



Styrene Information and Research Center (SIRC)

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**Styrene Information and Research Center Statement on Court's  
Preliminary Ruling to Stop California from Proposition 65 Listing of Styrene**

(On Aug. 12, 2009, Judge Shelleyanne W.L. Chang of the Superior Court of the State of California (Sacramento County) ordered California not to add styrene to the Proposition 65 list of chemicals "known to the State of California to cause cancer" until the court decides the lawsuit filed July 14 by the Styrene Information and Research Center (SIRC). SIRC asked for this injunction on the basis that styrene is not a human carcinogen and that placing it on the Proposition 65 list would stigmatize the chemical and cause irreparable harm to the styrene industry. The following statement concerning these proceedings may be attributed to Jack Snyder, executive director of the Styrene Information and Research Center, Arlington, Va.)

"We are gratified that the court's order will prevent the California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment from placing styrene on the Proposition 65 list at least until our legal challenge to the proposed listing ultimately is resolved.

"The court understood the evidence that styrene is not a human carcinogen, and that placing it on the Proposition 65 list without justification would stigmatize styrene and cause irreparable harm to the styrene industry. Proposition 65 was intended to be a science-based list of known carcinogens, not a list of suspect chemicals. Our California legal counsel, Greenberg Traurig, did an excellent job of presenting our case, and we think Judge Chang's analysis and ruling were correct.

"It is worth noting that no authoritative body anywhere in the world considers styrene to be a known human carcinogen. And the latest scientific evidence, including a comprehensive review of the epidemiology by a panel of internationally recognized scientists, points away from styrene's human cancer-causing potential."

-- SIRC --

(SIRC's legal filings are available by request to SIRC communications advisor Joe Walker, [walkercom2@aol.com](mailto:walkercom2@aol.com) or 703-491-3301.)