

August 22, 2011

DMS NOTICE QC-11-04

Discard: Retain

## TO: WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

## SUBJECT: CVS Pharmacy, Inc. Settlement

Attached is a final judgment pursuant to stipulation issued by the District Attorney's Office of Los Angeles County, in conjunction with the District Attorney's Offices of Ventura and Riverside Counties filed against CVS Pharmacy, Incorporated on August 17, 2011, for overcharging customers pursuant to California Business and Professions Codes 12024.2.

We both value and appreciate the fine work done on behalf of the people, by the prosecution team representing the various District Attorneys' Offices as well as the State and county investigators that documented and caused to be prosecuted these violations. CVS Pharmacy, Incorporated was assessed civil penalties and cost recovery of \$2,020,756.20 of which \$1,200,000 was for civil penalties, \$400,000 cy pres, and \$420,756.20 for court and weights and measures investigative costs. Cy Pres of \$300,000 was given to the Division of Measurement Standards to continue a Price Verification Program.

Los Angeles County should be sure to report these penalties in the County Monthly Report (CMR). All participating counties should separately record their individual investigative cost reimbursements in the appropriate columns in the report.

Sincerely,

Kristing Many

Kristin J. Macey Director

Cc: PQV Special Investigators Edmund Williams, Director, CDFA County Liaison Office



	1	STEVE COOLEY, District Attorney	
		County of Los Angeles REC'D	
	2	STANLEY P. WILLIAMS, State Bar No. 106658 Head Deputy District Attorney AUG 11 201	11
	3	GEORGE E. CASTELLO, State Bar No. 140357LING WINDO	RIGINAL FILED
	4	Assistant Head Deputy District Attorney	
	5	CAROLYN NAKAKI, State Bar No. 128126 Deputy District Attorney	AUG 1 7 2011
	5		LOS ANGELES
	6	Los Angeles, California 90012	IPERIOR COURT
	7	(213) 580-3273	
	8	GREGORY D. TOTTEN, District Attorney	
	9	County of Ventura CHERYL M. TEMPLE, State Bar No. 190316	
	10	Chief Deputy District Attorney	
	10	LINDA S. GROBERG, State Bar No. 113712	
	11	Senior Deputy District Attorney 5720 Ralston Street, Suite 300	
	12	Ventura, California 93003	
	13	(805) 662-1750	
		PAUL ZELLERBACH, District Attorney	×
	14	County of Riverside	
	15	DEBORAH LUCKY, State Bar No. 175648 Supervising Deputy District Attorney	
	16	ELISE FARRELL, State Bar No. 100929	
	17	Deputy District Attorney	
	17	3960 Orange Street Riverside, California 92501	
	18	(951) 955-5400	
	19	Attamary for Disintiffs	
	20	Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
		SUPERIOR COURT OF STATE OF CA	
	21	FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS AN	GELES BC467427
	22	PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,	Case No.:
	23		
	24	Plaintiff,	FINAL JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO
		v.	STIPULATION
	25		
	26	CVS PHARMACY, INC., a Rhode Island corporation, dba CVS/pharmacy,	
	27		
	28	Defendant.	
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Plaintiff, the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, by and through its attorneys, 1 Steve Cooley, District Attorney of Los Angeles County, by Stanley P. Williams, Head Deputy 2 District Attorney, George E. Castello, Assistant Head Deputy District Attorney and Carolyn 3 Nakaki, Deputy District Attorney; Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney of Ventura County, by 4 Cheryl M. Temple, Chief Deputy District Attorney, and Linda S. Groberg, Senior Deputy 5 6 District Attorney; and Paul Zellerbach, District Attorney of Riverside County, by Deborah Lucky, Supervising Deputy District Attorney and Elise Farrell, Deputy District Attorney, 7 (collectively "District Attorneys") having filed its complaint therein; and defendant CVS 8 PHARMACY, INC., a Rhode Island corporation, (hereinafter "CVS"), is now and, at all times 9 mentioned in this complaint, was a corporation with its registered office at One CVS Drive, 10 11 Woonsocket, Rhode Island, and is doing business in the State of California as CVS/pharmacy having acknowledged receipt thereof; and 12

Plaintiff appearing through its attorneys Steve Cooley, District Attorney of the County of 13 Los Angeles, State of California, by Stanley P. Williams and Carolyn Nakaki; Gregory D. 14 Totten, District Attorney of the County of Ventura, State of California by Cheryl M. Temple and 15 16 Linda S. Groberg; and Paul Zellerbach, District Attorney of the County of Riverside, State of 17 California, by Deborah Lucky and Elise Farrell; and defendant CVS, appearing by and through its attorneys, ReedSmith by Raymond Cardozo and John Hooper, and Howard Rice Nemerovski 18 Canady Falk & Rabkin by Dirk Schenkkan, and Dennis Palmer, Senior Vice President, West 19 Coast Operations, CVS Pharmacy, Inc.; 20

- IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that plaintiff and defendant, having stipulated and consented to the entry of this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation prior to the taking of any proof, and without trial or adjudication of any fact or law herein, and without this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation constituting any admission by defendant regarding any issue of fact or law alleged in said Complaint; and
  - The Court having considered the pleadings including the Stipulation of the parties;

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that plaintiff People of
the State of California is awarded judgment against defendant CVS as follows:

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1	JURISDICTION
2	1. This action is brought under California law and the Court has jurisdiction of the
3	subject matter hereof and the parties hereto.
4	APPLICABILITY
5	2. The provisions of this Judgment, including the injunction contained herein, are
6	applicable to defendant CVS and Enjoined Persons as defined in section 3b of this Final
7	Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation.
8	DEFINITIONS
9	3. For the purposes of this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation, the following
10	definitions shall apply:
11	a. "Advertised Price" means the price that is posted or displayed on the
12	commodity itself or on a shelf tag that corresponds to that commodity or the price for the
13	commodity published in any manner, including, but not limited to, a flyer, newspaper,
14	magazine, television, direct mail publication or on the internet or on any website. Nothing herein
15	will be construed to mean that a consumer will be eligible for an Advertised Price if he or she
16	fails to qualify under any limitations or terms disclosed in conjunction with the Advertised
17	Price, so long as such terms are clearly and conspicuously disclosed.
18	b. "Enjoined Persons" means CVS and its successors, assigns, and all
19	persons, corporations or other entities acting in concert or participation with CVS, individually,
20	who have actual knowledge of this judgment.
21	c. "Price Scanning System" means an automated system by which a
22	marking or tag affixed to a shelf label or an item offered for sale to the public is electronically
23	scanned at the Point of Sale ("POS") terminal to determine the identity of the item and the price
24	to be charged for the item.
25	d. <b>"POS Price"</b> means the price of an item when it is scanned at the POS
26	using the Price Scanning System.
27	e. "Pricing Discrepancy" means a variance between the Advertised Price
28	and the POS Price. For purposes of this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation, a Pricing -3-
	FINAL MIDCMENT PUDGHANT TO STIDIL ATION

Discrepancy shall not include (1) situations where the variance between the Advertised Price and the POS Price is consistent with a clear and conspicuous price correction notice notifying customers of an incorrect Advertised Price; (2) any variance between an Advertised Price and the POS Price when merchandise has been correctly stocked but inadvertently moved, transferred or transported to the wrong rack, shelf, display, or fixture; or (3) any variance that results in a consumer being charged a price lower than the Advertised Price.

f. "Report of Pricing Discrepancy" means a report to CVS store personnel
of a Pricing Discrepancy by any customer, CVS employee or employee or agent of a
government agency.

g. "Weights and Measures Official" means any representative of (1) the
State of California Division of Measurement Standards, (2) any California County Sealer, (3)
any Director of a California County Department of Agriculture, (4) the California Attorney
General, or (5) any California district or city attorney.

## **INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

4. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17535, Enjoined
Persons, and each of them, are permanently enjoined and restrained from directly or indirectly
engaging in any of the following acts or practices:

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a. Making or causing to be made to the public any statement representing a
price for an item or items offered for sale, including, but not limited to, statements made
on a store shelf or sign relative to the item, and charging a greater price at the time the
item is purchased.

b. Charging at the time of sale of a commodity an amount greater than the
lowest price that is advertised, posted, marked, displayed or quoted for that item, in violation of
Business and Professions Code section 12024.2.

c. Violating Business and Professions Code section 17500.

d. Violating Civil Code section 1770(a)(17).

SCANNER ACCURACY. Commencing within ninety (90) days from the date
of entry of this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation and continuing thereafter for a period of

three (3) years, to the extent it has not already done so, CVS will initiate and administer a price
 scanning accuracy program in its California CVS Pharmacy stores that has the following
 elements:

a. Policies and Procedures. CVS shall adopt a written set of pricing
accuracy policies and procedures ("Policies and Procedures") that incorporate the provisions of
this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation, as well as the provisions of Business and
Professions Code section 17500, Business and Professions Code section 12024.2 and Civil Code
section 1770(a)(17) which shall be maintained in a Pricing Compliance Binder ("PCB")
maintained in each CVS store in California.

10 b. Signature and Acknowledgement. All California CVS store managers and the individuals designated as the PAD and PACs (pursuant to subsections (c)(i) and (c)(ii) 11 below) shall be required to read the Policies and Procedures and sign an acknowledgement that 12 they have done so. CVS shall confirm its compliance with this provision by providing a sworn 13 declaration to that effect, executed by the Area Vice President charged with responsibility for 14 the California stores, to Carolyn Nakaki, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, 201 N. 15 Figueroa Street, Suite 1200, Los Angeles, CA 90012, by certified mail no later than one hundred 16 twenty (120) days from the entry of the Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation. 17

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## Appointment of Pricing Personnel.

i. 19 Corporate pricing personnel. CVS shall designate one individual (the "Price Accuracy Director" or "PAD") who, in addition to any other 20 duties, shall be responsible for overseeing with respect to all stores in California: (1) the 21 maintenance of accurate prices in the Price Scanning System, (2) price changes, and (3) 22 prompt reporting, research, and resolution of Pricing Discrepancies in the system or 23 stores. The PAD may delegate duties to other CVS employees, appoint "back-up" PADs, 24 25 or retain third-party providers as the PAD deems reasonable and appropriate to assist with the PAD's responsibilities. 26

ii. **In-store pricing personnel**. The store manager of each California CVS store shall either act as the store's Price Accuracy Coordinator ("PAC") or shall

* *,* <u>*</u> ,			
1	appoint other personnel to so act. The duties of a PAC shall be to oversee pricing		
2	accuracy in that store, including, but not limited to, the correction of signage errors and		
3	the conduct of in-store reviews, as well as promptly communicating pricing errors to		
4	appropriate personnel and the PAD. The PAC may delegate duties to other CVS		
5	employees, appoint "back-up" PACs or retain third-party providers as the PAC deems		
6	reasonable and appropriate to assist with the PAC's responsibilities.		
7	d. In-Store Price Inspections by CVS Personnel. Every PAC shall have a		
8	program of in-store price inspections to be conducted by a CVS employee or employees on a		
9	weekly basis.		
10	i. The in-store price inspection shall consist of no less than fifty (50)		
11	items selected without bias from items whose prices were altered in the previous seven		
12	(7) days.		
13	ii. If any Pricing Discrepancy is uncovered, the employee(s) will take		
14	the necessary steps promptly to correct the Pricing Discrepancy.		
15	iii. At the conclusion of the price check, the employee(s) shall inform		
16	the PAC of the results.		
17	iv. Upon being informed of any Pricing Discrepancy found in the		
18	inspection, the PAC shall confirm that the necessary steps to correct it have been		
19	completed.		
20	v. On a monthly basis, the PAC shall notify the PAD of any pricing		
21	errors found by reason of the price inspections, and the PAD shall act in good faith to		
22	ascertain that the appropriate action has been taken to determine the cause of the error(s)		
23	and correct them.		
24	vi. The employee(s) conducting the price check shall record, and the		
25	PAC shall record and retain as provided in the "Retention of Records" provision herein,		
26	the following information (1) the date of inspection, (2) the name of the person		
27	conducting the inspection, and (3) the items found to be in error.		
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Sign Takedown Inspections. On a weekly basis, the PAC shall conduct 1 e. an inspection to verify that the promotional sign takedown process was properly completed. The 2 inspection will consist of a review of all promotional signs in one aisle chosen arbitrarily from 3 each quadrant of the store (i.e. a total of four (4) aisles will be inspected each week). The PAC 4 shall record and retain as provided in the "Retention of Records" provision herein, the following 5 information: (1) the date of the inspection and (2) the number of expired signs, if any, found. 6

- f. End Cap Inspections. Once each week, the PAC shall conduct an end-7 cap pricing accuracy inspection. The inspection shall consist of at least six (6) end caps that 8 have been changed in the past week in conjunction with the weekly advertisements and will be 9 for the purpose of verifying that all items are priced accurately. The PAC shall record and retain, 10 as provided in the "Retention of Records" provision herein, the following information: (1) the 11 date of the inspection and (2) the number of errors, if any, found. 12
- In-Store Reports of Pricing Discrepancies. Whenever a CVS store 13 g. employee receives a Report of Pricing Discrepancy, the employee shall promptly investigate or 14 cause to be investigated whether there is an error. If the employee investigating the Report of 15 Pricing Discrepancy is someone other than the PAC and determines that a Pricing Discrepancy 16 exists, the employee shall notify the PAC. The PAC shall take appropriate action to resolve the 17 Pricing Discrepancy. CVS shall correct the Pricing Discrepancy within twenty-four (24) hours. 18 The PAC shall keep a record of all Pricing Discrepancies reported by customers or employees, 19 including a statement of the cause of the discrepancy, if known. The records shall be maintained 20 21 as provided in the "Retention of Records" provision herein.
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Reports of Pricing Discrepancies to the PAD. If a system error at the h. corporate level is verified, the PAD shall take reasonable steps to correct the system error within 23 forty-eight (48) hours of verifying it and shall keep a record (which may be in electronic format) 24 that s/he has done so. These records shall be maintained as provided in the "Retention of 25 Records" provision herein. 26

i. Records of Consumer Complaints. Within thirty (30) business days of a 27 written request to the PAD, any records of California consumer complaints regarding pricing 28 -7-

errors, as well as any corrective action taken by CVS regarding such complaints, for up to and 1 including the preceding twelve (12) months, shall be made available to any Weights and 2 Measures Official requesting it. 3 **Employee Training**. All employees shall participate in training sessions 4 j. 5 not less than twice each year. The training will include at least the following topics to improve 6 price accuracy: i. Price accuracy awareness. 7 ii How to insure that the correct prices are consistently displayed 8 and charged. 9 How to respond to price accuracy issues raised by customers. 10 iii. iv. Where to direct customers to find information on the details of the 11 ExtraCare® program, Extra Bucks® rewards, or any similar discount program. 12 13 6. **INCENTIVE PROGRAM.** Commencing within ninety (90) days and 14 continuing for a period of three (3) years from the date of entry of this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation, CVS shall implement a "Scan-right" guarantee program in its California stores as 15 follows: 16 Whenever CVS becomes aware at the time of sale that an item has 17 a. scanned at a price higher than the lowest shelf or advertised price, CVS shall provide one of the 18 19 following remedies to the customer: i. If the item's lowest advertised selling price is two dollars (\$2.00) 20 21 or less, the item shall be given free to the customer. ii. If the item's lowest advertised selling price is greater than two 22 23 dollars (\$2.00), the customer shall receive a two dollar (\$2.00) deduction from the item's lowest advertised selling price. 24 iii. Where the transaction involves multiple same-item purchases, the 25 customer shall receive the two dollar (\$2.00) reward on the first item only, and the 26 lowest advertised, posted, marked or quoted price shall apply to the remainder of the 27 28 items. -8-

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1The program shall not apply to alcohol, tobacco, or dairy products, prescription2drugs, or any other items where California law restricts the application of such discounts.

3 b. CVS shall inform customers of its program by posting signage that is clearly visible and legible to customers in the check stand areas. The signs shall state in words 4 substance: "CVS SCAN-RIGHT GUARANTEE. CVS IS COMMITTED TO 5 or ACCURATE PRICING! IF AN ITEM SCANS HIGHER THAN THE ADVERTISED 6 PRICE, WE WILL DO THE FOLLOWING\*: ITEMS UP TO \$2 WILL BE YOURS 7 8 FREE. ITEMS OVER \$2 WILL BE \$2 OFF. \*Includes only first item on multiple same-item purchases, and does not apply if a price error notice was already posted. Excludes alcohol, 9 tobacco, dairy products, and prescription drugs." 10

c. CVS employees will not be eligible for the incentive program. In addition, the customer will not be entitled to any of these remedies if a CVS employee corrects the price prior to the customer complaint or notification; if the merchandise had been inadvertently moved to an incorrect shelf or display; or if a clear and conspicuous price error notice was posted prior to the customer presenting the item at the check-out counter.

16 7. RETENTION AND USE OF RECORDS. Commencing within ninety (90)
17 days and continuing for a period of three (3) years from the date of entry of this Final Judgment
18 Pursuant to Stipulation, CVS shall:

a. Establish procedures to retain records required by this Stipulated Final
Injunction for at least one (1) year. Such records may be retained centrally and electronically
maintained rather than in hard copy, and shall be made available by to any requesting Weights
and Measures Official within ten (10) business days if feasible, but no later than thirty (30)
business days from the date of the request.

b. Defendants shall maintain a sample of all ad copy and advertisements
placed in any advertising medium in California, whether mail solicitation, newspaper, radio or
television for a period of three (3) years from the date the ad is placed or disseminated.

c. Any records CVS creates or maintains pursuant to this Final Judgment
 Pursuant to Stipulation shall not constitute a basis for a subsequent proceeding against any

1	Enjoined Persons absent independently obtained evidence of the specific violation(s) charged,		
2	except that such records shall be admissible in subsequent proceedings by the People of the		
3	State of California for the sole purpose of establishing compliance or failure of compliance with		
4	the provisions of Paragraphs 5.		
5	TIMING		
6	8. Unless otherwise delineated in the Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation, all		
7	corrective action with respect to advertising must be completed no later than October 30, 2011.		
8	MONETARY RELIEF		
9	9. CVS shall pay to Plaintiff the total amount of TWO MILLION TWENTY		
10	THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY SIX AND 20/100 DOLLARS (\$2,020,756.20),		
11	allocated as follows: civil penalties in the amount of ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED		
12	THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,200,000); cy pres restitution in the amount of FOUR HUNDRED		
13	THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000); and court fees and costs of investigation in the amount of		
14	FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX AND 20/100		
15	DOLLARS (\$420,756.20) as enumerated below:		
16	a. Civil penalties totaling ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND		
17	DOLLARS (\$1,200,000) to the following entities:		
18	Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office \$400,000		
19	Ventura County District Attorney's Office \$400,000		
20	Riverside County District Attorney's Office \$400,000		
21	b. Recognizing the infeasibility of identifying consumers who suffered		
22	actual loss, the impracticality of providing direct restitution to said consumers, and the		
23	disproportionate cost of making restitution to individual consumers, which would far exceed the		
24	benefit consumers would gain, the parties agree that defendant shall pay, pursuant to Business		
25	and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17535, cy pres restitution in the sum of FOUR		
26	HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000), the purpose of this \$400,000 cy pres		
27	payment is remedial and not punitive, with THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS		
28	(\$300,000) to be paid to the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of		
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1	Measurement Standards, to be used for the "price verification" program, and	ONE	HUNDRED	
2	THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000) to be paid to the Consumer Protection			
3				
4	Fund established in the case of <i>People v. ITT Consumer Financial Corp</i> Superior Court Case No 656038-0) payable as follows:	Jorun	on (Alalileua	
4	California Department of Measurement Standards	٩	300,000	
		\$100,000		
6 7	ITT Consumer Protection Trust Fund c. Court fees and costs of investigation in the amount of			
8		0/100	DOLLARS	
9 10	9 (\$420,756.20) to the following entities by remitting separate and individual checks payable to			
10	the listed entities in the amounts described below: Filing fees:			
11	Los Angeles County Superior Court	9	395.00	
12	Costs of Investigation:	4	5 555.00	
13	Amador County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	199.88	
14	CDFA, Division of Measurement Standards	\$	24,675.00	
15	Contra Costa County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	7,267.50	
10	Glenn County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	155.68	
17	Humboldt County Department of Agriculture	\$	650.80	
18	Lake County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	165.91	
20	Los Angeles County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	223,196.95	
20	Madera County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	255.15	
21	Marin County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	3,108.08	
22	Orange County Agricultural Commissioner	\$	8,694.00	
23	Riverside County, Division of Weights and Measures	\$	25,967.06	
25	Sacramento County, Division of Weights and Measures	\$	4,800.00	
25	San Bernardino County, Division of Weights and Measures	\$	19,572.00	
20	San Diego County, Division of Weights and Measures	\$	26,704.67	
27	San Joaquin County, Division of Weights and Measures	\$	1,381.60	
20	-11-	Ψ	1,301.00	
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1	San Luis Obispo County Dept of Agriculture/Weights and Measures	\$	1,590.00
2	San Mateo County, Dept of Agriculture/Weights and Measures	\$	1,725.94
3	Santa Barbara County Division of Weights and Measures	\$	5,960.00
4	Santa Clara County Weights and Measures Division	\$	31,954.33
5	Santa Cruz County Department of Weights and Measures	\$	1,196.00
6	Shasta County Department of Weights and Measures	\$	864.16
7	Solano County, Dept of Agriculture/Weights and Measures	\$	348.00
8	Sonoma County Sealer of Weights and Measures	\$	2,111.50
. 9	Stanislaus County Sealer of Weights and Measures	\$	1,728.99
10	Tulare County Weights and Measures	\$	552.00
11	Ventura County Weights and Measures	\$	25,536.00
12	TOTAL COURT FEES AND COSTS OF INVESTIGATION:	\$	420,756.20
13	d. At the time the Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation	on is pr	esented to the
14	court, defendant shall submit corporate, certified or cashier's checks repre	senting	full payment
15	of civil penalties and fees. Within ten days of entry of the Final Ju	dgmen	t Pursuant to
16	Stipulation, defendant shall submit the costs of investigation and cy pres re	stitution	n identified in
17	paragraphs 9(b) and (c). The penalties, cy pres restitution, and costs of	f invest	tigation to be
18	deposited only upon the signing of the Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipula	ation, a	nd returned if
19	the Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation is not signed. Said checks s	hall be	submitted to
20	Carolyn Nakaki, Deputy District Attorney, Los Angeles County Distric	t Attor	mey's Office,
21	Consumer Protection Division, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1200, Los	s Angel	les, California
22	90012.		
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