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**Local Officials Oppose Lead Paint Companies' Appeal to U.S.  
Supreme Court Seeking to Evade Liability for Poisoning Children**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.** – On August 22, 2018, the county counsels and city attorneys for ten California counties and cities, acting on behalf of the People of the State of California, filed an opposition brief in the U.S. Supreme Court opposing Sherwin-Williams and other lead paint companies' last-ditch attempt to avoid responsibility for cleaning up lead paint that continues to poison thousands of children in California each year.

“Sherwin-Williams and other lead paint companies knew of lead paint’s deadly harms to children at the time they were aggressively marketing it, but hid that knowledge from the public and continued to push lead paint for their own profit. This reprehensible conduct was unlawful then and is unlawful now, and the judgment in this case reflects the lead paint companies uniquely egregious conduct,” said Santa Clara County Counsel James R. Williams.

California courts found extensive evidence that the former lead paint manufacturers—the Sherwin-Williams Company, ConAgra Grocery Products, and NL Industries, Inc.— promoted lead paint despite knowing that lead was a deadly poison, particularly to young children. To this day, lead exposure is the single biggest environmental health problem for children in California and around the country. The companies are seeking U.S. Supreme Court review of a judgment ordering the companies to pay hundreds of millions of dollars to clean up lead paint in homes throughout California to prevent children from being poisoned.

Additional information about the case is available at [www.sccgov.org/leadpaint](http://www.sccgov.org/leadpaint).

The case has been litigated by county counsels and city attorneys of the County of Santa Clara, the County of Alameda, the City of Oakland, the City and County of San Francisco, the City of

San Diego, the County of Los Angeles, the County of Monterey, the County of San Mateo, the County of Solano, and the County of Ventura. The counties and cities are working in collaboration with the law firms of Altshuler Berzon LLP, Cotchett Pitre & McCarthy LLP, Motley Rice LLP, Mary Alexander and Associates, and the Law Offices of Peter Earle.