

SUPPLEMENTAL 60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION

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

DATE: October 25, 2013

TO: Harry Ashkenazie, Chief Executive Officer – Almar Sales Co., Inc.
California Attorney General’s Office;
District Attorney’s Office for 58 Counties; and
City Attorneys for San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, Sacramento and Los Angeles

FROM: Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E.

I. INTRODUCTION

My name is Anthony E. Held. I hold a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Environmental Engineering and I am a registered professional engineer in the State of California. I am a citizen of the State of California acting in the interest of the general public. I seek to promote awareness of exposures to toxic chemicals in products sold in California and, if possible, to improve human health by reducing hazardous substances contained in such items. This Notice is provided to the public agencies listed above pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 *et seq.* (“Proposition 65”) and supplements the 60-Day Notice of Violation sent on March 8, 2012. As noted above, notice is also being provided to the alleged violator, Almar Sales Co., Inc. (the “Violator”). The violations covered by this Notice consist of the product exposures, routes of exposure, and types of harm potentially resulting from exposure to the toxic chemicals (“listed chemicals”) identified below, as follows:

Product Exposure:	See Section VI. Exhibit A
Listed Chemicals:	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (“DEHP”); Lead and/or Lead Compounds; Cadmium and/or Cadmium Compounds; Arsenic (inorganic arsenic compounds and inorganic oxides)
Routes of Exposure:	Ingestion, Dermal
Types of Harm:	Cancer; Birth Defects and Other Reproductive Harm

II. NATURE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION (PRODUCT EXPOSURE)

The specific types of products that are causing consumer and occupational exposures in violation of Proposition 65, and that are covered by this Notice, are listed under “Product Category/Type” in Exhibit A in Section VI below. All products within the types covered by this Notice shall be referred to hereinafter as the “products.” The sales of these products in California dating as far back as October 25, 2010 are subject to this notice. As a result of the sales of these products, exposures to the listed chemicals have been occurring without clear and reasonable warnings as required by Proposition 65.

Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposure to the listed chemicals, resulting from contact with the products, California citizens lack the information necessary to make informed decisions on whether and how to eliminate (or reduce) the risk of exposure to the toxic chemicals from the reasonably foreseeable use of the products.

A. CONSUMER PRODUCT EXPOSURE (DEHP)

California citizens, through the act of buying, acquiring or utilizing the products, are exposed to the listed chemical. Infants, children and/or women of childbearing age ingest the listed chemicals when they, among other activities, place the product, or a portion thereof, into their mouth, or otherwise suck, lick, teethe and/or bite the product thereby allowing the listed chemical to leach out of the substrate directly into their mouths. Infants, children and/or women of childbearing age ingest the listed chemical when they, among other activities, touch the products and transfer the listed chemical from the products to their mouths through hand-to-mouth activities that may continue to occur for a significant period after contact with the products stops. Infants, children and/or women of childbearing age are exposed to the listed chemical through direct dermal contact when they, among other activities, handle, touch or otherwise use the products.

B. CONSUMER PRODUCT EXPOSURE (LEAD, CADMIUM, AND ARSENIC)

California consumers, through the act of buying, acquiring or utilizing the products, are exposed to the listed chemicals. By way of example but not limitation, exposures occur when California citizens use, display, clean, repair, pack, unpack, arrange, store or otherwise handle the products. These tasks cause consumers to be exposed directly or indirectly through the routine touching of the parts or portions of the products containing readily available surface amounts of the listed chemicals. Additionally, exposure can occur through the routine touching and ingesting of other materials that are contaminated with the listed chemicals from the products as a result of these tasks. People likely to be exposed include both children and adults.

III. CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to me through my counsel's office at the following address:

Anthony E. Held, Ph.D., P.E.
c/o Josh Voorhees
The Chanler Group
Parker Plaza
2560 Ninth Street, Suite 214
Berkeley, CA 94710
Telephone: (510) 848-8880

IV. PROPOSITION 65 INFORMATION

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

V. RESOLUTION OF NOTICED CLAIMS

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, I intend to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against the alleged Violator unless such Violator enters into a binding written agreement to: (1) recall products already sold or undertake best efforts to ensure that the requisite health hazard warnings are provided to those who have received such products; (2) provide clear and reasonable warnings for products sold in the future or reformulate such products to eliminate the exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b). If the alleged Violator is interested in resolving this dispute without resorting to time-consuming and expensive litigation, please feel free to contact my counsel identified in Section III above. It should be noted that neither my counsel nor I can: (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; nor (2) speak for the Attorney General or any District or City Attorney who received this Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with me will resolve my claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

VII. EXHIBIT A

<i>Product Category/Type</i>	<i>Such As</i>	<i>Toxins</i>
Halloween Costume Accessories, specifically wigs, masks, gloves, footwear, belts, bags, hats, costume props, hosiery, weapons and jewelry intended to accessorize a costume (but excluding makeup) containing one or more of the chemicals listed herein.	Fierce & Fabulous Studded Gloves, PCG181, YC-1106-4469 (#0 24576 86632 7)	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate; Lead and/or Lead Compounds; Cadmium and/or Cadmium Compounds; and/or Arsenic (inorganic arsenic compounds and inorganic oxides)

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury:

I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action; my business address is Parker Plaza, 2560 Ninth Street, Suite 214, Berkeley, CA 94710.

On October 25, 2013, I served the following documents:

SUPPLEMENTAL 60-DAY NOTICE OF VIOLATION SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d);

PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY;

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; AND

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT ATTACHMENTS (SERVED ONLY ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL)

on the entity listed below via First Class Certified Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the entity listed below and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

Harry Ashkenazie, Chief Executive Officer
Almar Sales Co., Inc.
320 5th Avenue, Floor 3
New York, NY 10001

on counsel for such entity listed below via First Class Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to such person and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

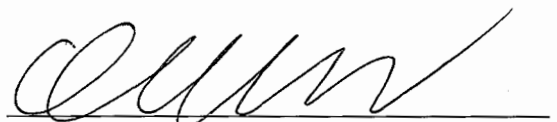
J. Robert Maxwell
Rogers Joseph O'Donnell
311 California Street, 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104

as well as by providing copies of the above documents electronically uploaded to the public enforcers according to directions from their respective offices, and/or by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to each party listed below, and served as follows:

<i>Electronically Uploaded to the Attorney General's website, and sent 2nd Day Air Service by placing such envelope in a Federal Express Drop-Off Box:</i>	The Attorney General of the State of California;
<i>By placing each envelope in a United States Postal Service mailbox, postage prepaid:</i>	The District Attorney for Each of the 58 counties in California; and The City Attorney for Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose, San Francisco and Sacramento

A list of addresses for each of these recipients is attached.

Executed on October 25, 2013, at Berkeley, California.



Caroline Liang

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I, Clifford A. Chanler, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the party identified in the notice has violated Health and Safety Code § 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings;
2. I am the attorney for the noticing party;
3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the *alleged* exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of this action;
4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that “reasonable and meritorious case for the private action” means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff’s case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged Violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute;
5. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including information identified in Health and 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: October 25, 2013



Clifford A. Chanler

SERVICE LIST

The Honorable Nancy O'Malley
Alameda County District Attorney
1225 Fallon Street, Room 900
Oakland, CA 94612

The Honorable Terese Drabec
Alpine County District Attorney
270 Laramie Street, PO BOX 248
Markleeville, CA 96120

The Honorable Todd Riebe
Amador County District Attorney
708 Court Street
Jackson, CA 95642

The Honorable Michael Ramsey
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Oroville, CA 95965

The Honorable Barbara Yook
Calaveras County District Attorney
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San Andreas, CA 95249

The Honorable John R. Poyner
Colusa County District Attorney
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The Honorable Mark Peterson
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The Honorable Jon Alexander
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The Honorable Vernon Pierson
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515 Main Street
Placerville, CA 95667

The Honorable Elizabeth Egan
Fresno County District Attorney
2220 Tulare Street, #1000
Fresno, CA 93721

The Honorable Robert Maloney
Glenn County District Attorney
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The Honorable Paul Gallegos
Humboldt County District Attorney
825 5th Street
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The Honorable Gilbert Otero
Imperial County District Attorney
940 West Main Street, Suite 102
El Centro, CA 92243

The Honorable Arthur Maillet
Inyo County District Attorney
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The Honorable Lisa Green
Kern County District Attorney
1215 Truxtun Avenue
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The Honorable Greg Strickland
Kings County District Attorney
1400 West Lacey Boulevard
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The Honorable Donald Anderson
Lake County District Attorney
255 North Forbes Street
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The Honorable Robert Burns
Lassen County District Attorney
220 S. Lassen Street, Ste. 8
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The Honorable Steve Cooley
Los Angeles County District Attorney
210 West Temple Street, Suite 18000
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209 West Yosemite Avenue
Madera, CA 93637

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The Honorable Robert Brown
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5101 Jones Street, P.O. Box 730
Mariposa, CA 95338

The Honorable C. David Eyster
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Ukiah, CA 95482

The Honorable Larry Morse II
Merced County District Attorney
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Merced, CA 95340

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204 S. Court Street, Room 202
Alturas, CA 96101

The Honorable George Booth
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Salinas, CA 93902

The Honorable Gary Lieberstein
Napa County District Attorney
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The Honorable Clifford Newell
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Riverside County District Attorney
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Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Candice Hooper
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San Bernardino, CA 92415

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The Honorable George Gascon
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The Honorable Richard Doyle
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200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Office of the California Attorney General
Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting
ATTN: Prop 65 Coordinator
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Oakland, CA 94612-0550