

California sues over lead in toys

by UPI

SAN FRANCISCO -- California is suing 20 of the world's most popular toy makers and retailers for allegedly selling products with unlawful amounts of lead. California State Attorney General Jerry Brown accused Mattel Inc., Toys R Us, Fisher-Price Inc. and 17 other firms of selling dangerous toys and failing to tell the public they were hazardous, the San Francisco Chronicle reported Tuesday. Others named in the lawsuit filed Monday in Superior Court include Michaels Stores Inc., Costco Wholesale Corp., Eveready Battery Co., Kmart Corp., Marvel Entertainment and Sears, Roebuck and Co. The lawsuit follows large recalls of toys, including some from the popular Sesame Street line, SpongeBob and parts of the wood train set Thomas & Friends. Mattel, the world's largest toymaker, has cooperated with Brown's office since the recalls began in June, said Mattel spokeswoman Lisa Marie Bongiovanni.

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