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

ELECTRONICALLY FILED BY

Superior Court of California.

By: Rowena Esquerra, Deputy

County of Monterey

CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso):

21CV001535

On 5/10/2021 2:03 PM

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

SALINAS LINCOLN MERCURY, INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive

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

RICHARD SANCHEZ, an individual, on behalf of himself, other Aggrieved Employees, and the State of California

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:
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(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Monterey Courthouse

1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Zakay Law Group, APLC

Shani O. Zakay, Esq. (SBN 277924); T: 619-255-9047; F: 858-404-9203; 3990 Old Town Avenue Suite C204 San Diego, CA 92110

DATE: 05/10/2021 Clerk, by /s/ Rowena Esquerra (Secretario) /s/ Rowena Esquerra (Adjunto)

(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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	atión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (F	POS-010)).
NO	TICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served	
1.	as an individual defendant.	
2.	as the person sued under the fictitious name of (s	specify):
3.	on behalf of (specify):	
	under: CCP 416.10 (corporation)	CCP 416.60 (minor)
	CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)	CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
	CCP 416.40 (association or partnership)	CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
	other (specify):	
4.	by personal delivery on (date):	Page 4 of

		ELECTRONICALLY FILED BY
1 2	ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC Shani O. Zakay (State Bar #277924) 3990 Old Town Avenue, Suite C204	Superior Court of California, County of Monterey On 5/10/2021 2:03 PM
3	San Diego, CA 92110 Telephone: (619)255-9047 Facsimile: (858) 404-9203	By: Rowena Esquerra, Deputy
4	JCL LAW FIRM, APC	
5	Jean-Claude Lapuyade (State Bar #248676) 3990 Old Town Avenue, Suite C204	
6	San Diego, CA 92110	
7	Telephone: (619)599-8292 Facsimile: (619) 599-8291	
8	Attorneys for Plaintiff	
9	SUPERIOR COURT OF T	HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10		DUNTY OF MONTEREY
11	RICHARD SANCHEZ on himself of	Case No: 21CV001535
12	herself, other Aggrieved Employes, and the State of California,	REPRESENTATIVE ACTION
13	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR:
14	V.	1) VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT [LABOR
15	SALINAS LINCOLN MERCURY, INC. a	CODE §§ 2698 et seq.]
16	California Corporation; and DOES 1-50, Inclusive,	
17	,	
18	Defendants.	
19	Plaintiff RICHARD SANCHEZ, an indi	vidual, ("PLAINTIFF"), on behalf of the people of
20	the State of California and as "aggrieved emp	loyees" acting as a private attorney general under
21	the Labor Code Private Attorney General Action	on of 2004, § 2699, et seq. ("PAGA") only, alleges
22	on information and belief, except for his own	acts and knowledge which are based on personal
23	knowledge, the following:	
24	<u>PRELIMINAR'</u>	Y ALLEGATIONS
25	1. PLAINTIFF brings this action a	against SALINAS LINCOLN MERCURY, INC.
26	("DEFENDANT" or "DEFENDANTS") seek	ing only to recover PAGA civil penalties for
27	himself, and on behalf of all current and	former aggrieved employees that worked for
28	DEFENDANT. PLAINTIFF does not seek to re	ecover anything other than penalties as permitted

by California Labor Code § 2699. To the extent that statutory violations are mentioned for wage violations, PLAINTIFF does not seek underlying general and/or special damages for those violations in this action, but simply the civil penalties permitted by California Labor Code § 2699. Notwithstanding, PLAINTIFF is not abandoning her right to pursue her individual claims for, inter alia, Defendant's alleged wage violations, and/or general or special damages arising from those violations, and she fully intends to, at a future date, pursue claims for those individual claims and damages.

- 2. California has enacted the PAGA to permit an individual to bring an action on behalf of herself and on behalf of others for PAGA penalties only, which is the precise and sole nature of this action.
- 3. Accordingly, PLAINTIFF seeks to obtain all applicable relief for DEFENDANTS' violations under PAGA and solely for the relief as permitted by PAGA that is, penalties and any other relief the Court deems proper pursuant to the PAGA. Nothing in this complaint should be construed as attempting to obtain any relief that would not be available in a PAGA-only action.
- 4. Defendant SALINAS LINCOLN MERCURY, INC. ("DEFENDANT" or "Defendant") is a California Corporation and at all relevant times mentioned herein conducted and continues to conduct substantial and regular business throughout California.
- 5. DEFENDANT, owns and operates a car dealership in the city of Salinas, in Monterey County.
- 6. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANT in California as a non-exempt employee entitled to minimum wages, overtime pay and meal and rest periods from June 2017 to March 2020. PLAINTIFF was at all times relevant mentioned herein classified by DEFENDANT as a non-exempt employee paid on an hourly basis.
- 7. PLAINTIFF, and such persons that may be added from time to time who satisfy the requirements and exhaust the administrative procedures under the Private Attorney General Act, bring this Representative Action on behalf of the State of California with respect to himself and all individuals who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California (the "AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES") during the PAGA PERIOD, brings this representative action

pursuant to Labor Code § 2699, *et seq.* seeking penalties for DEFENDANT'S violation of California Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 206.5, 210, 226, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802 and the applicable Wage Order. Based upon the foregoing, PLAINTIFF and all AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES are aggrieved employees within the meaning of Labor Code § 2699, *et seq.*

- 8. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, subsidiary, partnership, associate or otherwise of defendants DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are presently unknown to PLAINTIFF who therefore sue these Defendants by such fictitious names 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. PLAINTIFFS are informed and believes, and based upon that information and belief allege, that the Defendants 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 and damages hereinafter alleged
- 9. 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 Defendant 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 Defendants' agents, servants and/or employees.

THE CONDUCT

10. Pursuant to the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, DEFENDANT was required to pay PLAINTIFF and AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES 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. DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES to work without paying them for all the time they were under

DEFENDANT's control. Specifically, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF to work during what was supposed to be PLAINTIFF's off-duty meal break. PLAINTIFF was from time to time interrupted by work assignments while what should have been PLAINTIFF's off- duty meal break. Indeed there were days where PLAINTIFF did not even receive a partial lunch. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES forfeited minimum wage and overtime compensation by 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 AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES for all time worked is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records.

- AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES were also from time to time unable to take off duty meal breaks and were not fully relieved of duty for meal periods. PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES 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 and AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES with a second off-duty meal period each workday in which these employees were required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES therefore forfeited meal breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict corporate policy and practice
- During the PAGA PERIOD, from time to time, PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES were also required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods. Further, 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, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, and a first, second and third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more. When they did have an opportunity to take their rest breaks, PLAINTIFF and the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES were required to remain on the premises and subject to DEFENDANT's control. If they were to leave DEFENDANT's

premises, PLAINTIFF and the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES were required to clock out. PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES were also not provided with one hour wages in lieu thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, and in compliance with DEFENDANT's policy, PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES were periodically denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT'S managers.

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- 13. 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.
- 14. The second component of PLAINTIFF's and other **AGGRIEVED** EMPLOYEES' compensation was DEFENDANT's non-discretionary incentive program that paid PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES incentive wages based on their performance for DEFENDANT. The non-discretionary incentive program provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with incentive compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANT. However, when calculating the regular rate of pay in order to pay overtime to PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES, DEFENDANT failed to include the incentive compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" for purposes of calculating overtime pay. Management and supervisors described the incentive 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 AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted in an underpayment of overtime compensation to PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES by DEFENDANT.
- 15. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice and procedure, intentionally, knowingly and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES for required business expenses incurred by the PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES 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."

- EMPLOYEES as a business expense, were required by DEFENDANT to use their own personal cellular phones as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties as employees for DEFENDANT but were not reimbursed or indemnified by DEFENDANT for the cost associated with the use of their personal cellular phones for DEFENDANT's benefit. As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANT, PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES incurred unreimbursed business expenses which included, but were not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cellular phones and travel with their personal vehicles, on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT.
- 17. 15. From time to time, DEFENDANT also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, the correct net and gross wages earned. Cal. Lab. Code § 226 provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees with an accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing, among other things, gross wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate. Specifically, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code 226(a)(8) by failing to list the correct name and address of the legal entity that employed PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES. Aside, from the violations listed above in this paragraph, DEFENDANT failed to issue to PLAINTIFF an itemized wage statement that lists all the requirements under California Labor Code 226 et seq. As a result, DEFENDANT from time to time provided PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES with wage statements which violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226.

18. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the 1 requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANT as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, intentionally, knowingly and systematically 3 failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES ASS for missed meal and rest periods and all wages due to them. This uniform policy and practice of 5 DEFENDANT was intended to purposefully avoid the payment for all time worked as required 7 by California law which allows DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an unfair advantage over competitors who complied with the law. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll 8 claims by the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES against DEFENDANT, the PAGA PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly. 10

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- 19. By reason of this uniform conduct applicable to PLAINTIFF and all AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES, DEFENDANT committed acts of unfair competition in violation of the California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL"), by engaging in a company-wide policy and procedure which failed to accurately calculate and record all missed meal and rest periods and all wages due to PLAINTIFF and other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES. The proper recording of these employees' missed meal and rest break wages and all other wages due to them is the DEFENDANT's burden. As a result of DEFENDANT's intentional disregard of the obligation to meet this burden, DEFENDANT failed to properly calculate and/or pay all required compensation for work performed by the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES and violated the California Labor Code and regulations promulgated thereunder as herein alleged.
- 20. The proper recording of these employees' missed meal and rest breaks is the DEFENDANT'S burden. As a result of DEFENDANT'S intentional disregard of the obligation to meet this burden, DEFENDANT failed to properly calculate and/or pay all required compensation for work performed by the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES and violated the California Labor Code and regulations promulgated thereunder as herein alleged.
- 21. In addition, because of DEFENDANT's commission pay plan with respect to some the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES, DEFENDANT failed to separately compensate

AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES for their rest periods as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. DEFENDANT did not have a policy or practice which paid for off-duty rest periods to PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES. As a result, DEFENDANT's failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES with all the legally required paid rest periods is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records.

22. Specifically as to PLAINTIFF, DEFENDANT failed to provide all the legally required off-duty meal and rest breaks to him as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code and failed to pay him all minimum and overtime wages due to him. DEFENDANT did not have a policy or practice which provides timely off-duty meal and rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and also failed to compensate PLAINTIFF for his missed meal and rest breaks. The nature of the work performed by the PLAINTIFF did not prevent him from being relieved of all of his duties for the legally required off-duty meal periods. As a result, DEFENDANT's failure to provide PLAINTIFF with the legally required meal periods is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records. DEFENDANT also failed to pay PLAINTIFF earned commission wages upon termination of employment with DEFENDANT. To date, DEFENDANT has yet to pay PLAINTIFF all of her wages due to him and DEFENDANT has failed to pay any penalties owed to him under California Labor Code Section 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF individually does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 23. This Court has jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 410.10.
- 24. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Sections 395 and 395.5, because DEFENDANT (i) currently maintain and at all relevant times maintained offices and facilities in this County and/or conducts substantial business in this County, and (ii) committed the wrongful conduct herein alleged in this County against members of the AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT

(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2698 et seq.)
(Alleged by PLAINTIFF against all Defendants)

- 25. PLAINTIFFS reallege and incorporates by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 26. PAGA is a mechanism by which the State of California itself can enforce state labor laws through the employee suing under the PAGA who does so as the proxy or agent of the state's labor law enforcement agencies. An action to recover civil penalties under PAGA is fundamentally a law enforcement action designed to protect the public and not to benefit private parties. The purpose of the PAGA is not to recover damages or restitution, but to create a means of "deputizing" citizens as private attorneys general to enforce the Labor Code. In enacting PAGA, the California Legislature specified that "it was ... in the public interest to allow aggrieved employees, acting as private attorneys general to recover civil penalties for Labor Code violations ..." (Stats. 2003, ch. 906, § 1). Accordingly, PAGA claims cannot be subject to arbitration.
- 27. PLAINTIFF, and such persons that may be added from time to time who satisfy the requirements and exhaust the administrative procedures under the Private Attorney General Act, bring this Representative Action on behalf of the State of California with respect to themselves and all individuals who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT and classified as non-exempt employees in California during the time period of March 4, 2020 until the present (the "AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES").
- 28. On March 4, 2020, PLAINTIFF gave written notice by certified mail to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (the "Agency") and the employer of the specific provisions of this code alleged to have been violated as required by Labor Code § 2699.3. See Exhibit #1, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference herein. The statutory waiting period for PLAINTIFF to add these allegations to the Complaint has expired.

As a result, pursuant to Section 2699.3, PLAINTIFF may now commence a representative civil action under PAGA pursuant to Section 2699 as the proxy of the State of California with respect to all AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES as herein defined.

- 29. The policies, acts and practices heretofore described were and are an unlawful business act or practice because Defendant (a) failed to properly record and pay PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES for all of the hours they worked, including minimum wage and overtime wages in violation of the Wage Order, (b) failed to provide meal and rest breaks, (c) failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements, and (d) failed to timely pay wages, all in violation of the applicable Labor Code sections listed in Labor Code §2699.5, including but not limited to Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 206.5, 210, 226, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802, and the applicable Industrial Wage Order(s), and thereby gives rise to statutory penalties as a result of such conduct. PLAINTIFF hereby seeks recovery of civil penalties as prescribed by the Labor Code Private Attorney General Act of 2004 as the representative of the State of California for the illegal conduct perpetrated on PLAINTIFF and the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES.
- 30. Some or all of the conduct and violations alleged herein occurred during the PAGA PERIOD. To the extent that any of the conduct and violations alleged herein did not affect PLAINTIFF during the PAGA PERIOD, PLAINTIFF seeks penalties for those violations that affected other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES. (Carrington v. Starbucks Corp. (2018) 30 Cal.App.5th 504, 519; See also Huff v. Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. (2018) 23 Cal. App. 5th 745, 751 ["PAGA allows an "aggrieved employee"—a person affected by at least one Labor Code violation committed by an employer—to pursue penalties for all the Labor Code violations committed by that employer."], Emphasis added, reh'g denied (June 13, 2018).)

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF prays for a judgment against each Defendants, jointly and severally, as follows:

1. On behalf of the State of California and with respect to all AGGRIEVED

1		EM	MPLOYEES:
2		a.	Recovery of civil penalties as prescribed by the Labor Code Private Attorneys
3			General Act of 2004
4		a.	An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;
5		b.	Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and
6		c.	An award of penalties, attorneys' fees and costs of suit, as allowable under the
7			law, including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code § 218.5, § 226, §1194
8			and/or §1197.
9	DATED:	Ma	y 10, 2021
10			ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC
11			
12			-las
13			By: Shani O. Zakay
14			Attorney for Plaintiffs
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Client #35901 March 4, 2021

Via Online Filing to LWDA and Certified Mail to Defendant Labor and Workforce Development Agency Online Filine

Online Filing

SALINAS LINCOLN MERCURY, INC.
Rhonda Good
444 Auto Center Circle
Salinas, CA 93907

Re: Notice of Violations of California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 206.5, 246, 210, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198 & 2802, Violation of Applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and Pursuant to California Labor Code Section 2699.5

Dear Sir/Madam:

Our offices represent Plaintiff Richard Sanchez ("Plaintiff"), and other aggrieved employees in a proposed lawsuit against Salinas Lincoln Mercury, Inc. ("Defendant"). Plaintiff seeks to represent all aggrieved employees, defined as all individuals who worked for Defendant in California during the relevant claim period, including both non-exempt employees and/or exempt employees subject to various exemptions, including but not limited to, commission-based and piece-rate employees. Plaintiff was employed by Defendant in California from June of 2017 to March 18, 2020 as a nonexempt employee, entitled to payment of all wages and the legally required meal and rest breaks, as well as certain non-discretionary incentive payments. Defendant, however, unlawfully failed to record and pay Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees for all of their time worked, and for all of their meal breaks and rest breaks. Defendant also failed to reimburse Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees for business-related expenses. Further, Defendant failed to properly calculate the regular rate of pay for purposes of compensating paid overtime compensation, sick time, and/or vacation pay to Plaintiff and the aggrieved employees. Finally, Defendant failed to separately compensate piece-rate and/or commission-based aggrieved employees for non-productive time, including rest periods. As a consequence of the aforementioned violations, Plaintiff further contends that Defendant failed to provide accurate wage statements to him, and other aggrieved employees, in violation of California Labor Code section 226(a). Said conduct, in addition to the foregoing, violates Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 206.5, 210, 226, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558,

Page 2 of 2 March 4, 2021 Sanchez v. Salinas Lincoln Mercury, Inc.

1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198 & 2802, violates the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and is therefore actionable under California Labor Code section 2699.3.

A true and correct copy of the proposed Complaint by Plaintiff against Defendant, which (1) identifies the alleged violations, (2) details the facts and theories which support the alleged violations, (3) details the specific work performed by Plaintiff, (4) sets forth the people/entities, dates, classifications, violations, events, and actions which are at issue to the extent known to Plaintiff, and (5) sets forth the illegal practices used by Defendant, is attached hereto. This information provides notice to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency of the facts and theories supporting the alleged violations for the agency's reference. Plaintiff therefore incorporates the allegations of the attached Complaint into this letter as if fully set forth herein. If the agency needs any further information, please do not hesitate to ask.

This notice is provided to enable Plaintiff to proceed with the Complaint against Defendant as authorized by California Labor Code section 2695, *et seq*. The filing fee of \$75 is being mailed to the Department of Industrial Relations Accounting unit with an identification of the Plaintiff, the Defendant and the notice. The lawsuit consists of other aggrieved employees. As counsel, our intention is to vigorously prosecute the claims as alleged in the Complaint, and to procure civil penalties as provided by the Private Attorney General Statue of 2004 on behalf of Plaintiff and all aggrieved California employees.

Your earliest response to this notice is appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above number and address.

Sincerely,

Shani O. Zakay Attorney for Plaintiff

1	BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOV	
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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF TI	HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9	IN AND FOR THE CO	DUNTY OF MONTEREY
10		l
11	RICHARD SANCHEZ, an individual, on behalf of himself and on behalf of all	Case No.
12	persons similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR: 1. UNFAIR COMPETITION IN
		VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, et seq.;
13	Plaintiff,	2. FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB.
14	VS.	CODE §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1; 3. FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME
15	SALINAS LINCOLN MERCURY, INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1	WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 510, et seq;
16	through 50, inclusive,	4. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF
17		CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE
18	Defendants.	ORDER; 5. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
19		REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND
20		THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
21		6. FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED
22		EXPENSES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802;
23		7. FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN
24		VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §
25		226; and, 8. FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES
26		WHEN DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203.
27		DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL
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	CI ACC ACTI	ON COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Richard Sanchez, ("PLAINTIFF") and individual, on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated current and former employees, alleges on information and belief, except for his own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge, the following:

THE PARTIES

- 1. Defendant Salinas Lincoln Mercury, Inc. ("DEFENDANT") is a California corporation that at all relevant times mentioned herein conducted and continues to conduct substantial business in the state of California.
 - 2. DEFENDANT owns and operates car dealerships in California.
- 3. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANT in California from June of 2017 to March 18, of 2020 and was at all times classified by DEFENDANT as a non-exempt employee, paid on an hourly basis, and entitled to the legally required meal and rest periods and payment of minimum and overtime wages due for all time worked.
- 4. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a California class, defined as all individuals 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 "CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD"). The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).
- 5. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their losses incurred during the CALIFORNIA 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 and continues to retain wages due 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 defendants DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are presently unknown to PLAINTIFF who therefore sues these Defendants by such fictitious names 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 is informed and believe, and based upon that information and belief alleges, that the Defendants 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 and damages hereinafter alleged.
- 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 Defendant 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 Defendants' agents, servants and/or employees.

THE CONDUCT

8. 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. 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

during what was supposed to be PLAINTIFF's off-duty meal break. PLAINTIFF was from time to time interrupted by work assignments while what should have been PLAINTIFF's off-duty meal break. Indeed there were days where PLAINTIFF did not even receive a partial lunch. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members forfeited minimum wage and overtime compensation by 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.

- 9. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were 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 were required to perform work from time to time as ordered by DEFENDANT for more than five (5) hours during some shifts without receiving a meal break. Further, DEFENDANT from time to time failed 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. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore forfeited meal breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict corporate policy and practice. DEFENDANT failed to maintain adequate staffing levels while increasing the production levels for each employee.
- 10. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also required from time to time to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods. Further, 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. 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, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were from time to time denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT's managers.

- 11. 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.
- 12. The second component of PLAINTIFF's and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' compensation was DEFENDANT's non-discretionary incentive program that paid PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incentive wages based on their performance for DEFENDANT. The non-discretionary incentive program provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with incentive compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANT. However, when calculating the regular rate of pay in order to pay overtime to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, DEFENDANT failed to include the incentive compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" for purposes of calculating overtime pay. Management and supervisors described the incentive 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 an underpayment of overtime compensation to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members by DEFENDANT.
- 13. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice and procedure, intentionally, knowingly and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify 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."

- 14. In the course of their employment PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members as a business expense, were required by DEFENDANT to use their own personal cellular phones as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties as employees for DEFENDANT but were not reimbursed or indemnified by DEFENDANT for the cost associated with the use of their personal cellular phones for DEFENDANT's benefit. As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANT, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS incurred unreimbursed business expenses which included, but were not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cellular phones and travel with their personal vehicles, on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT.
- 15. From time to time, DEFENDANT also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, the correct net and gross wages earned. Cal. Lab. Code § 226 provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees with an accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing, among other things, gross wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate. Specifically, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code 226(a)(8) by failing to list the correct name and address of the legal entity that employed PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. Aside, from the violations listed above in this paragraph, DEFENDANT failed to issue to PLAINTIFF an itemized wage statement that lists all the requirements under California Labor Code 226 et seq. As a result, DEFENDANT from time to time provided PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements which violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226.
- 16. 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 compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for missed meal and rest periods and all wages due to them. This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANT was intended to purposefully avoid the payment for all time worked as required by California law which allows 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 against DEFENDANT, the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

- 17. By reason of this uniform conduct applicable to PLAINTIFF and all CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, DEFENDANT committed acts of unfair competition in violation of the California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL"), by engaging in a company-wide policy and procedure which failed to accurately calculate and record all missed meal and rest periods and all wages due to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. The proper recording of these employees' missed meal and rest breakwages and all other wages due to them is the DEFENDANT's burden. As a result of DEFENDANT's intentional disregard of the obligation to meet this burden, DEFENDANT failed to properly calculate and/or pay all required compensation for work performed by the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and violated the California Labor Code and regulations promulgated thereunder as herein alleged.
- 18. Specifically as to PLAINTIFF, DEFENDANT failed to provide all the legally required off-duty meal and rest breaks to him as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code and failed to pay him all minimum and overtime wages due to him. DEFENDANT did not have a policy or practice which provides timely off-duty meal and rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and also failed to compensate PLAINTIFF for his missed meal and rest breaks. The nature of the work performed by the PLAINTIFF did not prevent him from being relieved of all of his duties for the legally required off-duty meal periods. As a result, DEFENDANT's failure to provide PLAINTIFF with the legally required meal periods is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records. DEFENDANT also failed to pay PLAINTIFF earned

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commission wages upon termination of employment with DEFENDANT. To date, DEFENDANT has yet to pay PLAINTIFF all of her wages due to him and DEFENDANT has failed to pay any penalties owed to him under California Labor Code Section 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF individually does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 19. 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.
- 20. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Sections 395 and 395.5, because PLAINTIFF worked in this County for DEFENDANT, resides in this County, and DEFENDANT (i) currently maintains and at all relevant times maintained offices and facilities in this County and/or conducts substantial business in this County, and (ii) committed the wrongful conduct herein alleged in this County against members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

THE CALIFORNIA CLASS

- 21. PLAINTIFF bring the First Cause of Action for Unfair, Unlawful and Deceptive Business Practices pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL") as a Class Action, pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382, on behalf of a California class, defined as all individuals 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 "CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD"). The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).
 - 22. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA

CLASS against DEFENDANT, the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

- 23. DEFENDANT, as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, and in violation of the applicable Labor Code, Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order requirements, and the applicable provisions of California law, intentionally, knowingly, and wilfully, engaged in a practice whereby DEFENDANT systematically failed to record all meal and rest breaks missed by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit of this work, required employees to perform this work and permits or suffers to permit this work.
- 24. DEFENDANT has the legal burden to establish that each and every CALIFORNIA CLASS Member was paid accurately for all meal and rest breaks missed as required by California laws. The DEFENDANT, however, as a matter of uniform and systematic policy and procedure failed to have in place during the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD and still fails to have in place a policy or practice to ensure that each and every CALIFORNIA CLASS Member is paid as required by law. This common business practice is applicable to each and every CALIFORNIA CLASS Member can be adjudicated on a classwide basis as unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive under Cal. Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL") as causation, damages, and reliance are not elements of this claim.
- 25. The CALIFORNIA CLASS, is so numerous that joinder of all CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is impracticable.
- 26. DEFENDANT uniformly violated the rights of the CALIFORNIA CLASS under California law by:
 - (a) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL"), by unlawfully, unfairly and/or deceptively having in place company policies, practices and procedures that uniformly and systematically failed to record and pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked, including minimum wages owed and overtime wages owed for work

1		performed by these employees;
2	(b)	Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the UCL, by
3		failing to provide the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
4		CALIFORNIA CLASS with the legally required meal and rest periods
5		and,
6	(c)	Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the California
7		Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq., by
8		violating Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 by failing to reimburse PLAINTIFF and
9		the CALIFORNIA CLASS members with necessary expenses incurred in
10		the discharge of their job duties.
11	27. This	Class Action meets the statutory prerequisites for the maintenance of a Class
12	Action as set forth	in Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382, in that:
13	(a)	The persons who comprise the CALIFORNIA CLASS are so numerous
14		that the joinder of all such persons is impracticable and the disposition of
15		their claims as a class will benefit the parties and the Court;
16	(b)	Nearly all factual, legal, statutory, declaratory and injunctive relief issues
17		that are raised in this Complaint are common to the CALIFORNIA
18		CLASS will apply uniformly to every member of the CALIFORNIA
19		CLASS;
20	(c)	The claims of the representative PLAINTIFF are typical of the claims of
21		each member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF, like all the
22		other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, was classified as non-
23		exempt employees paid on an hourly basis who was subjected to the
24		DEFENDANT's deceptive practice and policy described herein
25		PLAINTIFF sustained economic injury as a result of DEFENDANT's
26		employment practices. PLAINTIFF and the members of the
27		CALIFORNIA CLASS were and are similarly or identically harmed by
28		the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair and pervasive pattern of misconduct
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engaged in by DEFENDANT; and,

- (d) The representative PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interest of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, and has retained counsel who are competent and experienced in Class Action litigation. There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the CALIFORNIA CLASS will vigorously assert the claims of all CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.
- 28. In addition to meeting the statutory prerequisites to a Class Action, this action is properly maintained as a Class Action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382, in that:
 - (a) Without class certification and determination of declaratory, injunctive, statutory and other legal questions within the class format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS will create the risk of:
 - Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and/or,
 - 2) Adjudication with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS which would as a practical matter be dispositive of interests of the other members not party to the adjudication or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.
 - (b) The parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS, making appropriate class-wide relief with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole in that DEFENDANT uniformly failed to pay all wages due to

members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS as required by law;

- 1) With respect to the First Cause of Action, the final relief on behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS sought does not relate exclusively to restitution because through this claim PLAINTIFF seeks declaratory relief holding that the DEFENDANT's policy and practices constitute unfair competition, along with declaratory relief, injunctive relief, and incidental equitable relief as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct declared to constitute unfair competition;
- (c) Common questions of law and fact exist as to the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, with respect to the practices and violations of California law as listed above, and predominate over any question affecting only individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, and a Class Action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy, including consideration of:
 - 1) The interests of the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in individually controlling the prosecution or defense of separate actions in that the substantial expense of individual actions will be avoided to recover the relatively small amount of economic losses sustained by the individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members when compared to the substantial expense and burden of individual prosecution of this litigation;
 - 2) Class certification will obviate the need for unduly duplicative litigation that would create the risk of:
 - A. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the DEFENDANT; and/or,

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- B. Adjudications with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of the other members not parties to the adjudication or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests;
- In the context of wage litigation because a substantial number of individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members will avoid asserting their legal rights out of fear of retaliation by DEFENDANT, which may adversely affect an individual's job with DEFENDANT or with a subsequent employer, the Class Action is the only means to assert their claims through a representative; and,
- A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation because class treatment will obviate the need for unduly and unnecessary duplicative litigation that is likely to result in the absence of certification of this action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382.
- 29. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a Class Action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382 because:
 - (a) The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA CLASS predominate over any question affecting only individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members because the DEFENDANT's employment practices are uniform and systematically applied with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS;
 - (b) A Class Action is superior to any other available method for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS because in the context of employment litigation a substantial number of individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members will avoid asserting their rights individually out of fear of retaliation or adverse

1			impact on their employment;
2		(c)	The members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are so numerous that it is
3			impractical to bring all members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS before the
4			Court;
5		(d)	PLAINTIFF, and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, will not be
6			able to obtain effective and economic legal redress unless the action is
7			maintained as a Class Action;
8		(e)	There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and
9			equitable relief for the acts of unfair competition, statutory violations and
10			other improprieties, and in obtaining adequate compensation for the
11			damages and injuries which DEFENDANT's actions have inflicted upon
12			the CALIFORNIA CLASS;
13		(f)	There is a community of interest in ensuring that the combined assets of
14			DEFENDANT are sufficient to adequately compensate the members of
15			the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the injuries sustained;
16		(g)	DEFENDANT has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable
17			to the CALIFORNIA CLASS, thereby making final class-wide relief
18			appropriate with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole;
19		(h)	The members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are readily ascertainable from
20			the business records of DEFENDANT; and,
21		(i)	Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring
22			a efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour
23			related claims arising out of the conduct of DEFENDANT as to the
24			members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
25	30.	DEFE	ENDANT maintains records from which the Court can ascertain and identify
26	by job title ea	ch of I	DEFENDANT's employees who as have been systematically, intentionally
27	and uniformly	y subje	cted to DEFENDANT's company policy, practices and procedures as herein
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			14 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

alleged. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend the Complaint to include any additional job titles of similarly situated employees when they have been identified.

THE CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS

- 31. PLAINTIFF further bring the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Causes of Action on behalf of a California sub-class, defined as all members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California (the "CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS") at any time during the period three (3) years prior to the filing of the complaint and ending on the date as determined by the Court (the "CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD") pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382. The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).
- 32. DEFENDANT, as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, and in violation of the applicable Labor Code, Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order requirements, and the applicable provisions of California law, intentionally, knowingly, and wilfully, engaged in a practice whereby DEFENDANT failed to correctly calculate compensation for the time worked by PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and reporting time wages owed to these employees, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit of this work, required employees to perform this work and permitted or suffered to permit this work. DEFENDANT has uniformly denied these CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members wages to which these employees are entitled in order to unfairly cheat the competition and unlawfully profit. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS against DEFENDANT, the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.
- 33. DEFENDANT maintains records from which the Court can ascertain and identify by name and job title, each of DEFENDANT's employees who have been systematically, intentionally and uniformly subjected to DEFENDANT's company policy, practices and procedures as herein alleged. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend the complaint to include

1	(c)	Violating Cal. Lab. Code § 226, by failing to provide PLAINTIFF and the
2		members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS with an accurate
3		itemized statement in writing showing the corresponding correct amount
4		of wages earned by the employee;
5	(d)	Violating Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512, by failing to provide
6		PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with
7		all legally required off-duty, uninterrupted thirty (30) minute meal breaks
8		and the legally required off-duty rest breaks;
9	(e)	Violating Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 by failing to reimburse PLAINTIFF and
10		the CALIFORNIA CLASS members with necessary expenses incurred in
11		the discharge of their job duties; and,
12	(f)	Violating Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201, 202 and/or 203, which provides that
13		when an employee is discharged or quits from employment, the employer
14		must pay the employee all wages due without abatement, by failing to
15		tender full payment and/or restitution of wages owed or in the manner
16		required by California law to the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
17		SUB-CLASS who have terminated their employment.
18	37. This (Class Action meets the statutory prerequisites for the maintenance of a Class
19	Action as set forth	in Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382, in that:
20	(a)	The persons who comprise the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS are
21		so numerous that the joinder of all CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
22		Members is impracticable and the disposition of their claims as a class
23		will benefit the parties and the Court;
24	(b)	Nearly all factual, legal, statutory, declaratory and injunctive relief issues
25		that are raised in this Complaint are common to the CALIFORNIA
26		LABOR SUB-CLASS and will apply uniformly to every member of the
27		CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS;
28	(c)	The claims of the representative PLAINTIFF are typical of the claims of 17
		CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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each member of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. PLAINTIFF, like all the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, was a non-exempt employee paid on an hourly basis who was subjected to the DEFENDANT's practice and policy described herein. PLAINTIFF sustained economic injury as a result of DEFENDANT's employment practices. PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were and are similarly or identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair and pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by DEFENDANT; and,

- (d) The representative PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interest of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, and has retained counsel who are competent and experienced in Class Action litigation. There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS will vigorously assert the claims of all CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members.
- 38. In addition to meeting the statutory prerequisites to a Class Action, this action is properly maintained as a Class Action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382, in that:
 - (a) Without class certification and determination of declaratory, injunctive, statutory and other legal questions within the class format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS will create the risk of:
 - Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS; or,
 - 2) Adjudication with respect to individual members of the

CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS which would as a practical matter be dispositive of interests of the other members not party to the adjudication or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.

- (b) The parties opposing the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, making appropriate class-wide relief with respect to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS as a whole in that DEFENDANT uniformly fails to pay all wages due. Including the correct wages for all time worked by the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS as required by law;
- (c) Common questions of law and fact predominate as to the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, with respect to the practices and violations of California Law as listed above, and predominate over any question affecting only individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members, and a Class Action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy, including consideration of:
 - The interests of the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS in individually controlling the prosecution or defense of separate actions in that the substantial expense of individual actions will be avoided to recover the relatively small amount of economic losses sustained by the individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members when compared to the substantial expense and burden of individual prosecution of this litigation;
 - 2) Class certification will obviate the need for unduly duplicative litigation that would create the risk of:
 - A. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to

individual members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
CLASS, which would establish incompatible standards of
conduct for the DEFENDANT; and/or,
B. Adjudications with respect to individual members of the
CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS would as a practical
matter be dispositive of the interests of the other members
not parties to the adjudication or substantially impair or
impede their ability to protect their interests;
3) In the context of wage litigation because a substantial number of
individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members will
avoid asserting their legal rights out of fear of retaliation by
DEFENDANT, which may adversely affect an individual's job
with DEFENDANT or with a subsequent employer, the Class
Action is the only means to assert their claims through a
representative; and,
4) A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair
and efficient adjudication of this litigation because class treatment
will obviate the need for unduly and unnecessary duplicative
litigation that is likely to result in the absence of certification of
this action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382.
39. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a Class Action pursuant
to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382 because:
(a) The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA LABOR
SUB-CLASS predominate over any question affecting only individual
CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members;
(b) A Class Action is superior to any other available method for the fair and
efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the CALIFORNIA
LABOR SUB-CLASS because in the context of employment litigation a 20 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1		substantial number of individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
2		Members will avoid asserting their rights individually out of fear of
3		retaliation or adverse impact on their employment;
4	(c)	The members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS are so
5		numerous that it is impractical to bring all members of the CALIFORNIA
6		LABOR SUB-CLASS before the Court;
7	(d)	PLAINTIFF, and the other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
8		Members, will not be able to obtain effective and economic legal redress
9		unless the action is maintained as a Class Action;
10	(e)	There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and
11		equitable relief for the acts of unfair competition, statutory violations and
12		other improprieties, and in obtaining adequate compensation for the
13		damages and injuries which DEFENDANT's actions have inflicted upon
14		the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS;
15	(f)	There is a community of interest in ensuring that the combined assets of
16		DEFENDANT are sufficient to adequately compensate the members of
17		the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for the injuries sustained;
18	(g)	DEFENDANT has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable
19		to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, thereby making final class-
20		wide relief appropriate with respect to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
21		CLASS as a whole;
22	(h)	The members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS are readily
23		ascertainable from the business records of DEFENDANT. The
24		CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS consists of all CALIFORNIA
25		CLASS Members who worked for DEFENDANT in California at any
26		time during the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD; and,
27	(i)	Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring
28		a efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour 21

related claims arising out of the conduct of DEFENDANT as to the 1 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. 3 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 5 For Unlawful Business Practices [Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.] 6 7 (By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and Against All Defendants) 8 40. 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 10 Complaint. 11 41. DEFENDANT is a "person" as that term is defined under Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code § 17021. 12 13 42. California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL") defines unfair competition as any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice. Section 14 17203 authorizes injunctive, declaratory, and/or other equitable relief with respect to unfair 15 16 competition as follows: 17 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 judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as 18 may be necessary to prevent the use or employment by any person of any practice which constitutes unfair competition, as defined in this chapter, or as may be 19 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. 20 Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203. 21 22 43. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT has engaged and continues to 23 engage in a business practice which violates California law, including but not limited to, the 24 applicable Industrial Wage Order(s), the California Code of Regulations and the California 25 Labor Code including Sections 204, 210, 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198 & 2802, 26 for which this Court should issue declaratory and other equitable relief pursuant to Cal. Bus. 27 & Prof. Code § 17203 as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct held to constitute 28 unfair competition, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

- 44. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were unlawful and unfair in that these practices violate 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.
- 45. 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, the required amount of compensation for missed meal and rest periods and overtime and minimum wages owed, and failed to reimburse all necessary business expenses incurred, 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.
- 46. 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.
- 47. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were also unlawful, unfair and deceptive in that DEFENDANT's uniform policies, practices and procedures failed to provide all legally required meal breaks to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512.
- 48. Therefore, PLAINTIFF demands on behalf of himself 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.

- 49. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of himself and each member of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off duty paid rest period was not timely provided as required by law.
- 50. 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 has 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.
- 51. 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.
- 52. 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.
- 53. 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 and deceptive, and that injunctive relief should be issued restraining DEFENDANT from engaging in any unlawful and unfair business practices in the future.
- 54. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have no plain, speedy and/or adequate remedy at law that will end the unlawful and unfair business practices of DEFENDANT. Further, the practices herein alleged presently continue to occur unabated. As a result of the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION 4 For Failure To Pay Minimum Wages 5 [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 and 1197.1] 6 7 (By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS 8 and Against All Defendants) 9 55. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior 10 11 paragraphs of this Complaint. 12 56. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS bring a claim for DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor 13 Code and the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to 14 accurately calculate and pay minimum wages to PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS 15 Members. 16 17 57. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and 18 public policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked. 19 58. Cal. Lab. Code § 1197 provides the minimum wage for employees fixed by the commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a less wage than 20 the minimum so fixed in unlawful. 21 22 59. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages, 23 including minimum wage compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of suit. 60. 24 DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF and 25 the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS without regard to the correct amount of time they work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice 26 27 was to unlawfully and intentionally deny timely payment of wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. 28

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

irreparable legal and economic harm unless DEFENDANT is restrained from continuing to

engage in these unlawful and unfair business practices.

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- 61. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested, without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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 LABOR SUB-CLASS in regards to minimum wage pay.
- 62. 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 LABOR SUB-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.
- 63. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS did not receive the correct minimum wage compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.
- 64. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were paid less for time worked that they were entitled to, constituting a failure to pay all earned wages.
- 65. By virtue of DEFENDANT's unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for the true time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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.
- 66. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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 LABOR SUB-CLASS the correct minimum wages for their time worked.

- 67. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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.
- 68. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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 LABOR SUB-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 LABOR SUB-CLASS Members. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members are entitled to seek and recover statutory costs

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THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

For Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation

[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, et seq.]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All **Defendants**)

69. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS,

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reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though full set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

- 70. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS bring a claim for DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to pay these employees for all overtime worked, including, 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.
- 71. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.
- 72. Cal. Lab. Code § 510 further provides that employees in California shall not be employed more than eight (8) hours per workday and more than forty (40) hours per workweek unless they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.
- 73. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages, including minimum wage 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 than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.
- 74. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were required by DEFENDANT to work for DEFENDANT and were not paid for all the time they worked, including overtime work.
- 75. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested, without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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 LABOR SUB-CLASS Members and denied accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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.

- 76. 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 LABOR-SUB 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.
- 77. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged herein, the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS did not receive full compensation for overtime worked.
- 78. 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 the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. Further, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were 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 himself and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS based on DEFENDANT's violations of nonnegotiable, non-waiveable rights provided by the State of California.
- 79. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS have been paid less for overtime worked that they are entitled to, constituting a failure to pay all earned wages.
- 80. DEFENDANT failed to accurately pay the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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 LABOR SUB-CLASS were required to work, and did in fact work, overtime as to which DEFENDANT failed to accurately record and pay as evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records and witnessed by employees.

- 81. By virtue of DEFENDANT's unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for the true amount of time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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.
- 82. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were under compensated for all overtime 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 LABOR SUB-CLASS for overtime worked.
- 83. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for all overtime worked and provide them with the requisite overtime compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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.
- 84. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS therefore request recovery of all 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 minimum and/or overtime compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-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

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penalties under Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members are entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

For Failure to Provide Required Meal Periods

[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All **Defendants**)

- 85. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 86. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT from time to time failed to provide all the legally required off-duty meal breaks to PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. The nature of the work performed by PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS MEMBERS does 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 LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were from time to time not fully relieved of duty by DEFENDANT for their meal periods. Additionally, DEFENDANT's failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members with legally required meal breaks prior to their fifth (5th) hour of work is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records from time to time. 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 from time to time. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS therefore forfeited meal breaks without additional

compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict corporate policy and practice.

- 87. DEFENDANT further violates California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members who were not provided a meal period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a meal period was not provided.
- 88. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

For Failure to Provide Required Rest Periods

[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All Defendants)

- 89. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 90. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were from time to time required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods. Further, 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, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, 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. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were also not provided with one hour wages in lieu thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS

1	Members were periodically denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and			
2	DEFENDANT's managers.			
3	91. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable			
4	IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB			
5	CLASS Members who were not provided a rest period, in accordance with the applicable Wag			
6	Order, one additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each			
7	workday that rest period was not provided.			
8	92. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and			
9	CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according			
10	to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of			
11	suit.			
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13	SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION			
14	For Failure to Reimburse Employees for Required Expenses			
15	[Cal. Lab. Code § 2802]			
16	(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All			
17	Defendants)			
18	93. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members			
19	reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs			
20	of this Complaint.			
21	94. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 provides, in relevant part, that:			
22	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			
23	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,			
24	believed them to be unlawful.			
25	95. At all relevant times herein, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code § 2802, by			
26	failing to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS			
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21	members for required expenses incurred in the discharge of their job duties for DEFENDANT's			

1	benefit. DEFENDANT fails to reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
2	CLASS members for expenses which include, but are not limited to, costs related to using their
3	personal cellular phones all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT. DEFENDANT's
4	uniform policy, practice and procedure is to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
5	LABOR SUB-CLASS members for expenses resulting from using their personal cellular
6	phones for DEFENDANT within the course and scope of their employment for DEFENDANT.
7	These expenses are necessary to complete their principal job duties. These expenses are
8	necessary to complete their principal job duties. DEFENDANT is estopped by DEFENDANT's
9	conduct to assert any waiver of this expectation. Although these expenses were necessary
10	expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members,
11	DEFENDANT failed to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR
12	SUB-CLASS members for these expenses as an employer is required to do under the laws and
13	regulations of California.
14	96. PLAINTIFF therefore demands reimbursement for expenditures or losses incurred
15	by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members in the discharge of
16	their job duties for DEFENDANT, or their obedience to the directions of DEFENDANT, with
17	interest at the statutory rate and costs under Cal. Lab. Code § 2802.

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SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

For Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Statements

[Cal. Lab. Code § 226]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All Defendants)

- 97. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 98. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an "accurate itemized" statement in writing showing:

- (1) gross wages earned,
- (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the Industrial Welfare Commission,
- (3) the number of piecerate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- (5) net wages earned,
- (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- (7) the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number may be shown on the itemized statement,
- (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.
- 99. From time to time, DEFENDANT also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, the correct net and gross wages earned. Cal. Lab. Code § 226 provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees with an accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing, among other things, gross wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate. Aside, from the violations listed above in this paragraph, DEFENDANT failed to issue to PLAINTIFF an itemized wage statement that lists all the requirements under California Labor Code 226 et seq. As a result, DEFENDANT from time to time provided PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage

statements which violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226. 1 2 DEFENDANT knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code 3 § 226, causing injury and damages to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA 4 LABOR SUB-CLASS. These damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended 5 calculating the correct wages due the amount of employment taxes which were not properly paid to state and federal tax authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate. Therefore, 6 7 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS may elect to 8 recover liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the 9 violation occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent pay 10 period pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial 11 (but in no event more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for PLAINTIFF and each respective member of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS herein). 12 13 14 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION** 15 For Failure to Pay Wages When Due 16 [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201, 202, 203] 17 (By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All 18 **Defendants**) 19 101. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, reallege and incorporate by reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of 20 21 this Complaint. 22 102. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that: 23 As used in this article: (a) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every 24 description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time, 25 task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation. 26 (b) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the labor to 27 be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.

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103. 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 1 2 immediately." 3 104. 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 4 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 5 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 6 7 by mail if he or she so requests and designates a mailing address. The date of the mailing shall constitute the date of payment for purposes of the requirement to provide payment within 72 hours of the notice of quitting. 8 9 There was no definite term in PLAINTIFF's or any CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-10 CLASS Members' employment contract. 11 106. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides: If an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with Sections 201, 201.5, 202, and 205.5, any wages of an employee 12 who is discharged or who quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a 13 penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than 30 days. 14 107. The employment of PLAINTIFF and many CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS 15 16 Members has terminated and DEFENDANT has not tendered payment of wages, to these 17 employees who missed meal and rest breaks, as required by law. 18 Therefore, as provided by Cal Lab. Code § 203, on behalf of himself and the 19 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS whose employment has terminated, 20 PLAINTIFF demands up to thirty days of pay as penalty for not paying all wages due at time 21 of termination for all employees who terminated employment during the CALIFORNIA 22 LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, and demands an accounting and payment of all wages due. 23 plus interest and statutory costs as allowed by law. 24 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 25 WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF prays for judgment against each Defendant, jointly and 26 severally, as follows:

On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

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1	A)	That the Court certify the First Cause of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA
2		CLASS as a class action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
3	B)	An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining
4		DEFENDANT from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as set forth herein;
5	C)	An order requiring DEFENDANT to pay all wages and all sums unlawfuly
6		withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
7		CALIFORNIA CLASS; and,
8	D)	Restitutionary disgorgement of DEFENDANT's ill-gotten gains into a fluid fund
9		for restitution of the sums incidental to DEFENDANT's violations due to
0		PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
1	2. On be	half of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS:
12	A)	That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth
3		Causes of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS as a class
4		action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
15	B)	Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial, including compensatory
6		damages for minimum and overtime compensation due PLAINTIFF and the other
17		members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, during the applicable
8		CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD plus interest thereon at the
9		statutory rate;
20	C)	The greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period
21		in which a violation occurs and one hundred dollars (\$100) per each member of
22		the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for each violation in a subsequent pay
23		period, not exceeding an aggregate penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), and
24		an award of costs for violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226;
25	D)	The wages of all terminated employees from the CALIFORNIA LABOR
26		SUB-CLASS as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or
27		until an action therefore is commenced, in accordance with Cal. Lab. Code § 203;
28	E)	Meal and rest period compensation pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512 and

1		the applicable IWC Wage Order;
2	F)	The amount of the expenses PLAINTIFF and each member of the CALIFORNIA
3		LABOR SUBCLASS incurred in the course of their job duties, plus interest, and
4		costs of suit; and,
5	G)	For liquidated damages pursuant to California Labor Code Sections 1194.2 and
6		1197.
7	3. On a	ll claims:
8	A)	An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;
9	B)	Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and,
10	C)	An award of penalties, attorneys' fees and cost of suit, as allowable under the
11		law, including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code §226, §1194 and/or
12		§2802.
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14	Dated: Janua	ary 14, 2021 BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOWMIK DE BLOUW LLP
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16		
17		By: Norman B. Blumenthal
18		Attorneys for PLAINTIFF
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	-	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1	DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL		
2	PLAINTIFF demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.		
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5	Dated: January 21, 2021 BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOWMIK DE BLOUW LLP		
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8	By:		
9	Norman B. Blumenthal Attorneys for PLAINTIFF		
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	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT		