## SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

ASCENDANT MARKETING GROUP, LLC, a California limited liability company; and Does 1 through 50, Inclusive,

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

MARK CONNOR, RAYNA OLIVAS, and SHIRLEEN MUTULO, individuals, on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

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

#### ELECTRONICALLY FILED

Superior Court of California, County of San Diego

05/24/2019 at 03:47:33 PM

Clerk of the Superior Court By Kristin Sorianosos, Deputy Clerk

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.

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.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), 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.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.

	www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de Californ help/espanol/) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogad				
The name and address of the					
(El nombre y dirección de la	(Número del	CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso):			
San Diego Superior Co	ourt Hall of Justice	37-2019-00026864-CU-OE-CTL			
330 W. Broadway	31-201				
San Diego, CA 92101					
The name, address, and tele	ephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:				
	número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante qu				
	Esq. SBN:248676 Tel: (619) 599-8292 Fax: (61				
JCL Law Firm, APC - 3	3990 Old Town Avenue, Suite C204, San Diego, CA 92110				
DATE: 05/28/2019	Clerk, by	K. Sriansos _, Deputy			
(Fecha)	(Secretario)	K. Sorianosos (Adjunto)			
(For proof of service of this su	summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)				
	esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010),	).			
	NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served				
[SEAL]	1 as an individual defendant.				
2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):					
Ser office					
18/ KA = 12/	3. on behalf of (specify):				
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· Company .		CCP 416.70 (conservatee)			
Con Contract	CCP 416.40 (association or partnership)	CP 416.90 (authorized person)			
of San	other (specify):				
	4. by personal delivery on (date):				

Page 1 of 1

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	JEAN-CLAUDE LAPUYADE (SBN 248676)  JLAPUYADE@JCL-LAWFIRM.COM  JCL LAW FIRM, APC  3990 OLD TOWN AVENUE, SUITE C204  SAN DIEGO, CA 92110  TELEPHONE: (619) 599-8292  FAX: (619) 599-8291  SHANI O. ZAKAY (SBN 277924)  SHANI@ZAKAYLAW.COM  ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APC  5850 OBERLIN DRIVE, SUITE 230A  SAN DIEGO, CA 92121  TELEPHONE: (619) 255-9047  FAX: (858) 404-9203  ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS	ELECTRONICALLY FILED Superior Court of California, County of San Diego  05/24/2019 at 03:47:33 PM Clerk of the Superior Court By Kristin Sorianosos, Deputy Clerk				
11	SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA					
12	COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO					
13	MARK CONNOR, RAYNA OLIVAS, and SHIRLEEN MUTULO, individuals, on behalf	Case No. 37-2019-00026864-CU-0E-CTL				
14	of themselves, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,	<u>COMPLAINT</u>				
15	PLAINTIFFS,	CLASS ACTION:				
16	VS.	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED     MEAL PERIODS				
17	ASCENDANT MARKETING GROUP, LLC,	2. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED REST PERIODS				
18	a California limited liability company; and Does 1 through 50, Inclusive,	3. FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES				
19	Defendants.	4. FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES 5. FAILURE TO PAY ALL WAGES DUE				
20		TO DISCHARGED AND QUITTING EMPLOYEES				
21		6. FAILURE TO MAINTAIN REQUIRED RECORDS 7. FAILURE TO FURNISH ACCURATE				
22		ITEMIZED WAGE STATEMENTS  8. FAILURE TO INDEMNIFY				
23		EMPLOYEES FOR NECESSARY EXPENDITURES INCURRED IN				
24		DISCHARGE OF DUTIES, AND 9. UNFAIR AND UNLAWFUL BUSINESS				
25		PRACTICE				
26		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL				
27	Plaintiffs MARK CONNOR, et al. ("PLA	INTIFFS"), individuals, demanding a jury trial, o				

behalf of themselves and other persons similarly situates, hereby alleges as follows:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. The Superior Court of the State of California has jurisdiction in this matter because PLAINTIFFS are residents of the State of California, and Defendants ASCENDANT MARKETING GROUP, LLC, a California limited liability company, and DOES 1 through 50 inclusive (collectively "DEFENDANTS"), are qualified to do business in California and regularly conduct business in California. Further, no federal question is at issue because the claims are based solely on California law.
- 2. Venue is proper in this judicial district and the County of San Diego, California because PLAINTIFFS, and other persons similarly situated, performed work for DEFENDANTS in the County of San Diego, DEFENDANTS maintain offices and facilities and transact business in the County of San Diego, and because DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and practices which are the subject of this action were applied, at least in part, to PLAINTIFFS, and other persons similarly situated, in the County of San Diego.

#### **PLAINTIFFFS**

- 3. PLAINTIFF MARK CONNOR is a resident of San Diego and was employed as a Sales Representative with DEFENDANTS beginning October 2017 until May 2018.
- 4. PLAINTIFF RAYNA OLIVAS is a resident of San Diego and was employed as a Sales Representative with DEFENDANTS beginning December 2016 until November 2018.
- 5. PLAINTIFF SHIRLEEN MUTULO is a resident of San Diego and was employed as a Sales Representative with DEFENDANTS beginning September 2017 until May 2018.
- 6. PLAINTIFFS, on behalf of themselves and other similarly situated current and former non-exempt employees of DEFENDANTS in the State of California at any time during the four years preceding the filing of this action, and continuing while this action is pending, brings this class action to recover, among other things, wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to unpaid minimum wages, unpaid and illegally calculated overtime compensation, illegal meal and rest period policies, failure to pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees, failure to indemnify employees for necessary expenditures and/or losses incurred in discharging their duties, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain required records, and

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interest, attorney's fees, costs, and expenses.

7. PLAINTIFFS bring this action on behalf of themselves and the following situated class of individuals ("CLASS MEMBERS"): all current and former non-exempt employees of DEFENDANTS in the State of California at any time within the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this action and ending at the time this action settles or proceeds to final judgement (the "CLASS PERIOD"). PLAINTIFFS reserve the right to name additional class representatives.

#### **DEFENDANTS**

- 8. PLAINTIFFS are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that Defendant ASCENDANT MARKETING GROUP, LLC, is, and at all times relevant hereto was, a California limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of California. PLAINTIFFS are further informed and believe, and thereon allege, that Defendant ASCENDANT MARKETING GROUP, LLC, is authorized to conduct business in the State of California, and does conduct business in the State of California. Specifically, Defendant ASCENDANT MARKETING GROUP, LLC, maintains offices and facilities and conducts business in, and engages in illegal wage and payroll practices and policies in, the County of San Diego, in the State of California.
- 9. The true names and capacities of DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are unknown to PLAINTIFFS at this time, and PLAINTIFFS therefore sue such DOE Defendants under fictitious names. PLAINTIFFS are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that each Defendant designated as a DOE is in some manner highly responsible for the occurrences alleged herein, and that PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS' injuries and damages, as alleged herein, were proximately caused by the conduct of such DOE Defendants. PLAINTIFFS will seek leave of the court to amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities of such DOE Defendant when ascertained.
- 10. At all relevant times herein, DEFENDANTS were the joint employers of PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMEBERS. PLAINTIFFS are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that at all times material to this complaint DEFENDANTS were the alter egos, divisions, affiliates, integrated enterprises, joint employers, subsidiaries, parents, principles, related entities, co-conspirators, authorized agents, partners, joint venturers, and/or guarantors, actual or ostensible, of each other. Each Defendant was completely dominated by his, her or its co-Defendant, and each was the alter ego

of the other.

- 11. At all relevant times herein, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS were employed by DEFENDANTS under employment agreements that were partly written, partly oral, and partly implied. In perpetrating the acts and omissions alleged herein, DEFENDANTS, and each of them, acted pursuant to, and in furtherance of, their policies and practices of not paying PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMEBRS all wages earned and due, through methods and schemes which include, but are not limited to, failing to pay overtime premiums, failing to provide rest and meal periods, failing to properly maintain records, failing to provide accurate itemized statements for each pay period, failing to properly compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMEBRS for necessary expenditures, and requiring, permitting or suffering the employee to work off the clock, in violation of the California Labor Code and the applicable Welfare Commission ("IWC") Order.
- 12. PLAINTIFFS are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that each and every one of the acts and omissions alleged herein were performed by, and/or attributable to, all DEFENDANTS, each acting as agents and/or employees, and/or under the direction and control of each of the other DEFENDANTS, and that said acts and failures to act were within the course and scope of said agency, employment and/or direction and control.
- 13. As a direct and proximate result of the unlawful actions of DEFENDANTS, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have suffered, and continue to suffer, from loss of earnings in amounts as yet unascertained, but subject to proof of trial, and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

#### THE CONDUCT

#### A. Off the Clock Work

14. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time to time DEFENDANTS failed and continue to fail to accurately pay PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS for all hours worked. Specifically, DEFENDANTS' uniform practices, policies and procedures applicable to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS during the CLASS PERIOD, mandated that PLAINTIFFS and other CLASS MEMBERS attend regular meetings, training classes and complete regular sales video trainings at home. Notwithstanding, from time-to-time, DEFENDANTS failed to pay PLAINTIFFS and other CLASS MEMBERS necessary wages for attending required meetings and sales trainings.

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- 15. DEFENDANTS directed and directly benefited from the uncompensated off-the-clock work performed by PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS.
- 16. DEFENDANTS controlled the work schedules, duties, protocols, applications, assignments and employment conditions of PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS.
- 17. DEFENDANTS were able to track the amount of time PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS spent working; however, DEFENDANTS failed to document, track, or pay PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS all wages earned and owed for all the work they performed, including off-the-clock work.
- PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were non-exempt employees, subject 18. to the requirements of the California Labor Code.
- 19. DEFENDANTS' policies and practices deprived PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS of wages owed for the off-the-clock work activities and their required meal periods. Because PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS typically worked over 40 hours in a workweek, and more than eight (8) hours per day, DEFENDANTS' policies and practices also deprived them of overtime pay.
- 20. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS' off-the-clock work was compensable under the law.
- 21. As a result, PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS forfeited wages due to them for all hours worked at DEFENDANTS' direction, control and benefit for the time spent attending required meetings and sales trainings. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice to not pay PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS wages for all hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business records.

#### В. **Overtime Regular Rate Violation**

22. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time to time DEFENDANTS failed and continue to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS for their overtime hours worked. As a result, from time to time PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS forfeited wages due them for working overtime without compensation at the correct overtime rates. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice to not pay PLAINTIFFS and the other

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- 23. State law provides that employees must be paid overtime at one-and-one-half times their "regular rate of pay." PLAINTIFFS and other CLASS MEMBERS were compensated at an hourly rate plus flat-sum incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an employee's performance.
- 24. The second component of PLAINTIFFS' and other CLASS MEMBERS' compensation was DEFENDANTS' flat-sum non-discretionary incentive program that paid PLAINTIFFS and other CLASS MEMBERS flat-sum incentive wages based on their performance for DEFENDANTS. The flat-sum non-discretionary bonus program provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with flatsum bonus compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANTS. However, when calculating the regular rate of pay, in those pay periods where PLAINTIFFS and other CLASS MEMBERS worked overtime and earned this flat-sum nondiscretionary bonus, DEFENDANTS failed to accurately include the flat-sum non-discretionary bonus compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked rather than just all non-overtime hours worked. Management and supervisors described the incentive/bonus program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package. As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted in a systematic underpayment of overtime compensation to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS by DEFENDANTS.
- 25. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANTS as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, intentionally and knowingly failed to compensate PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS at the correct rate of pay for all overtime worked. This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANTS is intended to purposefully avoid the payment of the correct overtime compensation as required by California law which allowed DEFENDANTS 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 PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS against DEFENDANTS,

the CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

#### C. Paid Missed Meal and Rest Period Premiums - Regular Rate Violation

- 26. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS, from time to time, failed and continue to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS their missed meal and rest period premiums. As a result, PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS forfeited wages due them for their missed meal and reset periods without compensation at the correct missed meal and rest period rates. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice to not pay PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS the correct rate for all missed meal and rest period premium payment in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business records.
- 27. State law provides that employees must be paid premium hour of pay at the employee's "regular rate" of pay for each workday that the meal or rest period is not provided. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were compensated at an hourly rate plus a flat-sum incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an employee's performance.
- 28. The second component of PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS' compensation was DEFENDANTS' flat-sum non-discretionary incentive program that paid PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS flat-sum incentive wages based on their performance for DEFENDANTS. The non-discretionary flat-sum incentive program provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with flat-sum incentive compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANTS. However, when calculating the regular rate of pay in order to pay missed rest and meal period premiums to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS, DEFENDANTS failed to include the flat-sum incentive compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" for purposes of calculating missed rest and meal period premiums. Management and supervisors described the flat-sum incentive program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package. As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted in a systematic underpayment of premium pay for missed meal and rest periods to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS by DEFENDANTS.

29. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANTS as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, intentionally and knowingly failed to compensate PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS at the correct rate of pay for all missed meal and rest period premiums. This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANTS is intended to purposefully avoid the payment of the correct missed meal and rest period premium compensation as required by California law which allowed DEFENDANTS 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 CLASS MEMBERS against DEFENDANTS, the CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

#### D. Missed Meal and Rest Period Violation

- 30. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were also from time to time unable to take off duty meal breaks and were not fully relieved of duty for meal periods. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break. Further, DEFENDANTS failed to provide PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS with a second off-duty meal period from time to time in which these employees were required by DEFENDANTS to work ten (10) hours of work. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS therefore forfeited meal breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANTS' strict corporate policy and practice.
- 31. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFFS and the other 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, 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. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were also not provided with one-hour wages in lieu thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were periodically denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANTS and

DEFENDANTS' managers.

#### E. Inaccurate Itemized Wage Statements

- 32. When PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS worked overtime in the same pay period they earned incentive wages and/or missed meal and rest breaks, DEFENDANTS also failed to provide PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, the correct overtime rate for overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek, and the correct penalty payments for missed meal and rest periods. 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, DEFENDANTS failed to issue to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS itemized wage statements list that lists all the requirements under California Labor Code 226 et seq. As a result, from time to time DEFENDANTS provided PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS with wage statements which violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226.
- 33. By reason of the aforementioned uniform conduct applicable to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS, DEFENDANTS committed acts of unfair competition in violation of the California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the "UCL"), by engaging, inter alia, in a company-wide policy and procedure which failed to, inter alia, record and compensate PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS for all hours worked, accurately calculate and record the correct overtime rate for the overtime worked by PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS in those pay periods where PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS earned a flat sum non-discretionary bonus. The proper calculation of these employees' overtime hour rates is the DEFENDANTS' burden. As a result of DEFENDANTS' intentional disregard of the obligation to meet this burden, DEFENDANTS failed to properly calculate and/or pay all required overtime compensation for work performed by the CLASS MEMBERS and violated the California Labor Code and regulations promulgated thereunder as herein alleged.

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- 34. Specifically, as to PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS' pay, DEFENDANTS provided compensation to them in the form of two components. One component of PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS' compensation was a base hourly wage. The second component of PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS' compensation were non-discretionary incentive wages. DEFENDANTS paid the incentive wages, so long as PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS met certain predefined performance requirements.
- 35. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS met DEFENDANTS' predefined eligibility performance requirements in various pay periods throughout his employment with DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS paid PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS the incentive wages. However, when calculating the regular rate of pay, in those pay periods where PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS worked overtime and earned this flat-sum nondiscretionary bonus, DEFENDANTS failed to accurately include the flat-sum non-discretionary bonus compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked rather than just all non-overtime hours worked and thereby underpaid PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS for overtime worked throughout their employment with DEFENDANTS. The incentive compensation paid by DEFENDANTS constituted wages within the meaning of the California Labor Code and thereby should have been part of PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS' "regular rate of pay." PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were also from time to time unable to take off duty meal and rest breaks and was not fully relieved of duty for their meal periods. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS were required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty Further, DEFENDANTS failed to provide PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS meal break. MEMBERS with a second off-duty meal period from time to time in which he was required by DEFENDANTS to work ten (10) hours of work. PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS therefore forfeited meal and rest breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANTS' strict corporate policy and practice. DEFENDANTS also provided PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS with a paystub that failed to accurately display PLAINTIFF's correct rates of overtime pay and payments for missed meal and rest periods for certain pay periods in

violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a). To date, DEFENDANTS has not fully paid PLAINTIFFS and the other CLASS MEMBERS the overtime compensation still owed to them. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFFS individually does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

#### **CLASS ACTION DESIGNATION**

- 36. PLAINTIFF brings this case as a class action pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 on behalf of all Field Technicians who have worked for DEFENDANT in California ("CLASS MEMBERS") at any time within the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this action and ending at the time this action settles or proceeds to final judgement (the "CLASS PERIOD").
- 37. PLAINTIFF and other class members have uniformly been deprived of wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to unpaid minimum wages, unpaid and miscalculated overtime compensation, miscalculated meal and rest period premiums, illegal meal and rest period policies, failure to pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain required records, and interest, attorney's fees, costs, and expenses.
- 38. The members of the class are so numerous that joinder of all class members is impractical.
- 39. Common questions of law and fact regarding DEFENDANT's conduct with respect to the miscalculation of overtime wages paid to Field Technicians, miscalculated missed meal and rest period premiums, and failing to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements accurate, and failure ensure they are paid at least minimum wage and overtime, exist as to all members of the class and predominate over any questions affecting solely any individual members of the class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the class are:
  - a. Whether DEFENDANT's flat-sum incentive compensation program is non-discretionary;
  - b. Whether DEFENDANT miscalculated the regular rate of pay in those pay periods where PLAINTIFF and other CLASS MEMBERS worked overtime and earned a flat-sum bonus;

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- c. Whether DEFENDANT miscalculated the regular rate of pay for missed meal and rest period premiums in those pay periods where PLAINITFF and other CLASS MEMBERS earned a flat-sum bonus and earned a meal or rest period premium payment from DEFENDANT;
  - d. Whether DEFENDANT'S meal and rest period policies are legally compliant;
- e. Whether DEFENDANT failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements to PLAINTIFF and the CLASS MEMBERS;
- f. Whether class members have been required to follow uniform procedures and policies regarding their work for DEFENDANT;
- 40. PLAINTIFF is a class member who suffered damages as a result of DEFENDANT's conduct and actions alleged herein.
- 41. PLAINTIFF's claims are typical of the claims of the class, and PLAINTIFF has the same interests as the other members of the class.
- 42. PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the class. PLAINTIFF has retained able counsel experienced in class action litigation. The interests of PLAINTIFF are coincident with, and not antagonistic to, the interests of the other class members.
- 43. The questions of law and fact common to the members of the class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, including legal and factual issues relating to liability and damages.
- 44. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because joinder of all class members in impractical. Moreover, since the damages suffered by individual members of the class may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it practically impossible for the members of the class individually to redress the wrongs done to them. The class is readily definable and prosecution of this action as a class action will eliminate the possibility of repetitive litigation. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

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#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Failure to Provide Required Meal Periods

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197; IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 11] (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 45. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific references, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 46. During the CLASS PERIOD, as part of DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and practices to deprive their non-exempt employees all wages earned and due, DEFENDANTS required, permitted or otherwise suffered PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMEBRS to take less than 30-minute meal periods, or to work through them, and have failed to otherwise provide the required meal periods to PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMEBRS pursuant to California Labor Code § 226.7, 512 and IWC Order No. 5-2001, § 11.
- 47. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 11 by failing to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS who were not provided with 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.
- 48. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7, 510, 1194, 1197, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001 by failing to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all hours worked during their meal periods.
- 49. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFFS and 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.

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#### Failure to Provide Required Rest Periods

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512; IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 12]

#### (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 50. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 51. At all times relevant herein, as part of DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and practices to deprive their non-exempt employees all wages earned and due, DEFENDANTS failed to provide rest periods to PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS as required under California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 12.
- 52. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 12 by failing to pay PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS who were not provided with a rest 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 rest period was not provided.
- 53. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFFS and 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.

#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Failure to Pay Overtime Wages

## [Cal. Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, 1198; IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 3]

#### (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 54. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 55. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 3, DEFENDANTS are required to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all overtime, which is calculated at one and one-half (1 ½) times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours per day and/or forty (40) hours per week, and for the first eight (8) hours on the seventh consecutive workday, with double time for all hours worked in excess of twelve (12) hours

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in any workday and for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours on the seventh consecutive day of work in any workweek.

- 56. PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are current and former non-exempt employees entitled to the protections of California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all overtime hours worked as required under the forgoing provisions of the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Order by, among other things: failing to pay overtime at one and one-half (1 ½) or double the regular rate of pay as provided by California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 3; requiring, permitting or suffering PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS to work off the clock; requiring, permitting or suffering PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS to work through meal and rest breaks; illegally and inaccurately recording time in which PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS worked; failing to properly maintain PLAINTIFFS' and CLASS MEMBERS' records; failing to provide accurate itemized wage statements to PLAINTIFFS for each pay period; and other methods to be discovered. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all overtime hours worked and to pay the amount of overtime wages due as required by the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Order by failing and refusing to include all compensation, including commissions and bonuses earned, due and owing and/or paid, in the regular rate of pay from which overtime wages were calculated and paid. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all overtime hours worked and to pay the amount of overtime wages due as required by the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Order by incorrectly calculating the regular rate of pay from which overtime wages were calculated and paid.
- 57. In violations of California Law, DEFENDANTS have knowingly and willfully refused to perform their obligations to compensate PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all wages earned and all hours worked. As a proximate result, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have suffered, and continue to suffer, substantial losses related to the use and enjoyment of such wages, lost interest on such wages, and expenses and attorney's fees in seeking to compel DEFENDANTS to fully perform their obligations under state law, all to their respective damages in amounts according to

proof at time of trial, and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

58. DEFENDANTS' conduct described herein violates California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, 1198 and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 3. Therefore, pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 200, 203, 226, 558, 1194, 1197.1, and other applicable provisions under the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to recover the unpaid balance of wages owed to them by DEFENDANTS, plus interest, penalties, attorney's fees, expenses, and costs of suit.

#### FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **Failure to Pay Minimum Wages**

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197; IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 4] (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 59. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 60. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 4, payment to an employee of less than the applicable minimum wage for all hours worked in a payroll period is unlawful.
- 61. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to pay PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS minimum wages for all hours worked by, among other things: requiring, permitting, or suffering PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS to work off the clock; requiring, permitting or suffering PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS to work through meal and rest breaks; illegally and inaccurately recording time in which PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS worked; failing to properly maintain PLAINTIFFS' and CLASS MEMBERS' records; failing to provide accurate itemized wage statements to PLAINTIFFS for each pay period; and other methods to be discovered.
- 62. DEFENDANTS' conduct described herein violates California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 4. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial. Therefore, pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 200, 203, 226, 558, 1194, 1197.1, and other applicable provisions under the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, PLAINTIFFS and

CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to recover the unpaid balance of wages owed to the them by DEFENDANTS, plus interest, penalties, attorney's fees, expenses, and costs of suit.

#### **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

## Failure to Pay All Wages Due to Discharged and Quitting Employees

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203]

#### (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 63. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 64. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 201, 202, and 203, DEFENDANTS are required to pay all earned and unpaid wages to an employee who is discharged. California Labor Code § 201 mandates that if an employer discharges an employee, the employee's wages accrued and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately.
- 65. Furthermore, pursuant to California Labor Code § 202, DEFENDANTS are required to pay all accrued wages due to an employee no later than 72 hours after the employee quits his or her employment, unless the employee provided 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.
- 66. California Labor Code § 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to pay, in accordance with California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202, any wage of an employee who is discharged or who quits, the employer is liable for waiting time penalties in the form of continued compensation to the employee at the same rate for up to 30 workdays.
- 67. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS have willfully failed to pay accrued wages and other compensation to PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS in accordance with California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202.
- 68. As a result, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties, including the waiting time penalties provided in California Labor Code § 203, together with interest thereon, as well as other available remedies.
- 69. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful actions and omissions, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have been deprived of compensation in an amount according

to proof at the time of trial, but in excess of the jurisdiction of this Court, and are entitled to recovery of such amounts, plus interest thereon, and attorneys' fees and costs, pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 2699.

#### **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### Failure to Maintain Required Records

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226; IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 7]

## (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 70. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 71. During the CLASS PERIOD, as part of DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and practices to deprive PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS of all wages earned and due, DEFENDANTS knowingly and intentionally failed to maintain records as required under California Labor Code §§ 226, 1174, and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 7, including but not limited to, the following records: total daily hours worked by each employee; applicable rates of pay; all deductions; meal periods; time records showing when each employee begins and ends each work period; and accurate itemized statements.
- 72. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful actions and omissions, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and are entitled to all wages earned and due, plus interest thereon. Additionally, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties, including but not limited to civil penalties pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 226(e), 226.3, and 1174.5, and an award of costs, expenses, and reasonable attorney's fees, including but not limited to those provided in California Labor Code § 226(e), as well as other available remedies.

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#### SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Failure to Furnish Accurate Itemized Wage Statements

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 1174; IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 7]

#### (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 73. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 74. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS routinely failed to provide PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS with timely, accurate and itemized wage statements in writing showing each employee's gross wages and earned, total hours worked, all deductions made, net wages earned, the name and address of the legal entity or entities employing PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS, and all applicable hourly rates in effect during each pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate, in violation of California Labor Code § 226 and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001, § 7.
- 75. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS knowingly and intentionally failed to provide PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS with timely, accurate, and itemized wage statements in accordance with California Labor Code § 226(a).
- 76. As a proximate result of DEFENDATS' unlawful actions and omissions, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned and due, plus interest thereon. Additionally, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties, including, but not limited to civil penalties pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 226(e), 226.3, and 1174.5, and an award of costs, expenses, and reasonable attorney's fees, including but not limited to those provided in California Labor Code § 226(e), as well as other available remedies.

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

# Failure to Indemnify Employees for Necessary Expenditures Incurred in Discharge of Duties [Cal. Labor Code § 2802]

#### (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 77. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 78. California Labor Code § 2802(a) requires an employer to indemnify an employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequences of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer.
- 79. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS knowingly and willfully failed to indemnify PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for all business expenses and/or losses incurred in direct consequence of the discharge of their duties while working under the direction of DEFENDANTS, including but not limited to expenses for uniforms, cell phone usage, and other employment-related expenses, in violation of California Labor Code § 2802.
- 80. As a proximate result of DEFENDANT's unlawful actions and omissions, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and seek reimbursement of all necessary expenditures, plus interest thereon, pursuant to California Labor Code § 2802(b). Additionally, PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties and an award of costs, expenses, and reasonable attorney's fees, including those provided in California Labor Code § 2802(c), as well as other available remedies.

#### NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **Unfair and Unlawful Business Practices**

[Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq.]

#### (By PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS against all DEFENDANTS)

- 81. PLAINTIFFS incorporate herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.
- 82. Each and every one of DEFENDANT's acts and omissions in violation of the California Labor Code and/or the applicable IWC Wage Order as alleged herein, including but not limited to

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13 significant period of time, and in a systematic manner, to the detriment of PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS. 14 15 84. DEFENDANTS have avoided payment of wages, overtime wages, meal periods, rest 16 periods, and other benefits as required by the California Labor Code, the California Code of Regulations, and the applicable IWC Wage Order. Further, DEFENDANTS have failed to record, 17 18 report, and pay the correct sums of assessment to the state authorities under the California Labor Code 19 and other applicable regulations.

and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.

83.

As a result of DEFENDANTS' unfair and unlawful business practices, DEFENDANTS 85. have reaped unfair and illegal profits during the CLASS PERIOD at the expense of PLAINTIFFS, CLASS MEMBERS, and members of the public. DEFENDANTS should be made to disgorge their illgotten gains and to restore them to PLAINTIFFS and the CLASS MEMBERS.

DEFENDANT's failure and refusal to provide required meal periods, DEFENDANT's failure and

refusal to provide required rest breaks, DEFENDANT's failure and refusal to pay overtime

compensation, including all compensation earned in the regular rate of pay from which overtime

wages were calculated and paid, DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to pay minimum wages,

DEFENDANT's failure and refusal to pay all wages due to discharged or quitting employees,

DEFENDANTS's failure and refusal to furnish accurate itemized wage statements; DEFENDANT's

failure and refusal to maintain required records, DEFENDANT's failure and refusal to indemnify

PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS for necessary expenditures and/or losses incurring in

discharging their duties, constitutes an unfair and unlawful business practice under California Business

practice because DEFENDANT's aforementioned acts and omissions were done repeatedly over a

DEFENDANTS' violations of California wage and hour laws constitute a business

86. DEFENDANTS' unfair and unlawful business practices entitle PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS to seek preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including but not limited to orders that DEFENDANTS account for, disgorge, and restore to PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS the wages and other compensation unlawfully withheld from them. PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to restitution of all monies to be disgorged from DEFENDANTS in

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an amount according to proof at the time of trial, but in excess of the jurisdiction of this Court.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFFS, individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, respectfully pray for relief against DEFENDANTS and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, and each of them, as follows:

- 1. For compensatory damages in an amount to be ascertained at trial;
- 2. For restitution of all monies due to PLAINTIFFS and CLASS MEMBERS, as well as disgorged profits from DEFENDANTS' unfair and unlawful business practices;
- 3. For meal and rest period compensation pursuant to California Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order No. 5-2001;
  - 4. For liquidated damages pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194.2 and 1197.1;
- 5. For preliminary and permanent injunctive relief enjoining DEFENDANTS from violating the relevant provisions of the California Labor Code and the IWC Wage Orders, and from engaging in the unlawful business practices complained herein;
  - 6. For waiting time penalties pursuant to California Labor Code § 203;
- 7. For statutory and civil penalties according to proof, including but not limited to all penalties authorized by the California Labor Code §§ 226(e) and §§ 2698-2699.5;
- 8. For interest on the unpaid wages at 10% per annum pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 218.6, 1194, 2802, California Civil Code §§ 3287, 3288, and/or any other applicable provision providing for pre-judgment interest;
- 9. For reasonable attorney's fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194, 2699, 2802, California Civil Code § 1021.5, and any other applicable provisions providing for attorneys' fees and costs;
  - 10. For declaratory relief;
- 11. For an order requiring and certifying the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Causes of Action as a class action;
- For an order appointing PLAINTIFFS as class representatives, and PLAINTIFFS' 12. counsel as class counsel; and

For such further relief that the Court may deem just and proper.



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