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STRUMBA MEDIA LLC, individually and doing business as
MIRACLE NOODLE

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
CENTER, INC., a California non-profit
corporation**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**STRUMBA MEDIA LLC, individually and
doing business as MIRACLE NOODLE and
DOES 1-100**

Defendants.

CASE NO. RG18904923

**STIPULATED CONSENT
JUDGMENT**

Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 *et seq.*

Action Filed: May 14, 2018

Trial Date: None set

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 On May 14, 2018, Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC"), a non-profit corporation, as a private enforcer and in the public interest, initiated this action by

1 filing a Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief and Civil Penalties (the “Complaint”)
2 pursuant to the provisions of California Health and Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.*
3 (“Proposition 65”), against Strumba Media LLC, individually and doing business as Miracle
4 Noodle (“Miracle Noodle”) and Does 1-100. In this action, ERC alleges that a number of
5 products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Miracle Noodle contain lead and/or cadmium,
6 chemicals listed under Proposition 65 as carcinogens and reproductive toxins, and expose
7 consumers to these chemicals at a level requiring a Proposition 65 warning. These products
8 (referred to hereinafter individually as a “Covered Product” or collectively as “Covered
9 Products”) are: (1) Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Japanese Curry Noodles
10 (lead), (2) Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese (lead), (3)
11 Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Thai Tomyum (lead), (4) Miracle Noodle Kitchen
12 Ready-To-Eat Meal Pho (lead), (5) Miracle Noodle Organic Spaghetti Konjac Shirataki Pasta
13 (lead), (6) Miracle Noodle Garlic & Herb (lead), (7) Miracle Noodle Capellini (lead), (8)
14 Miracle Noodle Organic Fettuccine Konjac Shirataki Pasta (lead), (9) Miracle Noodle Spinach
15 (lead), and (10) Miracle Matcha Naturally Nutritious Health Mix-In (cadmium).

16 **1.2** ERC and Miracle Noodle are hereinafter referred to individually as a “Party” or
17 collectively as the “Parties.”

18 **1.3** ERC is a 501 (c)(3) California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other
19 causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by reducing the use and misuse of
20 hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees,
21 and encouraging corporate responsibility.

22 **1.4** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the Parties agree that Miracle Noodle is a
23 business entity that has employed ten or more persons at all times relevant to this action, and
24 qualifies as a “person in the course of doing business” within the meaning of Proposition 65.
25 Miracle Noodle manufactures, distributes, and/or sells the Covered Products.

26 **1.5** The Complaint is based on allegations contained in ERC’s Notice of Violation
27 dated February 22, 2018 that was served on the California Attorney General, other public
28 enforcers, and Miracle Noodle (“Notice”). A true and correct copy of the 60-Day Notice dated

February 22, 2018 is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein by reference. More than 60 days have passed since the Notice was served on the Attorney General, public enforcers, and Miracle Noodle and no designated governmental entity has filed a complaint against Miracle Noodle with regard to the Covered Products or the alleged violations.

1.6 ERC's Notice and Complaint allege that use of the Covered Products exposes persons in California to lead and/or cadmium without first providing clear and reasonable warnings in violation of California Health and Safety Code section 25249.6. Miracle Noodle denies all material allegations contained in the Notice and Complaint. Nothing in the Consent Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Miracle Noodle of any fact, issue of law or violation of law, nor shall compliance with the Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by Miracle Noodle of any fact, issue of law or violation of law, at any time, for any purpose.

1.7 The Parties have entered into this Consent Judgment in order to settle, compromise, and resolve disputed claims and thus avoid prolonged and costly litigation. Nothing in this Consent Judgment nor compliance with this Consent Judgment shall constitute or be construed as an admission by any of the Parties or by any of their respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, affiliates under common ownership (full or partial), franchisees, licensees, customers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, or retailers of any fact, issue of law, or violation of law.

1.8 Except as expressly set forth herein, nothing in this Consent Judgment shall prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have, individually or jointly, in any current or future legal proceeding unrelated to these proceedings.

1.9 The Effective Date of this Consent Judgment is the date on which it is entered as a Judgment by this Court.

2. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

For purposes of this Consent Judgment and any further court action that may become necessary to enforce this Consent Judgment, the Parties stipulate that this Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint, personal jurisdiction

1 over Miracle Noodle as to the acts alleged in the Complaint, that venue is proper in Alameda
2 County, and that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment as a full and final
3 resolution of all claims up through and including the Effective Date which were or could have
4 been asserted in this action based on the facts alleged in the Notice and Complaint.

5 **3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, REFORMULATION, TESTING AND WARNINGS**

6 **3.1** Beginning six (6) months after the Effective Date, Miracle Noodle shall be
7 permanently enjoined from manufacturing for sale in the State of California, "Distributing into
8 the State of California," or directly selling in the State of California, any Covered Products
9 which expose a person to a "Daily Lead Exposure Level" of more than 0.5 micrograms of lead
10 per day and/or "Daily Cadmium Exposure Level" of more than 4.1 micrograms of cadmium per
11 day unless it meets the warning requirements under Section 3.2.

12 **3.1.1** As used in this Consent Judgment, the term "Distributing into the State
13 of California" shall mean to directly ship a Covered Product into California for sale in
14 California or to sell a Covered Product to a distributor that Miracle Noodle knows or has reason
15 to know will sell the Covered Product in California.

16 **3.1.2** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the "Daily Lead Exposure
17 Level" shall be measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula:
18 micrograms of lead per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the
19 product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings
20 of the product per day (using the largest number of recommended daily servings appearing on
21 the label), which equals micrograms of lead exposure per day. If the label contains no
22 recommended daily servings, then the number of recommended daily servings shall be one.

23 **3.1.3** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the "Daily Cadmium Exposure
24 Level" shall be measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula:
25 micrograms of cadmium per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the
26 product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings
27 of the product per day (using the largest number of recommended daily servings appearing on
28

1 the label), which equals micrograms of cadmium exposure per day. If the label contains no
2 recommended daily servings, then the number of recommended daily servings shall be one.

3 **3.2 Clear and Reasonable Warnings**

4 If Miracle Noodle is required to provide a warning pursuant to Section 3.1, the following
5 warning must be utilized (“Warning”):

6 **WARNING:** Consuming this product can expose you to chemicals including [lead] [and]
7 [cadmium] which is [are] known to the State of California to cause [cancer and] birth
8 defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to
9 www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food.

10 Miracle Noodle shall use the phrase “cancer and” in the Warning if Miracle Noodle has
11 reason to believe that the the “Daily Lead Exposure Level” is greater than 15 micrograms of lead
12 as determined pursuant to the quality control methodology set forth in Section 3.4 or if Miracle
13 Noodle has reason to believe that another Proposition 65 chemical is present which may require a
14 cancer warning. As identified in the brackets, the warning shall appropriately reflect whether there
15 is lead or cadmium present in each of the Covered Products.

16 The Warning shall appear on the label of each Covered Product or on Miracle Noodle’s
17 checkout page on its website for California consumers identifying any Covered Product, or a link
18 to the Warning, using the word “WARNING,” shall appear on the product display page prior to
19 completing checkout on Miracle Noodle’s website when a California delivery address is
20 indicated for any purchase of any Covered Product. An asterisk or other identifying method,
21 such as text accompanying the product, must be utilized to identify which product(s) on the
22 checkout page are subject to the Warning. The Warning may be used in conjunction with a more
23 general warning in the checkout procedures indicating that item(s) in the customer’s order are
24 subject to a California Proposition 65 warning. If the Warning appears on the label of a Covered
25 Product, the Warning shall be securely affixed to or printed upon the label of the Covered
26 Product and it must be set off from other surrounding information and enclosed in a box.

27 The Warning shall be at least the same size as the largest of any other health or safety
28 warnings also appearing on its website or on the label or container of the Covered Product’s
packaging and the word “**WARNING**” shall be in all capital letters and in bold print. No

1 statements intended to or likely to have the effect of diminishing the impact of the Warning on the
2 average lay person shall accompany the Warning. Further no statements may accompany the
3 Warning that state or imply that the source of the listed chemical has an impact on or results in a
4 less harmful effect of the listed chemical.

5 Miracle Noodle must display the above Warning with such conspicuousness, as compared
6 with other words, statements or designs on the label or container, or on its website, if applicable, to
7 render the Warning likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary
8 conditions of purchase or use of the product.

9 If subsequently enacted changes to Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations require the use
10 of additional or different information on any warning, the Parties agree that the new safe harbor
11 warning may be utilized in place of the warnings set forth in this Section.

12 **3.3 Reformulated Covered Products**

13 A Reformulated Covered Product is a Covered Product for which the “Daily Lead
14 Exposure Level” is no greater than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day and/or “Daily Cadmium
15 Exposure Level” is no more than 4.1 micrograms of cadmium per day as determined by the quality
16 control methodology described in Section 3.4.

17 **3.4 Testing and Quality Control Methodology**

18 **3.4.1** Beginning within one year of the Effective Date, Miracle Noodle shall
19 arrange for lead and/or cadmium testing of the Covered Products at least once a year for a
20 minimum of three (3) consecutive years by arranging for testing of five randomly selected
21 samples of each of the Covered Products, in the form intended for sale to the end-user, which
22 Miracle Noodle intends to sell or is manufacturing for sale in California, directly selling to a
23 consumer in California or “Distributing into the State of California.” If tests conducted
24 pursuant to this Section demonstrate that no Warning is required for a Covered Product during
25 each of three (3) consecutive years, then the testing requirements of this Section will no longer
26 be required as to that Covered Product. However, if during or after the three-year testing
27 period, Miracle Noodle changes ingredient suppliers for any of the Covered Products and/or
28 reformulates any of the Covered Products, Miracle Noodle shall test that Covered Product

1 annually for at least three (3) consecutive years after such change is made.

2 **3.4.2** For purposes of measuring the “Daily Lead Exposure Level” and/or
3 “Daily Cadmium Exposure Level,” the highest lead and/or cadmium detection result of the five
4 (5) randomly selected samples of the Covered Products will be controlling.

5 **3.4.3** All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed using a
6 laboratory method that complies with the performance and quality control factors appropriate
7 for the method used, including limit of detection, qualification, accuracy, and precision that
8 meets the following criteria: Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (“ICP-MS”)
9 achieving a limit of quantification of less than or equal to 0.010 mg/kg.

10 **3.4.4** All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed by an
11 independent third party laboratory certified by the California Environmental Laboratory
12 Accreditation Program or an independent third-party laboratory that is registered with the
13 United States Food & Drug Administration.

14 **3.4.5** Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall limit Miracle Noodle’s ability to
15 conduct, or require that others conduct, additional testing of the Covered Products, including
16 the raw materials used in their manufacture.

17 **3.4.6** Within thirty (30) days of ERC’s written request, Miracle Noodle shall
18 deliver lab reports obtained pursuant to Section 3.4 to ERC. Miracle Noodle shall retain all test
19 results and documentation for a period of three years from the date of each test.

20 **4. SETTLEMENT PAYMENT**

21 **4.1** In full satisfaction of all potential civil penalties, additional settlement payments,
22 attorney’s fees, and costs, Miracle Noodle shall make, or have made on its behalf, a total
23 payment of \$70,000.00 (“Total Settlement Amount”) to ERC, with an initial payment of
24 \$25,000.00 (“Initial Payment”) to be paid within 10 business days of the Effective Date with
25 subsequent payments of \$7,500.00 (“Monthly Payment”) due within 30 days after each prior
26 payment (“Due Date”). Miracle Noodle shall make, or have made on its behalf, these
27 payments by wire transfer to ERC’s account, for which ERC will give Miracle Noodle the
28 necessary account information. The Total Settlement Amount shall be apportioned as follows:

1 \$16,684.43 shall be considered a civil penalty pursuant to California Health and Safety Code
2 section 25249.7(b)(1). ERC shall remit 75% (\$12,513.32) of the civil penalty to the Office of
3 Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") for deposit in the Safe Drinking Water
4 and Toxic Enforcement Fund in accordance with California Health and Safety Code section
5 25249.12(c). ERC will retain the remaining 25% (\$4,171.11) of the civil penalty.

6 **4.2** \$4,671.90 shall be distributed to ERC as reimbursement to ERC for reasonable
7 costs incurred in bringing this action.

8 **4.3** \$12,513.31 shall be distributed to ERC as an Additional Settlement Payment
9 ("ASP"), pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 11, sections 3203, subdivision (d) and
10 3204. ERC will utilize the ASP for activities that address the same public harm as allegedly
11 caused by Defendant in this matter. These activities are detailed below and support ERC's
12 overarching goal of reducing and/or eliminating hazardous and toxic chemicals in dietary
13 supplement products in California. ERC's activities have had, and will continue to have, a direct
14 and primary effect within the State of California because California consumers will be benefitted
15 by the reduction and/or elimination of exposure to lead and/or cadmium in dietary supplements
16 and/or by providing clear and reasonable warnings to California consumers prior to ingestion of
17 the products.

18 Based on a review of past years' actual budgets, ERC is providing the following list of
19 activities ERC engages in to protect California consumers through Proposition 65 citizen
20 enforcement, along with a breakdown of how ASP funds will be utilized to facilitate those
21 activities: (1) ENFORCEMENT (65-80%): obtaining, shipping, analyzing, and testing dietary
22 supplement products that may contain lead and/or cadmium and are sold to California
23 consumers. This work includes continued monitoring and enforcement of past consent judgments
24 and settlements to ensure companies are in compliance with their obligations thereunder, with a
25 specific focus on those judgments and settlements concerning lead and/or cadmium. This work
26 also includes investigation of new companies that ERC does not obtain any recovery through
27 settlement or judgment; (2) VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM (10-20%): maintaining
28 ERC's Voluntary Compliance Program by acquiring products from companies, developing and

1 maintaining a case file, testing products from these companies, providing the test results and
2 supporting documentation to the companies, and offering guidance in warning or implementing a
3 self-testing program for lead and/or cadmium in dietary supplement products; and (3) "GOT
4 LEAD" PROGRAM (up to 5%): maintaining ERC's "Got Lead?" Program which reduces the
5 numbers of contaminated products that reach California consumers by providing access to free
6 testing for lead in dietary supplement products (Products submitted to the program are screened
7 for ingredients which are suspected to be contaminated, and then may be purchased by ERC,
8 catalogued, sent to a qualified laboratory for testing, and the results shared with the consumer
9 that submitted the product).

10 ERC shall be fully accountable in that it will maintain adequate records to document and
11 will be able to demonstrate how the ASP funds will be spent and can assure that the funds are
12 being spent only for the proper, designated purposes described in this Consent Judgment. ERC
13 shall provide the Attorney General, within thirty days of any request, copies of documentation
14 demonstrating how such funds have been spent.

15 **4.4** \$1,755.00 shall be distributed to Michael Freund as reimbursement of ERC's
16 attorney's fees, \$8,580.00 shall be distributed to Ryan Hoffman as reimbursement of ERC's
17 attorney's fees, while \$25,795.36 shall be distributed to ERC for its in-house legal fees. Except
18 as explicitly provided herein, each Party shall bear its own fees and costs.

19 **4.6** In the event that Miracle Noodle fails to remit the Initial Payment when due, or
20 any Monthly Payment owed under Section 4 of this Consent Judgment on or before the
21 applicable Due Date, Miracle Noodle shall be deemed to be in material breach of its obligations
22 under this Consent Judgment. ERC shall provide written notice of the delinquency to Miracle
23 Noodle via electronic mail. If Miracle Noodle fails to deliver the late payment(s) (the Initial
24 Payment and/or any Monthly Payment(s)) within ten (10) business days from the written
25 notice, the Total Settlement Amount, less any amounts previously paid pursuant to Section 4.1,
26 shall be immediately due and owing and shall accrue interest at the statutory judgment interest
27 rate provided in the California Code of Civil Procedure section 685.010. Additionally, Miracle
28 Noodle agrees to pay ERC's reasonable attorney's fees and costs for any efforts to collect any

1 payment(s) due under this Consent Judgment.

2 **5. MODIFICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

3 **5.1** This Consent Judgment may be modified only as to injunctive terms (i) by
4 written stipulation of the Parties and upon entry by the Court of a modified consent judgment or
5 (ii) by motion of either Party pursuant to Section 5.3 or 5.4 and upon entry by the Court of a
6 modified consent judgment.

7 **5.2** If Miracle Noodle seeks to modify this Consent Judgment under Section 5.1,
8 then Miracle Noodle must provide written notice to ERC of its intent ("Notice of Intent"). If
9 ERC seeks to meet and confer regarding the proposed modification in the Notice of Intent, then
10 ERC must provide written notice to Miracle Noodle within thirty (30) days of receiving the
11 Notice of Intent. If ERC notifies Miracle Noodle in a timely manner of ERC's intent to meet
12 and confer, then the Parties shall meet and confer in good faith as required in this Section. The
13 Parties shall meet in person or via telephone within thirty (30) days of ERC's notification of its
14 intent to meet and confer. Within thirty (30) days of such meeting, if ERC disputes the
15 proposed modification, ERC shall provide to Miracle Noodle a written basis for its position.
16 The Parties shall continue to meet and confer for an additional thirty (30) days in an effort to
17 resolve any remaining disputes. Should it become necessary, the Parties may agree in writing
18 to different deadlines for the meet-and-confer period.

19 **5.3** In the event that Miracle Noodle initiates or otherwise requests a modification
20 under Section 5.1, and the meet and confer process leads to a joint motion or application for a
21 modification of the Consent Judgment, Miracle Noodle shall reimburse ERC its costs and
22 reasonable attorney's fees for the time spent in the meet-and-confer process and filing and
23 arguing the motion or application. ERC shall not be reimbursed for costs or attorney's fees for
24 an uncontested motion, or for a ministerial motion (such as a change in name or contact
25 information) or if ERC does not expend more than two (2) hours of attorney time on the joint
26 motion. Where the meet-and-confer process does not lead to a joint motion or application in
27 support of a modification of the Consent Judgment, then either Party may seek judicial relief on
28 its own.

1 **5.4** In the event that Proposition 65 is repealed or preempted as to food products,
2 then Miracle Noodle shall have no further obligation pursuant to this Consent Judgment with
3 respect to, and to the extent that the Covered Products are so affected.

4 **6. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION, ENFORCEMENT OF CONSENT**
5 **JUDGMENT**

6 **6.1** This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce, modify, or terminate
7 this Consent Judgment.

8 **6.2** If ERC alleges that any Covered Product fails to qualify as a Reformulated
9 Covered Product (for which ERC alleges that no Warning has been provided), then ERC shall
10 inform Miracle Noodle in a reasonably prompt manner of its test results, including information
11 sufficient to permit Miracle Noodle to identify the Covered Products at issue. Miracle Noodle
12 shall, within thirty (30) days following such notice, provide ERC with testing information, from
13 an independent third-party laboratory meeting the requirements of Sections 3.4.3 and 3.4.4,
14 demonstrating Miracle Noodle's compliance with the Consent Judgment, if warranted. The
15 Parties shall first attempt to resolve the matter prior to ERC taking any further legal action.

16 **7. APPLICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

17 This Consent Judgment may apply to, be binding upon, and benefit the Parties and their
18 respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries,
19 affiliates under common ownership (full or partial), divisions, franchisees, licensees, customers
20 (excluding private labelers), distributors, wholesalers, retailers, predecessors, successors, and
21 assigns. This Consent Judgment shall have no application to any Covered Product which is
22 distributed or sold exclusively outside the State of California and which is not used by California
23 consumers.

24 **8. BINDING EFFECT, CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED**

25 **8.1** This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between ERC,
26 on behalf of itself and in the public interest, and Miracle Noodle and its respective officers,
27 directors, shareholders, owners, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions,
28 affiliated entities under common (full or partial) ownership, attorneys, suppliers, franchisees,

licensees, customers (not including private label customers of Miracle Noodle), distributors, wholesalers, retailers, and all other upstream and downstream entities in the distribution chain of any Covered Product, and the predecessors, successors, and assigns of any of them (collectively, "Released Parties"). ERC, on behalf of itself and in the public interest, hereby fully releases and discharges the Released Parties from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, suits, demands, liabilities, damages, penalties, fees, costs, and expenses asserted, or that could have been asserted from the handling, use, or consumption of the Covered Products, as to any alleged violation of Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations arising from the failure to provide Proposition 65 warnings on the Covered Products regarding lead and/or cadmium up to and including the Effective Date.

8.2 ERC on its own behalf only, and Miracle Noodle on its own behalf only, further waive and release any and all claims they may have against each other and their respective officers, directors, shareholders, owners, employees, agents, parents, subsidiaries, divisions, affiliated entities under common (full or partial) ownership, and attorneys for all actions or statements made or undertaken in the course of seeking or opposing enforcement of Proposition 65 in connection with the Notice and Complaint up through and including the Effective Date, provided, however, that nothing in Section 8 shall affect or limit any Party's right to seek to enforce the terms of this Consent Judgment.

8.3 It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties, arising out of the facts alleged in the Notice and Complaint, and relating to the Covered Products, will develop or be discovered. ERC on behalf of itself only, and Miracle Noodle on behalf of itself only, acknowledge that this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and include all such claims up through and including the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefore. ERC and Miracle Noodle acknowledge that the claims released in Sections 8.1 and 8.2 above may include unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code section 1542 as to any such unknown claims. California Civil Code section 1542 reads as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF

1 KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS
2 OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

3 ERC on behalf of itself only, and Miracle Noodle on behalf of itself only, acknowledge and
4 understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code
5 section 1542.

6 **8.4** Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed to
7 constitute compliance with Proposition 65 by any releasee regarding alleged exposures to lead
8 and/or cadmium in the Covered Products as set forth in the Notice and Complaint.

9 **8.5** Nothing in this Consent Judgment is intended to apply to any occupational or
10 environmental exposures arising under Proposition 65, nor shall it apply to any of Miracle
11 Noodle's products other than the Covered Products.

12 **9. SEVERABILITY OF UNENFORCEABLE PROVISIONS**

13 In the event that any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court to be
14 unenforceable, the validity of the remaining enforceable provisions shall not be adversely affected.

15 **10. GOVERNING LAW**

16 The terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by and construed in
17 accordance with the laws of the State of California.

18 **11. PROVISION OF NOTICE**

19 All notices required to be given to either Party to this Consent Judgment by the other shall
20 be in writing and sent to the following agents listed below via first-class mail. Courtesy copies via
21 email may also be sent.

22 **FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.:**

23 Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director, Environmental Research Center
24 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
25 San Diego, CA 92108
26 Telephone: (619) 500-3090
27 Email: chris_erc501c3@yahoo.com

28 ///

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1 With a copy to:
2 Michael Freund
3 Ryan Hoffman
4 Michael Freund & Associates
5 1919 Addison Street, Suite 105
6 Berkeley, CA 94704
7 Telephone: (510) 540-1992
8 Facsimile: (510) 540-5543

9 **STRUMBA MEDIA LLC, individually and doing**
10 **business as MIRACLE NOODLE**

11 Jonathan Carp
12 Strumba Media LLC
13 8605 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 6920
14 Los Angeles, CA 90069
15 Telephone: XXXXXXXXXX

16 With a copy to:

17 Abhishek K. Gurnani
18 Amin Taliti Upadhye LLP
19 100 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 2000
20 Chicago, IL 60606
21 Telephone: (312) 327-3325

22 **12. COURT APPROVAL**

23 **12.1** Upon execution of this Consent Judgment by the Parties, ERC shall notice a
24 Motion for Court Approval. The Parties shall use their best efforts to support entry of this
25 Consent Judgment.

26 **12.2** If the California Attorney General objects to any term in this Consent Judgment,
27 the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the concern in a timely manner, and if possible
28 prior to the hearing on the motion.

12.3 If this Stipulated Consent Judgment is not approved by the Court, it shall be
void and have no force or effect.

13. EXECUTION AND COUNTERPARTS

This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts, which taken together shall be
deemed to constitute one document. A facsimile or .pdf signature shall be construed to be as valid
as the original signature.

1 **14. DRAFTING**

2 The terms of this Consent Judgment have been reviewed by the respective counsel for each
3 Party prior to its signing, and each Party has had an opportunity to fully discuss the terms and
4 conditions with legal counsel. The Parties agree that, in any subsequent interpretation and
5 construction of this Consent Judgment, no inference, assumption, or presumption shall be drawn,
6 and no provision of this Consent Judgment shall be construed against any Party, based on the fact
7 that one of the Parties and/or one of the Parties' legal counsel prepared and/or drafted all or any
8 portion of the Consent Judgment. It is conclusively presumed that all of the Parties participated
9 equally in the preparation and drafting of this Consent Judgment.

10 **15. GOOD FAITH ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DISPUTES**

11 If a dispute arises with respect to either Party's compliance with the terms of this Consent
12 Judgment entered by the Court, the Parties shall meet and confer in person, by telephone, and/or in
13 writing and endeavor to resolve the dispute in an amicable manner. No action or motion may be
14 filed in the absence of such a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute beforehand.

15 **16. ENFORCEMENT**

16 ERC may, by motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of Alameda
17 County, enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. In any action
18 brought by ERC to enforce this Consent Judgment, ERC may seek whatever fines, costs,
19 penalties, or remedies as are provided by law for failure to comply with the Consent Judgment.
20 To the extent the failure to comply with the Consent Judgment constitutes a violation of
21 Proposition 65 or other laws, ERC shall not be limited to enforcement of this Consent Judgment,
22 but may seek in another action whatever fines, costs, penalties, or remedies as are provided by
23 law for failure to comply with Proposition 65 or other laws.

24 **17. ENTIRE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZATION**

25 **17.1** This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and
26 understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter herein, and any and all
27 prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related hereto. No
28 representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have

1 been made by any Party. No other agreements, oral or otherwise, unless specifically referred to
2 herein, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any Party.

3 **17.2** Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully
4 authorized by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment.

5 **18. REQUEST FOR FINDINGS, APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AND ENTRY OF**
6 **CONSENT JUDGMENT**

7 This Consent Judgment has come before the Court upon the request of the Parties. The
8 Parties request the Court to fully review this Consent Judgment and, being fully informed
9 regarding the matters which are the subject of this action, to:

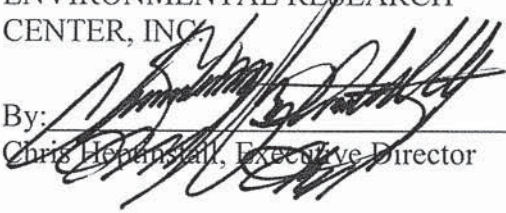
10 (1) Find that the terms and provisions of this Consent Judgment represent a fair and
11 equitable settlement of all matters raised by the allegations of the Complaint that the matter has
12 been diligently prosecuted, and that the public interest is served by such settlement; and

13 (2) Make the findings pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section
14 25249.7(f)(4), approve the Settlement, and approve this Consent Judgment.

15
16 **IT IS SO STIPULATED:**

17 Dated: 7/18/, 2018

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
CENTER, INC.

18
19 By: 
Chris Hertenstein, Executive Director

20
21
22 Dated: 7/20/, 2018

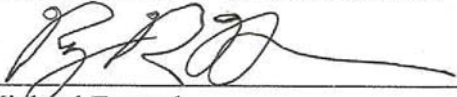
STRUMBA MEDIA LLC, individually and
doing business as MIRACLE NOODLE

23
24 By: 
Jonathan Carp, Owner

1 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

2 Dated: 7/18, 2018

MICHAEL FREUND & ASSOCIATES

3
4 By: 

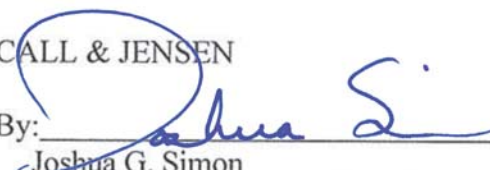
Michael Freund

Ryan Hoffman

Attorneys for Plaintiff Environmental
Research Center, Inc.

5
6
7
8 Dated: July 20, 2018

CALL & JENSEN

9
10 By: 

Joshua G. Simon

Attorney for Defendant Strumba Media
LLC, individually and doing business as
Miracle Noodle

11
12
13
14
15 **ORDER AND JUDGMENT**

16 Based upon the Parties' Stipulation, and good cause appearing, this Consent Judgment is
17 approved and Judgment is hereby entered according to its terms.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.

19
20
21 Dated: _____, 2018

Judge of the Superior Court

Michael Freund & Associates

1919 Addison Street, Suite 105
Berkeley, CA 94704
Voice: 510.540.1992 • Fax: 510.540.5543

Michael Freund, Esq.

Ryan Hoffman, Esq.

February 22, 2018

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION 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"), 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92108; Tel. (619) 500-3090. ERC's Executive Director is Chris Heptinstall. 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 Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d), 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 enclosed with 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:

Strumba Media LLC, individually and doing business as Miracle Noodle

Consumer Products and Listed Chemicals. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemicals in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

- 1. Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Japanese Curry Noodles - Lead**
- 2. Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese - Lead**
- 3. Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Thai Tomyum - Lead**
- 4. Miracle Noodle Kitchen Ready-To-Eat Meal Pho - Lead**
- 5. Miracle Noodle Organic Spaghetti Konjac Shirataki Pasta - Lead**
- 6. Miracle Noodle Garlic & Herb - Lead**
- 7. Miracle Noodle Capellini - Lead**
- 8. Miracle Noodle Organic Fettuccine Konjac Shirataki Pasta - Lead**
- 9. Miracle Noodle Spinach - Lead**
- 10. Miracle Matcha Naturally Nutritious Health Mix-In - Cadmium**

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.

Exhibit A

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.

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

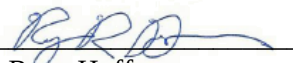
Route of Exposure. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to these chemicals has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least February 22, 2015, 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 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 an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

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 law office address and telephone number indicated on the letterhead or at rrhoffma@gmail.com.**

Sincerely,



Ryan Hoffman

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Strumba Media LLC, individually and doing business as Miracle Noodle, and its Registered Agents for Service of Process only)

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

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Strumba Media LLC, individually and doing business as Miracle Noodle

I, Ryan Hoffman, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-day notice in which it is alleged that the party identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

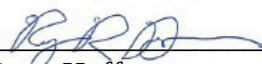
2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.

3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, 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. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health & Safety Code §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: February 22, 2018



Ryan Hoffman

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 February 22, 2018 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION 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 at a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO
Strumba Media LLC, individually and
doing business as Miracle Noodle
8605 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 6920
Los Angeles, CA 90069

Jonathan M. Carp
(Registered Agent for Strumba Media LLC,
individually and doing business as Miracle Noodle)
2700 Neilson Way, #631
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Current President or CEO
Strumba Media LLC, individually and
doing business as Miracle Noodle
2700 Neilson Way, #631
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Jonathan M. Carp
(Registered Agent for Strumba Media LLC,
individually and doing business as Miracle Noodle)
10275 Collins Avenue, #1034
Bal Harbour, FL 33154

Current President or CEO
Strumba Media LLC, individually and
doing business as Miracle Noodle
382 NE 191st Street, #6920
Miami, FL 33179

Current President or CEO
Strumba Media LLC, individually and
doing business as Miracle Noodle
10275 Collins Avenue, #1034
Bal Harbour, FL 33154

On February 22, 2018 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

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

February 22, 2018

Page 5

On February 22, 2018 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:

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

Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator
Lassen County
220 S. Lassen Street
Susanville, CA 96130
mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney
Monterey County
1200 Aguajito Road
Monterey, CA 93940
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

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

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

Gregory Alker, Assistant District Attorney
San Francisco County
732 Brannan Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
gregory.alker@sfgov.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

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

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

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney
Sonoma County
600 Administration Dr
Sonoma, CA 95403
jbarnes@sonoma-county.org

Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney
Tulare County
221 S Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 95370
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

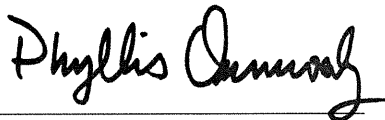
Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney
Ventura County
800 S Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA 93009
daspecialops@ventura.org

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

Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*
February 22, 2018
Page 6

On February 22, 2018 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, 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 at a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on February 22, 2018, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Phyllis Dunwoody". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Phyllis" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Dunwoody" follows in a similar but slightly smaller script. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Phyllis Dunwoody

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

February 22, 2018

Page 7

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, 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 4th Floor
Eureka, CA 95501

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

District Attorney, Inyo County
P.O. Drawer D
Independence, CA 93526

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
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, Nevada
County
201 Commercial Street
Nevada City, CA 95959

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

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

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

District Attorney, San Benito
County
419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor
Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San
Bernardino County
303 West Third Street
San Bernadino, CA 92415

District Attorney, San Diego
County
330 West Broadway, Suite
1300
San Diego, CA 92101

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

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

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

District Attorney, Sierra
County
100 Courthouse Square, 2nd
Floor
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, Stanislaus
County
832 12th Street, Ste 300
Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter
County
463 2nd 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, Tuolumne
County
423 N. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

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,
16th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

APPENDIX A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as "Proposition 65"). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. The reader is directed to the statute and OEHHA implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html>. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001.¹ These implementing regulations are available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html>.

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

¹ All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>.

The “Proposition 65 List.” Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html.

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before “knowingly and intentionally” exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be “clear and reasonable.” This means that the warning must: (1) clearly make known that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

Prohibition from discharges into drinking water. A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Period. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical.

Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employs a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses “no significant risk.” This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific “No Significant Risk Levels” (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the “no observable effect level” divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant² it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a “significant amount” of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a “significant amount” of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A “significant amount” means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the “no significant risk” level for

² See Section 25501(a)(4).

chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the “no observable effect” level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law;
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form.

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included in Appendix B and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at:
<http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

Revised: May 2017

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.