Deputy

FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

ELECTRONICALLY FILED

Superior Court of California County of Sacramento

> 11/05/2024 A. Grav

By:

#### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

## NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

GILMORE SERVICES, LLC, a California limited liability company; and DOES 1-50, Inclusive,

## YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

MICHAEL HALTON, an individual, on behalf of themself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:

11/05/2024

(Fecha)

(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Sacramento Superior Court

Gordon D. Schaber Courthouse - 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso):

240 V 022470

The name	, address, and telephone	number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an	attorney, is:	
(El nombre	e, la dirección y el número	de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del d	emandante que no tiene abogado	), es):
Shani O. Z	Zakay, Esq. T: (619) 255-9	047 Zakay Law Group, APLC - 5440 Morehouse [	Orive, Suite 3600, San Diego, CA	92121
DATE:	4440540004	Clerk, by		, Deputy

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

(Secretario)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

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[SEAL]	
THE STATE OF THE S	COURT OF CALL

1.	as an individual defendant.	
2.	as the person sued under the fictitious name of (	specify):
3.	on behalf of (specify):	
	under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) other (specify):	CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
4.	by personal delivery on (date):	Page 1 of 1

(Adiunto)

1	<b>ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC</b> Shani O. Zakay (State Bar #277924)	
2	Jackland K. Hom (State Bar #327243)	ELECTRONICALLY FILED
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12	Attorneys for PLAINTIFF	
13	•	
	SUPERIOR COURT OF THI	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14	IN AND FOR THE COUN	NTY OF SACRAMENTO
15	MICHAEL HALTON, an individual, on behalf	Case No: 240V022470
16	of themself, and on behalf of all persons	
17	similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:
18	Plaintiff, v.	1) UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §17200 et
19		seq;
20	GILMORE SERVICES, LLC, a California limited liability company; and DOES 1-50,	2) FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§
21	Inclusive,	1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
22	Defendants.	3) FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§
23		510, <i>et seq</i> ; 4) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
24		MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF
25		CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
		5) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
26		REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE
27		APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
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1 2 3 4 5	6) FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203; 7) FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226; 8) FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802.
6	DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL
7	
8	PLAINTIFF MICHAEL HALTON ("PLAINTIFF") an individual, on behalf of themself,
9	and on behalf of all persons similarly situated current and former employees, allege on information
10	and belief, except for their own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge, the
11	following:
12	PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS
13	1. DEFENDANT GILMORE SERVICES, LLC ("DEFENDANT" and/or
14	"DEFENDANTS") is a California limited liability company that at all relevant times mentioned
15	herein conducted and continues to conduct substantial and regular business throughout California.
16	2. DEFENDANT provides heating, ventilation, and air conditioning services,
17	including in the county of Sacramento where PLAINTIFF worked.
18	3. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANT in California from December 2023
19	to April of 2024 as a non-exempt employee, paid on an hourly basis and entitled to the legally
20   21	required meal and rest periods and payment of minimum and overtime wages due for all time
22	worked.
23	4. PLAINTIFF bring this Class Action on behalf of themself and a California class,
24	defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and
	classified as non-exempt employees (the "CALIFORNIA CLASS") at any time during the period
<ul><li>25</li><li>26</li></ul>	beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined
27	by the Court (the "CLASS PERIOD"). The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of the
28	CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).

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and damages hereinafter alleged.

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and continue to retain wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who have been economically injured by DEFENDANT'S past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable relief. 6. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, subsidiary, partnership, associate or otherwise of DEFENDANT DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are presently

CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their losses incurred during

the CLASS PERIOD caused by DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice which failed to

lawfully compensate these employees. DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice alleged

herein was an unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practice whereby DEFENDANT retained

PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of themself and a CALIFORNIA

pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 474. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend this Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of Does 1 through 50, inclusive, when they are ascertained. PLAINTIFF are informed and believe, and based upon that information and belief allege, that the DEFENDANT named in this Complaint, including DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are responsible in some manner for one or more of the events and happenings that proximately caused the injuries

unknown to PLAINTIFF who therefore sues these DEFENDANT by such fictitious names

7. The agents, servants and/or employees of the Defendants and each of them acting on behalf of the Defendants acted within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as the agent, servant and/or employee of the Defendants, and personally participated in the conduct alleged herein on behalf of the Defendants with respect to the conduct alleged herein. Consequently, the acts of each DEFENDANTS are legally attributable to the other Defendants and all Defendants are jointly and severally liable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, for the loss sustained as a proximate result of the conduct of the DEFENDANT'S agents, servants and/or employees.

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- 8. DEFENDANT was PLAINTIFF'S employer or persons acting on behalf of the PLAINTIFF'S employer, within the meaning of California Labor Code § 558, who violated or caused to be violated, a section of Part 2, Chapter 1 of the California Labor Code or any provision regulating hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare Commission and, as such, are subject to civil penalties for each underpaid employee, as set forth in Labor Code § 558, at all relevant times.
- 9. DEFENDANT was PLAINTIFF'S employer or persons acting on behalf of PLAINTIFF'S employer either individually or as an officer, agent, or employee of another person, within the meaning of California Labor Code § 1197.1, who paid or caused to be paid to any employee a wage less than the minimum fixed by California state law, and as such, are subject to civil penalties for each underpaid employee.
- 10. DEFENDANT'S uniform policies and practices alleged herein were unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practices whereby DEFENDANT retained and continue to retain wages due to PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
- 11. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who has been economically injured by DEFENDANT'S past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable relief.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 12. This Court has jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 410.10 and California Business & Professions Code, Section 17203. This action is brought as a Class Action on behalf of PLAINTIFF and similarly situated employees of DEFENDANT pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382.
- 13. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Sections 395 and 395.5, because DEFENDANT operates in locations across California, employs the CALIFORNIA CLASS across California, including in this County, and committed the wrongful conduct herein alleged in this County against the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

#### THE CONDUCT

14. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANT as a matter of company policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally, knowingly, and systematically failed to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods, failed to accurately compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for missed meal and rest periods, failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked, failed compensate PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for off-the-clock work, failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS overtime at the correct regular rate of pay, failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS meal rest premiums at the regular rate, failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for business expenses, and failed to issue to PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with accurate itemized wage statements showing, among other things, all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay periods and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate. DEFENDANT'S uniform policies and practices are intended to purposefully avoid the accurate and full payment for all time worked as required by California law which allows DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an unfair advantage over competitors who comply with the law. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS against DEFENDANT, the CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

#### A. Meal Period Violations

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15. Pursuant to the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, DEFENDANT was required to pay PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all their time worked, meaning the time during which an employee is subject to the control of an employer, including all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to work without paying them for all the time they were under DEFENDANT'S control. Specifically, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF to work while clocked out during what was supposed to be

PLAINTIFF'S off-duty meal break. Indeed, there were many days where PLAINTIFF did not even receive a partial lunch. As a result, the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members forfeited minimum wage and overtime compensation by regularly working without their time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable minimum wage and overtime rates. DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice not to pay PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all time worked is evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records.

16. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, as a result of their rigorous work schedules and DEFENDANT'S inadequate staffing practices, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are from time to time unable to take thirty (30) minute off duty meal breaks and were not fully relieved of duty for their meal periods. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANT for more than five (5) hours during some shifts without receiving a meal break. Further, DEFENDANT fails to provide PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with a second off-duty meal period for some workdays in which these employees are required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. The nature of the work performed by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members does not qualify for the limited and narrowly construed "onduty" meal period exception. When they were provided with meal periods, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were, from time to time, required to remain on premises, on duty and on call. DEFENDANT'S failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with legally required meal breaks is evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore forfeit meal breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT'S strict corporate policy and practice.

#### **B.** Rest Period Violations

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17. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods as a result of their rigorous work requirements and

DEFENDANT'S inadequate staffing. Further, for the same reasons, these employees were denied their first rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of at least two (2) to four (4) hours from time to time, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours from time to time, and a first, second and third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more from time to time. When they were provided with rest breaks, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were, from time to time, required to remain on premises, on duty and/or on call. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also not provided with one-hour wages *in lieu* thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules and DEFENDANT'S inadequate staffing, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were from time to time denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT'S managers.

#### C. Wage Statement Violations

- 18. California Labor Code Section 226 required an employer to furnish its employees and accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece-rate, (4) all deductions, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and only the last four digits of the employee's social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.
- 19. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, when PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurately for missed meal and rest period premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANT also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, all deductions, the total hours worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period, and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate, correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed meal and rest periods.

CALIFORNIA CLASS Members of all minimum regular, overtime, and double time wages owed

exempt employees, subject to the requirements of the California Labor Code.

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DEFENDANT'S policies and practices deprived PLAINTIFF and the other

for the off-the-clock work activities. Because PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS typically worked over forty (40) hours in a workweek, and more than eight (8) hours per day, DEFENDANT'S policies and practices also deprived them of overtime pay.

- 29. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS off-the-clock work was compensable under the law.
- 30. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited wages due to them for all hours worked at DEFENDANT'S direction, control, and benefit for the time spent working while off-the-clock. DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records.

# E. Regular Rate Violation – Overtime, Double Time, Meal and Rest Period Premiums, and Redeemed Sick Pay

- 31. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed and continue to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for their overtime and double time hours worked, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members forfeited wages due to them for working overtime without compensation at the correct overtime and double time rates, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay rates. DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice not to pay the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at the correct rate for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records.
- 32. State law provides that employees must be paid overtime at one-and-one-half times their "regular rate of pay." PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were compensated at an hourly rate plus incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an employee's performance.
  - 33. The second component of PLAINTIFF'S and other CALIFORNIA CLASS

Members' compensation was DEFENDANT'S non-discretionary incentive program that paid PLAINTIFF and other CLASS MEMBERS incentive wages based on their performance for DEFENDANT. The non-discretionary bonus program provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with bonus compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANT.

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- 34. However, from-time-to-time, when calculating the regular rate of pay, in those pay periods where PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members worked overtime, double time, paid meal and rest period premium payments, and/or redeemed sick pay, and earned nondiscretionary bonus, DEFENDANT failed to accurately include the non-discretionary bonus compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked rather than just all non-overtime hours worked. Management and supervisors described the incentive/bonus program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package. As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted in a systematic underpayment of overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members by DEFENDANT. Specifically, California Labor Code Section 246 mandates that paid sick time for non-employees shall be calculated in the same manner as the regular rate of pay for the workweek in which the non-exempt employee uses paid sick time, whether or not the employee actually works overtime in that workweek. DEFENDANT'S conduct, as articulated herein, by failing to include the incentive compensation as part of the "regular rate of pay" for purposes of sick pay compensation was in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 246 the underpayment of which is recoverable under Cal. Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203 and/or 204.
- 35. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANT as a matter of company policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally and knowingly failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS at the correct rate of pay for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and sick pay.

This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANT is intended to purposefully avoid the payment of the correct overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period premiums, and sick pay as required by California law which allowed DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an unfair advantage over competitors who complied with the law. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS members against DEFENDANT, the CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

#### F. <u>Unreimbursed Business Expenses</u>

- 36. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally, knowingly, and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify the PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business expenses incurred by the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members in direct consequence of discharging their duties on behalf of DEFENDANT. Under California Labor Code Section 2802, employers are required to indemnify employees for all expenses incurred in the course and scope of their employment. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 expressly states that "an employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer, even though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them to be unlawful."
- 37. In the course of their employment, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to incur personal expenses for the use of their personal cell phones as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to use their own personal cell phones in order to perform work related tasks. However, DEFENDANT unlawfully failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the personal expenses incurred for the use of their own personal cell phones. As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANT, the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incurred unreimbursed business expenses that included, but were not limited to, costs related to the use of their own personal cell phones, all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT.

#### **G.** Unlawful Rounding Practices

- 38. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT did not have in place an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the actual time these employees worked each day, including overtime hours. Specifically, DEFENDANT had in place an unlawful rounding policy and practice that resulted in PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members being undercompensated for all of their time worked. As a result, DEFENDANT was able to and did in fact unlawfully, and unilaterally round the time recorded in DEFENDANT'S timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for all their time worked, including the applicable overtime compensation for overtime worked. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, from time to time, forfeited compensation for their time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable overtime rates.
- 39. Further, the mutability of DEFENDANT'S timekeeping system and unlawful rounding policy and practice resulted in PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' time being inaccurately recorded. As a result, from time to time, DEFENDANT'S unlawful rounding policy and practice caused PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANT for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break.

#### H. <u>Timekeeping Manipulation</u>

40. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT, from time-to-time, did not have an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the actual time PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS worked each day, including regular time, overtime hours, sick pay, meal and rest breaks. As a result, DEFENDANT was able to and did in fact, unlawfully, and unilaterally alter the time recorded in DEFENDANT'S timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for all hours worked, applicable overtime compensation, applicable sick pay, missed meal breaks and missed

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- 41. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, from time-to-time, forfeited time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable pay rates.
- 42. The mutability of the timekeeping system also allowed DEFENDANT to alter employee time records by recording fictitious thirty (30) minute meal breaks in DEFENDANT'S timekeeping system so as to create the appearance that PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS clocked out for thirty (30) minute meal break when in fact the employees were not at all times provided an off-duty meal break. This practice is a direct result of DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice of denying employees uninterrupted thirty (30) minute off-duty meal breaks each day or otherwise compensate them for missed meal breaks.
- As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS 43. forfeited wages due them for all hours worked at DEFENDANT'S direction, control and benefit for the time the timekeeping system was inoperable. DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records.

#### **Violations for Untimely Payment of Wages**

- 44. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 204, PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members were entitled to timely payment of wages during their employment. PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, from time to time, did not receive payment of all wages, including, but not limited to, overtime wages, minimum wages, meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages within permissible time period.
- 45. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 201, "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately." Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 202, if an employee quits his or her employment, "his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her

wages at the time of quitting." PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were, from time to time, not timely provided the wages earned and unpaid at the time of their discharge and/or at the time of quitting, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201 and 202.

46. As such, PLAINTIFF demands up to thirty days of pay as penalty for not timely paying all wages due at time of termination for all CALIFORNIA CLASS Members whose employment ended during the CLASS PERIOD.

#### J. <u>Unlawful Deductions</u>

47. DEFENDANT, from time-to-time unlawfully deducted wages from PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' pay without explanations and without authorization to do so or notice to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. As a result, DEFENDANT violated Labor Code § 221.

#### K. Sick Pay Violations

- 48. Cal. Labor Code Section 246 (a)(1) mandates that "An employee who, on or after July 1, 2015, works in California for the same employer for 30 or more days within a year from the commencement of employment is entitled to paid sick days as specified in this section." Further, Cal. Labor Code Sections 246(b)-(d) provide for the sick day accrual requirements. From time to time, DEFENDANT failed to have a policy or practice in place that provided PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with sick days and/or paid sick leave. As of January 1, 2024, DEFENDANT failed to adhere to the law in that they failed to provide and allow employees to use at least 40 hours or five days of paid sick leave per year.
- 49. California Labor Code Section 246(i) requires an employer to furnish its employees with written wage statements setting forth the amount of paid sick leave available. From time to time, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code § 246 by failing to furnish PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements setting forth the amount of paid sick leave available.
- 50. Specifically, as to PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF were from time to time unable to take off duty meal and rest breaks and were not fully relieved of duty for their rest and meal periods. PLAINTIFF were required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANT for more than five (5)

hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break. Further, DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF with a second off-duty meal period each workday in which he was required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. When DEFENDANT provided PLAINTIFF with a rest break, they required PLAINTIFF to remain on premises, on-duty and on-call for their rest break. DEFENDANT policy caused PLAINTIFF to remain on premises, on-call and on-duty during what was supposed to be their off-duty meal periods. PLAINTIFF therefore forfeited meal and rest breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT'S strict corporate policy and practice. Moreover, DEFENDANT also provided PLAINTIFF with paystubs that failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further, DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF for required business expenses related to the use of their personal cell phones, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 2802. To date, DEFENDANT have not fully paid PLAINTIFF the minimum, overtime and double time compensation still owed to them or any penalty wages owed to them under Cal. Lab. Code § 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF individually does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

#### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 51. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of themself, and a California class defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and classified as non-exempt employees (the "CALIFORNIA CLASS") at any time during the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined by the Court (the "CLASS PERIOD").
- 52. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have uniformly been deprived of wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to unpaid minimum wages, unpaid overtime compensation, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, illegal meal and rest period policies, failed compensate for off-the-clock work, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failure to maintain required records, and interest, statutory and civil penalties, attorney's fees, costs, and expenses.
- 53. The members of the class are so numerous that joinder of all class members is impractical.

- 54. Common questions of law and fact regarding DEFENDANT'S conduct, including but not limited to, off-the-clock work, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, failure to accurately calculate the regular rate of pay for overtime compensation, failure to accurately calculate the regular rate of compensation for missed meal and rest period premiums, failing to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements accurate, failed to reimburse for business expenses, and failure to ensure they are paid at least minimum wage and overtime, exist as to all members of the class and predominate over any questions affecting solely any individual members of the class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the class are:
  - a. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant meal period policies and practices;
  - b. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant rest period policies and practices;
  - c. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
     Members accurate premium payments for missed meal and rest periods;
  - d. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
     Members accurate overtime wages;
  - e. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at least minimum wage for all hours worked;
  - f. Whether DEFENDANT failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
     CLASS Members for required business expenses;
  - g. Whether DEFENDANT issued legally compliant wage statements;
  - h. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically failing to record and pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked;
  - Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically failing to record all meal and rest breaks missed by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit

1	format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS will
2	create the risk of:
3	a. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the
4	CALIFORNIA CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of conduct
5	for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and/or,
6	b. Adjudication with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
7	which would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of the other
8	members not party to the adjudication or substantially impair or impeded their
9	ability to protect their interests.
10	63. Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring an
11	efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour related claims arising out of
12	the conduct of DEFENDANT.
13	FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
14	Unlawful Business Practices
15	(Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.)
16	(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)
17	64. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
18	incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
19	Complaint.
20	65. DEFENDANT is a "person" as that term is defined under Cal. Bus. And Prof.
21	Code § 17021.
22	66. California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL") defines
23	unfair competition as any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice. Section 17203
24	authorizes injunctive, declaratory, and/or other equitable relief with respect to unfair competition
25	as follows:
26	Any person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition may be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. The court may make such orders or
27	judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be necessary to prevent the use or employment by any person of any practice which constitutes unfair competition, as
28	defined in this chapter, or as may be necessary to restore to any person in interest any

money or property, real or personal, which may have been acquired by means of such unfair competition. (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203).

- 67. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT have engaged and continue to engage in a business practice which violates California law, including but not limited to, the applicable Wage Order(s), the California Code of Regulations and the California Labor Code including Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and 2802 for which this Court should issue declaratory and other equitable relief pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203 as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct held to constitute unfair competition, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.
- 68. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT'S practices were unlawful and unfair in that these practices violated public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive unscrupulous or substantially injurious to employees, and were without valid justification or utility for which this Court should issue equitable and injunctive relief pursuant to Section 17203 of the California Business & Professions Code, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.
- 69. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT'S practices were deceptive and fraudulent in that DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice failed to provide the legally mandated meal and rest periods and the required amount of compensation for missed meal and rest periods, and failed to pay minimum and overtime wages owed, due to a systematic business practice that cannot be justified, pursuant to the applicable Cal. Lab. Code, and Industrial Welfare Commission requirements in violation of Cal. Bus. Code §§ 17200, et seq., and for which this Court should issue injunctive and equitable relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.
- 70. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT'S practices were also unlawful, unfair, and deceptive in that DEFENDANT'S employment practices caused PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to be underpaid during their employment with DEFENDANT.
- 71. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT'S practices were also unfair and deceptive in that DEFENDANT'S uniform policies, practices and procedures failed to provide

mandatory meal and/or rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512.

- 72. Therefore, PLAINTIFF demands on behalf of themselves and on behalf of each CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each five (5) hours of work, and/or one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a second off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each ten (10) hours of work.
- 73. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of themselves and on behalf of each CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a rest period was not timely provided as required by law.
- 74. By and through the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein, DEFENDANT has obtained valuable property, money and services from PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, including earned wages for all time worked, and have deprived them of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law and contract, all to the detriment of these employees and to the benefit of DEFENDANT so as to allow DEFENDANT to unfairly compete against competitors who comply with the law.
- 75. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, the California Code of Regulations, and the California Labor Code, were unlawful and in violation of public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous, were deceptive, and thereby constitute unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practices in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*
- 76. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are entitled to, and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to restore to them the money and property which DEFENDANT has acquired, or of which PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have been deprived, by means of the above described unlawful and unfair business practices, including earned but unpaid wages for all time worked.
- 77. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are further entitled to, and do, seek a declaration that the described business practices are unlawful, unfair,

- 84. DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS without regard to the correct amount of time they work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT'S uniform policy and practice was to unlawfully and intentionally deny timely payment of wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
- 85. DEFENDANT'S uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested, without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of implementing a uniform policy and practice that denies accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in regard to minimum wage pay.
- 86. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANT inaccurately calculated the correct time worked and consequently underpaid the actual time worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. DEFENDANT acted in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable laws and regulations.
- 87. As a direct result of DEFENDANT'S unlawful wage practices as alleged herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct minimum wage compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.
- 88. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for time worked than they were entitled to, constituting a failure to pay all earned wages.
- 89. By virtue of DEFENDANT'S unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.
- 90. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were under-compensated for their time worked.

DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct minimum wages for their time worked.

- 91. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continue to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of these employees.
- 92. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore request recovery of all unpaid wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent minimum wage compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have terminated their employment, DEFENDANT'S conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or 202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. DEFENDANT'S conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION 1 **Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation** 2 (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 510, 1194 and 1198) 3 4 (Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants) 93. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and 5 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this 6 7 Complaint. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim for 8 DEFENDANT'S willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial 9 Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT'S failure to pay these employees for all 10 overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or 11 twelve (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek. 12 95. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public 13 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked. 14 96. Cal. Lab. Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed 15 more than eight (8) hours per workday and/or more than forty (40) hours per workweek unless 16 they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law. 17 Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages, 18 19 including minimum and overtime compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of suit. Cal. Lab. Code § 1198 further states that the employment of an employee for longer hours 20 than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful. 21 98. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members 22 were required by DEFENDANT to work for DEFENDANT and were not paid for all the time 23 they worked, including overtime work. 24 DEFENDANT'S uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested, 25

without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of

implementing a uniform policy and practice that failed to accurately record overtime worked by

PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members and denied accurate compensation to

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PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for overtime worked, including, the overtime work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or twelve (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

100. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANT inaccurately recorded overtime worked and consequently underpaid the overtime worked by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. DEFENDANT acted in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable laws and regulations.

101. As a direct result of DEFENDANT'S unlawful wage practices as alleged herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct overtime compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.

102. Cal. Lab. Code § 515 sets out various categories of employees who are exempt from the overtime requirements of the law. None of these exemptions are applicable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. Further, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are not subject to a valid collective bargaining agreement that would preclude the causes of action contained herein this Complaint. Rather, PLAINTIFF bring this Action on behalf of themselves, and the CALIFORNIA CLASS, based on DEFENDANT'S violations of non-negotiable, non-waivable rights provided by the State of California.

103. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for overtime worked than they were entitled to, constituting a failure to pay all earned wages.

104. DEFENDANT failed to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS overtime wages for the time they worked which was in excess of the maximum hours permissible by law as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, 1194, & 1198, even though PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were regularly required to work, and did in fact work overtime, and did in fact work overtime as to which DEFENDANT

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failed to accurately record and pay as evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records and witnessed by employees.

105. By virtue of DEFENDANT'S unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true amount of overtime they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

106. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were undercompensated for their time worked. DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross nonfeasance, to not pay them for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct overtime wages for their overtime worked.

107. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continue to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious of and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of these employees.

108. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS request recovery of overtime wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent overtime compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have terminated their employment, DEFENDANT'S conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or 202, and therefore

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these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein. DEFENDANT'S conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional, and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

#### FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Failure To Provide Required Meal Periods

(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)

#### (Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)

109. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

110. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed to provide all the legally required off-duty meal breaks to PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. The nature of the work performed by PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members did not prevent these employees from being relieved of all of their duties for the legally required off-duty meal periods. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were often not fully relieved of duty by DEFENDANT for their meal periods. Additionally, DEFENDANT'S failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with legally required meal breaks prior to their fifth (5th) hour of work is evidenced by DEFENDANT'S business records. Further, DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with a second off-duty meal period in some workdays in which these employees were required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited meal breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT'S strict corporate policy and practice.

111. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who were not provided a meal period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one

IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members

1	who were not provided a rest period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one
2	additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that rest
3	period was not provided.
4	116. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
5	CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
6	and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.
7	SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION
8	Failure To Pay Wages When Due
9	(Cal. Lab. Code § 203)
10	(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)
11	117. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
12	incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
13	Complaint.
14	118. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:
15	As used in this article:  (d) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every
16	description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time,
17 18	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be
17 18 19	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under
17 18 19 20	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.
17 18 19 20 21	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.  119. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges
17 18 19 20 21 22	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.  119. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.  119. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately."  120. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:  If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her
17 18 19 20 21 22	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.  119. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately."  120. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:  If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.  119. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately."  120. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:  If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee who quits without providing a 72-hour notice shall be entitled to receive payment by mail if he or she so requests and
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.  (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.  119. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately."  120. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:  If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee who quits without providing a

CLASS. These damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended calculating the correct

c. the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee

wages for all missed meal and rest breaks and the amount of employment taxes which were not properly paid to state and federal tax authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS may elect to recover liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the violation occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent pay period pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial (but in no event more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for PLAINTIFF and each respective member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS herein).

#### **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES

(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2802)

#### (Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)

- 130. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
  - 131. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 provides, in relevant part, that:
  - An employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer, even though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them to be unlawful.
- 132. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code § 2802, by failing to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for required expenses incurred in the discharge of their job duties for DEFENDANT'S benefit. DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for expenses which included, but were not limited to, the use of their own personal cell phones, all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required by DEFENDANT to the use their own personal cell phones to perform their essential job duties on behalf of DEFENDANT. DEFENDANT'S uniform policy, practice and procedure was to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and

the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for expenses resulting from the use of their personal cell phones for DEFENDANT within the course and scope of their employment for DEFENDANT. These expenses were necessary to complete their principal job duties. DEFENDANT is estopped by DEFENDANT'S conduct to assert any waiver of this expectation. Although these expenses were necessary expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, DEFENDANT failed to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for these expenses as an employer is required to do under the laws and regulations of California.

133. PLAINTIFF therefore demands reimbursement for expenditures or losses incurred by her and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members in the discharge of their job duties for DEFENDANT, or their obedience to the directions of DEFENDANT, with interest at the statutory rate and costs under Cal. Lab. Code § 2802.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF pray for a judgment against each DEFENDANT, jointly and severally, as follows:

- 1. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:
  - a. That the Court certify the First Cause of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA
     CLASS as a class action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
  - b. An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining DEFENDANTS from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as set forth herein;
  - c. An order requiring DEFENDANTS to pay all overtime wages and all sums unlawfully withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and
  - d. Restitutionary disgorgement of DEFENDANT'S ill-gotten gains into a fluid fund for restitution of the sums incidental to DEFENDANT'S violations due to PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
- 2. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:
  - a. That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth

### **DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL** PLAINTIFF demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury. DATED: November 4, 2024 ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC By:\_ Shani O. Zakay Attorney for PLAINTIFF