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Ms. Rubin:

The CertiPUR-US® program is administered by a nonprofit organization that was established in 2008 with the purpose of raising the standard for flexible polyurethane foam sold in the United States for bedding and upholstered furniture. CertiPUR-US certified foams meet rigorous standards for content, emissions and durability and are analyzed by independent, accredited laboratories. We share your commitment to helping people make wise choices about home furnishings.

We have concerns, though, about attributing your lead level findings as stated in your blog dated December 31, 2021, to the certified foam because they are so outside the norm of what we typically see in testing conducted by any of our approved, independent, accredited laboratories. In the CertiPUR-US laboratory test results, lead levels are typically between 1.0 to 2.0 parts per million (ppm) which are well within Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) requirements for children's toys. The actual levels might be even lower since these represent the lowest levels of detection by the approved laboratories.

Some background: Lead is not used in the production of flexible polyurethane foam, but we test for its presence, and foams we certify must be within our standard's allowable threshold which is 90 ppm -- below the 100 ppm limit set by the CPSC for children's toys. In fact, CertiPUR-US® certification criteria uses CPSC approved testing and detection methodology for lead testing. Certification testing is conducted on newly manufactured foam and would not account for any supply chain contamination.

As you will see in Section 4 of our [Technical Guidelines](#) (downloadable on our website), to test for lead (and other metals, including arsenic) foams are analyzed by one of three independent, globally accredited laboratories (which are also approved by the CPSC for lead testing). Presence and levels of lead are analyzed using the Digestive Test Method: ASTM F963-17 Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety, Section 8.3.1: The foam samples are completely digested with acid and analyzed by Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) per CPSC-CH-E1001-8.3 (non-metal surfaces).

Our testing also complies with Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA), Section 101 for total lead content. Limit of Quantitation (LOQ) should be <2.0 ppm for all substances. This testing method is more reliable than hand-held XRF analyzers.

CertiPUR-US® certified foams are tested twice in their first year with our program and annually thereafter. In addition, we do random verification testing of participating foam producers to ensure compliance with our standards. The foam produced for the Medley Home sofas you tested are from a foam producer in good standing and up-to-date certifying foams through the CertiPUR-US program. As part of the verification process, this foam producer was among those selected for our random

verification testing in November 2021. Samples were taken in December 2021 and the lab results were completed January 7, 2022. In the tested sample, the lead level was <2.0 ppm.

It is our understanding that Medley Home is working with you to do further testing of their sofa cushions which includes components other than foam, and which is outside our involvement. However, in the public's interest and as appropriate, we will contribute our scientific knowledge to assist in determining where and how in the supply chain the foam could have become contaminated with lead.

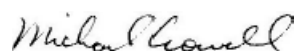
I want to correct your reference to claims of CertiPUR-US® foam being lead-free. In your blog post, you state that we market CertiPUR-US certified foam as lead-free. That is not true. That has never been a claim we make. Our standards require that lead in foam be within the acceptable levels outlined by the CPSC for their children's toys standard, which is for lead not to exceed 100 ppm. Our limit is 90 ppm – more stringent than the CPSC acceptable level. In fact, we require participating companies to accurately describe certified foam as “*made without mercury, lead and other heavy metals.*” You will not find any claims about “lead-free” on our website or in our marketing materials. We are quite diligent about accurate language associated with our certification as is outlined in our [Terms of Use Manual](#) and we follow the FTC Green Guides.

It is irresponsible to potentially defame the CertiPUR-US certification by publishing inaccurate information. We are very concerned that you would make such statements without giving us the courtesy of an opportunity to review your findings and statements before publication since they directly attack the integrity of the CertiPUR-US certification program.

We request that you remove any references to the CertiPUR-US program in your original or related blog posts. In addition, we request that through your blog forum, you publicly reply to people who expressed concerns about the CertiPUR-US program or products containing CertiPUR-US certified foam to set the record straight with this statement, unedited:

Statements made previously in this blog about CertiPUR-US® certified foam were incorrect. CertiPUR-US certified foams are not made with lead. Any lead found in foam samples during the required analytical testing by approved, independent and accredited laboratories – using Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) approved testing methodology -- must not exceed 90 ppm, which falls well below the CPSC safety limit of 100 ppm for children's toys. According to the executive director of the nonprofit CertiPUR-US program, based on nearly 500 lab reports from the past 24 months, lead levels in certified foams were in the 1.0 to 2.0 ppm range, an almost undetectable level of lead and far below the CPSC safety guidelines. Certification testing is conducted on newly manufactured foam and would not account for contamination from other sources.

Sincerely,



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