SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

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

NOTICE '	TO DEF	ENDA	NT:
(AVISO A	AL DEM	ANDAL	00)

DELUXE AUTO CARRIERS, INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1-50, Inclusive,

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

RAUL SERRANO, an individual, on behalf of himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated.

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

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

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

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

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

The name and address of the court is:

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

Riverside Historic Courthouse - 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501

CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso): CVRI2402625

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): Jean-Claude Lapuyade, Esg. T: (619)599-8292 JCL Law Firm, APC - 5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600, San Diego, CA 92121 Cynthia Ronczyk Montalvo Clerk, by

(Fecha) 05/13/2024 (Secretario) (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

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



DATE:

NO	TICE 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 416.20 (defunct corporation)	CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.70 (conservatee)	
	CCP 416.20 (definite corporation)	CCP 416.70 (conservates)	
	other (specify):	co (addionized person)	
4.	by personal delivery on (date):		

, Deputy

(Adjunto)

Page 1 of 1

1	JCL LAW FIRM, APC	
1	Jean-Claude Lapuyade (State Bar #248676)	
2	Sydney Castillo-Johnson (State Bar #343881) Perssia Razma (State Bar #351398)	
3	5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600	
	San Diego, CA 92121	
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7	ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC	
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10	Facsimile: (858) 404-9203	
11	shani@zakaylaw.com	
12	Attorneys for PLAINTIFF	
13	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	F STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14	SOLEMON COCKLOT III	ESTATE OF CALIFORNIA
15	IN AND FOR THE COL	UNTY OF RIVERSIDE
16	RAUL SERRANO, an individual, on behalf of	Case No: CVRI2402625
10	himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR
17	situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:
18	Plaintiffs,	1) UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION
19	v.	OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §17200 et
	DELUXE AUTO CARRIERS, INC., a	seq; 2) FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN
20	California corporation; and DOES 1-50,	VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§
21	Inclusive,	1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
22	Defendants.	3) FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§
	2 1201.441.161	510, et seq;
23		4) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
24		MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND
25		THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
		5) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
26		REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE
27		APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
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l		

1	6) FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN
2	VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802; 7) FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE
3	ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226;
4	8) FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN
5	DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203.
6	DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL
7	
8	PLAINTIFF RAUL SERRANO ("PLAINTIFF"), an individual, on behalf of himself and
9	all other similarly situated current and former employees, allege on information and belief, except
10	for his own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge, the following:
11	PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS
12	1. Defendant DELUXE AUTO CARRIERS, INC., ("DEFENDANT") is a California
13	corporation that at all relevant times mentioned herein conducted and continues to conduct
14	substantial and regular business throughout California.
15	2. DEFENDANT provides car shipping and auto transport services in the state of
16	California, including the county of Riverside, where PLAINTIFF worked.
17	3. PLAINTIFF has been employed by DEFENDANT in California since January of
18	2021 as a non-exempt employee, paid in part an hourly wage, commission-based compensation,
19	non-discretionary bonuses, and entitled to the legally required meal and rest periods and payment
20	of minimum and overtime wages due for all time worked.
21	4. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a California class,
22	defined as all current and former non-exempt, exempt, piece-rate based, and/or commission-based
23	employees employed by DEFENDANT in California (the "CALIFORNIA CLASS") at any time
24	during the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the
25	date as determined by the Court (the "CLASS PERIOD"). The amount in controversy for the
26	aggregate claim of the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars
27	(\$5,000,000.00).
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- 5. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their losses incurred during the CLASS PERIOD caused by DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice which failed to lawfully compensate these employees. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice alleged herein was an unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practice whereby DEFENDANT retained and continues to retain wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who have been economically injured by DEFENDANT's past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable relief.
- 6. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, subsidiary, partnership, associate or otherwise of DEFENDANTS DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are presently unknown to PLAINTIFF who therefore sues these DEFENDANTS by such fictitious names pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 474. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend this Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of Does 1 through 50, inclusive, when they are ascertained. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and based upon that information and belief alleges, that the DEFENDANTS named in this Complaint, including DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are responsible in some manner for one or more of the events and happenings that proximately caused the injuries and damages hereinafter alleged.
- 7. The agents, servants and/or employees of the Defendants and each of them acting on behalf of the Defendants acted within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as the agent, servant and/or employee of the Defendants, and personally participated in the conduct alleged herein on behalf of the Defendants with respect to the conduct alleged herein. Consequently, the acts of each Defendant are legally attributable to the other Defendants and all Defendants are jointly and severally liable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, for the loss sustained as a proximate result of the conduct of the Defendants' agents, servants and/or employees.

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

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

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

THE CONDUCT

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

A. Meal Period Violations

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

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

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

B. Rest Period Violations

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17. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods as a result of their rigorous work requirements and DEFENDANT's inadequate staffing. Further, for the same reasons, these employees were denied

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

C. Commission and Piece-Rate Violations

18. From time-to-time during the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid in part on a commission and/or piece-rate basis. In those instances where PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid in part on a commission and/or piece-rate basis, PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS were entitled to be separately compensated for all non-productive time at an hourly rate that is no less than the applicable minimum wage. Notwithstanding, in those instances where PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid in part on a commission and/or piece-rate basis, DEFENDANT failed to separately compensate PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all non-productive time, including but not limited to, paid rest periods, at an hourly rate that is no less than the applicable minimum wage. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited minimum wages and overtime wages by DEFENDANT'S failure to separately compensate their non-productive time at an hourly rate that is no less than the applicable minimum wage.

D. Unreimbursed Business Expenses

19. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally, knowingly, and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify the PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business expenses incurred by the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members in direct consequence of discharging

their duties on behalf of DEFENDANT. Under California Labor Code Section 2802, employers are required to indemnify employees for all expenses incurred in the course and scope of their employment. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 expressly states that "an employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer, even though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them to be unlawful."

20. In the course of their employment, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to incur personal expenses for the use of their personal cell phones as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to use their personal cell phones in order to perform work related tasks. However, DEFENDANT unlawfully failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the use of their personal cell phones. As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANT, the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incurred unreimbursed business expenses that included, but were not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cell phones all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT.

E. Wage Statement Violations

- 21. California Labor Code Section 226 required an employer to furnish its employees and accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece-rate, (4) all deductions, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and only the last four digits of the employee's social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.
- 22. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, when PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurately for

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missed meal and rest period premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANTS also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show the complete requirements under California Labor Code sections 226(a)(1)-(9), including but not limited to, all deductions, the total hours worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate, correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed meal and rest periods.

- 23. Further, DEFENDANT from time to time, failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with itemized wage statements that provided the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a)(8).
- 24. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANTS, from time to time, failed to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with wage statements that comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a)(1)-(9).
- 25. As a result, DEFENDANT issued PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements that violate Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further, DEFENDANT's violations are knowing and intentional, were not isolated due to an unintentional payroll error due to clerical or inadvertent mistake.

F. Off-the-Clock Work Resulting in Minimum Wage and Overtime Violations

- During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANT failed and continues to fail to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all hours worked.
- 27. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to perform pre-shift or post-shift work. This resulted in PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS having to work while off-the-clock.
- 28. DEFENDANT directed and directly benefited from the undercompensated off-theclock work performed by PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

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CALIFORNIA CLASS.

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- document, track, or pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS all wages earned and owed for all the work they performed.

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

assignments, and employment conditions of PLAINTIFF and the other members of the

members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS spent working; however, DEFENDANT failed to

DEFENDANT controlled the work schedules, duties, and protocols, applications,

DEFENDANT was able to track the amount of time PLAINTIFF and the other

- 32. DEFENDANT's policies and practices deprived PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members of all minimum regular, overtime, and double time wages owed for the off-the-clock work activities. Because PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS typically worked over forty (40) hours in a workweek, and more than eight (8) hours per day, DEFENDANT's policies and practices also deprived them of overtime pay.
- 33. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS off-the-clock work was compensable under the law.
- 34. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited wages due to them for all hours worked at DEFENDANT's direction, control, and benefit for the time spent working while off-the-clock. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records.

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

35. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed and continues to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for their overtime and double time hours worked, meal and rest period premiums, and

redeemed sick pay. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members forfeited wages due to them for working overtime without compensation at the correct overtime and double time rates, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay rates. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice not to pay the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at the correct rate for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records.

- 36. State law provides that employees must be paid overtime at one-and-one-half times their "regular rate of pay." PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were compensated at an hourly rate plus incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an employee's performance.
- 37. The second component of PLAINTIFF's and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' compensation was DEFENDANTS' non-discretionary incentive program that paid PLAINTIFF and other CLASS MEMBERS incentive wages based on their performance for DEFENDANTS. The non-discretionary bonus program provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with bonus compensation when the employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANTS.
- 38. However, from-time-to-time, when calculating the regular rate of pay, in those pay periods where PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members worked overtime, double time, paid meal and rest period premium payments, and/or redeemed sick pay, and earned non-discretionary bonus, DEFENDANTS failed to accurately include the non-discretionary bonus compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked rather than just all non-overtime hours worked. Management and supervisors described the incentive/bonus program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package. As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted in a systematic underpayment of overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS members by

DEFENDANTS. Specifically, California Labor Code Section 246 mandates that paid sick time for non-employees shall be calculated in the same manner as the regular rate of pay for the workweek in which the non-exempt employee uses paid sick time, whether or not the employee actually works overtime in that workweek. DEFENDANTS' conduct, as articulated herein, by failing to include the incentive compensation as part of the "regular rate of pay" for purposes of sick pay compensation was in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 246 the underpayment of which is recoverable under Cal. Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203 and/or 204.

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

H. Violations for Untimely Payment of Wages

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

hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting." PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were, from time to time, not timely provided the wages earned and unpaid at the time of their discharge and/or at the time of quitting, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201 and 202.

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

I. <u>Unlawful Deductions</u>

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

J. Timekeeping Manipulation

- 44. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT, from time-to-time, did not have an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the actual time PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS worked each day, including regular time, overtime hours, sick pay, meal and rest breaks. As a result, DEFENDANT was able to and did in fact, unlawfully, and unilaterally alter the time recorded in DEFENDANT'S timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for all hours worked, applicable overtime compensation, applicable sick pay, missed meal breaks and missed rest breaks.
- 45. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, from time-to-time, forfeited time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable pay rates.
- 46. The mutability of the timekeeping system also allowed DEFENDANT to alter employee time records by recording fictitious thirty (30) minute meal breaks in DEFENDANT's timekeeping system so as to create the appearance that PLAINTIFF and other members of the

CALIFORNIA CLASS clocked out for thirty (30) minute meal break when in fact the employees were not at all times provided an off-duty meal break. This practice is a direct result of DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice of denying employees uninterrupted thirty (30) minute off-duty meal breaks each day or otherwise compensating them for missed meal breaks.

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

K. Unlawful Rounding Practices

- 48. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS did not have in place an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the actual time these employees worked each day, including overtime hours. Specifically, DEFENDANTS had in place an unlawful rounding policy and practice that resulted in PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members being undercompensated for all of their time worked. As a result, DEFENDANTS were able to and did in fact unlawfully, and unilaterally round the time recorded in DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for all their time worked, including the applicable overtime compensation for overtime worked. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, from time to time, forfeited compensation for their time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable overtime rates.
- 49. Further, the mutability of DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system and unlawful rounding policy and practice resulted in PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' time being inaccurately recorded. As a result, from time to time, DEFENDANTS' unlawful rounding policy and practice caused PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to perform work

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as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break.

L. Sick Pay Violations

- 50. Cal. Labor Code Section 246 (a)(1) mandates that "An employee who, on or after July 1, 2015, works in California for the same employer for 30 or more days within a year from the commencement of employment is entitled to paid sick days as specified in this section." Further, Cal. Labor Code Sections 246(b)-(d) provide for the sick day accrual requirements. From time to time, DEFENDANT failed to have a policy or practice in place that provided PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with sick days and/or paid sick leave.
- 51. California Labor Code Section 246(i) requires an employer to furnish its employees with written wage statements setting forth the amount of paid sick leave available. From time to time, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code § 246 by failing to furnish PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements setting forth the amount of paid sick leave available.

M. Failure to Provide Personnel Files

- 52. On January 31, 2024, and March 4, 2024, PLAINTIFF caused written requests via certified mail to be delivered to DEFENDANTS for PLAINTIFF'S personnel and employment records, including but not limited to: (1) payroll records; (2) employment contracts; (3) itemized pay stubs; and (4) PLAINTIFF'S complete employment file.
- 53. DEFENDANTS failed to provide and/or make available to PLAINTIFF his personnel records, payroll records, employment contract, and entire employment file within thirty (30) days of his requests stated above. In fact, as of the date of filing of this complaint, DEFENDANTS have still failed to pay PLAINTIFF the statutory penalty in the amount of \$750. DEFENDANTS violated Cal. Lab. Code Section 1198.5 by failing to respond and provide PLAINTIFF with his employment file. Section 1198.5 states that employees (and former employees) have the right to inspect personnel records maintained by the employer "related to the employee's performance or to any grievance concerning the employee." Employers must allow inspection or copying within thirty (30) days of the request. PLAINTIFF is now entitled to and

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requests injunctive relief to obtain compliance with Cal. Lab. Code Section 1198.5, a statutory penalty, and an award of attorneys' fees and costs for bringing this action.

54. Specifically, as to PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF was from time to time unable to take off duty meal and rest breaks and was not fully relieved of duty for his rest and meal periods. PLAINTIFF was required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break. Further, DEFENDANTS failed to provide PLAINTIFF with a second off-duty meal period each workday in which he was required by DEFENDANTS to work ten (10) hours of work. When DEFENDANTS provided PLAINTIFF with a rest break, they required PLAINTIFF to remain on-duty and on-call for the rest break. DEFENDANTS policy caused PLAINTIFF to remain on-call and on-duty during what was supposed to be his off-duty meal periods. PLAINTIFF therefore forfeited meal and rest breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANTS' strict corporate policy and practice. Moreover, DEFENDANTS also provided PLAINTIFF with paystubs that failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further, DEFENDANTS also failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF for required business expenses related to the personal expenses incurred for the use of his personal cell phone, on behalf of and in furtherance of his employment with DEFENDANTS. Further, DEFENDANTS failed to provide and/or make available to PLAINTIFF his personnel records, payroll records, employment contracts, and entire employment file within (30) days of his requests on January 31, 2024, and March 4, 2024. To date, DEFENDANTS have not fully paid PLAINTIFF the minimum, overtime and double time compensation still owed to him or any penalty wages owed to him under Cal. Lab. Code § 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF individually does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

55. PLAINTIFF bring this Class Action on behalf of himself, and a California class defined as all current and former non-exempt, exempt, piece-rate based, and/or commission-based employees employed by DEFENDANT in California (the "CALIFORNIA CLASS") at any time during the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined by the Court (the "CLASS PERIOD").

- 56. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have uniformly been deprived of wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to unpaid minimum wages, unpaid overtime compensation, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, illegal meal and rest period policies, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failed compensate for off-the-clock work, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain required records, and interest, statutory and civil penalties, attorney's fees, costs, and expenses.
- 57. The members of the class are so numerous that joinder of all class members is impractical.
- 58. Common questions of law and fact regarding DEFENDANT's conduct, including but not limited to, off-the-clock work, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, failure to accurately calculate the regular rate of pay for overtime compensation, failure to accurately calculate the regular rate of compensation for missed meal and rest period premiums, failing to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements accurate, and failure to ensure they are paid at least minimum wage and overtime, exist as to all members of the class and predominate over any questions affecting solely any individual members of the class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the class are:
 - a. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant meal period policies and practices;
 - Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant rest period policies and practices;
 - c. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
 Members accurate premium payments for missed meal and rest periods;
 - d. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
 Members accurate overtime wages;
 - e. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
 Members at least minimum wage for all hours worked;

- 65. The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, including legal and factual issues relating to liability and damages.
- 66. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because joinder of all class members is impractical. Moreover, since the damages suffered by individual members of the class may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it practically impossible for the members of the class individually to redress the wrongs done to them. Without class certification and determination of declaratory, injunctive, statutory, and other legal questions within the class format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS will create the risk of:
 - a. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and/or,
 - b. Adjudication with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS which would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of the other members not party to the adjudication or substantially impair or impeded their ability to protect their interests.
- 67. Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring an efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour related claims arising out of the conduct of DEFENDANT.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Unlawful Business Practices

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

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

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

69. DEFENDANT is a "person" as that term is defined under Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code § 17021.

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

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

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

requirements in violation of Cal. Bus. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and for which this Court should issue injunctive and equitable relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

- 74. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were also unlawful, unfair, and deceptive in that DEFENDANT's employment practices caused PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to be underpaid during their employment with DEFENDANT.
- 75. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were also unfair and deceptive in that DEFENDANT's uniform policies, practices and procedures failed to provide mandatory meal and/or rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512.
- 76. Therefore, PLAINTIFF demands on behalf of himself and on behalf of each CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each five (5) hours of work, and/or one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a second off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each ten (10) hours of work.
- 77. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of himself and on behalf of each CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a rest period was not timely provided as required by law.
- 78. By and through the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein, DEFENDANT has obtained valuable property, money and services from PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, including earned wages for all time worked, and has deprived them of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law and contract, all to the detriment of these employees and to the benefit of DEFENDANT so as to allow DEFENDANT to unfairly compete against competitors who comply with the law.
- 79. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, the California Code of Regulations, and the California Labor Code, were unlawful and in violation of public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive, and

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Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to accurately calculate and pay minimum wages to PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

- 85. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.
- 86. Cal. Lab. Code § 1197 provides the minimum wage for employees fixed by the commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a less wage than the minimum so fixed in unlawful.
- 87. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages, including minimum wage compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of suit.
- 88. DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS without regard to the correct amount of time they work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice was to unlawfully and intentionally deny timely payment of wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
- 89. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested, without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of implementing a uniform policy and practice that denies accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in regard to minimum wage pay.
- 90. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANT inaccurately calculated the correct time worked and consequently underpaid the actual time worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. DEFENDANT acted in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable laws and regulations.
- 91. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct minimum wage compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANT.

- 92. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for time worked than they were entitled to, constituting a failure to pay all earned wages.
- 93. By virtue of DEFENDANT's unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.
- 94. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were under-compensated for their time worked. DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct minimum wages for their time worked.
- 95. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of these employees.
- 96. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore request recovery of all unpaid wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent minimum wage compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have

1	terminated their employment, DEFENDANT's conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or
2	202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab.
3	Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these CALIFORNIA CLASS
4	Members. DEFENDANT's conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good
5	faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are entitled to seek and
6	recover statutory costs.
7	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
8	Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation
9	(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 510, 1194 and 1198)
10	(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)
11	97. 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	98. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim for
15	DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the Industrial
16	Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANT's failure to pay these employees for all
17	overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or
18	twelve (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.
19	99. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
20	policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.
21	100. Cal. Lab. Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed
22	more than eight (8) hours per workday and/or more than forty (40) hours per workweek unless
23	they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.
24	101. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages,
25	including minimum and overtime compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of
26	suit. Cal. Lab. Code § 1198 further states that the employment of an employee for longer hours
27	than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

111. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious of and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal

rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of these employees.

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

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure To Provide Required Meal Periods

(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)

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

- 113. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 114. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed to provide all the legally required off-duty meal breaks to PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. The nature of the work performed by PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members did not prevent these employees from being relieved of all of their duties for the legally required off-duty meal periods. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were often not fully relieved of duty by DEFENDANT for their meal periods. Additionally, DEFENDANT's failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with legally required meal breaks prior to their fifth (5th) hour of work is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business

1	benefit. DEFENDANT failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members
2	for expenses which included, but were not limited to, personal expenses incurred for the use of
3	their personal cell phones, all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT. Specifically,
4	DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to use their
5	personal cell phones to execute their essential job duties on behalf of DEFENDANT.
6	DEFENDANT's uniform policy, practice and procedure was to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and
7	the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for expenses resulting from the use of their personal cell
8	phones for DEFENDANT within the course and scope of their employment for DEFENDANT.
9	These expenses were necessary to complete their principal job duties. DEFENDANT is estopped
10	by DEFENDANT's conduct to assert any waiver of this expectation. Although these expenses
11	were necessary expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members,
12	DEFENDANT failed to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
13	members for these expenses as an employer is required to do under the laws and regulations of
14	California.
15	124. PLAINTIFF therefore demand reimbursement for expenditures or losses incurred
16	by him and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members in the discharge of their job duties for
17	DEFENDANT, or their obedience to the directions of DEFENDANT, with interest at the statutory
18	rate and costs under Cal. Lab. Code § 2802.
19	SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION
20	Failure To Provide Accurate Itemized Statements
21	(Cal. Lab. Code § 226)
22	(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)
23	125. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
24	incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
25	126. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an
26	"accurate itemized" statement in writing showing:
27	a. Gross wages earned,
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- b. (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the Industrial Welfare Commission,
- c. the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- d. all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- e. net wages earned,
- f. the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- g. the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number of an employee identification number other than social security number may be shown on the itemized statement,
- h. the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and
- i. all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.
- 127. When DEFENDANT did not accurately record PLAINTIFF'S and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurately for missed meal and rest period premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANTS also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show the complete requirements under California Labor Code sections 226(a)(1)-(9), including but not limited to, all deductions, the total hours worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate, correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed meal and rest periods.

- 128. Further, DEFENDANT from time to time, failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with itemized wage statements that provided the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a)(8).
- 129. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANTS failed to provide itemized wage statements to PLAINTIFF and members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS that complied with the requirements of California Labor Code Section 226(a)(1)-(9).
- \$ 226, causing injury and damages to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. These damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended calculating the correct wages for all missed meal and rest breaks and the amount of employment taxes which were not properly paid to state and federal tax authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS may elect to recover liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the violation occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent pay period pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial (but in no event more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for PLAINTIFF and each respective member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS herein).

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure To Pay Wages When Due

(Cal. Lab. Code § 203)

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

- 131. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
 - 132. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:

As used in this article:

(d) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time, task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.

- (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.
- 133. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately."
 - 134. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:

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

- 135. There was no definite term in PLAINTIFF'S or any CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' employment contract.
 - 136. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides:

If an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with Sections 201, 201.5, 202, and 205.5, any wages of an employee 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.

- 137. 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.
- 138. Therefore, as provided by Cal Lab. Code § 203, on behalf of himself and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS whose employment has, PLAINTIFF demand up to thirty (30) days of pay as penalty for not paying all wages due at time of termination for all employees who terminated employment during the CLASS PERIOD and demand an accounting and payment of all wages due, plus interest and statutory costs as allowed by law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

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

1. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

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

2. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

- a. That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Causes of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a class action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
- b. Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial, including compensatory damages for overtime compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, during the applicable CLASS PERIOD plus interest thereon at the statutory rate;
- c. Meal and rest period compensation pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512 and the applicable IWC Wage Order;
- d. The greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period in which a violation occurs and one hundred dollars (\$100) per each member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for each violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding an aggregate penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), and an award of costs for violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226;
- e. The wages of all terminated employees from the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action

1		therefore is commenced, in accordance with Cal. Lab. Code § 203.	
2		f. The amount of the expenses PLAINTIFF and each member of the CALIFORNIA	
3		CLASS incurred in the course of their job duties, plus interest, and costs of suit.	
4	3.	On all claims:	
5		a. An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;	
6		b. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and	
7		c. An award of penalties, attorneys' fees, and costs of suit, as allowable under the law,	
8		including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code § 218.5, § 226, and/or § 1194.	
9			
10	DATED:	May 13, 2024	
11		JCL LAW FIRM, APC	
12		By:	
13		Attorney for PLAINTIFF	
14			
15		DEMAND FOR A HIDV TRIAL	
16		DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL	
17		PLAINTIFF demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.	
18	DATED.	M 12 2024	
19	DATED:	May 13, 2024 JCL LAW FIRM, APC	
20		1 cm miles	
21		By:	
22		Attorney for PLAINTIFF	
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