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**LUMBER LIQUIDATORS SUSPENDS SALES OF CHINESE-MADE LAMINATE FLOORING**

Today, Lumber Liquidators, Inc. announced that it is suspending all sales of Chinese-made laminate flooring. Based on its own air quality testing program results, Lumber Liquidators found that some of its tests for consumers who purchased laminate flooring failed the guidelines established by the World Health Organization for formaldehyde levels in indoor air.

Plaintiffs consider this announcement a major victory for consumers around the nation. Over 100 class action lawsuits have been filed against Lumber Liquidators for selling Chinese-made laminate wood flooring that allegedly emits unlawful levels of formaldehyde. The lawsuits also allege that Lumber Liquidators advertises and warrants that its products comply with the formaldehyde emissions caps set by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) when in fact many of its products do not. Plaintiffs have demanded that Lumber Liquidators stop selling products that are not CARB-compliant. Today, that goal was achieved.

“It was really important to me that Lumber Liquidators stop selling flooring that emitted unlawful levels of formaldehyde, a cancer-causing chemical,” said Plaintiff Dr. Lisa Miller. “That was one of the main reasons I decided to be a plaintiff in this class action lawsuit.”

“This is a major victory for consumers,” said Plaintiff’s attorney Linda Dardarian, partner at Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho, a class action law firm that specializes in litigating complex cases against some of the largest companies in the United States. “We wanted Lumber Liquidators to stop selling these bad products, and today they did. This is the right first step. We continue to seek other remedies, including reimbursement for the flooring and removal costs.”

“Although we are pleased that Lumber Liquidators has stopped selling the Chinese-made laminate products, this does nothing for the thousands of consumers who have already installed these floors in their homes and are breathing formaldehyde on a daily basis,” said Richard Drury, an attorney at Lozeau Drury LLP representing Lumber Liquidators’ customers.

While Lumber Liquidators referenced the World Health Organization (WHO) formaldehyde emission standard in announcing its decision to stop selling the product, the WHO standard is far above levels that would be considered significant in California and elsewhere in the U.S. First, the WHO standard is for a 30 minute exposure, while flooring creates exposures that can extend for years. The WHO standard (81 parts per billion (ppb)) is above the average levels found in the FEMA trailers used after the Katrina hurricane (77 ppb). It is far above average levels found in U.S. homes, according to a recent EPA study (17 ppb). And it is far above the California Chronic Reference Exposure Level (CREL) of 7 ppb.

Critically, the in-home test kits that Lumber Liquidators has used to measure formaldehyde levels in customers' homes say nothing about whether the Lumber Liquidators' products comply with the CARB formaldehyde rule, since the in-home kits are the wrong test for CARB compliance. CARB has a written test protocol that is entirely different from the Lumber Liquidators home test kits. Tests conducted by consumer attorneys, investigators from the 60 Minutes television program, and others, using the CARB method, show that 99% of Lumber Liquidators' Chinese laminate flooring tested exceeded the CARB formaldehyde standard.

Consumers who bought Lumber Liquidators laminate flooring may be members of the class and may contact GBDH at: 800-538-1467 or [lumberinfo@gbdhlegal.com](mailto:lumberinfo@gbdhlegal.com).

*Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho (GBDH) is one of the oldest and most successful public interest law firms in the country, representing plaintiffs in complex and class action lawsuits in the areas of employment discrimination, wage and hour violations, disability access, voting rights, environmental justice, and consumer rights.*

*Lozeau Drury LLP is an Oakland-based law firm representing clients on a wide range of environmental issues.*