

Justin F. Marquez, Esq. (SBN 262417)

justin@wilshirelawfirm.com

Bobby Saadian, Esq. (SBN 250377)

classaction@wilshirelawfirm.com

Nicol E. Hajjar, Esq. (SBN 303102)

nicol@wilshirelawfirm.com

Rachel J. Vinson (SBN 331434)

rvinson@wilshirelawfirm.com

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM

3055 Wilshire Blvd., 12th Floor

Los Angeles, California 90010

Telephone (213) 381-9988

Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

Attorneys for Plaintiff

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF KERN**

JOSE AGUILAR SANDOVAL, individually,
and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

MADLAND TOYOTA-LIFT, INC., a California
corporation, and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: BCV-20-100810-TSC

CLASS ACTION

[Hon. Thomas S. Clark, Dept. 17]

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION AND
REPRESENTATIVE ACTION
COMPLAINT:**

1. Failure to Pay Minimum and Straight Time Wages (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197);
2. Failure to Pay Overtime Wages (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194 and 1198);
3. Failure to Provide Meal Periods (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512);
4. Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7);
5. Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201-203);
6. Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements (Cal. Lab. Code § 226);
7. Unfair Business Practices (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*); and
8. Civil Penalties Under PAGA (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2699, *et seq.*)

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff Jose Aguilar Sandoval ("Plaintiff"), based upon facts that either have evidentiary support or are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation and discovery, alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION & PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. Plaintiff brings this action against Defendant Madland Toyota-Lift, Inc. and Does 1 through 10 (Madland Toyota-Lift, Inc. and Does 1 through 10 are collectively referred to as "Defendants") for California Labor Code violations and unfair business practices stemming from Defendants' failure to pay for all hours worked (minimum, straight time, and overtime wages), failure to provide meal periods, failure to authorize and permit rest periods, failure to timely pay final wages, and failure to furnish accurate wage statements.

2. Plaintiff brings the First through Seventh Causes of Action individually and as a class action on behalf of himself and certain current and former employees of Defendants (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Class" or "Class Members," and defined more fully below). The Class consists of Plaintiff and all other persons who have been employed by any Defendant in California as an hourly-paid or non-exempt employee (not administrative position) during the statute of limitations period applicable to the claims pleaded here.

3. Plaintiff brings the Eighth Cause of Action as a representative action under the California Private Attorney General Act ("PAGA") to recover civil penalties that are owed to Plaintiff, the State of California, and past and present hourly-paid or non-exempt employees employed by Defendants in the State of California during the statute of limitations period for his PAGA claim (hereinafter referred to as the "Aggrieved Employees").

4. Defendants own/owned and operate/operated an industry, business, and establishment within the State of California, including Kern County. As such, and based upon all the facts and circumstances incident to Defendants' business in California, Defendants are subject to the California Labor Code, Wage Orders issued by the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC"), and the California Business & Professions Code.

5. Despite these requirements, throughout the statutory period Defendants maintained a systematic, company-wide policy and practice of:

- (a) Failing to pay employees for all hours worked, including all minimum wages, straight time wages, and overtime wages in compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders;
- (b) Failing to provide employees with timely and duty-free meal periods in compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, failing to maintain accurate records of all meal periods taken or missed, and failing to pay an additional hour's pay for each workday a meal period violation occurred;
- (c) Failing to authorize and permit employees to take timely and duty-free rest periods in compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, and failing to pay an additional hour's pay for each workday a rest period violation occurred;
- (d) Willfully failing to pay employees all minimum wages, straight time wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages due within the time period specified by California law when employment terminates; and
- (e) Failing to provide employees with accurate, itemized wage statements containing all the information required by the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders.

6. On information and belief, Defendants, and each of them were on actual and constructive notice of the improprieties alleged herein and intentionally refused to rectify their unlawful policies. Defendants' violations, as alleged above, during all relevant times herein were willful and deliberate.

7. At all relevant times, Defendants were and are legally responsible for all of the unlawful conduct, policies, practices, acts and omissions as described in each and all of the foregoing paragraphs as the employer of Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees. Further, Defendants are responsible for each of the unlawful acts or omissions complained of herein under the doctrine of "respondeat superior."

THE PARTIES

A. Plaintiff

8. Plaintiff Jose Aguilar Sandoval is a resident of Delano, California who worked for Defendants in Bakersfield, California as a truck driver from 2008 to April 2019.

9. Plaintiff reserves the right to seek leave to amend this complaint to add new Plaintiffs, if necessary, in order to establish suitable representative(s) pursuant to *La Sala v. American Savings and Loan Association* (1971) 5 Cal.3d 864, 872, and other applicable law.

B. Defendants

10. Plaintiff is informed and believe, and based upon that information and belief allege, that Defendant Madland Toyota-Lift, Inc. is, and at all times herein mentioned, was:

- (a) A California corporation with its principal place of business in Bakersfield, California.
- (b) A business entity conducting business in numerous counties throughout the State of California, including in Kern County; and,
- (c) The former employer of Plaintiff, and the current and/or former employer of the putative Class, Madland Toyota-Lift, Inc., suffered and permitted Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to work, and/or controlled their wages, hours, or working conditions.

11. Plaintiff does not know the true names or capacities of the persons or entities sued herein as Does 1-10, inclusive, and therefore sue said Defendants by such fictitious names. Each of the Doe Defendants was in some manner legally responsible for the damages suffered by Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees as alleged herein. Plaintiff will amend this complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of these Defendants when they have been ascertained, together with appropriate charging allegations, as may be necessary.

12. At all times mentioned herein, the Defendants named as Does 1-10, inclusive, and each of them, were residents of, doing business in, availed themselves of the jurisdiction of, and/or injured a significant number of the Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees in the State of California.

13. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all relevant times each Defendant, directly or indirectly, or through agents or other persons, employed Plaintiff and the other employees described in the class definitions below, and exercised control over their wages, hours, and working conditions. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all relevant times, each Defendant was the principal, agent, partner, joint venturer, officer, director, controlling shareholder, subsidiary, affiliate, parent corporation, successor in interest and/or predecessor in interest of some or all of the other Defendants, and was engaged with some or all of the other Defendants in a joint enterprise for profit, and bore such other relationships to some or all of the other Defendants so as to be liable for their conduct with respect to the matters alleged below. Plaintiff is informed and believe and thereon allege that each Defendant acted pursuant to and within the scope of the relationships alleged above, that each Defendant knew or should have known about, and authorized, ratified, adopted, approved, controlled, aided and abetted the conduct of all other Defendants.

ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION

14. Plaintiff Jose Sandoval Aguilar worked for Defendants in California as a truck driver from approximately 2008 to April 2019. During Plaintiff's employment for Defendants, Defendants paid Plaintiff an hourly wage and classified him as non-exempt from overtime. Defendants typically scheduled Plaintiff to work at least 5 days in a workweek (Monday – Friday) and at least 9 hours per day (7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), but Plaintiff often worked more than 9 hours in a workday. He typically worked more than 45 hours in a workweek.

15. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff for all hours worked (including minimum wage, straight time, and overtime wages), failed to provide Plaintiff with all meal periods, failed to authorize and permit Plaintiff to take all rest periods, failed to pay timely pay all final wages to Plaintiff when Defendants terminated his employment and failed to furnish accurate wage statements to Plaintiff. As discussed below, Plaintiff's experience working for Defendants was typical and illustrative.

16. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of not paying Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees for all hours worked, including

1 minimum wages, straight time wages, and overtime wages. Through at least November 2018,
2 Defendants paid Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees based on their scheduled
3 work hours. Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees, however, worked more than their
4 scheduled hours. As a result of Defendants' policy and practice, Plaintiff, the Class, and the
5 Aggrieved Employees were not paid for all hours worked, and some of this unpaid work should
6 have been paid at the overtime rate. In failing to pay for all hours worked, Defendants also failed
7 to maintain accurate records of the hours Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees
8 worked.

9 17. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants wrongfully failed to provide Plaintiff,
10 the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees with legally compliant meal periods. Defendants
11 regularly, but not always, required Plaintiff and the Class to work in excess of five consecutive
12 hours a day without providing a 30-minute, uninterrupted, and duty-free meal period for every
13 five hours of work, or without compensating Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees
14 for meal periods that were not provided by the end of the fifth hour of work or tenth hour of
15 work. Instead, Defendants continued to assert control over Plaintiff, the Class, and the
16 Aggrieved Employees by requiring, pressuring, or encouraging them to perform work tasks
17 which could not be completed without working in lieu of taking mandatory first meal periods by
18 the end of the fifth hour of work. Defendants also sometimes denied Plaintiff, the Class, and the
19 Aggrieved Employees the opportunity to take their legally mandated second 30-minute meal
20 periods. Accordingly, Defendants' policy and practice was not to provide meal periods to
21 Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees in compliance with California law.

22 18. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to authorize
23 and permit Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to take legally compliant rest
24 periods. Defendants regularly required Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to
25 work in excess of four consecutive hours a day without Defendants authorizing and permitting
26 them to take a 10-minute, uninterrupted, duty-free rest period for every four hours of work (or
27 major fraction of four hours), or without compensating Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
28 Employees for rest periods that were not authorized or permitted. Instead, Defendants continued

1 to assert control over Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees by requiring, pressuring,
2 or encouraging them to perform work tasks which could not be completed without working in
3 lieu of taking mandatory rest periods, or by denying Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
4 Employees permission to take a rest period. Accordingly, Defendants' policy and practice was to
5 not authorize and permit Plaintiff and the Class to take rest periods in compliance with California
6 law.

7 19. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants willfully failed and refused to timely
8 pay Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees at the conclusion of their employment all
9 final wages due at their termination of employment. In addition, Plaintiff's final paychecks did
10 not include payment for (minimum, straight time, and overtime wages), meal period premium
11 wages, and rest period premium wages owed to him by Defendants at the conclusion of his
12 employment. On information and belief, Defendants' failure to timely pay Plaintiff's final wages
13 when their employment terminated was not a single, isolated incident, but was instead consistent
14 with Defendants' policy and practice that applied to Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
15 Employees.

16 20. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to furnish Plaintiff, the Class,
17 and the Aggrieved Employees with accurate, itemized wage statements showing all applicable
18 hourly rates, and all gross and net wages earned (including correct hours worked, correct wages
19 for meal periods that were not provided in accordance with California law, and correct wages for
20 rest periods that were not authorized and permitted to take in accordance with California law).
21 As a result of these violations of California Labor Code § 226(a), the Plaintiff, the Class, and the
22 Aggrieved Employees suffered injury because, among other things:

- 23 (a) the violations led them to believe that they were not entitled to be paid
24 minimum wages, straight time wages, overtime wages, meal period
25 premium wages, and rest period premium wages, even though they were
26 entitled;

27 ///

28 ///

- (b) the violations led them to believe that they had been paid the minimum, straight time, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages, even though they had not been;
- (c) the violations led them to believe they were not entitled to be paid minimum, straight time, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages at the correct California rate even though they were;
- (d) the violations led them to believe they had been paid minimum, straight time, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages at the correct California rate even though they had not been;
- (e) the violations hindered them from determining the amounts of minimum, straight time, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages owed to them;
- (f) in connection with their employment before and during this action, and in connection with prosecuting this action, the violations caused them to have to perform mathematical computations to determine the amounts of wages owed to them, computations they would not have to make if the wage statements contained the required accurate information;
- (g) by understating the wages truly due them, the violations caused them to lose entitlement and/or accrual of the full amount of Social Security, disability, unemployment, and other governmental benefits;
- (h) the wage statements inaccurately understated the wages, hours, and wage rates to which Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were entitled, and Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were paid less than the wages and wage rates to which they were entitled.

Thus, Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees are owed the amounts provided for in California Labor Code § 226(e).

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

21. Plaintiff bring certain claims individually, as well as on behalf of each and all

1 other persons similarly situated, and thus, seeks class certification under California Code of Civil
2 Procedure § 382.

3 22. All claims alleged herein arise under California law for which Plaintiff seeks relief
4 authorized by California law.

5 23. The proposed Class consists of and is defined as:

6 All persons who worked for any Defendant in California as an hourly-paid or
7 non-exempt employee at any time during the period beginning four years before
8 the filing of the initial complaint in this action and ending when notice to the
Class is sent.

9 24. At all material times, Plaintiff was a member of the Class.

10 25. Plaintiff undertakes this concerted activity to improve the wages and working
11 conditions of all Class Members.

12 26. There is a well-defined community of interest in the litigation and the Class and
13 Subclass are readily ascertainable:

14 (a) Numerosity: The members of the Class (and each subclass, if any) are so
15 numerous that joinder of all members would be unfeasible and impractical.
16 The membership of the entire Class is unknown to Plaintiff at this time;
17 however, the Class is estimated to be greater than 40 individuals and the
18 identity of such membership is readily ascertainable by inspection of
19 Defendants' records.

20 (b) Typicality: Plaintiff is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect
21 the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-
22 defined community of interest, and Plaintiff's claims (or defenses, if any)
23 are typical of all Class Members' claims as demonstrated herein.

24 (c) Adequacy: Plaintiff is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect
25 the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-
26 defined community of interest and typicality of claims, as demonstrated
27 herein. Plaintiff has no conflicts with or interests antagonistic to any Class
28 Member. Plaintiff's attorneys, the proposed class counsel, are versed in

the rules governing class action discovery, certification, and settlement. Plaintiff has incurred, and throughout the duration of this action, will continue to incur costs and attorneys' fees that have been, are, and will be necessarily expended for the prosecution of this action for the substantial benefit of each class member.

(d) Superiority: A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy, including consideration of:

- 1) The interests of the members of the Class in individually controlling the prosecution or defense of separate actions;
- 2) The extent and nature of any litigation concerning the controversy already commenced by or against members of the Class;
- 3) The desirability or undesirability of concentrating the litigation of the claims in the particular forum; and
- 4) The difficulties likely to be encountered in the management of a class action.

(e) Public Policy Considerations: The public policy of the State of California is to resolve the California Labor Code claims of many employees through a class action. Indeed, current employees are often afraid to assert their rights out of fear of direct or indirect retaliation. Former employees are also fearful of bringing actions because they believe their former employers might damage their future endeavors through negative references and/or other means. Class actions provide the class members who are not named in the complaint with a type of anonymity that allows for the vindication of their rights at the same time as their privacy is protected.

27. There are common questions of law and fact as to the Class (and each subclass, if any) that predominate over questions affecting only individual members, including without

limitation, whether, as alleged herein, Defendants have:

- (a) Failed to pay Class Members for all hours worked, including minimum, straight time, and overtime wages;
- (b) Failed to provide meal periods and pay meal period premium wages to Class Members;
- (c) Failed to authorize and permit rest periods and pay rest period premium wages to Class Members;
- (d) Failed to provide Class Members with timely final wages;
- (e) Failed to provide Class Members with accurate wage statements; and
- (f) Violated California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et. seq.* as a result of their illegal conduct as described above.

28. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a class action pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 because:

- (a) The questions of law and fact common to the Class predominate over any question affecting only individual members;
- (b) A class action is superior to any other available method for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the Class;
- (c) The members of the Class are so numerous that it is impractical to bring all members of the class before the Court;
- (d) Plaintiff, and the other members of the Class, will not be able to obtain effective and economic legal redress unless the action is maintained as a class action;
- (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and equitable relief for the statutory violations, and in obtaining adequate compensation for the damages and injuries for which Defendants are responsible in an amount sufficient to adequately compensate the members of the Class for the injuries sustained;
- (f) Without class certification, the prosecution of separate actions by

individual members of the class would create a risk of:

- 1) Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants; and/or
 - 2) Adjudications with respect to the individual members which would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudications, or would substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests, including but not limited to the potential for exhausting the funds available from those parties who are, or may be, responsible Defendants; and,
- (g) Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief appropriate with respect to the class as a whole.

29. Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed members of the Class that would set forth the subject and nature of the instant action. The Defendants' own business records may be utilized for assistance in the preparation and issuance of the contemplated notices. To the extent that any further notices may be required, Plaintiff contemplates the use of additional techniques and forms commonly used in class actions, such as published notice, e-mail notice, website notice, first-class mail, or combinations thereof, or by other methods suitable to the Class and deemed necessary and/or appropriate by the Court.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Minimum and Straight Time Wages for All Hours Worked)

30. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

31. "Hours worked" is the time during which an employee is subject to the control of an employer, and includes all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work, whether or not required to do so.

1 32. At all relevant times herein mentioned, Defendants knowingly failed to pay to
2 Plaintiff and the Class compensation for all hours they worked. By their failure to pay
3 compensation for each hour worked as alleged above, Defendants willfully violated the
4 provisions of California Labor Code § 1194, and any additional applicable Wage Orders, which
5 require such compensation to non-exempt employees.

6 33. Accordingly, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover minimum and straight
7 time wages for all non-overtime hours worked for Defendants.

8 34. By and through the conduct described above, Plaintiff and the Class have been
9 deprived of their rights to be paid wages earned by virtue of their employment with Defendants.

10 35. By virtue of the Defendants' unlawful failure to pay additional compensation to
11 Plaintiff and the Class for their non-overtime hours worked without pay, Plaintiff and the Class
12 suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages in amounts which are presently unknown to
13 Plaintiff and the Class and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

14 36. By failing to keep adequate time records required by California Labor Code §
15 1174(d), Defendants have made it difficult to calculate the full extent of minimum wage
16 compensation due Plaintiff and the Class.

17 37. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194.2, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to
18 recover liquidated damages (double damages) for Defendants' failure to pay minimum wages.

19 38. California Labor Code § 204 requires employers to provide employees with all
20 wages due and payable twice a month. Throughout the statute of limitations period applicable to
21 this cause of action, Plaintiff and the Class were entitled to be paid twice a month at rates
22 required by law, including minimum and straight time wages. However, during all such times,
23 Defendants systematically failed and refused to pay Plaintiff and the Class all such wages due
24 and failed to pay those wages twice a month.

25 39. Plaintiff and the Class are also entitled to seek recovery of all unpaid minimum
26 and straight time wages, interest, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California
27 Labor Code §§ 218.5, 218.6, and 1194(a).

28 ///

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Overtime Wages)

40. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

41. California Labor Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed more than eight (8) hours in any workday or forty (40) hours in a workweek unless they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.

42. California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1198 provide that employees in California shall not be employed more than eight hours in any workday unless they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law. Additionally, California Labor Code § 1198 states that the employment of an employee for longer hours than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.

43. At all times relevant hereto, Plaintiff and the Class have worked more than eight hours in a workday, as employees of Defendants.

44. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff and the Class overtime compensation for the hours they have worked in excess of the maximum hours permissible by law as required by California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1198.

45. By virtue of Defendants' unlawful failure to pay additional premium rate compensation to the Plaintiff and the Class for their overtime hours worked, Plaintiff and the Class have suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages in amounts which are presently unknown to them but which exceed the jurisdictional minimum of this Court and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

46. By failing to keep adequate time records required by Labor Code § 1174(d), Defendants have made it difficult to calculate the full extent of overtime compensation due to Plaintiff and the Class.

47. Plaintiff and the Class also request recovery of overtime compensation according to proof, interest, attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194(a), as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against Defendants, in a sum as provided by the

California Labor Code and/or other statutes.

48. California Labor Code § 204 requires employers to provide employees with all wages due and payable twice a month. The Wage Orders also provide that every employer shall pay to each employee, on the established payday for the period involved, overtime wages for all overtime hours worked in the payroll period. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff and the Class with all compensation due, in violation of California Labor Code § 204.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against all Defendants for Failure to Provide Meal Periods)

49. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

50. Under California law, Defendants have an affirmative obligation to relieve the Plaintiff and the Class of all duty in order to take their first daily meal periods no later than the start of Plaintiff and the Class' sixth hour of work in a workday, and to take their second meal periods no later than the start of the eleventh hour of work in the workday. California Labor Code § 512, and Section 11 of the applicable Wage Orders require that an employer provide unpaid meal periods of at least 30 minutes for each five-hour period worked. It is a violation of California Labor Code § 226.7 for an employer to require any employee to work during any meal period mandated under any Wage Order.

51. Despite these legal requirements, Defendants regularly failed to provide Plaintiff and the Class with both meal periods as required by California law. By their failure to permit and authorize Plaintiff and the Class to take all meal periods as alleged above (or due to the fact that Defendants made it impossible or impracticable to take these uninterrupted meal periods), Defendants willfully violated the provisions of California Labor Code § 226.7 and the applicable Wage Orders.

52. Under California law, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to be paid one hour of additional wages for each workday he or she was not provided with all required meal period(s), plus interest thereon.

///

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against All Defendants for Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods)

53. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

54. Defendants are required by California law to authorize and permit breaks of 10 uninterrupted minutes for each four hours of work or major fraction of four hours (i.e. more than two hours). California Labor Code § 512, the applicable Wage Orders require that the employer permit and authorize all employees to take paid rest periods of 10 minutes each for each 4-hour period worked. Thus, for example, if an employee's work time is 6 hours and ten minutes, the employee is entitled to two rest breaks. Each failure to authorize rest breaks as so required is itself a violation of California's rest break laws. It is a violation of California Labor Code § 226.7 for an employer to require any employee to work during any rest period mandated under any Wage Order.

55. Despite these legal requirements, Defendants failed to authorize Plaintiff and the Class to take rest breaks, regardless of whether employees worked more than 4 hours in a workday. By their failure to permit and authorize Plaintiff and the Class to take rest periods as alleged above (or due to the fact that Defendants made it impossible or impracticable to take these uninterrupted rest periods), Defendants willfully violated the provisions of California Labor Code § 226.7 and the applicable Wage Orders.

56. Under California law, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to be paid one hour of premium wages rate for each workday he or she was not provided with all required rest break(s), plus interest thereon.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Wages of Discharged Employees – Waiting Time Penalties)

57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-allege as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

///

1 58. At all times herein set forth, California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202 provide that if
2 an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are
3 due and payable immediately, and that if an employee voluntarily leaves his or his employment,
4 his or his wages shall become due and payable not later than seventy-two (72) hours thereafter,
5 unless the employee has given seventy-two (72) hours previous notice of his or his intention to
6 quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or his wages at the time of quitting.

7 59. Within the applicable statute of limitations, the employment of Plaintiff and many
8 other members of the Class ended, i.e. was terminated by quitting or discharge, and the
9 employment of others will be. However, during the relevant time period, Defendants failed, and
10 continue to fail to pay terminated Class Members, without abatement, all wages required to be
11 paid by California Labor Code sections 201 and 202 either at the time of discharge, or within
12 seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ.

13 60. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiff and those Class members who are no longer
14 employed by Defendants their wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge, or within
15 seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ, is in violation of California Labor
16 Code §§ 201 and 202.

17 61. California Labor Code § 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to pay
18 wages owed, in accordance with sections 201 and 202, then the wages of the employee shall
19 continue as a penalty wage from the due date, and at the same rate until paid or until an action is
20 commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than thirty (30) days.

21 62. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover from Defendants their additionally
22 accruing wages for each day they were not paid, at their regular hourly rate of pay, up to 30 days
23 maximum pursuant to California Labor Code § 203.

24 63. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 218.5, 218.6 and 1194, Plaintiff and the
25 Class are also entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees, interest, expenses, and costs
26 incurred in this action.

27 ///

28 ///

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

**(Against all Defendants for Failure to Provide and Maintain Accurate and
Compliant Wage Records)**

64. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

65. At all material times set forth herein, California Labor Code § 226(a) provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or his employees an accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing nine pieces of information, including: (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked by the employee, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and the last four digits of his or his 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.

66. Defendants have intentionally and willfully failed to provide employees with complete and accurate wage statements. The deficiencies include, among other things, the failure to correctly identify the gross wages earned by Plaintiff and the Class, the failure to list the true “total hours worked by the employee,” and the failure to list the true net wages earned.

67. As a result of Defendants’ violation of California Labor Code § 226(a), Plaintiff and the Class have suffered injury and damage to their statutorily protected rights.

68. Specifically, Plaintiff and the members of the Class have been injured by Defendants’ intentional violation of California Labor Code § 226(a) because they were denied both their legal right to receive, and their protected interest in receiving, accurate, itemized wage statements under California Labor Code § 226(a).

69. Calculation of the true wage entitlement for Plaintiff and the Class is difficult and time consuming. As a result of this unlawful burden, Plaintiff and the Class were also injured as

1 a result of having to bring this action to attempt to obtain correct wage information following
2 Defendants' refusal to comply with many of the mandates of California's Labor Code and related
3 laws and regulations.

4 70. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover from Defendants the greater of their
5 actual damages caused by Defendants' failure to comply with California Labor Code § 226(a), or
6 an aggregate penalty not exceeding four thousand dollars per employee.

7 71. Plaintiff and the Class are also entitled to injunctive relief, as well as an award of
8 attorney's fees and costs to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor
9 Code § 226(h).

10 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

11 **(Against all Defendants for Violation of California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200,**
12 **et seq.)**

13 72. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
14 paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

15 73. Defendants, and each of them, are "persons" as defined under California Business
16 & Professions Code § 17201.

17 74. Defendants' conduct, as alleged herein, has been, and continues to be, unfair,
18 unlawful, and harmful to Plaintiff, other Class members, and to the general public. Plaintiff
19 seeks to enforce important rights affecting the public interest within the meaning of Code of Civil
20 Procedure § 1021.5.

21 75. Defendants' activities, as alleged herein, are violations of California law, and
22 constitute unlawful business acts and practices in violation of California Business & Professions
23 Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

24 76. A violation of California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* may be
25 predicated on the violation of any state or federal law. All of the acts described herein as
26 violations of, among other things, the California Labor Code, are unlawful and in violation of
27 public policy; and in addition are immoral, unethical, oppressive, fraudulent and unscrupulous,
28 and thereby constitute unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices in violation of

California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

Failure to Pay Minimum and Straight Time Wages

77. Defendants' failure to pay minimum wages, straight time wages, and other benefits in violation of the California Labor Code constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

Failure to Pay Overtime Wages

78. Defendants' failure to pay overtime compensation and other benefits in violation of California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and 1198 constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

Failure to Provide Meal Periods

79. Defendants' failure to provide meal periods in accordance with California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above, constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods

80. Defendants' failure to authorize and permit rest periods in accordance with California Labor Code § 226.7 and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above, constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

81. By and through their unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices described herein, the Defendants, have obtained valuable property, money and services from Plaintiff, and all persons similarly situated, and have deprived Plaintiff, and all persons similarly situated, of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law, all to their detriment.

82. Plaintiff and the Class Members suffered monetary injury as a direct result of Defendants' wrongful conduct.

83. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, is entitled to, and does, seek such relief as may be necessary to disgorge money and/or property which the Defendants have wrongfully acquired, or of which Plaintiff and the Class have been deprived, by means of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices. Plaintiff and the Class are not obligated to establish individual knowledge of the wrongful practices of

Defendants in order to recover restitution.

84. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, is further entitled to and does seek a declaration that the above described business practices are unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent, and injunctive relief restraining the Defendants, and each of them, from engaging in any of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices in the future.

85. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, has no plain, speedy, and/or adequate remedy at law to redress the injuries which the Class Members suffered as a consequence of the Defendants' unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices. As a result of the unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices described above, Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless the Defendants, and each of them, are restrained from continuing to engage in said unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices.

86. Plaintiff also alleges that if Defendants are not enjoined from the conduct set forth herein above, they will continue to avoid paying the appropriate taxes, insurance and other withholdings.

87. Pursuant to California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, Plaintiff and putative Class Members are entitled to restitution of the wages withheld and retained by Defendants during a period that commences four years prior to the filing of this complaint; a permanent injunction requiring Defendants to pay all outstanding wages due to Plaintiff and Class Members; an award of attorneys' fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5 and other applicable laws; and an award of costs.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against all Defendants for Civil Penalties Under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 et seq.)

88. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 20 in this Complaint.

///

1 89. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants were subject to the Labor Code of the
2 State of California and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Orders.

3 90. California Labor Code § 2699(a) specifically provides for a private right of action
4 to recover penalties for violations of the Labor Code: “Notwithstanding any other provision of
5 law, any provision of this code that provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by
6 the Labor and Workforce Development Agency or any of its departments, divisions,
7 commissions, boards, agencies, or employees, for a violation of this code, may, as an alternative,
8 be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or
9 herself and other current or former employees pursuant to the procedures specified in Section
10 2699.3.”

11 91. Plaintiff has exhausted his administrative remedies pursuant to California Labor
12 Code § 2699.3. He gave written notice by online filing to the Labor and Workforce
13 Development Agency and by certified mail to Defendants of the specific provisions of the Labor
14 Code that Defendants have violated against Plaintiff and current and former aggrieved
15 employees, including the facts and theories to support the violations. Plaintiff also paid the filing
16 fee.

17 92. The Labor and Workforce Development Agency has not indicated that it intends to
18 investigate Defendants’ Labor Code violations discussed in the notice. Accordingly, Plaintiff
19 may commence a civil action to recover penalties under Labor Code § 2699 pursuant to § 2699.3
20 for the violations of the Labor Code described in this Complaint. These penalties include, but are
21 not limited to, penalties under California Labor Code §§ 210, 226.3, 1174.5, 1197.1, and 2699.

22 93. In addition, Plaintiff seeks penalties for Defendants’ violation of *Labor Code* §
23 1174(d). Pursuant to Labor Code § 1174.5, any person, including any entity, employing labor
24 who willfully fails to maintain accurate and complete records required by *Labor Code* § 1174 is
25 subject to a penalty under § 1174.5. Pursuant to the applicable IWC Order § 7(A)(3), every
26 employer shall keep time records showing when the employee begins and ends each work period.
27 Meal periods, and total hours worked daily shall also be recorded. Additionally, pursuant to the
28

1 applicable IWC Order § 7(A)(5), every employer shall keep total hours worked in the payroll
2 period and applicable rates of pay.

3 94. During the time period of employment for Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees,
4 Defendants failed to maintain records pursuant to the Labor Code and IWC Orders by failing to
5 maintain accurate records showing meal periods, and accurate records showing when employees
6 begin and end each work period. Defendants' failure to provide and maintain records required by
7 the Labor Code IWC Wage Orders deprived Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees the ability to
8 know, understand and question the accuracy and frequency of meal periods, and the accuracy of
9 their hours worked stated in Defendants' records. Therefore, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved
10 Employees had no way to dispute the resulting failure to pay wages, all of which resulted in an
11 unjustified economic enrichment to Defendants. As a direct result, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved
12 Employees have suffered and continue to suffer, substantial losses related to the use and
13 enjoyment of such wages, lost interest on such wages and expenses and attorney's fees in seeking
14 to compel Defendants to fully perform its obligation under state law, all to their respective
15 damage in amounts according to proof at trial. Because of Defendants' knowing failure to
16 comply with the Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage Orders, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved
17 Employees have also suffered an injury in that they were prevented from knowing,
18 understanding, and disputing the wage payments paid to them.

19 95. Based on the conduct described in this Complaint, Plaintiff is entitled to an award
20 of civil penalties on behalf of himself, the State of California, and similarly Aggrieved
21 Employees of Defendants. The exact amount of the applicable penalties, in all, is in an amount
22 to be shown according to proof at trial. These penalties are in addition to all other remedies
23 permitted by law.

24 96. In addition, Plaintiff seeks an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs
25 pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699(g)(1), which states, "Any employee who prevails in
26 any action shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs."

27 ///

28 ///

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated only with respect to the class claims, pray for relief and judgment against Defendants, jointly and severally, as follows:

Class Certification

1. That this action be certified as a class action with respect to the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Causes of Action;

2. That Plaintiff be appointed as the representative of the Class; and

3. That counsel for Plaintiff be appointed as Class Counsel.

As to the First Cause of Action

4. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 204 and 1194 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to pay all minimum and straight time wages due;

5. For unpaid wages as may be appropriate;

6. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid compensation commencing from the date such amounts were due;

7. For liquidated damages;

8. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194(a); and,

9. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Second Cause of Action

10. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1198 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to pay all overtime wages due;

11. For unpaid wages at overtime wage rates as may be appropriate;

12. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid overtime compensation commencing from the date such amounts were due;

13. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to

1 California Labor Code § 1194(a); and,

2 14. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

3 As to the Third Cause of Action

4 15. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated California
5 Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the IWC Wage Orders;

6 16. For unpaid meal period premium wages as may be appropriate;

7 17. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid compensation commencing from the date
8 such amounts were due;

9 18. For reasonable attorneys' fees under California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5,
10 and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

11 19. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

12 As to the Fourth Cause of Action

13 20. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated California
14 Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the IWC Wage Orders;

15 21. For unpaid rest period premium wages as may be appropriate;

16 22. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid compensation commencing from the date
17 such amounts were due;

18 23. For reasonable attorneys' fees under California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5,
19 and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

20 24. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

21 As to the Fifth Cause of Action

22 25. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California
23 Labor Code §§ 201, 202, and 203 by willfully failing to pay all compensation owed at the time of
24 termination of the employment;

25 26. For statutory wage penalties pursuant to California Labor Code § 203 for former
26 employees who have left Defendants' employ;

27 27. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid wages from the date such amounts were
28 due;

28. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

29. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Sixth Cause of Action

30. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated the record keeping provisions of California Labor Code § 226(a) and applicable IWC Wage Orders, and willfully failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements thereto;

31. For all actual damages, according to proof;

32. For statutory penalties pursuant to California Labor Code § 226(e);

33. For injunctive relief to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor Code § 226(h);

34. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

35. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Seventh Cause of Action

36. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* by failing to pay for all hours worked (minimum, straight time, and overtime wages), failing to provide meal periods, and failing to authorize and permit rest periods;

37. For restitution of unpaid wages to Plaintiff and all Class Members and prejudgment interest from the day such amounts were due and payable;

38. For the appointment of a receiver to receive, manage and distribute any and all funds disgorged from Defendants and determined to have been wrongfully acquired by Defendants as a result of violations of California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et seq.*;

39. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5;

40. For injunctive relief to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*; and,

41. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

///

As to the Eighth Cause of Action

42. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated the California Labor Code by failing to pay wages for all hours worked (including minimum, straight time, and overtime wages) failing to provide meal periods, failing to maintain accurate records of meal periods, failing to authorize and permit rest periods, failing to furnish accurate wage statements, failing to pay all final wages to terminated employees, and failing to maintain accurate records of all hours worked;

43. For all civil penalties pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 2699, *et seq.*, and all other applicable Labor Code provisions;

44. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699;

45. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

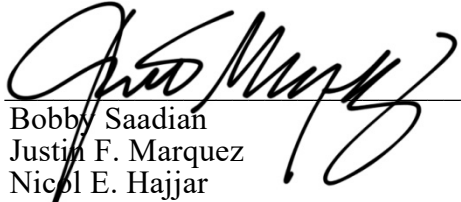
As to all Causes of Action

46. For any additional relief that the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 28, 2020

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM

By: 

Bobby Saadian

Justin F. Marquez

Nicol E. Hajjar

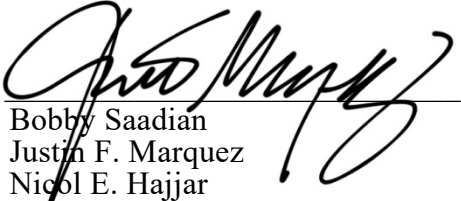
Attorneys for Plaintiff Jose Aguilar Sandoval

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury as to all causes of action triable by jury.

Dated: September 28, 2020

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM

By: 

Bobby Saadian

Justin F. Marquez

Nicol E. Hajjar

Attorneys for Plaintiff Jose Aguilar Sandoval

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC
8055 Wilshire Blvd, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1137

[illegible]

On **September 28, 2020**, I served the foregoing **FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION AND REPRESENTATIVE ACTION COMPLAINT**, on the interested parties by placing a true copy thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope by following one of the methods of service as follows:

Attorneys for Defendant MADLAND TOYOTA-LIFT, INC.

Signature