

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



FDA ADVISORY
No. 2020 - 428

19 MAR 2020

TO:

THE GENERAL PUBLIC

SUBJECT:

Public Health Warning Against the Purchase and Consumption of the Following Unregistered Food Supplements and Food Products:

- 1. ALASKA LIFE EFA Omega 3 Food Supplement Softgels
- 2. MAHARLIKA Ampalaya Plus 3 in 1 Food Supplement Capsule
- 3. SHINE L-Glutathione
- 4. MERJ Chia Milk Tea Hokkaido Flavor
- 5. MERJ Chia Milk Tea Okinawa Flavor

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) warns the public from purchasing and consuming the following unregistered food supplements and food products:



Figure 1. Unregistered ALASKA LIFE EFA Omega 3 Food Supplement Softgels

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Figure 2. Unregistered MAHARLIKA Ampalaya Plus 3 in 1 Food Supplement Capsule



Figure 3. Unregistered SHINE L-Glutathione



Figure 4. Unregistered MERJ Chia Milk Tea Hokkaido Flavor



Figure 5. Unregistered MERJ Chia Milk Tea Okinawa Flavor

The FDA verified through post-marketing surveillance that the abovementioned food supplements and food products are not authorized and the Certificates of Product Registration have not been issued. Pursuant to the Republic Act No. 9711, otherwise known as the "Food and Drug Administration Act of 2009", the manufacture, importation, exportation, sale, offering for sale, distribution, transfer, non-consumer use, promotion, advertising or sponsorship of health products without the proper authorization is prohibited.

Since these unregistered food supplements and food products have not gone through evaluation process of the FDA, the agency cannot assure their quality and safety. The use of such violative products may pose health risks to consumers.

In light of the foregoing, the public is advised not to purchase the aforementioned violative products. Moreover, the public is advised to always check if a food product or food supplement is registered with the FDA. The FDA website (www.fda.gov.ph) has a Search feature which may be used by typing in the name of the product before purchasing.

All concerned establishments are warned not to distribute violative food products and food supplements until they have been issued the appropriate authorization, a License to Operate (LTO) for the establishment, and a CPR for the food product or food supplement.

All FDA Regional Field Offices and Regulatory Enforcement Units, in coordination with law enforcement agencies and Local Government Units, are requested to ensure that violative products are not sold or made available in the market or areas of jurisdiction.

Kindly contact the FDA Center for Food Regulation and Research through e-mail at <u>cfrr@fda.gov.ph</u>, or call (02) 8857-1900 loc. 8112 & 8115.

To report any sale or distribution of unregistered food products and food supplements, the online reporting facility, eReport can be accessed at www.fda.gov.ph/ereport.

Dissemination of this advisory to all concerned is hereby requested.

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Director General

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