

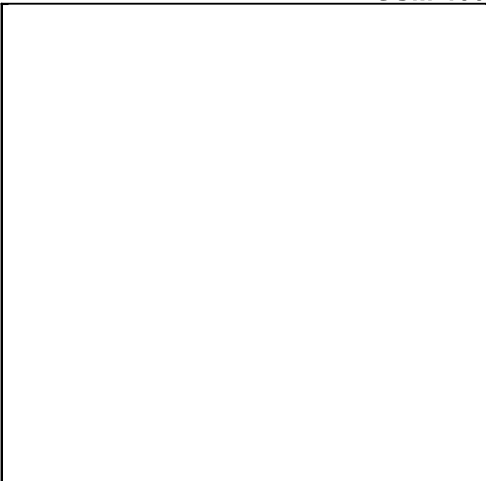
**SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)**

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

PALMDALE 794 INC. dba IHOP 794, a California corporation; and
DOES 1-50, Inclusive,

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

SHAWNETTE SNOWDEN, an individual, on behalf of herself, and on
behalf of all persons similarly situated,



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.

The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

Los Angeles Superior Court - Stanley Mosk Courthouse
111 North Hill Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

CASE NUMBER: **23STCV02326**
(Número del Caso):

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):
Shani O. Zakay, Esq. SBN:277924 Tel: (619) 255-9047 Fax: (858) 404-9203
Zakay Law Group, APLC - 5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600, San Diego, CA 92121

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court

DATE: **02/02/2023**
(Fecha)

Clerk, by G. Carini, Deputy
(Secretario) (Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)
(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. as an individual defendant.
2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
3. on behalf of (specify):
under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (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):



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Attorneys for PLAINTIFF

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SHAWNETTE SNOWDEN, an individual, on behalf of herself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

PALMDALE 794 INC. dba IHOP 794, a California corporation; and DOES 1-50, Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No: **23STCV02326**

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:

- 1) UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §17200 *et seq*;
- 2) FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
- 3) FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 510, *et seq*;
- 4) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
- 5) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;

- 6) FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802;
- 7) FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203;
- 8) FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226;
- 9) FAILURE TO PROVIDE GRATUITIES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 351;
- 10) VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT [LABOR CODE §§ 2698 ET SEQ.

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

PLAINTIFF SHAWNETTE SNOWDEN (“PLAINTIFF”), an individual, on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated current and former employees, allege on information and belief, except for her own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge, the following:

PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS

1. Defendant PALMDALE 794 INC. dba IHOP 794 (“DEFENDANT” and/or “DEFENDANTS”) is a California corporation that at all relevant times mentioned herein conducted and continues to conduct substantial and regular business throughout California.

2. DEFENDANT owns, operates, and/or manages an IHOP restaurant franchise in the county of Los Angeles, where PLAINTIFF worked.

3. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANT in California from November of 2021 to February of 2022 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 herself and a California class, defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time during the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined

1 by the Court (the “CLASS PERIOD”). The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of the
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).

3 5. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of herself and a CALIFORNIA
4 CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their losses incurred during
5 the CLASS PERIOD caused by DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice which failed to
6 lawfully compensate these employees. DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice alleged
7 herein was an unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practice whereby DEFENDANT retained
8 and continues to retain wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
9 CLASS. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction
10 enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and the
11 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who have been economically injured by
12 DEFENDANT’s past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable
13 relief.

14 6. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, subsidiary,
15 partnership, associate or otherwise of DEFENDANTS DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are
16 presently unknown to PLAINTIFF who therefore sues these DEFENDANTS by such fictitious
17 names pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 474. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend this
18 Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of Does 1 through 50, inclusive, when they are
19 ascertained. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and based upon that information and belief
20 alleges, that the DEFENDANTS named in this Complaint, including DOES 1 through 50,
21 inclusive, are responsible in some manner for one or more of the events and happenings that
22 proximately caused the injuries and damages hereinafter alleged.

23 7. The agents, servants and/or employees of the Defendants and each of them acting
24 on behalf of the Defendants acted within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as the
25 agent, servant and/or employee of the Defendants, and personally participated in the conduct
26 alleged herein on behalf of the Defendants with respect to the conduct alleged herein.
27 Consequently, the acts of each Defendant are legally attributable to the other Defendants and all
28 Defendants are jointly and severally liable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the

1 CALIFORNIA CLASS, for the loss sustained as a proximate result of the conduct of the
2 Defendants' agents, servants and/or employees.

3 8. DEFENDANTS were PLAINTIFF'S employers or persons acting on behalf of the
4 PLAINTIFF'S employer, within the meaning of California Labor Code § 558, who violated or
5 caused to be violated, a section of Part 2, Chapter 1 of the California Labor Code or any provision
6 regulating hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare Commission and, as
7 such, are subject to civil penalties for each underpaid employee, as set forth in Labor Code § 558,
8 at all relevant times.

9 9. DEFENDANTS were PLAINTIFF'S employers or persons acting on behalf of
10 PLAINTIFF'S employer either individually or as an officer, agent, or employee of another person,
11 within the meaning of California Labor Code § 1197.1, who paid or caused to be paid to any
12 employee a wage less than the minimum fixed by California state law, and as such, are subject to
13 civil penalties for each underpaid employee.

14 10. DEFENDANT'S uniform policies and practices alleged herein were unlawful,
15 unfair, and deceptive business practices whereby DEFENDANT retained and continue to retain
16 wages due to PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

17 11. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction
18 enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and
19 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who has been economically injured by
20 DEFENDANT'S past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable
21 relief.

22 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

23 12. This Court has jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to California Code of Civil
24 Procedure, Section 410.10 and California Business & Professions Code, Section 17203. This
25 action is brought as a Class Action on behalf of PLAINTIFF and similarly situated employees of
26 DEFENDANT pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382.

27 13. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure,
28 Sections 395 and 395.5, because DEFENDANT operates in locations across California, employs

1 the CALIFORNIA CLASS across California, including in this County, and committed the
2 wrongful conduct herein alleged in this County against the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

3 **THE CONDUCT**

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

23 **A. Meal Period Violations**

24 15. Pursuant to the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, DEFENDANT was
25 required to pay PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all their time worked,
26 meaning the time during which an employee is subject to the control of an employer, including
27 all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work. From time to time during the CLASS
28 PERIOD, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to work

1 without paying them for all the time they were under DEFENDANT's control. Specifically,
2 DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF to work while clocked out during what was supposed to be
3 PLAINTIFF'S off-duty meal break. Indeed, there were many days where PLAINTIFF did not
4 even receive a partial lunch. As a result, the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
5 Members forfeited minimum wage and overtime compensation by regularly working without their
6 time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable minimum wage and
7 overtime rates. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice not to pay PLAINTIFF and other
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all time worked is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business
9 records.

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

26 **B. Rest Period Violations**

27 17. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other
28 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also required to work in excess of four (4) hours without

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

13 **C. Unreimbursed Business Expenses**

14 18. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice, and procedure,
15 intentionally, knowingly, and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify the PLAINTIFF
16 and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business expenses incurred by the
17 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members in direct consequence of discharging
18 their duties on behalf of DEFENDANT. Under California Labor Code Section 2802, employers
19 are required to indemnify employees for all expenses incurred in the course and scope of their
20 employment. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 expressly states that "an employer shall indemnify his or her
21 employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence
22 of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer,
23 even though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them
24 to be unlawful."

25 19. In the course of their employment, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and other
26 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to incur personal expenses for the use of their personal cell
27 phones, tools and equipment, and uniforms as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties.
28 Specifically, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to use their

1 own cell phones in order to perform work related tasks. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
2 CLASS Members were required to purchase some of their own tools, including pens, paper, and
3 notebook in order to carry out their job duties. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
4 CLASS Members were required to purchase their own uniforms. However, DEFENDANT
5 unlawfully failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the
6 personal expenses incurred for the use of their personal cell phones, purchase of such equipment
7 and tools, and uniforms. As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANT, the
8 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incurred unreimbursed business
9 expenses that included, but were not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cell
10 phones, purchase of equipment and tools, and the purchase of uniforms, all on behalf of and for
11 the benefit of DEFENDANT.

12 **D. Wage Statement Violations**

13 20. California Labor Code Section 226 required an employer to furnish its employees
14 and accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours
15 worked, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece-rate, (4) all deductions,
16 (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the
17 name of the employee and only the last four digits of the employee's social security number or an
18 employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of
19 the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay
20 period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

21 21. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, when PLAINTIFF and other
22 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurately for
23 missed meal and rest period premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANT also
24 failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and
25 accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, all deductions, the total hours
26 worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period, and the corresponding
27 amount of time worked at each hourly rate, correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed
28 meal and rest periods.

1 22. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANT, from time to time, failed to provide
2 PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with wage statements that comply with
3 Cal. Lab. Code § 226.

4 23. As a result, DEFENDANT issued PLAINTIFF and other members of the
5 CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements that violate Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further,
6 DEFENDANT's violations are knowing and intentional, were not isolated due to an unintentional
7 payroll error due to clerical or inadvertent mistake.

8 **E. Off-the-Clock Work Resulting in Minimum Wage and Overtime Violations**

9 24. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANT failed and
10 continues to fail to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
11 for all hours worked.

12 25. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANT required
13 PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to perform pre-shift or post-shift
14 work, including but not limited to, submitting to COVID-19 health screenings and performing
15 work-related tasks such as cleaning and locking up. This resulted in PLAINTIFF and other
16 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to have to work while off-the-clock.

17 26. DEFENDANT directed and directly benefited from the undercompensated off-the-
18 clock work performed by PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

19 27. DEFENDANT controlled the work schedules, duties, and protocols, applications,
20 assignments, and employment conditions of PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
21 CALIFORNIA CLASS.

22 28. DEFENDANT was able to track the amount of time PLAINTIFF and the other
23 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS spent working; however, DEFENDANT failed to
24 document, track, or pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS all
25 wages earned and owed for all the work they performed.

26 29. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were non-
27 exempt employees, subject to the requirements of the California Labor Code.
28

1 30. DEFENDANT’s policies and practices deprived PLAINTIFF and the other
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members of all minimum regular, overtime, and double time wages owed
3 for the off-the-clock work activities. Because PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS typically worked over forty (40) hours in a workweek, and more than
5 eight (8) hours per day, DEFENDANT’s policies and practices also deprived them of overtime
6 pay.

7 31. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
8 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS off-the-clock work was compensable under the law.

9 32. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
10 forfeited wages due to them for all hours worked at DEFENDANT’s direction, control, and
11 benefit for the time spent working while off-the-clock. DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and
12 practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all
13 hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT’s business
14 records.

15 **F. Reporting Time Violations**

16 33. Further, DEFENDANTS from time to time required PLAINTIFF and other
17 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to report to work, but were furnished less than half their
18 scheduled shift’s worth of work and were not paid reporting time pay as required by Cal. Code
19 Regs., tit. 8 § 11040, subdivision(A). Specifically, Subdivision 5(A) states, “(A) Each workday
20 an employee is required to report for work and does report, but is not put to work or is furnished
21 less than half said employee's usual or scheduled day's work, the employee shall be paid for half
22 the usual or scheduled day's work, but in no event for less than two (2) hours nor more than four
23 (4) hours, at the employee's regular rate of pay, which shall not be less than the minimum wage.”
24 In addition, when DEFENDANTS required PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
25 Members to engage in additional work, this sometimes resulted in a second reporting for work in
26 a single workday. In such a circumstance of a second reporting for work in a single workday,
27 DEFENDANT failed to pay these employees reporting time pay as required by Cal. Code Regs.,
28 tit. 8 § 11040. Subdivision 5(B) states: “If an employee is required to report for work a second

1 time in any one workday and is furnished less than two (2) hours of work on the second reporting,
2 said employee shall be paid for two (2) hours at the employee’s regular rate of pay, which shall
3 be not less than the minimum wage.” Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8 § 11040, subd. 5(B).

4 **G. Regular Rate Violation – Overtime, Double Time, Meal and Rest Period Premiums,**
5 **and Redeemed Sick Pay**

6 34. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed and
7 continues to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS
8 Members for their overtime and double time hours worked, meal and rest period premiums, and
9 redeemed sick pay. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
10 forfeited wages due to them for working overtime without compensation at the correct overtime
11 and double time rates, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay rates.
12 DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice not to pay the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at
13 the correct rate for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and
14 redeemed sick pay in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT’s business
15 records.

16 35. State law provides that employees must be paid overtime at one-and-one-half times
17 their “regular rate of pay.” PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were
18 compensated at an hourly rate plus incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an
19 employee’s performance.

20 36. The second component of PLAINTIFF’s and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
21 Members’ compensation was DEFENDANTS’ non-discretionary incentive program that paid
22 PLAINTIFF and other CLASS MEMBERS incentive wages based on their performance for
23 DEFENDANTS. The non-discretionary bonus program provided all employees paid on an hourly
24 basis with bonus compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by
25 DEFENDANTS.

26 37. However, from-time-to-time, when calculating the regular rate of pay, in those pay
27 periods where PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members worked overtime, double
28 time, paid meal and rest period premium payments, and/or redeemed sick pay, and earned non-

1 discretionary bonus, DEFENDANTS failed to accurately include the non-discretionary bonus
2 compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked
3 rather than just all non-overtime hours worked. Management and supervisors described the
4 incentive/bonus program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package.
5 As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
6 CLASS members must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted
7 in a systematic underpayment of overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period
8 premiums, and redeemed sick pay to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members by
9 DEFENDANTS. Specifically, California Labor Code Section 246 mandates that paid sick time
10 for non-employees shall be calculated in the same manner as the regular rate of pay for the
11 workweek in which the non-exempt employee uses paid sick time, whether or not the employee
12 actually works overtime in that workweek. DEFENDANTS' conduct, as articulated herein, by
13 failing to include the incentive compensation as part of the "regular rate of pay" for purposes of
14 sick pay compensation was in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 246 the underpayment of which is
15 recoverable under Cal. Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203 and/or 204.

16 38. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the
17 requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANT as a
18 matter of company policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally and knowingly failed to
19 compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS at the correct rate
20 of pay for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and sick pay.
21 This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANT is intended to purposefully avoid the payment
22 of the correct overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period premiums, and sick
23 pay as required by California law which allowed DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an
24 unfair advantage over competitors who complied with the law. To the extent equitable tolling
25 operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS members against DEFENDANT, the
26 CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

27
28 ///

1 **H. Unlawful Rounding Practices**

2 39. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS did not have in
3 place an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFFS and other
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the actual time these employees worked each day, including
5 overtime hours. Specifically, DEFENDANTS had in place an unlawful rounding policy and
6 practice that resulted in PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members being
7 undercompensated for all of their time worked. As a result, DEFENDANTS were able to and did
8 in fact unlawfully, and unilaterally round the time recorded in DEFENDANTS' timekeeping
9 system for PLAINTIFFS and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying
10 these employees for all their time worked, including the applicable overtime compensation for
11 overtime worked. As a result, PLAINTIFFS and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, from
12 time to time, forfeited compensation for their time worked by working without their time being
13 accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable overtime rates.

14 40. Further, the mutability of DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system and unlawful
15 rounding policy and practice resulted in PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members'
16 time being inaccurately recorded. As a result, from time to time, DEFENDANTS' unlawful
17 rounding policy and practice caused PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to
18 perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without
19 receiving an off-duty meal break.

20 **I. Timekeeping Manipulation**

21 41. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS, from time-to-time, did not have an
22 immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other members of
23 the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the actual time PLAINTIFF and other members of the
24 CALIFORNIA CLASS worked each day, including regular time, overtime hours, sick pay, meal
25 and rest breaks. Specifically, due to DEFENDANT's error-prone timekeeping system,
26 approximately five to eight minutes of PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Member's time
27 worked were taken each day. As a result, DEFENDANT was able to and did in fact, unlawfully,
28 and unilaterally alter the time recorded in DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF

1 and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for
2 all hours worked, applicable overtime compensation, applicable sick pay, missed meal breaks and
3 missed rest break.

4 42. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, from
5 time-to-time, forfeited time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and
6 without compensation at the applicable pay rates.

7 43. The mutability of the timekeeping system also allowed DEFENDANTS to alter
8 employee time records by recording fictitious thirty (30) minute meal breaks in DEFENDANTS'
9 timekeeping system so as to create the appearance that PLAINTIFF and other members of the
10 CALIFORNIA CLASS clocked out for thirty (30) minute meal break when in fact the employees
11 were not at all times provided an off-duty meal break. This practice is a direct result of
12 DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice of denying employees uninterrupted thirty (30)
13 minute off-duty meal breaks each day or otherwise compensate them for missed meal breaks.

14 44. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
15 forfeited wages due them for all hours worked at DEFENDANTS' direction, control and benefit
16 for the time the timekeeping system was inoperable. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and
17 practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all
18 hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business
19 records.

20 **J. Tip Pooling**

21 45. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS period, pursuant to DEFENDANTS' company
22 policies and practices, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were forced to
23 forfeit gratuities left for them by customers to DEFENDANTS' agents who provided no service
24 to the customers that resulted in the gratuity. DEFENDANTS routinely added gratuity tips and
25 service charges to its food and beverage bills. These gratuities and service charges reasonably
26 appear to be gratuities for the service staff. It is typical and customary in the hospitality industry
27 that establishments impose gratuity charges on the food and beverage bill. Thus, when customers
28 paid these charges, it is reasonable for them to have believed they were gratuities to be paid to

1 the service staff. Indeed, because many of these charges are depicted to customers, and the
2 custom in the food and beverage industry that gratuities are paid for food and beverage service,
3 customers paid these charges reasonably believing they were remitted to the service staff.
4 However, DEFENDANTS have not remitted the total proceeds of these gratuities to the non-
5 managerial employees who serve the food and beverages. Instead, DEFENDANTS have a policy
6 and practice of using a portion of these gratuities to pay managers or other non-service
7 employees. As a result, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have not received the
8 total proceeds of the gratuities, to which they are entitled to under California law.

9 46. DEFENDANTS are generally in the business of owning and operating a restaurant.
10 During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
11 Members were in the “chain of service” and earned gratuities based on their service for their
12 customers. However, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were forced to forfeit
13 portions of their gratuities, which said gratuities were kept by DEFENDANTS’ employees who
14 were not in the chain of service from which the gratuity resulted. PLAINTIFF and other
15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members contend that any gratuities kept by DEFENDANTS’ non-
16 service employees were illegal and in violation of California law because PLAINTIFF and other
17 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members provided the service for to whom the gratuity should have been
18 paid.

19 47. California Labor Code § 351 establishes the requirements for an employer
20 regarding the payment of gratuities. Specifically, gratuities are the sole property of the
21 employees. California Labor Code § 351 expressly prohibits employers and their agents from
22 collecting, taking, or receiving any portion of a gratuity. California Labor Code § 350(e) defines
23 the term “gratuity” as including any money that has been paid or given or left for an employee
24 by a patron of a business over and above the actual amount due the business for services rendered
25 or for goods, food, drink or articles sold or served to such patron. Labor Code § 353 requires
26 employers to keep accurate records of all gratuities they receive, directly or indirectly.

27 48. Although tip pooling is not expressly prohibited by the Labor Code, employees
28 who mandate tip pooling must only distribute pooled tips to employees in the “chain of service.”

1 By distributing tips to employees who were not in the “chain of service,” DEFENDANTS have
2 violated and continue to violate the legal requirements for handling pooled tips.

3 **K. Violations for Untimely Payment of Wages**

4 49. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 204, PLAINTIFF and the
5 CALIFORNIA CLASS members were entitled to timely payment of wages during their
6 employment. PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, from time to time, did not
7 receive payment of all wages, including, but not limited to, overtime wages, minimum wages,
8 meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages within permissible time period.

9 **L. Unlawful Deductions**

10 50. DEFENDANTS, from time-to-time unlawfully deducted wages from PLAINTIFF
11 and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members’ pay without explanations and without authorization to do
12 so or notice to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. As a result,
13 DEFENDANTS violated Labor Code § 221.

14 51. Specifically, as to PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF was from time to time unable to take
15 off duty meal and rest breaks and was not fully relieved of duty for her rest and meal periods.
16 PLAINTIFF was required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANT for more than five (5)
17 hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break. Further, DEFENDANT failed to
18 provide PLAINTIFF with a second off-duty meal period each workday in which she was required
19 by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. When DEFENDANT provided PLAINTIFF
20 with a rest break, they required PLAINTIFF to remain on-duty and on-call for the rest break.
21 DEFENDANT policy caused PLAINTIFF to remain on-call and on-duty during what was
22 supposed to be her off-duty meal periods. PLAINTIFF therefore forfeited meal and rest breaks
23 without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT’S strict corporate policy
24 and practice. Moreover, DEFENDANT also provided PLAINTIFF with paystubs that failed to
25 comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further, DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF for
26 the use of her personal cell phones, purchase of such equipment and tools, and uniforms in
27 violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 2802. To date, DEFENDANT has not fully paid PLAINTIFF the
28 minimum, overtime and double time compensation still owed to her or any penalty wages owed

1 to her under Cal. Lab. Code § 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF individually does
2 not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

3 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

4 52. PLAINTIFF bring this Class Action on behalf of herself, and a California class
5 defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and
6 classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time during the period
7 beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined
8 by the Court (the “CLASS PERIOD”).

9 53. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have uniformly been
10 deprived of wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to
11 unpaid minimum wages, unpaid overtime compensation, unpaid meal and rest period premiums,
12 illegal meal and rest period policies, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failed compensate
13 for off-the-clock work, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain
14 required records, and interest, statutory and civil penalties, attorney’s fees, costs, and expenses.

15 54. The members of the class are so numerous that joinder of all class members is
16 impractical.

17 55. Common questions of law and fact regarding DEFENDANT’s conduct, including
18 but not limited to, off-the-clock work, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, failure to accurately
19 calculate the regular rate of pay for overtime compensation, failure to accurately calculate the
20 regular rate of compensation for missed meal and rest period premiums, failing to provide legally
21 compliant meal and rest periods, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failure to provide
22 accurate itemized wage statements accurate, and failure to ensure they are paid at least minimum
23 wage and overtime, exist as to all members of the class and predominate over any questions
24 affecting solely any individual members of the class. Among the questions of law and fact
25 common to the class are:

- 26 a. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant meal period policies and
27 practices;

- 1 b. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant rest period policies and
- 2 practices;
- 3 c. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
- 4 Members accurate premium payments for missed meal and rest periods;
- 5 d. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
- 6 Members accurate overtime wages;
- 7 e. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
- 8 Members at least minimum wage for all hours worked;
- 9 f. Whether DEFENDANT failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
- 10 CLASS Members for required business expenses;
- 11 g. Whether DEFENDANT issued legally compliant wage statements;
- 12 h. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically
- 13 failing to record and pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
- 14 CLASS for all time worked;
- 15 i. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically
- 16 failing to record all meal and rest breaks missed by PLAINTIFF and other
- 17 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit
- 18 of this work, required employees to perform this work and permits or suffers to
- 19 permit this work;
- 20 j. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition in violation of the
- 21 UCL, by failing to provide the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
- 22 CALIFORNIA CLASS with the legally required meal and rest periods.

23 56. PLAINTIFF are members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and suffered damages as
24 a result of DEFENDANT’s conduct and actions alleged herein.

25 57. PLAINTIFF’S claims are typical of the claims of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, and
26 PLAINTIFF have the same interests as the other members of the class.

27 58. PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the
28 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

1 59. PLAINTIFF retained able class counsel with extensive experience in class action
2 litigation.

3 60. Further, PLAINTIFF'S interests are coincident with, and not antagonistic to, the
4 interest of the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

5 61. There is a strong community of interest among PLAINTIFF and the members of
6 the CALIFORNIA CLASS to, inter alia, ensure that the combined assets of DEFENDANT are
7 sufficient to adequately compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the injuries
8 sustained.

9 62. The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
10 predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, including legal and factual
11 issues relating to liability and damages.

12 63. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient
13 adjudication of this controversy because joinder of all class members is impractical. Moreover,
14 since the damages suffered by individual members of the class may be relatively small, the
15 expense and burden of individual litigation makes it practically impossible for the members of the
16 class individually to redress the wrongs done to them. Without class certification and
17 determination of declaratory, injunctive, statutory, and other legal questions within the class
18 format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS will
19 create the risk of:

20 a. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the
21 CALIFORNIA CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of conduct
22 for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and/or,

23 b. Adjudication with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
24 which would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of the other
25 members not party to the adjudication or substantially impair or impeded their
26 ability to protect their interests.

27
28

1 64. Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring an
2 efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour related claims arising out of
3 the conduct of DEFENDANT.

4 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

5 **Unlawful Business Practices**

6 **(Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*)**

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

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

11 66. DEFENDANT is a “person” as that term is defined under Cal. Bus. And Prof.
12 Code § 17021.

13 67. California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* (the “UCL”) defines
14 unfair competition as any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice. Section 17203
15 authorizes injunctive, declaratory, and/or other equitable relief with respect to unfair competition
16 as follows:

17 Any person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition may
18 be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. The court may make such orders or
19 judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be necessary to prevent the
20 use or employment by any person of any practice which constitutes unfair competition, as
21 defined in this chapter, or as may be necessary to restore to any person in interest any
22 money or property, real or personal, which may have been acquired by means of such
23 unfair competition. (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203).

24 68. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT has engaged and continues to
25 engage in a business practice which violates California law, including but not limited to, the
26 applicable Wage Order(s), the California Code of Regulations and the California Labor Code
27 including Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1,
28 1198, and 2802, for which this Court should issue declaratory and other equitable relief pursuant
to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203 as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct held
to constitute unfair competition, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

1 69. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT’s practices were unlawful and unfair
2 in that these practices violated public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive unscrupulous
3 or substantially injurious to employees, and were without valid justification or utility for which
4 this Court should issue equitable and injunctive relief pursuant to Section 17203 of the California
5 Business & Professions Code, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

6 70. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT’s practices were deceptive and
7 fraudulent in that DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice failed to provide the legally
8 mandated meal and rest periods and the required amount of compensation for missed meal and
9 rest periods, failed to pay minimum and overtime wages owed, and failed to reimburse all
10 necessary business expenses incurred, due to a systematic business practice that cannot be
11 justified, pursuant to the applicable Cal. Lab. Code, and Industrial Welfare Commission
12 requirements in violation of Cal. Bus. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and for which this Court should
13 issue injunctive and equitable relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including
14 restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

15 71. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT’s practices were also unlawful,
16 unfair, and deceptive in that DEFENDANT’s employment practices caused PLAINTIFF and the
17 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to be underpaid during their employment with
18 DEFENDANT.

19 72. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT’s practices were also unfair and
20 deceptive in that DEFENDANT’s uniform policies, practices and procedures failed to provide
21 mandatory meal and/or rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members as
22 required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512.

23 73. Therefore, PLAINTIFF demands on behalf of herself and on behalf of each
24 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off-duty meal
25 period was not timely provided for each five (5) hours of work, and/or one (1) hour of pay for
26 each workday in which a second off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each ten (10)
27 hours of work.

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1 74. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of herself and on behalf of each
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a rest period was
3 not timely provided as required by law.

4 75. By and through the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein,
5 DEFENDANT has obtained valuable property, money and services from PLAINTIFF and the
6 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, including earned wages for all time worked, and
7 has deprived them of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law and contract, all to the
8 detriment of these employees and to the benefit of DEFENDANT so as to allow DEFENDANT
9 to unfairly compete against competitors who comply with the law.

10 76. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the Industrial
11 Welfare Commission Wage Orders, the California Code of Regulations, and the California Labor
12 Code, were unlawful and in violation of public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive, and
13 unscrupulous, were deceptive, and thereby constitute unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business
14 practices in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

15 77. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are entitled to,
16 and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to restore to them the money and property which
17 DEFENDANT has acquired, or of which PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
18 CALIFORNIA CLASS have been deprived, by means of the above described unlawful and unfair
19 business practices, including earned but unpaid wages for all time worked.

20 78. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are further
21 entitled to, and do, seek a declaration that the described business practices are unlawful, unfair,
22 and deceptive, and that injunctive relief should be issued restraining DEFENDANT from
23 engaging in any unlawful and unfair business practices in the future.

24 79. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have no plain,
25 speedy and/or adequate remedy at law that will end the unlawful and unfair business practices of
26 DEFENDANT. Further, the practices herein alleged presently continue to occur unabated. As a
27 result of the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein, PLAINTIFF and the other
28 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable legal

1 and economic harm unless DEFENDANT is restrained from continuing to engage in these
2 unlawful and unfair business practices.

3 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

4 **Failure To Pay Minimum Wages**

5 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 and 1197.1)**

6 **Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)**

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

10 81. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim for
11 DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial
12 Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to accurately calculate and pay
13 minimum wages to PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

14 82. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
15 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.

16 83. Cal. Lab. Code § 1197 provides the minimum wage for employees fixed by the
17 commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a less wage than
18 the minimum so fixed is unlawful.

19 84. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages,
20 including minimum wage compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of suit.

21 85. DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF and the
22 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS without regard to the correct amount of time they
23 work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice was to unlawfully and
24 intentionally deny timely payment of wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
25 CALIFORNIA CLASS.

26 86. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested,
27 without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of
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1 implementing a uniform policy and practice that denies accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF
2 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in regard to minimum wage pay.

3 87. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANT
4 inaccurately calculated the correct time worked and consequently underpaid the actual time
5 worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. DEFENDANT acted
6 in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of
7 the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable
8 laws and regulations.

9 88. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged herein,
10 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct
11 minimum wage compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.

12 89. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for time worked that they were entitled to, constituting a
14 failure to pay all earned wages.

15 90. By virtue of DEFENDANT's unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned
16 compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true
17 time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have
18 suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown
19 to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

20 91. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
21 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were under-compensated for their time worked.
22 DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross
23 nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice
24 and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay
25 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct minimum wages
26 for their time worked.

27 92. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor
28 laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked

1 and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act
2 intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
3 CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the
4 consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal
5 rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of
6 these employees.

7 93. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore request
8 recovery of all unpaid wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
9 assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the
10 California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent minimum wage
11 compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have
12 terminated their employment, DEFENDANT's conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or
13 202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab.
14 Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these CALIFORNIA CLASS
15 Members. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good
16 faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are entitled to seek and
17 recover statutory costs.

18 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

19 **Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation**

20 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 510, 1194 and 1198)**

21 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)**

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

25 95. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim for
26 DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial
27 Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to pay these employees for all
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1 overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or
2 twelve (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

3 96. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
4 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.

5 97. Cal. Lab. Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed
6 more than eight (8) hours per workday and/or more than forty (40) hours per workweek unless
7 they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.

8 98. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages,
9 including minimum and overtime compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of
10 suit. Cal. Lab. Code § 1198 further states that the employment of an employee for longer hours
11 than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.

12 99. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
13 were required by DEFENDANT to work for DEFENDANT and were not paid for all the time
14 they worked, including overtime work.

15 100. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested,
16 without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of
17 implementing a uniform policy and practice that failed to accurately record overtime worked by
18 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members and denied accurate compensation to
19 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for overtime worked,
20 including, the overtime work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or twelve
21 (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

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

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

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

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

15 105. DEFENDANT failed to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
16 CALIFORNIA CLASS overtime wages for the time they worked which was in excess of the
17 maximum hours permissible by law as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, 1194, & 1198, even
18 though PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were regularly required
19 to work, and did in fact work overtime, and did in fact work overtime as to which DEFENDANT
20 failed to accurately record and pay as evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records and
21 witnessed by employees.

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

27 107. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
28 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were undercompensated for their time worked.

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

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

14 109. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
15 request recovery of overtime wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
16 assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the
17 California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent overtime compensation is
18 determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have terminated their
19 employment, DEFENDANT'S conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or 202, and therefore
20 these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which
21 penalties are sought herein. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional,
22 and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are
23 entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

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1 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **Failure To Provide Required Meal Periods**

3 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)**

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

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

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

22 112. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable
23 IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
24 who were not provided a meal period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one
25 additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a
26 meal period was not provided.

1 113. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
3 and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

4 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

5 **Failure To Provide Required Rest Periods**

6 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)**

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

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

11 115. From time to time, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were
12 required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods.
13 Further, these employees were denied their first rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some
14 shifts worked of at least two (2) to four (4) hours, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10)
15 minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, and a first, second and
16 third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more.
17 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also not provided with one-hour
18 wages *in lieu* thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other
19 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were periodically denied their proper rest periods by
20 DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT's managers. In addition, DEFENDANT failed to compensate
21 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for their rest periods as required by the
22 applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. As a result, DEFENDANT's failure to provide
23 PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with all the legally required paid rest
24 periods is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records.

25 116. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable
26 IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
27 who were not provided a rest period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one
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1 additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that rest
2 period was not provided.

3 117. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
5 and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

6 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

7 **Failure To Reimburse Employees for Required Expenses**

8 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2802)**

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

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

13 119. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 provides, in relevant part, that:

14 An employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or
15 losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her
16 duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer, even though
17 unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them
18 to be unlawful.

19 120. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab.
20 Code § 2802, by failing to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
21 members for required expenses incurred in the discharge of their job duties for DEFENDANT's
22 benefit. DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members
23 for expenses which included, but were not limited to, personal expenses for the use of their
24 personal cell phones, tools and equipment, and uniforms as a result of and in furtherance of their
25 job duties all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and
26 other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required by DEFENDANT to use their own
27 equipment and tools to execute their essential job duties on behalf of DEFENDANT.
28 DEFENDANT's uniform policy, practice and procedure was to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and
the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for expenses resulting from the personal expenses for the
use of their personal cell phones, tools and equipment, and uniforms as a result of and in

1 furtherance of their job duties for DEFENDANT within the course and scope of their employment
2 for DEFENDANT. These expenses were necessary to complete their principal job duties.
3 DEFENDANT is estopped by DEFENDANT's conduct to assert any waiver of this expectation.
4 Although these expenses were necessary expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF and the
5 CALIFORNIA CLASS members, DEFENDANT failed to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF
6 and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for these expenses as an employer is required to do
7 under the laws and regulations of California.

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

12 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **Failure To Pay Wages When Due**

14 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 203)**

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

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

19 123. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:

20 As used in this article:

- 21 (d) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every
22 description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time,
23 task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.
24 (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under
25 contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be
26 paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.

27 124. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges
28 an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable
immediately."

125. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:

1 If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her
2 employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours
3 thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention
4 to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.
5 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee who quits without providing a
6 72-hour notice shall be entitled to receive payment by mail if he or she so requests and
7 designates a mailing address. The date of the mailing shall constitute the date of payment
8 for purposes of the requirement to provide payment within 72 hours of the notice of
9 quitting.

10 126. There was no definite term in PLAINTIFF'S or any CALIFORNIA CLASS
11 Members' employment contract.

12 127. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides:

13 If an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with
14 Sections 201, 201.5, 202, and 205.5, any wages of an employee who is discharged or who
15 quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from the due date thereof at
16 the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but the wages shall not
17 continue for more than 30 days.

18 128. The employment of PLAINTIFF and many CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
19 terminated, and DEFENDANT has not tendered payment of wages to these employees who
20 missed meal and rest breaks, as required by law.

21 129. Therefore, as provided by Cal Lab. Code § 203, on behalf of herself and the
22 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS whose employment has, PLAINTIFF demand up to thirty
23 (30) days of pay as penalty for not paying all wages due at time of termination for all employees
24 who terminated employment during the CLASS PERIOD and demand an accounting and payment
25 of all wages due, plus interest and statutory costs as allowed by law.

26 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

27 **Failure To Provide Accurate Itemized Statements**

28 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 226)**

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

1 130. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
2 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
3 Complaint.
4

5 131. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an
6 "accurate itemized" statement in writing showing:
7

- 1 a. Gross wages earned,
- 2 b. (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose
- 3 compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of
- 4 overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the
- 5 Industrial Welfare Commission,
- 6 c. the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee
- 7 is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- 8 d. all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee
- 9 may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- 10 e. net wages earned,
- 11 f. the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- 12 g. the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by
- 13 January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number of an
- 14 employee identification number other than social security number may be shown
- 15 on the itemized statement,
- 16 h. the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and
- 17 i. all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding
- 18 number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

19 132. When DEFENDANT did not accurately record PLAINTIFF'S and other
20 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurate missed
21 meal and rest break premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANT violated Cal.
22 Lab. Code § 226 in that DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
23 CLASS Members with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other
24 things, all deductions, the accurate gross wages earned, net wages earned, the total hours worked
25 and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of
26 time worked at each hourly rate, and correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed meal
27 and rest periods.

28 133. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANT failed to provide itemized wage

1 statements to PLAINTIFF and members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS that complied with the
2 requirements of California Labor Code Section 226.

3 134. DEFENDANT knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code
4 § 226, causing injury and damages to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
5 CLASS. These damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended calculating the correct
6 wages for all missed meal and rest breaks and the amount of employment taxes which were not
7 properly paid to state and federal tax authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate.
8 Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS may elect to recover
9 liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the violation
10 occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent pay period
11 pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial (but in no
12 event more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for PLAINTIFF and each respective member
13 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS herein).

14 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

15 **FAILURE TO PAY STATUTORY GRATUITIES**

16 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 351 et seq.)**

17 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and against all**
18 **Defendants)**

19 135. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS,
20 reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of
21 this Complaint.

22 136. DEFENDANT's conduct, as set forth above, in failing to remit to non-managerial
23 employees the total proceeds of gratuities added to customers' bills constitutes a violation of
24 California Labor Code Section 351. This violation is enforceable pursuant to the California Unfair
25 Competition Law, Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code 17200 et seq. DEFENDANT's conduct constitutes
26 unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent business acts or practices, in that DEFENDANT has violated
27 California Labor Code Section 351 in not remitting to the non-managerial service employees the
28 total gratuities that were charged to customers.

1 137. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFFS and
2 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to
3 proof at trial, including the loss of gratuities to which they were entitled. and seek all wages earned
4 and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

5 **TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

6 **VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT**

7 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§2698 et seq.)**

8 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF against all Defendants)**

9 138. PLAINTIFF realleges and incorporates by this reference, as though fully set forth
10 herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

11 139. PAGA is a mechanism by which the State of California itself can enforce state
12 labor laws through the employee suing under the PAGA who does so as the proxy or agent of the
13 state's labor law enforcement agencies. An action to recover civil penalties under PAGA is
14 fundamentally a law enforcement action designed to protect the public and not to benefit private
15 parties. The purpose of the PAGA is not to recover damages or restitution, but to create a means
16 of "deputizing" citizens as private attorneys general to enforce the Labor Code. In enacting
17 PAGA, the California Legislature specified that "it was ... in the public interest to allow aggrieved
18 employees, acting as private attorneys general to recover civil penalties for Labor Code violations
19 ..." (Stats. 2003, ch. 906, § 1). Accordingly, PAGA claims cannot be subject to arbitration.

20 140. PLAINTIFF, and such persons that may be added from time to time who satisfy
21 the requirements and exhaust the administrative procedures under the Private Attorney General
22 Act, bring this Representative Action on behalf of the State of California with respect to himself
23 and all employees who worked for Defendant in California during the time period of November
24 28, 2021 until the present (the "AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES").

25 141. On November 28, 2022, PLAINTIFF gave written notice by certified mail to the
26 Labor and Workforce Development Agency (the "Agency") and the employer of the specific
27 provisions of this code alleged to have been violated as required by Labor Code § 2699.3. See
28 Exhibit #1, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference herein. The statutory waiting

1 period for Plaintiff to add these allegations to the Complaint has expired. As a result, pursuant
2 to Section 2699.3, Plaintiff may now commence a representative civil action under PAGA
3 pursuant to Section 2699 as the proxy of the State of California with respect to all AGGRIEVED
4 EMPLOYEES as herein defined.

5 142. The policies, acts and practices heretofore described were and are an unlawful
6 business act or practice because DEFENDANTS (a) failed to pay AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES
7 minimum wages and overtime wages, (b) failed to provide AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES legally
8 required meal and rest breaks, (c) failed to pay AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES at the correct
9 regular rate of pay, (d) failed to pay AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES for all time worked, and (e)
10 failed to timely pay wages, all in violation of the applicable Labor Code sections listed in Labor
11 Code §2699.5, including but not limited to Labor Code §§ 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5,
12 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1,
13 1197.14, 1198, 1199, 2802, 2804, and the applicable Industrial Wage Order(s), and thereby gives
14 rise to statutory penalties as a result of such conduct. PLAINTIFF hereby seeks recovery of civil
15 penalties as prescribed by the Labor Code Private Attorney General Act of 2004 as the
16 representative of the State of California for the illegal conduct perpetrated on PLAINTIFF and
17 the other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES.

18 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

19 WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF pray for a judgment against each Defendant, jointly and
20 severally, as follows:

- 21 1. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:
- 22 a. That the Court certify the First Cause of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA
23 CLASS as a class action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
 - 24 b. An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining
25 DEFENDANT from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as set forth herein;
 - 26 c. An order requiring DEFENDANT to pay all overtime wages and all sums
27 unlawfully withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members
28 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and

1 d. Restitutionary disgorgement of DEFENDANT's ill-gotten gains into a fluid fund
2 for restitution of the sums incidental to DEFENDANT's violations due to
3 PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

4 2. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

5 a. That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and
6 Ninth Causes of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a class action
7 pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;

8 b. Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial, including compensatory
9 damages for overtime compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of
10 the CALIFORNIA CLASS, during the applicable CLASS PERIOD plus interest
11 thereon at the statutory rate;

12 c. Meal and rest period compensation pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512 and
13 the applicable IWC Wage Order;

14 d. The greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period in
15 which a violation occurs and one hundred dollars (\$100) per each member of the
16 CALIFORNIA CLASS for each violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding
17 an aggregate penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), and an award of costs for
18 violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226

19 e. The wages of all terminated employees from the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a
20 penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action
21 therefore is commenced, in accordance with Cal. Lab. Code § 203.

22 f. The amount of the expenses PLAINTIFF and each member of the CALIFORNIA
23 CLASS incurred in the course of their job duties, plus interest, and costs of suit.

24 3. On behalf of the State of California and with respect to all AGGRIEVED
25 EMPLOYEES: Recovery of civil penalties as prescribe by the Labor Code Private
26 Attorneys General Act of 2004;

27 4. On all claims:

28 a. An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;

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- b. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and
- c. An award of penalties, attorneys' fees, and costs of suit, as allowable under the law, including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code § 218.5, § 226, and/or § 1194.

DATED: February 2, 2023

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC

By: 
Shani O. Zakay
Attorney for PLAINTIFF

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

PLAINTIFF demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.

DATED: February 2, 2023

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC


By: 
Shani O. Zakay
Attorney for PLAINTIFF

EXHIBIT 1

November 28, 2022

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

Online Filing

PALMDALE 794 INC. dba IHOP 794

c/o Siavoush Soleimani

7006 Sunset Blvd.

Hollywood, CA 90028

Sent via Certified Mail and Return Receipt 7022 2410 0000 2184 0010

Re: Notice of Violations of California Labor Code Sections 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.14, 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2802, 2804, and 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 SHAWNETTE SNOWDEN (“Plaintiff”), and other aggrieved employees in a proposed lawsuit against Palmdale 794 Inc. dba IHOP 794 (“Defendant”). Plaintiff was employed by Defendant in California from November of 2021 to February of 2022 as a non-exempt employee, paid on an hourly basis, and entitled to payment of all wages and the legally required meal and rest breaks and payment of minimum and overtime wages due for all time worked. 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. Further, Defendant failed to timely pay Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees for earned wages.

As a consequence, Plaintiff contends that Defendant failed to fully compensate her and other similarly situated and aggrieved employees, for all earned wages and failed to provide California-compliant meal and rest breaks and accurate wage statements. Accordingly, Plaintiff contends that Defendant’s conduct violated Labor Code sections §§ 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.14, 1198, 1199, 2802, 2804, and applicable wage orders, and is therefore actionable pursuant to section 2698 *et seq.*

Plaintiff seeks to represent a group of aggrieved employees defined as all non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the relevant claim period.

A true and correct copy of the proposed Complaint is attached hereto. The Complaint (i) identifies the alleged violations, (ii) details the facts and theories which support the alleged

violations, (iii) details the specific work performed by Plaintiff, (iv) sets forth the people/entities, dates, classifications, violations, events, and actions which are at issue to the extent known to the Plaintiff, and (v) 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.

To the extent that entities and/or individuals are named and charged with violations of the Labor Code—making them liable on an individual basis as permitted by numerous Labor Code Sections including, but not limited to 558, 558.1, and 1197.1—Plaintiff reserves any and all rights to add, substitute, or change the name of employer entities and/or individuals responsible for the violations at issue.

Any further amendments and changes to this notice shall relate back to the date of this notice. Consequently, Defendant is on notice that Plaintiff continues her investigation, with the full intent to amend and/or change this notice, to add any undiscovered violations of any of the provisions of the California Labor Code—to the extent that are applicable to this case—and to change and/or add the identities of any entities and/or individuals responsible for the violations contained herein.

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 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 Act 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.

Very truly yours,
JCL LAW FIRM, APC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean-Claude Lapuyade', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Jean-Claude Lapuyade, Esq.

JCL LAW FIRM, APC

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Attorneys for PLAINTIFF

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SHAWNETTE SNOWDEN, an individual, on behalf of herself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

PALMDALE 794 INC. dba IHOP 794, a California corporation; and DOES 1-50, Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:

- 1) UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §17200 *et seq*;
- 2) FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
- 3) FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 510, *et seq*;
- 4) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
- 5) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL.

- LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
- 6) FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802;
 - 7) FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203;
 - 8) FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226;
 - 9) FAILURE TO PROVIDE GRATUITIES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 351.

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

PLAINTIFF SHAWNETTE SNOWDEN (“PLAINTIFF”), an individual, on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated current and former employees, allege on information and belief, except for her own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge, the following:

PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS

1. Defendant PALMDALE 794 INC. dba IHOP 794 (“DEFENDANT” and/or “DEFENDANTS”) is a California corporation that at all relevant times mentioned herein conducted and continues to conduct substantial and regular business throughout California.

2. DEFENDANT owns, operates, and/or manages an IHOP restaurant franchise in the county of Los Angeles, where PLAINTIFF worked.

3. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANT in California from November of 2021 to February of 2022 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 herself and a California class, defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time during the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined

1 by the Court (the “CLASS PERIOD”). The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of the
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).

3 5. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of herself and a CALIFORNIA
4 CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their losses incurred during
5 the CLASS PERIOD caused by DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice which failed to
6 lawfully compensate these employees. DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice alleged
7 herein was an unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practice whereby DEFENDANT retained
8 and continues to retain wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
9 CLASS. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction
10 enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and the
11 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who have been economically injured by
12 DEFENDANT’s past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable
13 relief.

14 6. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, subsidiary,
15 partnership, associate or otherwise of DEFENDANTS DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are
16 presently unknown to PLAINTIFF who therefore sues these DEFENDANTS by such fictitious
17 names pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 474. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend this
18 Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of Does 1 through 50, inclusive, when they are
19 ascertained. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and based upon that information and belief
20 alleges, that the DEFENDANTS named in this Complaint, including DOES 1 through 50,
21 inclusive, are responsible in some manner for one or more of the events and happenings that
22 proximately caused the injuries and damages hereinafter alleged.

23 7. The agents, servants and/or employees of the Defendants and each of them acting
24 on behalf of the Defendants acted within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as the
25 agent, servant and/or employee of the Defendants, and personally participated in the conduct
26 alleged herein on behalf of the Defendants with respect to the conduct alleged herein.
27 Consequently, the acts of each Defendant are legally attributable to the other Defendants and all
28 Defendants are jointly and severally liable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the

1 CALIFORNIA CLASS, for the loss sustained as a proximate result of the conduct of the
2 Defendants' agents, servants and/or employees.

3 8. DEFENDANTS were PLAINTIFF'S employers or persons acting on behalf of the
4 PLAINTIFF'S employer, within the meaning of California Labor Code § 558, who violated or
5 caused to be violated, a section of Part 2, Chapter 1 of the California Labor Code or any provision
6 regulating hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare Commission and, as
7 such, are subject to civil penalties for each underpaid employee, as set forth in Labor Code § 558,
8 at all relevant times.

9 9. DEFENDANTS were PLAINTIFF'S employers or persons acting on behalf of
10 PLAINTIFF'S employer either individually or as an officer, agent, or employee of another person,
11 within the meaning of California Labor Code § 1197.1, who paid or caused to be paid to any
12 employee a wage less than the minimum fixed by California state law, and as such, are subject to
13 civil penalties for each underpaid employee.

14 10. DEFENDANT'S uniform policies and practices alleged herein were unlawful,
15 unfair, and deceptive business practices whereby DEFENDANT retained and continue to retain
16 wages due to PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

17 11. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction
18 enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and
19 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who has been economically injured by
20 DEFENDANT'S past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable
21 relief.

22 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

23 12. This Court has jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to California Code of Civil
24 Procedure, Section 410.10 and California Business & Professions Code, Section 17203. This
25 action is brought as a Class Action on behalf of PLAINTIFF and similarly situated employees of
26 DEFENDANT pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382.

27 13. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure,
28 Sections 395 and 395.5, because DEFENDANT operates in locations across California, employs

1 the CALIFORNIA CLASS across California, including in this County, and committed the
2 wrongful conduct herein alleged in this County against the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

3 **THE CONDUCT**

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

23 **A. Meal Period Violations**

24 15. Pursuant to the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, DEFENDANT was
25 required to pay PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all their time worked,
26 meaning the time during which an employee is subject to the control of an employer, including
27 all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work. From time to time during the CLASS
28 PERIOD, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to work

1 without paying them for all the time they were under DEFENDANT's control. Specifically,
2 DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF to work while clocked out during what was supposed to be
3 PLAINTIFF'S off-duty meal break. Indeed, there were many days where PLAINTIFF did not
4 even receive a partial lunch. As a result, the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
5 Members forfeited minimum wage and overtime compensation by regularly working without their
6 time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable minimum wage and
7 overtime rates. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice not to pay PLAINTIFF and other
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all time worked is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business
9 records.

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

26 **B. Rest Period Violations**

27 17. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other
28 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also required to work in excess of four (4) hours without

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

13 **C. Unreimbursed Business Expenses**

14 18. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice, and procedure,
15 intentionally, knowingly, and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify the PLAINTIFF
16 and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business expenses incurred by the
17 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members in direct consequence of discharging
18 their duties on behalf of DEFENDANT. Under California Labor Code Section 2802, employers
19 are required to indemnify employees for all expenses incurred in the course and scope of their
20 employment. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 expressly states that "an employer shall indemnify his or her
21 employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence
22 of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer,
23 even though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them
24 to be unlawful."

25 19. In the course of their employment, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and other
26 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to incur personal expenses for the use of their personal cell
27 phones, tools and equipment, and uniforms as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties.
28 Specifically, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to use their

1 own cell phones in order to perform work related tasks. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
2 CLASS Members were required to purchase some of their own tools, including pens, paper, and
3 notebook in order to carry out their job duties. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
4 CLASS Members were required to purchase their own uniforms. However, DEFENDANT
5 unlawfully failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the
6 personal expenses incurred for the use of their personal cell phones, purchase of such equipment
7 and tools, and uniforms. As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANT, the
8 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incurred unreimbursed business
9 expenses that included, but were not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cell
10 phones, purchase of equipment and tools, and the purchase of uniforms, all on behalf of and for
11 the benefit of DEFENDANT.

12 **D. Wage Statement Violations**

13 20. California Labor Code Section 226 required an employer to furnish its employees
14 and accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours
15 worked, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece-rate, (4) all deductions,
16 (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the
17 name of the employee and only the last four digits of the employee's social security number or an
18 employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of
19 the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay
20 period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

21 21. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, when PLAINTIFF and other
22 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurately for
23 missed meal and rest period premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANT also
24 failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and
25 accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, all deductions, the total hours
26 worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period, and the corresponding
27 amount of time worked at each hourly rate, correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed
28 meal and rest periods.

1 22. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANT, from time to time, failed to provide
2 PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with wage statements that comply with
3 Cal. Lab. Code § 226.

4 23. As a result, DEFENDANT issued PLAINTIFF and other members of the
5 CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements that violate Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further,
6 DEFENDANT's violations are knowing and intentional, were not isolated due to an unintentional
7 payroll error due to clerical or inadvertent mistake.

8 **E. Off-the-Clock Work Resulting in Minimum Wage and Overtime Violations**

9 24. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANT failed and
10 continues to fail to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
11 for all hours worked.

12 25. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANT required
13 PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to perform pre-shift or post-shift
14 work, including but not limited to, submitting to COVID-19 health screenings and performing
15 work-related tasks such as cleaning and locking up. This resulted in PLAINTIFF and other
16 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to have to work while off-the-clock.

17 26. DEFENDANT directed and directly benefited from the undercompensated off-the-
18 clock work performed by PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

19 27. DEFENDANT controlled the work schedules, duties, and protocols, applications,
20 assignments, and employment conditions of PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
21 CALIFORNIA CLASS.

22 28. DEFENDANT was able to track the amount of time PLAINTIFF and the other
23 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS spent working; however, DEFENDANT failed to
24 document, track, or pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS all
25 wages earned and owed for all the work they performed.

26 29. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were non-
27 exempt employees, subject to the requirements of the California Labor Code.
28

1 30. DEFENDANT’s policies and practices deprived PLAINTIFF and the other
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members of all minimum regular, overtime, and double time wages owed
3 for the off-the-clock work activities. Because PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS typically worked over forty (40) hours in a workweek, and more than
5 eight (8) hours per day, DEFENDANT’s policies and practices also deprived them of overtime
6 pay.

7 31. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
8 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS off-the-clock work was compensable under the law.

9 32. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
10 forfeited wages due to them for all hours worked at DEFENDANT’s direction, control, and
11 benefit for the time spent working while off-the-clock. DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and
12 practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all
13 hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT’s business
14 records.

15 **F. Reporting Time Violations**

16 33. Further, DEFENDANTS from time to time required PLAINTIFF and other
17 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to report to work, but were furnished less than half their
18 scheduled shift’s worth of work and were not paid reporting time pay as required by Cal. Code
19 Regs., tit. 8 § 11040, subdivision(A). Specifically, Subdivision 5(A) states, “(A) Each workday
20 an employee is required to report for work and does report, but is not put to work or is furnished
21 less than half said employee's usual or scheduled day's work, the employee shall be paid for half
22 the usual or scheduled day's work, but in no event for less than two (2) hours nor more than four
23 (4) hours, at the employee's regular rate of pay, which shall not be less than the minimum wage.”
24 In addition, when DEFENDANTS required PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
25 Members to engage in additional work, this sometimes resulted in a second reporting for work in
26 a single workday. In such a circumstance of a second reporting for work in a single workday,
27 DEFENDANT failed to pay these employees reporting time pay as required by Cal. Code Regs.,
28 tit. 8 § 11040. Subdivision 5(B) states: “If an employee is required to report for work a second

1 time in any one workday and is furnished less than two (2) hours of work on the second reporting,
2 said employee shall be paid for two (2) hours at the employee’s regular rate of pay, which shall
3 be not less than the minimum wage.” Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8 § 11040, subd. 5(B).

4 **G. Regular Rate Violation – Overtime, Double Time, Meal and Rest Period Premiums,**
5 **and Redeemed Sick Pay**

6 34. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed and
7 continues to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS
8 Members for their overtime and double time hours worked, meal and rest period premiums, and
9 redeemed sick pay. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
10 forfeited wages due to them for working overtime without compensation at the correct overtime
11 and double time rates, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay rates.
12 DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice not to pay the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at
13 the correct rate for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and
14 redeemed sick pay in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT’s business
15 records.

16 35. State law provides that employees must be paid overtime at one-and-one-half times
17 their “regular rate of pay.” PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were
18 compensated at an hourly rate plus incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an
19 employee’s performance.

20 36. The second component of PLAINTIFF’s and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
21 Members’ compensation was DEFENDANTS’ non-discretionary incentive program that paid
22 PLAINTIFF and other CLASS MEMBERS incentive wages based on their performance for
23 DEFENDANTS. The non-discretionary bonus program provided all employees paid on an hourly
24 basis with bonus compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by
25 DEFENDANTS.

26 37. However, from-time-to-time, when calculating the regular rate of pay, in those pay
27 periods where PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members worked overtime, double
28 time, paid meal and rest period premium payments, and/or redeemed sick pay, and earned non-

1 discretionary bonus, DEFENDANTS failed to accurately include the non-discretionary bonus
2 compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked
3 rather than just all non-overtime hours worked. Management and supervisors described the
4 incentive/bonus program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package.
5 As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
6 CLASS members must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted
7 in a systematic underpayment of overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period
8 premiums, and redeemed sick pay to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members by
9 DEFENDANTS. Specifically, California Labor Code Section 246 mandates that paid sick time
10 for non-employees shall be calculated in the same manner as the regular rate of pay for the
11 workweek in which the non-exempt employee uses paid sick time, whether or not the employee
12 actually works overtime in that workweek. DEFENDANTS' conduct, as articulated herein, by
13 failing to include the incentive compensation as part of the "regular rate of pay" for purposes of
14 sick pay compensation was in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 246 the underpayment of which is
15 recoverable under Cal. Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203 and/or 204.

16 38. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the
17 requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order, DEFENDANT as a
18 matter of company policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally and knowingly failed to
19 compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS at the correct rate
20 of pay for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and sick pay.
21 This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANT is intended to purposefully avoid the payment
22 of the correct overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period premiums, and sick
23 pay as required by California law which allowed DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an
24 unfair advantage over competitors who complied with the law. To the extent equitable tolling
25 operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS members against DEFENDANT, the
26 CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

27 **H. Unlawful Rounding Practices**

28 39. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS did not have in

1 place an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFFS and other
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the actual time these employees worked each day, including
3 overtime hours. Specifically, DEFENDANTS had in place an unlawful rounding policy and
4 practice that resulted in PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members being
5 undercompensated for all of their time worked. As a result, DEFENDANTS were able to and did
6 in fact unlawfully, and unilaterally round the time recorded in DEFENDANTS' timekeeping
7 system for PLAINTIFFS and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying
8 these employees for all their time worked, including the applicable overtime compensation for
9 overtime worked. As a result, PLAINTIFFS and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, from
10 time to time, forfeited compensation for their time worked by working without their time being
11 accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable overtime rates.

12 40. Further, the mutability of DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system and unlawful
13 rounding policy and practice resulted in PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members'
14 time being inaccurately recorded. As a result, from time to time, DEFENDANTS' unlawful
15 rounding policy and practice caused PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to
16 perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without
17 receiving an off-duty meal break.

18 **I. Timekeeping Manipulation**

19 41. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS, from time-to-time, did not have an
20 immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other members of
21 the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the actual time PLAINTIFF and other members of the
22 CALIFORNIA CLASS worked each day, including regular time, overtime hours, sick pay, meal
23 and rest breaks. Specifically, due to DEFENDANT's error-prone timekeeping system,
24 approximately five to eight minutes of PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Member's time
25 worked were taken each day. As a result, DEFENDANT was able to and did in fact, unlawfully,
26 and unilaterally alter the time recorded in DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF
27 and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for
28 all hours worked, applicable overtime compensation, applicable sick pay, missed meal breaks and

1 missed rest break.

2 42. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, from
3 time-to-time, forfeited time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and
4 without compensation at the applicable pay rates.

5 43. The mutability of the timekeeping system also allowed DEFENDANTS to alter
6 employee time records by recording fictitious thirty (30) minute meal breaks in DEFENDANTS'
7 timekeeping system so as to create the appearance that PLAINTIFF and other members of the
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS clocked out for thirty (30) minute meal break when in fact the employees
9 were not at all times provided an off-duty meal break. This practice is a direct result of
10 DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice of denying employees uninterrupted thirty (30)
11 minute off-duty meal breaks each day or otherwise compensate them for missed meal breaks.

12 44. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
13 forfeited wages due them for all hours worked at DEFENDANTS' direction, control and benefit
14 for the time the timekeeping system was inoperable. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and
15 practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all
16 hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business
17 records.

18 **J. Tip Pooling**

19 45. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS period, pursuant to DEFENDANTS' company
20 policies and practices, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were forced to
21 forfeit gratuities left for them by customers to DEFENDANTS' agents who provided no service
22 to the customers that resulted in the gratuity. DEFENDANTS routinely added gratuity tips and
23 service charges to its food and beverage bills. These gratuities and service charges reasonably
24 appear to be gratuities for the service staff. It is typical and customary in the hospitality industry
25 that establishments impose gratuity charges on the food and beverage bill. Thus, when customers
26 paid these charges, it is reasonable for them to have believed they were gratuities to be paid to
27 the service staff. Indeed, because many of these charges are depicted to customers, and the
28 custom in the food and beverage industry that gratuities are paid for food and beverage service,

1 customers paid these charges reasonably believing they were remitted to the service staff.
2 However, DEFENDANTS have not remitted the total proceeds of these gratuities to the non-
3 managerial employees who serve the food and beverages. Instead, DEFENDANTS have a policy
4 and practice of using a portion of these gratuities to pay managers or other non-service
5 employees. As a result, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have not received the
6 total proceeds of the gratuities, to which they are entitled to under California law.

7 46. DEFENDANTS are generally in the business of owning and operating a restaurant.
8 During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
9 Members were in the “chain of service” and earned gratuities based on their service for their
10 customers. However, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were forced to forfeit
11 portions of their gratuities, which said gratuities were kept by DEFENDANTS’ employees who
12 were not in the chain of service from which the gratuity resulted. PLAINTIFF and other
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members contend that any gratuities kept by DEFENDANTS’ non-
14 service employees were illegal and in violation of California law because PLAINTIFF and other
15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members provided the service for to whom the gratuity should have been
16 paid.

17 47. California Labor Code § 351 establishes the requirements for an employer
18 regarding the payment of gratuities. Specifically, gratuities are the sole property of the
19 employees. California Labor Code § 351 expressly prohibits employers and their agents from
20 collecting, taking, or receiving any portion of a gratuity. California Labor Code § 350(e) defines
21 the term “gratuity” as including any money that has been paid or given or left for an employee
22 by a patron of a business over and above the actual amount due the business for services rendered
23 or for goods, food, drink or articles sold or served to such patron. Labor Code § 353 requires
24 employers to keep accurate records of all gratuities they receive, directly or indirectly.

25 48. Although tip pooling is not expressly prohibited by the Labor Code, employees
26 who mandate tip pooling must only distribute pooled tips to employees in the “chain of service.”
27 By distributing tips to employees who were not in the “chain of service,” DEFENDANTS have
28 violated and continue to violate the legal requirements for handling pooled tips.

1 **K. Violations for Untimely Payment of Wages**

2 49. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 204, PLAINTIFF and the
3 CALIFORNIA CLASS members were entitled to timely payment of wages during their
4 employment. PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, from time to time, did not
5 receive payment of all wages, including, but not limited to, overtime wages, minimum wages,
6 meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages within permissible time period.

7 **L. Unlawful Deductions**

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

12 51. Specifically, as to PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF was from time to time unable to take
13 off duty meal and rest breaks and was not fully relieved of duty for her rest and meal periods.
14 PLAINTIFF was required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANT for more than five (5)
15 hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break. Further, DEFENDANT failed to
16 provide PLAINTIFF with a second off-duty meal period each workday in which she was required
17 by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. When DEFENDANT provided PLAINTIFF
18 with a rest break, they required PLAINTIFF to remain on-duty and on-call for the rest break.
19 DEFENDANT policy caused PLAINTIFF to remain on-call and on-duty during what was
20 supposed to be her off-duty meal periods. PLAINTIFF therefore forfeited meal and rest breaks
21 without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT'S strict corporate policy
22 and practice. Moreover, DEFENDANT also provided PLAINTIFF with paystubs that failed to
23 comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further, DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF for
24 the use of her personal cell phones, purchase of such equipment and tools, and uniforms in
25 violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 2802. To date, DEFENDANT has not fully paid PLAINTIFF the
26 minimum, overtime and double time compensation still owed to her or any penalty wages owed
27 to her under Cal. Lab. Code § 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF individually does
28 not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

1
2 52. PLAINTIFF bring this Class Action on behalf of herself, and a California class
3 defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and
4 classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time during the period
5 beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined
6 by the Court (the “CLASS PERIOD”).

7 53. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have uniformly been
8 deprived of wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to
9 unpaid minimum wages, unpaid overtime compensation, unpaid meal and rest period premiums,
10 illegal meal and rest period policies, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failed compensate
11 for off-the-clock work, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain
12 required records, and interest, statutory and civil penalties, attorney’s fees, costs, and expenses.

13 54. The members of the class are so numerous that joinder of all class members is
14 impractical.

15 55. Common questions of law and fact regarding DEFENDANT’s conduct, including
16 but not limited to, off-the-clock work, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, failure to accurately
17 calculate the regular rate of pay for overtime compensation, failure to accurately calculate the
18 regular rate of compensation for missed meal and rest period premiums, failing to provide legally
19 compliant meal and rest periods, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failure to provide
20 accurate itemized wage statements accurate, and failure to ensure they are paid at least minimum
21 wage and overtime, exist as to all members of the class and predominate over any questions
22 affecting solely any individual members of the class. Among the questions of law and fact
23 common to the class are:

- 24 a. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant meal period policies and
- 25 practices;
- 26 b. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant rest period policies and
- 27 practices;

- 1 c. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
- 2 Members accurate premium payments for missed meal and rest periods;
- 3 d. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
- 4 Members accurate overtime wages;
- 5 e. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
- 6 Members at least minimum wage for all hours worked;
- 7 f. Whether DEFENDANT failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
- 8 CLASS Members for required business expenses;
- 9 g. Whether DEFENDANT issued legally compliant wage statements;
- 10 h. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically
- 11 failing to record and pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
- 12 CLASS for all time worked;
- 13 i. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically
- 14 failing to record all meal and rest breaks missed by PLAINTIFF and other
- 15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit
- 16 of this work, required employees to perform this work and permits or suffers to
- 17 permit this work;
- 18 j. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition in violation of the
- 19 UCL, by failing to provide the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
- 20 CALIFORNIA CLASS with the legally required meal and rest periods.

21 56. PLAINTIFF are members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and suffered damages as
22 a result of DEFENDANT’s conduct and actions alleged herein.

23 57. PLAINTIFF’S claims are typical of the claims of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, and
24 PLAINTIFF have the same interests as the other members of the class.

25 58. PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the
26 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

27 59. PLAINTIFF retained able class counsel with extensive experience in class action
28 litigation.

1 **Unlawful Business Practices**

2 **(Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.)**

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

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

7 66. DEFENDANT is a “person” as that term is defined under Cal. Bus. And Prof.
8 Code § 17021.

9 67. California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq. (the “UCL”) defines
10 unfair competition as any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice. Section 17203
11 authorizes injunctive, declaratory, and/or other equitable relief with respect to unfair competition
12 as follows:

13 Any person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition may
14 be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. The court may make such orders or
15 judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be necessary to prevent the
16 use or employment by any person of any practice which constitutes unfair competition, as
17 defined in this chapter, or as may be necessary to restore to any person in interest any
18 money or property, real or personal, which may have been acquired by means of such
19 unfair competition. (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203).

17 68. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT has engaged and continues to
18 engage in a business practice which violates California law, including but not limited to, the
19 applicable Wage Order(s), the California Code of Regulations and the California Labor Code
20 including Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1,
21 1198, and 2802, for which this Court should issue declaratory and other equitable relief pursuant
22 to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203 as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct held
23 to constitute unfair competition, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

24 69. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT’s practices were unlawful and unfair
25 in that these practices violated public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive unscrupulous
26 or substantially injurious to employees, and were without valid justification or utility for which
27 this Court should issue equitable and injunctive relief pursuant to Section 17203 of the California
28 Business & Professions Code, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

1 70. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were deceptive and
2 fraudulent in that DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice failed to provide the legally
3 mandated meal and rest periods and the required amount of compensation for missed meal and
4 rest periods, failed to pay minimum and overtime wages owed, and failed to reimburse all
5 necessary business expenses incurred, due to a systematic business practice that cannot be
6 justified, pursuant to the applicable Cal. Lab. Code, and Industrial Welfare Commission
7 requirements in violation of Cal. Bus. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and for which this Court should
8 issue injunctive and equitable relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including
9 restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

10 71. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were also unlawful,
11 unfair, and deceptive in that DEFENDANT's employment practices caused PLAINTIFF and the
12 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to be underpaid during their employment with
13 DEFENDANT.

14 72. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were also unfair and
15 deceptive in that DEFENDANT's uniform policies, practices and procedures failed to provide
16 mandatory meal and/or rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members as
17 required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512.

18 73. Therefore, PLAINTIFF demands on behalf of herself and on behalf of each
19 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off-duty meal
20 period was not timely provided for each five (5) hours of work, and/or one (1) hour of pay for
21 each workday in which a second off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each ten (10)
22 hours of work.

23 74. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of herself and on behalf of each
24 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a rest period was
25 not timely provided as required by law.

26 75. By and through the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein,
27 DEFENDANT has obtained valuable property, money and services from PLAINTIFF and the
28 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, including earned wages for all time worked, and

1 has deprived them of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law and contract, all to the
2 detriment of these employees and to the benefit of DEFENDANT so as to allow DEFENDANT
3 to unfairly compete against competitors who comply with the law.

4 76. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the Industrial
5 Welfare Commission Wage Orders, the California Code of Regulations, and the California Labor
6 Code, were unlawful and in violation of public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive, and
7 unscrupulous, were deceptive, and thereby constitute unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business
8 practices in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

9 77. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are entitled to,
10 and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to restore to them the money and property which
11 DEFENDANT has acquired, or of which PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
12 CALIFORNIA CLASS have been deprived, by means of the above described unlawful and unfair
13 business practices, including earned but unpaid wages for all time worked.

14 78. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are further
15 entitled to, and do, seek a declaration that the described business practices are unlawful, unfair,
16 and deceptive, and that injunctive relief should be issued restraining DEFENDANT from
17 engaging in any unlawful and unfair business practices in the future.

18 79. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have no plain,
19 speedy and/or adequate remedy at law that will end the unlawful and unfair business practices of
20 DEFENDANT. Further, the practices herein alleged presently continue to occur unabated. As a
21 result of the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein, PLAINTIFF and the other
22 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable legal
23 and economic harm unless DEFENDANT is restrained from continuing to engage in these
24 unlawful and unfair business practices.

25 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

26 **Failure To Pay Minimum Wages**

27 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 and 1197.1)**

28 **Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)**

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

4 81. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim for
5 DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial
6 Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to accurately calculate and pay
7 minimum wages to PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

8 82. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
9 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.

10 83. Cal. Lab. Code § 1197 provides the minimum wage for employees fixed by the
11 commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a less wage than
12 the minimum so fixed is unlawful.

13 84. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages,
14 including minimum wage compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of suit.

15 85. DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF and the
16 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS without regard to the correct amount of time they
17 work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice was to unlawfully and
18 intentionally deny timely payment of wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
19 CALIFORNIA CLASS.

20 86. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested,
21 without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of
22 implementing a uniform policy and practice that denies accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF
23 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in regard to minimum wage pay.

24 87. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANT
25 inaccurately calculated the correct time worked and consequently underpaid the actual time
26 worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. DEFENDANT acted
27 in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of
28

1 the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable
2 laws and regulations.

3 88. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged herein,
4 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct
5 minimum wage compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.

6 89. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
7 CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for time worked that they were entitled to, constituting a
8 failure to pay all earned wages.

9 90. By virtue of DEFENDANT's unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned
10 compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true
11 time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have
12 suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown
13 to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

14 91. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
15 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were under-compensated for their time worked.
16 DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross
17 nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice
18 and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay
19 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct minimum wages
20 for their time worked.

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

1 93. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore request
2 recovery of all unpaid wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
3 assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the
4 California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent minimum wage
5 compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have
6 terminated their employment, DEFENDANT's conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or
7 202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab.
8 Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these CALIFORNIA CLASS
9 Members. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good
10 faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are entitled to seek and
11 recover statutory costs.

12 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation**

14 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 510, 1194 and 1198)**

15 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)**

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

19 95. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim for
20 DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial
21 Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to pay these employees for all
22 overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or
23 twelve (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

24 96. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
25 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.

26 97. Cal. Lab. Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed
27 more than eight (8) hours per workday and/or more than forty (40) hours per workweek unless
28 they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.

1 98. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee’s right to recover unpaid wages,
2 including minimum and overtime compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of
3 suit. Cal. Lab. Code § 1198 further states that the employment of an employee for longer hours
4 than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.

5 99. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
6 were required by DEFENDANT to work for DEFENDANT and were not paid for all the time
7 they worked, including overtime work.

8 100. DEFENDANT’s uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested,
9 without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of
10 implementing a uniform policy and practice that failed to accurately record overtime worked by
11 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members and denied accurate compensation to
12 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for overtime worked,
13 including, the overtime work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or twelve
14 (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

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

21 102. As a direct result of DEFENDANT’s unlawful wage practices as alleged herein,
22 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct
23 overtime compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.

24 103. Cal. Lab. Code § 515 sets out various categories of employees who are exempt
25 from the overtime requirements of the law. None of these exemptions are applicable to
26 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. Further, PLAINTIFF and the
27 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are not subject to a valid collective bargaining
28 agreement that would preclude the causes of action contained herein this Complaint. Rather,

1 PLAINTIFF bring this Action on behalf of herself, and the CALIFORNIA CLASS, based on
2 DEFENDANT's violations of non-negotiable, non-waivable rights provided by the State of
3 California.

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

7 105. DEFENDANT failed to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS overtime wages for the time they worked which was in excess of the
9 maximum hours permissible by law as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, 1194, & 1198, even
10 though PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were regularly required
11 to work, and did in fact work overtime, and did in fact work overtime as to which DEFENDANT
12 failed to accurately record and pay as evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records and
13 witnessed by employees.

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

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

26 108. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor
27 laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked
28 and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act

1 intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious of and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the
3 consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal
4 rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of
5 these employees.

6 109. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
7 request recovery of overtime wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
8 assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the
9 California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent overtime compensation is
10 determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have terminated their
11 employment, DEFENDANT'S conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or 202, and therefore
12 these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which
13 penalties are sought herein. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional,
14 and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are
15 entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

16 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

17 **Failure To Provide Required Meal Periods**

18 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)**

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

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

23 111. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed to provide all the legally
24 required off-duty meal breaks to PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members as
25 required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. The nature of the work performed by
26 PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members did not prevent these employees from being
27 relieved of all of their duties for the legally required off-duty meal periods. As a result of their
28 rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were often not

1 fully relieved of duty by DEFENDANT for their meal periods. Additionally, DEFENDANT's
2 failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with legally required
3 meal breaks prior to their fifth (5th) hour of work is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business
4 records. Further, DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS
5 Members with a second off-duty meal period in some workdays in which these employees were
6 required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other
7 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited meal breaks without additional compensation
8 and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict corporate policy and practice.

9 112. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable
10 IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
11 who were not provided a meal period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one
12 additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a
13 meal period was not provided.

14 113. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
16 and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

17 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

18 **Failure To Provide Required Rest Periods**

19 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)**

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

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

24 115. From time to time, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were
25 required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods.
26 Further, these employees were denied their first rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some
27 shifts worked of at least two (2) to four (4) hours, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10)
28 minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, and a first, second and

1 third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more.
2 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also not provided with one-hour
3 wages *in lieu* thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were periodically denied their proper rest periods by
5 DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT's managers. In addition, DEFENDANT failed to compensate
6 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for their rest periods as required by the
7 applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. As a result, DEFENDANT's failure to provide
8 PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with all the legally required paid rest
9 periods is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records.

10 116. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable
11 IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
12 who were not provided a rest period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order, one
13 additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that rest
14 period was not provided.

15 117. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
16 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
17 and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

18 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

19 **Failure To Reimburse Employees for Required Expenses**

20 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2802)**

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

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

25 119. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 provides, in relevant part, that:

26 An employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or
27 losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her
28 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.

1 120. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab.
2 Code § 2802, by failing to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
3 members for required expenses incurred in the discharge of their job duties for DEFENDANT’s
4 benefit. DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members
5 for expenses which included, but were not limited to, personal expenses for the use of their
6 personal cell phones, tools and equipment, and uniforms as a result of and in furtherance of their
7 job duties all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and
8 other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required by DEFENDANT to use their own
9 equipment and tools to execute their essential job duties on behalf of DEFENDANT.
10 DEFENDANT’s uniform policy, practice and procedure was to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and
11 the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for expenses resulting from the personal expenses for the
12 use of their personal cell phones, tools and equipment, and uniforms as a result of and in
13 furtherance of their job duties for DEFENDANT within the course and scope of their employment
14 for DEFENDANT. These expenses were necessary to complete their principal job duties.
15 DEFENDANT is estopped by DEFENDANT’s conduct to assert any waiver of this expectation.
16 Although these expenses were necessary expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF and the
17 CALIFORNIA CLASS members, DEFENDANT failed to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF
18 and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for these expenses as an employer is required to do
19 under the laws and regulations of California.

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

24 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

25 **Failure To Pay Wages When Due**

26 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 203)**

27 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)**
28

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

4 123. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:

5 As used in this article:

- 6 (d) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every
7 description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time,
8 task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.
9 (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under
10 contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be
11 paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.

12 124. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges
13 an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable
14 immediately."

15 125. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:

16 If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her
17 employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours
18 thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention
19 to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.
20 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee who quits without providing a
21 72-hour notice shall be entitled to receive payment by mail if he or she so requests and
22 designates a mailing address. The date of the mailing shall constitute the date of payment
23 for purposes of the requirement to provide payment within 72 hours of the notice of
24 quitting.

25 126. There was no definite term in PLAINTIFF'S or any CALIFORNIA CLASS
26 Members' employment contract.

27 127. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides:

28 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 who is discharged or who
quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a 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.

 128. The employment of PLAINTIFF and many CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
terminated, and DEFENDANT has not tendered payment of wages to these employees who
missed meal and rest breaks, as required by law.

1 129. Therefore, as provided by Cal Lab. Code § 203, on behalf of herself and the
2 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS whose employment has, PLAINTIFF demand up to thirty
3 (30) days of pay as penalty for not paying all wages due at time of termination for all employees
4 who terminated employment during the CLASS PERIOD and demand an accounting and payment
5 of all wages due, plus interest and statutory costs as allowed by law.

6 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

7 **Failure To Provide Accurate Itemized Statements**

8 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 226)**

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

10
11 130. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
12 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
13 Complaint.

14 131. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an
15 “accurate itemized” statement in writing showing:

- 16 a. Gross wages earned,
- 17 b. (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose
18 compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of
19 overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the
20 Industrial Welfare Commission,
- 21 c. the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee
22 is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- 23 d. all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee
24 may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- 25 e. net wages earned,
- 26 f. the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- 27 g. the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by
28 January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number of an

1 employee identification number other than social security number may be shown
2 on the itemized statement,

- 3 h. the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and
- 4 i. all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding
5 number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

6 132. When DEFENDANT did not accurately record PLAINTIFF'S and other
7 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurate missed
8 meal and rest break premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANT violated Cal.
9 Lab. Code § 226 in that DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
10 CLASS Members with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other
11 things, all deductions, the accurate gross wages earned, net wages earned, the total hours worked
12 and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of
13 time worked at each hourly rate, and correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed meal
14 and rest periods.

15 133. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANT failed to provide itemized wage
16 statements to PLAINTIFF and members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS that complied with the
17 requirements of California Labor Code Section 226.

18 134. DEFENDANT knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code
19 § 226, causing injury and damages to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
20 CLASS. These damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended calculating the correct
21 wages for all missed meal and rest breaks and the amount of employment taxes which were not
22 properly paid to state and federal tax authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate.
23 Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS may elect to recover
24 liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the violation
25 occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent pay period
26 pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial (but in no
27 event more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for PLAINTIFF and each respective member
28 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS herein).

1 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **FAILURE TO PAY STATUTORY GRATUITIES**

3 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 351 et seq.)**

4 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and against all**
5 **Defendants)**

6 135. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS,
7 reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of
8 this Complaint.

9 136. DEFENDANT's conduct, as set forth above, in failing to remit to non-managerial
10 employees the total proceeds of gratuities added to customers' bills constitutes a violation of
11 California Labor Code Section 351. This violation is enforceable pursuant to the California Unfair
12 Competition Law, Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code 17200 et seq. DEFENDANT's conduct constitutes
13 unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent business acts or practices, in that DEFENDANT has violated
14 California Labor Code Section 351 in not remitting to the non-managerial service employees the
15 total gratuities that were charged to customers.

16 137. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFFS and
17 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to
18 proof at trial, including the loss of gratuities to which they were entitled. and seek all wages earned
19 and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

20 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

21 WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF pray for a judgment against each Defendant, jointly and
22 severally, as follows:

23 1. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

- 24 a. That the Court certify the First Cause of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA
25 CLASS as a class action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
- 26 b. An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining
27 DEFENDANT from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as set forth herein;
- 28 c. An order requiring DEFENDANT to pay all overtime wages and all sums

1 unlawfully withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members
2 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and

3 d. Restitutionary disgorgement of DEFENDANT's ill-gotten gains into a fluid fund
4 for restitution of the sums incidental to DEFENDANT's violations due to
5 PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

6 2. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

7 a. That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and
8 Ninth Causes of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a class action
9 pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;

10 b. Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial, including compensatory
11 damages for overtime compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of
12 the CALIFORNIA CLASS, during the applicable CLASS PERIOD plus interest
13 thereon at the statutory rate;

14 c. Meal and rest period compensation pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512 and
15 the applicable IWC Wage Order;

16 d. The greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period in
17 which a violation occurs and one hundred dollars (\$100) per each member of the
18 CALIFORNIA CLASS for each violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding
19 an aggregate penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), and an award of costs for
20 violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226

21 e. The wages of all terminated employees from the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a
22 penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action
23 therefore is commenced, in accordance with Cal. Lab. Code § 203.

24 f. The amount of the expenses PLAINTIFF and each member of the CALIFORNIA
25 CLASS incurred in the course of their job duties, plus interest, and costs of suit.

26 3. On all claims:

27 a. An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;


28 b. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and

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c. An award of penalties, attorneys' fees, and costs of suit, as allowable under the law, including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code § 218.5, § 226, and/or § 1194.

DATED: November 28, 2022

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC

By: 
Shani O. Zakay
Attorney for PLAINTIFF

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

PLAINTIFF demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.

DATED: November 28, 2022

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC

By: 
Shani O. Zakay
Attorney for PLAINTIFF

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Palmdale794Inc-dba IHOP794
 c/o SiAVOUSH Soleimani
 7006 Sunset Blvd
 Hollywood, CA 90028



9590 9402 7738 2152 1895 06

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7022 2410 0000 2184 0010

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

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- Agent
- Addressee

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