in Sections 3.2 to 3.4 above. If Defendant contends that a Covered Product has been so reformulated, then at least once each year for three (3) consecutive years, Defendant shall undertake testing of any reformulated Covered Product on which it does not intend to place a warning discussed in Sections 3.2 to 3.4 above. Defendant shall test at least five (5) randomly-selected samples of each such reformulated Covered Product for lead content, to confirm whether the daily dose contains more or less than 0.5 micrograms of lead when the maximum recommended daily dose

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is taken as directed on the reformulated Covered Product's label. For purposes of determining whether a warning, if any, is required pursuant to Section 3.1, the second highest lead detection result of the five (5) randomly selected samples of the reformulated Covered Product will be controlling. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, daily lead exposure levels shall be measured in micrograms and shall be calculated using the following formula: micrograms of lead per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product's label), multiplied by servings of the product per day (using the largest number of servings in a recommended dosage appearing on the product label), which equals micrograms of lead exposure per day. All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed by an independent third-party laboratory certified by the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program for the analysis of heavy metals or a laboratory that is approved by, accredited by, or registered with the United States Food & Drug Administration for the analysis of heavy metals. The method of selecting samples for testing must comply with the regulations of the Food and Drug Administration as set forth in Title 21, Part 111, Subpart E of the Code of Federal Regulations, including section 111.80(c). Testing for lead shall be performed using Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) and closed-vessel, microwave-assisted digestion employing high-purity reagents or any other testing method agreed upon in writing by the Parties. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall limit Defendant's ability to conduct, or require that others conduct, additional testing of the Covered Products, reformulated or otherwise, including the raw materials used in their manufacture. This Consent Judgment, including the testing and sampling methodology set forth in this paragraph, is the result of negotiation and compromise, and is accepted by the Parties for purposes of settling, compromising, and resolving issues disputed in the Action, including future compliance by Defendant with this Consent Judgment, and shall not be used for any other purpose, or in any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Mindak, W.R., Cheng, J., Canas, B.J., & Bolger, P.M. Lead in Women's and Children's Vitamins, J. Agric. Food Chem. 2008, 56, 6892-96.

 the three-year reporting period, Defendant shall provide test results and documentation for any reformulated Covered Product to ERC within thirty (30) working days of Defendant's receipt of the test results, and shall retain all test results and documentation for a period of four (4) years from the date of each test.

3.6 The requirements set forth above will only apply to any time during which Defendant is a "person in the course of doing business," as that term is defined in Health and Safety Code § 25249.11(b).

other matter and, except for the purpose of determining future compliance with this Consent

Judgment, shall not constitute an adoption or employment of a method of analysis for a listed

chemical in a specific medium as set forth in 27 California Code of Regulations § 25900(g). For

- 3.7 The injunctive relief set forth in Sections 3.1 to 3.4 above shall not apply to any of the Covered Products that Defendant put into the stream of commerce before the Effective Date. No later than 10 days after the Effective Date, Defendant shall provide ERC with the last lot number and expiration date for each of the Covered Products in the stream of commerce as of the Effective Date.
- 4. **Payment.** In full satisfaction of all potential civil penalties, payment in lieu of civil penalty, and attorneys' fees and costs, Defendant shall make a total payment of \$90,000.00, to be apportioned as follows:
- 4.1 Civil Penalty Assessment. \$16,000.00 shall be payable as civil penalties pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 25249.7 (b) (1). Of this amount, \$12,000.00 shall be payable to the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and \$4,000.00 shall be payable to Environmental Research Center. Defendant shall pay the civil penalty to both OEHHA and ERC in its first payment pursuant to Section 4.4.
- 4.2 Payment In Lieu of Further Civil Penalties. \$48,111.00 shall be payable to Environmental Research Center in lieu of further civil penalties, for projects to reduce exposures to toxic chemicals, to increase consumer, worker and/or community awareness of

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27 28 health hazards posed by toxic chemicals, and researching and testing consumer products that may contain Proposition 65 chemicals.

- 4.3 Reimbursement of Plaintiff's Fees and Costs. \$25,889.00 shall be payable to Environmental Research Center as reimbursement of Plaintiff's reasonable costs, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred as a result of preparing and prosecuting this Action, negotiating a settlement in the public interest, and obtaining required approval from the Office of the California Attorney General and the Superior Court. Of this amount, \$15,251.00 will reimburse ERC's costs and expenses, \$9,990.00 will reimburse ERC's attorney's fees for Michael Freund's work in this Action, and \$648.00 will reimburse attorney's fees for Ryan Hoffman's work in this Action.
- 4.4 Payment Schedule. Pursuant to Paragraphs 4.1., 4.2, and 4.3 herein, Defendant agrees to remit the total payment of \$90,000.00 with the schedule for the payment of these funds as follows: within 30 days of the Effective Date, Defendant shall pay the sum of \$45,000.00, of which \$4,000.00 shall be payable to Environmental Research Center and \$12,000.00 shall be payable to OEHHA as a civil penalty. Subsequently, Defendant shall make five (5) successive monthly payments, each due on the 1st day of each month, with the first four payments in the amount of \$10,000.00, and the fifth and final payment in the amount of \$5,000.00. If the 1st day of the month falls on a weekend or state or federal holiday, the respective payment shall be due on the next business day. Except for the payment to OEHHA for the civil penalty, Defendant shall make tall other payments by checks payable to "Environmental Research Center" and sent by first-class registered or certified mail, or overnight delivery, to ERC at the address noted in the Notice provision below. ERC shall be responsible to forward the civil penalty check to OEHHA. In the event that any payment owed under this Section 4 is not remitted on or before its due date, all future payments due herein shall become immediately due and payable within 15 days of the missed due date payment.
  - 5. Plaintiff's Release of Defendant. Plaintiff, acting in both its individual capacity

on behalf of itself and acting in its representative capacity on behalf of the general public, permanently and fully releases Defendant, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates (including those companies that are under common ownership and/or common control), shareholders, directors, members, officers, employees, and attorneys, and each entity to whom each of them directly or indirectly distributed or sold the Covered Products, including, but not limited to distributors, wholesalers, customers, retailers, franchisees, and any other person or entity in the course of doing business who distributed, marketed or sold the Covered Products, and excluding Defendant's private label customers, from all claims asserted in the Proposition 65 Notice regarding lead in the Covered Products.

- 6. Limits of Release. Nothing in this release is intended to apply to any occupational or environmental exposures, as those terms are defined in Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §§ 25602(c) and (f), respectively, arising under Proposition 65 nor shall it apply to any of Defendant's products not set forth on Exhibit A to this Consent Judgment.
- 7. Release of Environmental Research Center. Defendant, by this Consent Judgment, waives all rights to institute any form of legal action against ERC for actions or statements made or undertaken by ERC in the course of seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against Defendant by means of the Proposition 65 Notice.
- 8. Motion for Approval of Consent Judgment/Notice to the California Attorney General's Office. Upon execution of this Consent Judgment by the Parties, Plaintiff shall file a noticed Motion for Approval & Entry of Consent Judgment in the Alameda County Superior Court pursuant to 11 California Code of Regulations §3000, et seq. This motion shall be served upon all of the Parties to the Action and upon the California Attorney General. In the event that the Court fails to approve and order entry of the judgment within one (1) year of the Consent Judgment being filed, this Consent Judgment shall become null and void upon the election of any Party as to them and upon written notice to all of the Parties to the Action pursuant to the notice provisions herein. Defendant and ERC shall use their best efforts to support entry of this

Consent Judgment in the form submitted to the California Attorney General. If the Attorney General or the Court objects in writing to any term in this Consent Judgment, the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the concern in a timely manner, prior to the hearing on the motion to approve this Consent Judgment. If the Attorney General elects to file papers with the Court stating that the People shall appear at the hearing for entry of this Consent Judgment so as to oppose entry of the Consent Judgment, then a Party may withdraw from this Consent Judgment prior to the date of the hearing, with notice to all Parties and the Attorney General, and upon such notice this Consent Judgment shall be null and void and any payments made pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be promptly returned to Defendant.

- 9. Severability. In the event that any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions shall not be adversely affected.
- 10. **Enforcement.** In the event that a dispute arises with respect to any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment, this Consent Judgment may be enforced pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6 or any other valid provision of law. The prevailing party in any such dispute shall be awarded all reasonable fees and costs incurred.
- 11. **Governing Law**. The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of California.
- 12. **Notices.** All correspondence and notices required to be provided under this Consent Judgment shall be in writing and shall be sent by first class registered or certified mail addressed as follows.

#### FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER:

Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director Environmental Research Center 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400 San Diego, CA 92108

With copy to:

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grand.	the executed Agreement shall have the same force and effect as an Agreement bearing original				
2	signatures.				
3	15. Authorization. The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent				
5	Judgment on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understood, and agree to all of the				
6	terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment.				
7	APPROVED AS TO FORM:				
8	DATED: By:				
9	Midnael B. Freund Counsel for ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER				
0 1 2 3	DATED: 16 17 13  By: Joshua A. Bloom, Barg Coffin Lewis & Trapp, LLP Counsel for JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba MAX MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION				
4	APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:				
5 6 7	DATED: By:  Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER				
9	DATED: 10/10/13 By:				
	JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba MAX MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION				
2	IT IS SO ORDERED				
3 4	Dated:				
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1	the executed Agreement shall have the same force and effect as an Agreement bearing original		
2	signatures.		
3	15. Authorization. The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent		
5	Judgment on behalf of their respective Parties and have read, understood, and agree to all of the		
6	terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment.		
7	APPROVED AS TO FORM:		
9	11	Michael B. Freund Counsel for ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER	
10		OURSE TO DIVING THE TEMPERATURE OF THE TEMPERATURE	
11		Joshua A. Bloom, Barg Coffin Lewis & Trapp, LLP Counsel for JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba MAX	
13		MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION	
14	APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:		
16		Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER	
17			
9	DATED: By:	Joseph Wells	
0.0		JOE WELLS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba MAX MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION	
1	IT IS SO ORDERED		
12	Dated:	Judge of the Superior Court	
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### EXHIBIT A

### **Product List**

- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Maxpro Advanced Multi Source Protein Pina Colada
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Quadra Cuts Extreme Thermogenic Ignitor
- Max M Sports Nutrition Cleanse & Lean Advanced Body Composition Stenderizing Complex
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition ThermXX Extreme Series Thermogenic Catalyst ES
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Cleanse & Lean Defining Agent
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Max Green Synergy Natural Berry Flavor
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Emerge Body Slenderizing Drink Mix Wild Cherry Tart
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition ThermX Extreme Series Thermogenic Catalyst
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Max TribuStak Male Hormone Support
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Joint Relief Synergistic Joint Complex Advanced Joint Support Formula

# **EXHIBIT B**

Prop. 65 Notice of Violation



# **Environmental Research Center**

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

October 26, 2012

# 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 am the Executive Director of the Environmental Research Center ("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 an attachment with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violator identified below.

<u>Alleged Violator</u>. The name of the company covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter referred to as "the Violator") is:

Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. / Tradestyle: Max Muscle Sports Nutrition

<u>Consumer Products and Listed Chemicals</u>. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemical in that product identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Maxpro Advanced Multi Source Protein Pina Colada - Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Quadra Cuts Extreme Thermogenic Ignitor - Lead

Max M Sports Nutrition Cleanse & Lean Advanced Body Composition Slenderizing Complex – Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition ThermXX Extreme Series Thermogenic Catalyst ES -Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Cleanse & Lean Defining Agent - Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Max Green Synergy Natural Berry Flavor - Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Emerge Body Slenderizing Drink Mix Wild Cherry Tart – Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition ThermX Extreme Series Thermogenic Catalyst – Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Max TribuStak Male Hormone Support - Lead

Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Joint Relief Synergistic Joint Complex Advanced Joint Support Formula - 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.

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 purchase, acquisition, handling and recommended use of these products. Consequently, the primary route of exposure to these chemicals has been and continues to be through ingestion, but may have also occurred and may continue to occur through inhalation and/or dermal contact.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least October 26, 2009, 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 handling and/or using 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 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; and (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals, as well as an expensive and time consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

Chris Heptinstall
Executive Director
Environmental Research Center

#### Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. / Tradestyle: Max Muscle Sports Nutrition and its Registered Agent for Service of Process only)

Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

Re: Environmental Research Center's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. / Tradestyle: Max Muscle Sports Nutrition

# CERTIFICATE OF MERIT Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

# I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
  - 2. I am the Executive Director 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 exposure to the listed chemicals that are the subject of the notice.
- 4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 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.

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		Design to Marine	
Dated: October 26, 2012			
		Chris Heptinstall	

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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, over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within entitled action. 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 26, 2012, 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 the party listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. / Tradestyle: Max Muscle Sports Nutrition 210 W. Taft Avenue Orange, CA 92865

Joe Wells (Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) 210 W. Taft Avenue Orange, CA 92865

Current President or CEO Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. / Tradestyle: Max Muscle Sports Nutrition 210 W. Taft Avenue Orange, CA 92865

On October 26, 2012, I served the following documents: NOTICE OF VIOLATION, 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) on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Post Office Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On October 26, 2012, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION, 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 Priority Mail.

Executed on October 26, 2012, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Amber Schaub

## Service List

District Attorney, Alameda County 1225 Fallon Street, Suite 900 Oakland, CA 94612

District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 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

District Attorney, Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney, Colusa County 346 Fifth Street Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553

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

District Attorney, El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721

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

District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Eureka, CA 95501

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

District Attorney, Inyo County 230 W. Line Street Bishop, CA 93514

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, Lassen County 220 South Lassen Street, Ste. 8 Susanville, CA 96130 District Attorney, Los Angeles County 210 West Temple Street, Suite 18000 Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney, Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney, Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced County 550 W. Main Street Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney, Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono County Post Office Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney, Monterey County Post Office Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902

District Attorney, Napa County 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559

District Attorney, Nevada County 110 Union Street Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney, Orange County 401 West Civic Center Drive Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney, Placer Courty 10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240 Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney, Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney, Riverside County 3960 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501

District Attorney, Sacramento County 901 "G" Street Sacramento, CA 95814

District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415-0004 District Attorney, San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1300 San Diego, CA 92101

District Attorney, San Francisco County 850 Bryant Street, Suite 322 San Francsico, CA 94103

District Attorney, San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Ave. Rm. 202 Stockton, CA 95202

District Attorney, San Luis Obispo County 1035 Palm St, Room 450 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

District Attorney, San Mateo County 400 County Ctr., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Santa Barbara County 1112 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101

District Attorney, Santa Clara County 70 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA 95110

District Attorney, Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

District Attorney, Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney, Sierra County PO Box 457 Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney, Siskiyou County Post Office Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney, Solano County 675 Texas Street, Ste 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney, Sonoma County 600 Administration Drive, Room 212J Santa Rosa, CA 95403

District Attorney, Stanislaus County 832 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney, Tehama County Post Office Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney, Tulare County 221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 224 Visalia, CA 93291 District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Ventura County 800 South Victoria Ave, Suite 314 Ventura, CA 93009

District Attorney, Yolo County 301 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Woodland, CA 95695

District Attorney, Yuba County 215 Fifth Street, Suite 152 Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office City Hall East 200 N. Main Street, Suite 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 3rd Avenue, Ste 1620 San Diego, CA 92101

San Francisco, City Attorney City Hall, Room 234 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett PL San Francisco, CA 94102

San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor San Jose, CA 95113

# **EXHIBIT C: Warning Sign**

(For use if Joe Wells uses Store Warnings pursuant to Section 3.3)

(See Attached)

[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
Environmental Research Center v. Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. dba Max Muscle Sports Nutrition

# CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65 WARNING

THE PRODUCTS LISTED BELOW CONTAIN CHEMICALS
KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CAUSE
CANCER AND BIRTH DEFECTS OR OTHER
REPRODUCTIVE HARM. FOR MORE INFORMATION
REGARDING PROPOSITION 65, VISIT
http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65.html.

- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Maxpro Advanced Multi Source Protein Pina Colada
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Quadra Cuts Extreme Thermogenic Ignitor

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- Max M Sports Nutrition Cleanse & Lean Advanced Body Composition Slenderizing Complex
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition ThermXX Extreme Series Thermogenic Catalyst ES
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Cleanse & Lean Defining Agent
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Max Green Synergy Natural Berry Flavor
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Emerge Body Slenderizing Drink Mix Wild Cherry Tart
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition ThermX Extreme Series Thermogenic Catalyst
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Max TribuStak Male Hormone Support
- Max Muscle Sports Nutrition Joint Relief Synergistic Joint Complex Advanced Joint Support Formula

# **EXHIBIT D: Letter to Retailers and Distributors**

(For use if Joe Wells uses Store Warnings pursuant to Section 3.3)

# THIS COMMUNICATION APPLIES ONLY TO MAX MUSCLE RETAIL LOCATIONS IN CALIFORNIA

Joe Wells, Enterprises, Inc. (Joe Wells) has entered into a Consent Judgment with Environmental Research Center, Inc. regarding the presence of lead in specified dietary supplements sold in California, including those sold by its franchisees at Max Muscle retail locations in California.

Under the terms of this Consent Judgment, Joe Wells is providing the enclosed warning sign to you so that they can be posted in Max Muscle retail stores. The signs may not be covered or obscured, and should be placed and displayed in such a way that they are likely to be read and understood by customers prior to purchasing the products. At least one of the warning signs shall be posted either (i) in each aisle, shelf, or display where the product at issue is displayed for sale, or (ii) next to the cash register or line for the cash register.

Please sign and return the written acknowledgment below within 30 days of receiving this letter to acknowledge that you have received the warnings and that you will use them in accordance with these specifications until you receive written instruction from Joe Wells to the contrary.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you need more signs or have any questions, such as the appropriate warning locations in the store, please contact Patrick Sanders.

Acknowledged by:	
	(Signature)
	(Print Name)
	(Company/Store Location)
	(Date)

[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
Environmental Research Center v. Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. dba Max Muscle Sports Nutrition

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# EXHIBIT E: Follow-Up Letter to Retailers and Distributors

(For use if Joe Wells uses In-Store warnings pursuant to Section 3.3)

# THIS COMMUNICATION APPLIES ONLY TO RETAIL LOCATIONS IN CALIFORNIA

On [Date], Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. (Joe Wells) sent you a letter enclosing signs to place on shelves holding any of the specified dietary supplements identified on the sign, pursuant to a Consent Judgment entered into between Joe Wells and Environmental Research Center, Inc. (ERC) regarding the presence of lead in specified dietary supplements sold in California.

As set forth in that letter, the signs may not be covered or obscured, and should be placed and displayed in such a way that they are likely to be read and understood by customers prior to purchasing the products. At least one of the warning signs shall be posted either (i) in each aisle, shelf, or display where the product at issue is displayed for sale, or (ii) next to the cash register or line for the cash register.

We have not received your written acknowledgment that you have received the signs and that your stores will post them as specified. Please sign and return the written acknowledgment below as soon as possible to acknowledge that you have received the signs and that they will be used or provided in accordance with these specifications until you receive written instructions from Joe Wells to the contrary.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you need more signs or have any questions, such as the appropriate warning locations on the product(s), please contact Patrick Sanders.

Acknowledged by:	
	(Signature)
	(Print Name)
	(Company/Store Location
	(Date)

[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT Environmental Research Center v. Joe Wells Enterprises, Inc. dba Max Muscle Sports Nutrition