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Attorneys for Plaintiffs
MARIA MILAR & MARIA RODRIGUEZ

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

MARIA MILAR and MARIA RODRIGUEZ, as
“aggrieved employees” and on behalf of
“aggrieved employees” under the California Labor
Code Private Attorneys General Act,

Plaintiff,

v.

SOCAL FOOD GROUP, LP d/b/a DEL TACO;
and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No: 37-2021-00018665-CU-OE-CTL

REPRESENTATIVE ACTION

**DECLARATION OF RAUL PEREZ IN
SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF
PAGA SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR
AWARD OF ATTORNEYS’ FEES AND
COSTS, PLAINTIFFS’ SERVICE AWARDS,
AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
COSTS**

Assigned to the Honorable Kenneth Medel

Date: April 14, 2023
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Dept: C-66

Complaint Filed: April 27, 2021

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5. The Parties engaged in informal discovery regarding the Defendant's policies, practices, operations, payroll information and other topics related to this Action. This informal discovery included the production of documents pursuant to the settlement/mediation privilege, headcounts of all Aggrieved Employees, and pay periods worked during the PAGA Period. The Parties reached this Settlement only after informal discovery and investigation were performed.

6. The Parties participated in a mediation with mediator Eve Wagner and, on October 5, 2022, negotiated a settlement of the claims at issue in this action. In my opinion, the consideration and on the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement and Release of Claims, is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and is in the best interests of the State of California and the California LWDA in light of all known facts and circumstances, including the risk of significant delay and uncertainty associated with litigation, various defenses asserted by Defendant.

ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS

7. I have reviewed a summary of the billing records for this action, which are maintained during the regular course of business and billed contemporaneously. The bill for attorneys' fees is summarized in the chart below:

Attorney	Title	CA Bar Yr.	Rate	Hours	Fees
Raul Perez	Partner	1994	\$950	15.5	\$14,725.00
Molly DeSario	Senior Counsel	2004	\$700	19.3	\$13,510.00
Julian Quattlebaum	Fmr. Associate	2020	\$450	10.3	\$4,635.00
Total				45.1	\$32,870.00

8. While adjusting our rates to track market increases, Capstone's rates have steadily remained reasonable and competitive, and have been consistently approved by many federal and state courts over the past several years. *See, e.g., Gonzaga v. Molina Healthcare, Inc.*, No. 21STCV03598 (Los Angeles County Superior Court Feb. 2, 2023) (approving Capstone's rates for Associates (\$475) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$625 to \$950)); *Amaral v. Unify Financial Credit Union*, No. 20STCV36466 (Los Angeles County Superior Court Jan. 31, 2023) (approving Capstone's rates for Associates (\$475) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$625 to \$950)); *Johnson v. Equity Residential Services, LLC*, No. MSC19-02145 (Contra Costa County Superior Court Nov. 1, 2022) (approving Capstone's rates for Associates (\$500) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$625 to \$950)); *Lopez v. Big Creek Lumber*

1 *Company*, No. 21CV-00613 (Merced County Superior Court Oct. 31, 2022) (approving Capstone's rates
2 for Associates (\$475) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$625 to \$950)); *Villagomez v. Agemark Corp.*, No.
3 CV-19-004058 (Stanislaus County Superior Court Oct. 19, 2022) (approving Capstone's rates for Senior
4 Counsel and Partners (\$625 to \$950)); *Ceja v. El Toro Loco Market, LLC*, No. BCV-21-101202 (Kern
5 County Superior Court Oct. 12, 2022) approving Capstone's rates for Associates (\$475-\$525) and
6 Senior Counsel/Partners (\$625 to \$950)); *Espinosa v. Alliance Healthcare Services, Inc.*, No. 37-2020-
7 00011228-CU-OE-CTL (San Diego County Superior Court Oct. 10, 2022) (approving Capstone's rates
8 for Associates (\$475) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$600 to \$950)); *Piana v. LoanDepot.com, LLC*, No.
9 30-2017-00913164-CU-OE-CXC (Orange County Superior Court Apr. 1, 2022) (approving Capstone's
10 rates for Associates (\$295 to \$345) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$485 to \$775)); *Tomlinson v. U.S.*
11 *Bancorp*, No. 19STCV09493 (Los Angeles County Superior Court March 17, 2022) (approving
12 Capstone's rates for Associates (\$265 to \$295) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$485 to \$775)); *Parks v.*
13 *Davidson Hotel Company, LLC*, No. 37-2018-00036699-CU-OE-CTL (San Diego Superior Court Feb.
14 17, 2022) (approving Capstone's rates for Associates (\$295 to \$485) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$485
15 to \$775); *Bejar v. Maxco Supply, Inc.*, No. BCV-20-101653 (Kern County Superior Court Feb. 9, 2022)
16 (approving Capstone's rates for Senior Counsel/Partners from \$485 to \$775); *Navarro v. Gino/Guiseppe,*
17 *Inc.*, No. 17-CV-01723 (Merced County Superior Court Dec. 14, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates for
18 Associates (\$265 to \$485) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$485 to \$775)); *Darling v. J And A Food*
19 *Service, Inc.*, No. 19-CV-0193682 (Shasta County Superior Court Nov. 8, 2021) (approving Capstone's
20 rates ranging from \$485 to \$775); *Eagles v. Pentagon Technologies Group, Inc.*, No. RG19046330
21 (Alameda County Superior Court Nov. 18, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates ranging from \$485 to
22 \$775); *De La Cruz v. The Monterey Bay Aquarium Foundation*, No. 19CV004102 (Monterey County
23 Superior Court Oct. 19, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates ranging from \$265 to \$775); *Anderson v.*
24 *RSCR California, Inc.*, No. CIVDS1827742 (San Bernardino County Superior Court Sept. 28, 2021)
25 (approving Capstone's rates ranging from \$265 to \$775); *Gold v. Benihana National Corp.*, No. 37-
26 2016-00022320-CU-OE-NC (San Diego Superior Court Aug. 17, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates for
27 Associates (\$295 to \$485) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$545 to \$775)); *Kirby v. Kindred Healthcare*
28 *Operating, LLC*, No. CIVDS1708958 (San Bernardino Superior Court July 13, 2021) (approving

1 Capstone's rates ranging from \$485 to \$745); *Moran v. San Diego Blood Bank*, No. 37-2018-00025721-
2 CU-OE-CTL (San Diego Superior Court June 25, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates for Associates
3 (\$265 to \$485) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$485 to \$775)); *Alvarez v. AutoPartsPros, LLC*, No. 37-
4 2019-00039872-CU-OE-CTL (San Diego Superior Court April 9, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates
5 ranging from \$485 to \$775); *Sandoval v. Abacus Data Systems, Inc.*, No. 37-2018-00039466-CU-OE-
6 CTL (San Diego County Superior Court Feb. 26, 2021) (approving Capstone's rates for Associates
7 (\$295 to \$445) and Senior Counsel/Partners (\$485 to \$775)).

8 9. Capstone's rates are comparable to those of other plaintiff's firms, such as Goldstein,
9 Borgen, Dardarian & Ho (rates ranging from \$800-\$1015 for partners and \$540-\$550 for associates),
10 Matern Law Group, PC (\$995 partner rate and \$825-\$950 for senior associates), Baron & Budd (rates
11 ranging from \$775 for the requested partner to \$390-\$630 for non-partners), Wasserman Comden
12 Casselman & Essensten (rates ranging from \$670-750 for partners and \$300-500 for associates), and
13 Blood Hurst & Reardon (\$510-695 for partners). *See Aarons v. BMW of North America*, No. 11-7667-
14 PSG, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 118442, *40-41 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 29, 2014) (also approving rates of
15 Strategic and Capstone). Other courts have approved hourly rates in this range for plaintiff's side law
16 firms in the Southern California area. *See, e.g., Kearney v. Hyundai Motor Am.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS
17 91636, *24 (C.D. Cal. June 28, 2013) (approving hourly rates of \$650-\$800 for senior attorneys in
18 consumer class action); *Parkinson v. Hyundai Motor America*, 796 F. Supp. 2d 1160, 1172 (C.D. Cal.
19 2010) (approving hourly rates between \$445 and \$675); *Faigman v. AT&T Mobility LLC*, 2011 U.S.
20 Dist. LEXIS 15825, * 2 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 15, 2011) (approving hourly rates of \$650 an hour for partner
21 services and \$500 an hour for associate attorney services); *Richard v. Ameri-Force Mgmt. Servs., Inc.*,
22 No. 37-2008-00096019 (San Diego Super. Ct., Aug. 27, 2010) (\$695 to \$750 an hour for partners; \$495
23 an hour for associates); *Barrera v. Gamestop Corp.*, No. CV 09-1399 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 29, 2010) (\$700
24 an hour for partners; \$475 an hour for associates); *Anderson v. Nextel Retail Stores, LLC*, No. CV 07-
25 4480 (C.D. Cal. June 20, 2010) (\$655 to \$750 an hour for partners; \$300 to \$515 an hour for associates);
26 *Luquetta v. Regents of Cal.*, CGC-05-443007 (San Francisco Super. Ct.) (approving 2012 partner rates
27 between \$550 and \$850 per hour); and *Holloway v. Best Buy Co.*, C-05-5056-PJH (MEJ) (N.D. Cal.)
28 (approving 2011 partner rates of \$825 to \$700 an hour, associate rates between \$355 and \$405 per hour).

10. Finally, Capstone's rates are in line with the adjusted Laffey Matrix, which is a fee scale that courts often consult in determining the reasonableness of hourly rates. *See* Exhibit 1.

11. As summarized in the table below, Capstone has incurred a total of \$4,844.48 in costs and expenses to date.

Cost & Expense Categories	Amount
Copying, Printing & Scanning and Facsimiles	\$4.00
Mediation Fees	\$4,725.00
Research Services (PACER, Westlaw, etc.)	\$115.48
Total	\$4,844.48

CAPSTONE LAW APC FIRM PROFILE

12. Since its founding in 2012, Capstone has emerged as a major force in aggregate litigation, making law on cutting-edge issues.

13. In February, 2015, Ryan H. Wu and I were honored with the *California Lawyer* Attorney of the Year (CLAY) award in labor and employment for our work in the landmark case *Iskanian v. CLS Transportation Los Angeles*, 59 Cal.4th 348 (2014), which preserved the right of California workers to bring representative actions under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") notwithstanding a representative action waiver in an arbitration agreement.

14. Recognized as a leading firm in the prosecution of PAGA enforcement actions, Capstone is responsible for some of the most important decisions in this area. In *Williams v. Superior Court (Marshalls of Calif.)*, 3 Cal.5th 531 (2017), Capstone attorneys achieved a watershed decision before the California Supreme Court as to the broad scope of discovery in PAGA actions. In *Baumann v. Chase Inv. Servs. Corp.*, 747 F.3d 1117 (9th Cir. 2014), a case of first impression, Capstone successfully argued that PAGA actions are state enforcement actions not covered by the Class Action Fairness Act.

15. Capstone has made important contributions to consumer protection law. In *McGill v. Citibank N.A.*, 2 Cal. 5th 945 (2017), Capstone represented plaintiffs in a major decision holding that the right to seek public injunctive relief under the state's consumer protection laws cannot be waived and that consumers need not satisfy class certification requirements to enjoin unfair business practices on behalf of the public. In *Nguyen v. Nissan N.A.*, 726 F.3d 811 (9th Cir. 2019), Capstone attorneys reversed a denial of class certification, making law that clarified the use of "benefit of the bargain" damages

1 models in consumer class actions.

2 16. Capstone served as class counsel in a number of significant wage and hour settlements,
3 including \$12 million on behalf of a nationwide class of in *Hightower v. JPMorgan Chase Bank*, Case
4 No. 11-01802 (C.D. Cal.), over \$10 million on behalf of non-exempt hourly workers in *Zamora v.*
5 *Balboa Life & Casualty LLC*, Case No. BC360026 (L.A. Super. Ct.); and \$9 million on behalf of
6 pharmacists in *Dittmar v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, No. 14-1156 (S.D. Cal.). In *Vorise v. 24 Hour*
7 *Fitness USA, Inc.*, No. C 15-02051 (Contra Costa Super. Ct.), Capstone and co-counsel negotiated an
8 \$11 million PAGA settlement on behalf of over 36,000 employees for Labor Code violations.

9 17. Capstone has an established practice in automotive defect class actions and is currently
10 appointed sole class counsel, following contested class certification, in *Victorino v. FCA US, LLC*, No.
11 16-1617-GPC, 2019 WL 5268670 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 17, 2019) and *Salas v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A.,*
12 *Inc.*, No. 15-8629-FMO, 2019 WL 1940619 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 27, 2019).

13 18. Capstone has settled over 100 high-stakes class and representative actions. Capstone's
14 settlements have directly compensated hundreds of thousands of California workers and consumers.
15 Capstone's actions have also forced employers to modify their policies for the benefit of employees,
16 including changing the compensation structure for commissioned employees and changing practices to
17 ensure that workers will be able to take timely rest and meal breaks. A leader in prosecuting PAGA
18 enforcement actions, Capstone has secured millions of dollars in civil penalties for the State of
19 California.

20 19. The following is a representative sample of Capstone's settlements:

- 21 a. *Hightower et al v. Washington Mutual Bank*, No. 2:11-cv-01802-PSG-
22 PLA (N.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$12 million on behalf of
23 approximately 150,000 personal bankers, tellers, sales associates, and
24 assistant branch manager trainees for wage and hour violations;
- 25 b. *Vargas v. Ford Motor Co.*, 12-08388-AB (C.D. Cal.): providing cash
26 payments and unique buyback program for nearly 2 million consumers;
- 27 c. *Moore v. Petsmart, Inc.*, No. 5:12-cv-03577-EJD (N.D. Cal.): gross
28 settlement of \$10 million on behalf of over 19,000 non-exempt

PetSmart employees for wage and hour violations;

- d. *Dittmar v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, No. 14-1156 (S.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$9 million on behalf of approximately 1,200 pharmacists for wage and hour violations;
- e. *Perrin v. Nabors Well Services Co.*, No. 56-2007-00288718 (Ventura Super. Ct.): gross settlement of over \$6.5 million on behalf of oil rig workers for sleep time and other wage violations;
- f. *Cook v. United Insurance Co.*, No. C 10-00425 (Contra Costa Super. Ct.): gross settlement of \$5.7 million on behalf of approximately 650 sales representatives;
- g. *Alvarez v. MAC Cosmetics, Inc.*, No. CIVDS1513177 (San Bernardino Super. Ct.): gross settlement of \$5.5 million for approximately 5,500 non-exempt employees.
- h. *Aceves v. AutoZone, Inc.*, No. 14-2032 (C.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$5.4 million in a case alleging FCRA violations;
- i. *Berry v. Urban Outfitters Wholesale, Inc.*, No. 13-02628 (N.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$5 million on behalf of over 12,000 nonexempt employees;
- j. *The Children's Place Retail Stores Wage & Hour Cases*, No. JCCP 4790: gross settlement of \$5 million on behalf of 15,000 non-exempt employees;
- k. *York v. Starbucks Corp.*, Case No. 08-07919 (C.D. Cal.): gross settlement of nearly \$5 million on behalf of over 100,000 non-exempt workers for meal break and wage statement claims;
- l. *Rodriguez v. Swissport USA*, No. BC 441173 (Los Angeles Super. Ct.): gross settlement of nearly \$5 million on behalf of 2,700 non-exempt employees following contested certification;
- m. *Asghari v. Volkswagen Group of North America*, Case No. 13-02529

1 (C.D. Cal.): Settlement providing complementary repairs of oil
2 consumption defect, reimbursement for repairs, and extended warranty
3 coverage of certain Audi vehicles valued at over \$20 million;
4 n. *Klee v. Nissan of North America*, Case No. 12-08238 (C.D. Cal.):
5 Settlement providing complimentary electric vehicle charging cards and
6 extending warranty coverage for the electric battery on the Nissan Leaf
7 valued at over \$10 million.

8 20. Attached as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of Capstone's firm resume.

9
10 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
11 true and correct. Executed this 8th day of March, 2023, at Los Angeles, California.

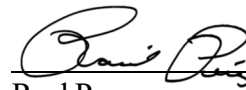
12
13 
14 Raul Perez

Exhibit 1

LAFFEY MATRIX

[History](#)
[Case Law](#)
[See the Matrix](#)
[Contact us](#)
[Home](#)

			Years Out of Law School *				
Year	Adjustmt Factor**	Paralegal/ Law Clerk	1-3	4-7	8-10	11-19	20 +
6/01/21- 5/31/22	1.006053	\$208	\$381	\$468	\$676	\$764	\$919
6/01/20- 5/31/21	1.015894	\$206	\$378	\$465	\$672	\$759	\$914
6/01/19- 5/31/20	1.0049	\$203	\$372	\$458	\$661	\$747	\$899
6/01/18- 5/31/19	1.0350	\$202	\$371	\$455	\$658	\$742	\$894
6/01/17- 5/31/18	1.0463	\$196	\$359	\$440	\$636	\$717	\$864
6/01/16- 5/31/17	1.0369	\$187	\$343	\$421	\$608	\$685	\$826
6/01/15- 5/31/16	1.0089	\$180	\$331	\$406	\$586	\$661	\$796
6/01/14- 5/31/15	1.0235	\$179	\$328	\$402	\$581	\$655	\$789
6/01/13- 5/31/14	1.0244	\$175	\$320	\$393	\$567	\$640	\$771
6/01/12- 5/31/13	1.0258	\$170	\$312	\$383	\$554	\$625	\$753
6/01/11- 5/31/12	1.0352	\$166	\$305	\$374	\$540	\$609	\$734
6/01/10- 5/31/11	1.0337	\$161	\$294	\$361	\$522	\$589	\$709
6/01/09- 5/31/10	1.0220	\$155	\$285	\$349	\$505	\$569	\$686
6/01/08- 5/31/09	1.0399	\$152	\$279	\$342	\$494	\$557	\$671
6/01/07-5/31/08	1.0516	\$146	\$268	\$329	\$475	\$536	\$645
6/01/06-5/31/07	1.0256	\$139	\$255	\$313	\$452	\$509	\$614
6/1/05-5/31/06	1.0427	\$136	\$249	\$305	\$441	\$497	\$598
6/1/04-5/31/05	1.0455	\$130	\$239	\$293	\$423	\$476	\$574
6/1/03-6/1/04	1.0507	\$124	\$228	\$280	\$405	\$456	\$549
6/1/02-5/31/03	1.0727	\$118	\$217	\$267	\$385	\$434	\$522
6/1/01-5/31/02	1.0407	\$110	\$203	\$249	\$359	\$404	\$487
6/1/00-5/31/01	1.0529	\$106	\$195	\$239	\$345	\$388	\$468
6/1/99-5/31/00	1.0491	\$101	\$185	\$227	\$328	\$369	\$444
6/1/98-5/31/99	1.0439	\$96	\$176	\$216	\$312	\$352	\$424
6/1/97-5/31/98	1.0419	\$92	\$169	\$207	\$299	\$337	\$406
6/1/96-5/31/97	1.0396	\$88	\$162	\$198	\$287	\$323	\$389
6/1/95-5/31/96	1.032	\$85	\$155	\$191	\$276	\$311	\$375
6/1/94-5/31/95	1.0237	\$82	\$151	\$185	\$267	\$301	\$363

The methodology of calculation and benchmarking for this Updated Laffey Matrix has been approved in a number of cases. See, e.g., *DL v. District of Columbia*, 267 F.Supp.3d 55, 69 (D.D.C. 2017)

* "Years Out of Law School" is calculated from June 1 of each year, when most law students graduate. "1-3" includes an attorney in his 1st, 2nd and 3rd years of practice, measured from date of graduation (June 1). "4-7" applies to attorneys in their 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th years of practice. An attorney who graduated in May 1996 would be in tier "1-3" from June 1, 1996 until May 31, 1999, would move into tier "4-7" on June 1, 1999, and tier "8-10" on June 1, 2003.

** The Adjustment Factor refers to the nation-wide Legal Services Component of the Consumer Price Index produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

Exhibit 2

FIRM PROFILE

Capstone Law APC is one of California's largest plaintiff-only labor and consumer law firms. With over twenty-five seasoned attorneys, many formerly with prominent class action or defense firms, Capstone has the experience, resources, and expertise to successfully prosecute complex employment and consumer actions.

Since its founding in 2012, Capstone has emerged as a major force in aggregate litigation, making law on cutting-edge issues and obtaining over a hundred million dollars in recovery for employees and consumers:

- In February, 2015, Capstone attorneys Raul Perez and Ryan H. Wu were honored with the *California Lawyer* Attorney of the Year (CLAY) award in labor and employment for their work in the landmark case *Iskanian v. CLS Transportation Los Angeles*, 59 Cal.4th 348 (2014), which preserved the right of California workers to bring representative actions under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") notwithstanding a representative action waiver in an arbitration agreement.
- Recognized as a leading firm in the prosecution of PAGA enforcement actions, Capstone is responsible for some of the most important decisions in this area. In *Williams v. Superior Court (Marshall's of Calif.)*, 3 Cal.5th 531 (2017), Capstone attorneys achieved a watershed decision before the California Supreme Court as to the broad scope of discovery in PAGA actions. In *Baumann v. Chase Inv. Servs. Corp.*, 747 F.3d 1117 (9th Cir. 2014), a case of first impression, Capstone successfully argued that PAGA actions are state enforcement actions not covered by the Class Action Fairness Act.
- Capstone has made important contributions to consumer protection law. In *McGill v. Citibank N.A.*, 2 Cal. 5th 945 (2017), Capstone represented plaintiffs in a major decision holding that the right to seek public injunctive relief under the state's consumer protection laws cannot be waived and that consumers need not satisfy class certification requirements to enjoin unfair business practices on behalf of the public. In *Nguyen v. Nissan N.A.*, 726 F.3d 811 (9th Cir. 2019), Capstone attorneys reversed a denial of class certification, making law that clarified the use of "benefit of the bargain" damages models in consumer class actions.
- Capstone served as class counsel in a number of significant wage and hour settlements, including \$12 million on behalf of a nationwide class of in *Hightower v. JPMorgan Chase Bank*, Case No. 11-01802 (C.D. Cal.), over \$10 million on behalf of non-exempt hourly workers in *Zamora v. Balboa Life & Casualty LLC*, Case No. BC360026 (L.A. Super. Ct.); and \$9 million on behalf of pharmacists in *Dittmar v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, No. 14-1156 (S.D. Cal.). In *Vorise v. 24 Hour Fitness USA, Inc.*, No. C 15-02051 (Contra Costa Super. Ct.), Capstone and co-counsel negotiated an \$11 million PAGA settlement on behalf of over 36,000 employees for Labor Code violations.
- Capstone has an established practice in automotive defect class actions and is currently appointed sole class counsel, following contested class certification, in *Victorino v. FCA US, LLC*, No. 16-1617-GPC, 2019 WL 5268670 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 17, 2019) and *Salas v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.*, No. 15-8629-FMO, 2019 WL 1940619 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 27, 2019).

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT SETTLEMENTS

Since its founding, Capstone has settled over 100 high-stakes class and representative actions totaling well over \$200 million dollars. Capstone's settlements have directly compensated hundreds of thousands of California workers and consumers. Capstone's actions have also forced employers to modify their policies for the benefit of employees, including changing the compensation structure for commissioned employees and changing practices to ensure that workers will be able to take timely rest and meal breaks. A leader in prosecuting PAGA enforcement actions, Capstone has secured millions of dollars in civil penalties for the State of California.

The following is a representative sample of Capstone's settlements:

- *Hightower et al v. Washington Mutual Bank*, No. 2:11-cv-01802-PSG-PLA (N.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$12 million on behalf of approximately 150,000 personal bankers, tellers, sales associates, and assistant branch manager trainees for wage and hour violations;
- *Vargas v. Ford Motor Co.*, 12-08388-AB (C.D. Cal.): providing cash payments and unique buyback program for nearly 2 million consumers;
- *Moore v. PetSmart, Inc.*, No. 5:12-cv-03577-EJD (N.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$10 million on behalf of over 19,000 non-exempt PetSmart employees for wage and hour violations;
- *Dittmar v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, No. 14-1156 (S.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$9 million on behalf of approximately 1,200 pharmacists for wage and hour violations;
- *Perrin v. Nabors Well Services Co.*, No. 56-2007-00288718 (Ventura Super. Ct.): gross settlement of over \$6.5 million on behalf of oil rig workers for sleep time and other wage violations;
- *Cook v. United Insurance Co.*, No. C 10-00425 (Contra Costa Super. Ct.): gross settlement of \$5.7 million on behalf of approximately 650 sales representatives;
- *Alvarez v. MAC Cosmetics, Inc.*, No. CIVDS1513177 (San Bernardino Super. Ct.): gross settlement of \$5.5 million for approximately 5,500 non-exempt employees.
- *Aceves v. AutoZone, Inc.*, No. 14-2032 (C.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$5.4 million in a case alleging FCRA violations;
- *Berry v. Urban Outfitters Wholesale, Inc.*, No. 13-02628 (N.D. Cal.): gross settlement of \$5 million on behalf of over 12,000 nonexempt employees;
- *The Children's Place Retail Stores Wage & Hour Cases*, No. JCCP 4790: gross settlement of \$5 million on behalf of 15,000 nonexempt employees;
- *York v. Starbucks Corp.*, Case No. 08-07919 (C.D. Cal.): gross settlement of nearly \$5 million on behalf of over 100,000 non-exempt workers for meal break and wage statement claims;
- *Rodriguez v. Swissport USA*, No. BC 441173 (Los Angeles Super. Ct.): gross settlement of nearly \$5 million on behalf of 2,700 non-exempt employees following contested certification;
- *Asghari v. Volkswagen Group of North America*, Case No. 13-02529 (C.D. Cal.): Settlement providing complementary repairs of oil consumption defect, reimbursement for repairs, and extended warranty coverage of certain Audi vehicles valued at over \$20 million;
- *Klee v. Nissan of North America*, Case No. 12-08238 (C.D. Cal.): Settlement providing complimentary electric vehicle charging cards and extending warranty coverage for the electric battery on the Nissan Leaf valued at over \$10 million.

PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHIES

Partners

Rebecca Labat. Rebecca Labat is co-managing partner of Capstone Law APC, supervising the litigation for all of the firm's cases. She also manages the firm's co-counsel relationships and assists the firm's other partners and senior counsel with case management and litigation strategy. Under Ms. Labat's leadership, Capstone has successfully settled over 100 cases, delivering hundreds millions of dollars to California employees and consumers while earning statewide recognition for its cutting-edge work in developing new law.

Ms. Labat's career accomplishments representing consumers and employees in class actions include the certification of a class of approximately 3,200 current and former automobile technicians and shop employees for the miscalculation of the regular rate for purposes of paying premiums for missed meal and rest breaks.

Before her work representing plaintiffs in class and representative actions, Ms. Labat was an attorney with Wilson Elser and represented life, health, and disability insurers in litigation throughout California in both state and federal courts. She graduated from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 2002, where she was a member of the Hastings Civil Justice Clinic, served as a mediator in Small Claims Court for the City and County of San Francisco, and received the CALI Award for Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. Ms. Labat is a member of the National Employment Lawyers Association (NELA), the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles (CAALA), and the Beverly Hills Bar Association.

Raul Perez. Raul Perez is co-managing partner at Capstone, and has focused exclusively on wage and hour and consumer class litigation since 2011. Mr. Perez is the lead negotiator on numerous large settlements that have resulted in hundreds of millions to low-wage workers across California, including many of the most valuable settlements reached by Capstone.

During his career, Mr. Perez has successfully certified by way of contested motion and/or been appointed Lead Counsel or Interim Lead Counsel in several cases, including: *Lopes v. Kohl's Department Stores, Inc.*, Case No. RG08380189 (Alameda Super. Ct.); *Hightower v. JPMorgan Chase Bank*, Case No. 11-01802 (C.D. Cal.); *Tameifuna v. Sunrise Senior Living Managements, Inc.*, Case No. 13-02171 (C.D. Cal.) (certified class of over 10,000 hourly-paid employees); and *Berry v. Urban Outfitters Wholesale, Inc.*, Case No. 13-02628 (N.D. Cal.) (appointed lead counsel in a class action involving over 10,000 non-exempt employees). As the lead trial attorney in *Iskanian v. CLS Transportation Los Angeles*, 59 Cal. 4th 348 (2014), Mr. Perez, along with Mr. Wu, received the 2015 CLAY Award in labor and employment.

Mr. Perez received both his undergraduate degree and his law degree from Harvard University and was admitted to the California Bar in December 1994. Earlier in his career, Mr. Perez handled a variety of complex litigation matters, including wrongful termination and other employment related actions, for corporate clients while employed by some of the more established law firms in the State of California, including Morgan, Lewis & Bockius; Manatt Phelps & Phillips; and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. Before Capstone, Mr. Perez was a partner at another large plaintiff's firm, helping to deliver millions of dollars in relief to California workers.

Melissa Grant. Melissa Grant is a partner at Capstone. Ms. Grant is responsible for litigating many of the firm's most contentious and high-stakes class actions. The author of numerous successful motions for class certification, Ms. Grant is the lead or co-lead attorney on multiplied certified class actions currently on track for trial, representing over 140,000 California employees in pursuing their wage and hour claims. She is also at the forefront in developing the law on PAGA, including administrative exhaustion, standing, the nature of PAGA violations, the scope of discovery, and trials.

Prior to joining Capstone, Ms. Grant worked at the Securities and Exchange Commission as a staff attorney in the Enforcement Division, investigating ongoing violations of federal securities regulations and statutes and for Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP, where she was an associate on the trial team that prosecuted the *Mattel v. Bratz* case. Ms. Grant began her legal career as a law clerk to the Honorable Harry Pregerson, Justice of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals before joining Sidley & Austin as an associate. She graduated from Southwestern Law School in 1999, where she served as editor-in-chief of the Law Review, and graduated *summa cum laude* and first in her class. Ms. Grant earned her undergraduate degree from Cornell University, where she received the JFK Public Service Award and the Outstanding Senior Award. Her published articles include: *Battling for ERISA Benefits in the Ninth Circuit: Overcoming Abuse of Discretion Review*, 28 Sw. U. L. Rev. 93 (1998), and CLE Class Actions Conference (SF) CAFA: *Early Decisions on Commencement and Removal of Actions* (2006).

Ryan H. Wu. Ryan H. Wu is a partner at Capstone and is primarily responsible for complex motion work and supervising court approval of class action settlements. Mr. Wu handles many of the most challenging legal issues facing Capstone's clients, including the scope and operation of PAGA, contested attorneys' fees motions, responding to objectors, and high-impact appeals. Mr. Wu is responsible for the merits briefing in *McGill v. Citibank, N.A.*, 2 Cal. 5th 945 (2017), where the California Supreme Court unanimously held that consumers' right to pursue public injunctive relief cannot be impeded by a contractual waiver or class certification requirements. He briefed the closely-watched *Williams v. Superior Court (Marshall's of CA LLC)*, 3 Cal.5th 531 (2017), an important pro-employee ruling that broadened the scope of discovery in PAGA actions and resolved a longstanding conflict regarding third-party constitutional privacy rights. He also authored the briefs in *Baumann v. Chase Inv. Servs. Corp.*, 747 F.3d 1117 (9th Cir. 2014), where, on an issue of first impression, the Ninth Circuit sided with Plaintiffs in holding that PAGA actions are state enforcement actions not covered by the CAFA. In February 2015, Mr. Wu, along with Mr. Perez, received the prestigious CLAY award for his successful appellate work, including briefing to the California Supreme Court, in *Iskanian*. Mr. Wu recently achieved an important consumer victory in *Nguyen v. Nissan N.A.*, 932 F.3d 811 (9th Cir. 2019), which clarified the use of "benefit of the bargain" damages models in consumer class actions.

Mr. Wu graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 2001, where he was an associate editor of the *Michigan Journal of Law Reform* and contributor to the law school newspaper. He received his undergraduate degree in political science with honors from the University of California, Berkeley. He began his career litigating international commercial disputes and commercial actions governed by the Uniform Commercial Code. Mr. Wu is co-author of "*Williams v. Superior Court: Employees' Perspective*" and "*Iskanian v. CLS Transportation: Employees' Perspective*," both published in the *California Labor & Employment Law Review*.

Robert Drexler. Robert Drexler is a partner with Capstone Law where he leads one of the firm's litigation teams prosecuting wage-and-hour class actions. He has more than 25 years of experience representing clients in wage-and-hour and consumer rights class actions and other complex litigation in state and federal courts. Over the course of his career, Mr. Drexler has successfully certified dozens of employee classes for claims

such as misclassification, meal and rest breaks, and off-the-clock work, ultimately resulting in multi-million dollar settlements. He has also arbitrated and tried wage-and-hour and complex insurance cases. Mr. Drexler has been selected as one of Southern California's "Super Lawyers" every year from 2009 through 2020.

Before joining Capstone, Mr. Drexler was head of the Class Action Work Group at Khorrami Boucher, LLP and led the class action team at The Quisenberry Law Firm. Mr. Drexler graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where he served as Managing Editor of the Case Western Reserve Law Review and authored Defective Prosthetic Devices: Strict Tort Liability for the Hospital? 32 CASE W. RES. L. REV. 929 (1982). He received his undergraduate degree in Finance at Ohio State University where he graduated *cum laude*. Mr. Drexler is a member of Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) and Consumer Attorneys of Los Angeles (CAALA). He has been a featured speaker at class action and employment litigation seminars, and has published articles in CAOC's Forum Magazine and The Daily Journal.

Jamie Greene. Jamie Greene is a partner with Capstone Law, where she leads the firm's business development and case generation team. Ms. Greene is responsible for evaluating all potential new cases and referrals, developing new claims, and managing the firm's client and cocounseling relationships. She also supervises the pre-litigation phase for all cases, including investigation, analysis, and client consultation.

Before joining Capstone, Ms. Greene began her legal career at Makarem & Associates representing clients in a wide array of cases ranging from wrongful death, insurance bad faith, employment, personal injury, construction defect, consumer protection, and privacy law. Ms. Greene is a graduate of the University of Southern California Gould School of Law and earned her bachelor's degree from Scripps College in Claremont, California.

Bevin Allen Pike. Bevin Allen Pike is a partner with Capstone Law, where she focuses primarily on wage-and-hour class actions. Ms. Pike has spent her entire legal career representing employees and consumers in wage-and-hour and consumer rights class actions. Over the course of her career, Ms. Pike has successfully certified dozens of employee and consumer classes for claims such as meal and rest breaks, unpaid overtime, off-the-clock work, and false advertising.

Before joining Capstone, Ms. Pike's experience included class and representative action work on behalf of employees and consumers at some of the leading plaintiffs' firms in California. Ms. Pike graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, where she was an Editor for the International and Comparative Law Review. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California. Ms. Pike has been selected as one of Southern California's "Super Lawyers – Rising Stars" every year from 2012 through 2015.

Senior Counsel

Theresa Carroll. Theresa Carroll is a senior counsel at Capstone Law. Her practice is devoted to the Appeals & Complex Motions team, working on various settlement and approval projects.

Prior to joining Capstone, Ms. Carroll was an associate with Parker Stanbury, LLP, advising small business owners on various employment matters and worked as an associate attorney for O'Donnell & Mandell litigating employment discrimination and sexual harassment cases. In 1995, she graduated from Southwestern University School of Law where she was on the trial advocacy team and was awarded the prestigious Trial Advocate of the Year award sponsored by the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) for Southwestern University School of Law. Ms. Carroll received her Bachelor of Science degree in speech with an emphasis in theatre from Iowa State University.

Liana Carter. Liana Carter is a senior counsel with Capstone Law APC, specializing in complex motions, writs, and appeals. Her work on recent appeals has included reversing a denial of class certification decision in *Brown v. Cinemark USA, Inc.*, No. 16-15377, 2017 WL 6047613 (9th Cir. Dec. 7, 2017), affirming a denial of a motion to compel arbitration in *Jacoby v. Islands Rests., L.P.*, 2014 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 4366 (2014) and reversal of a dismissal of class claims in *Rivers v. Cedars-Sinai Med. Care Found.*, 2015 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 287 (Jan. 13, 2015). Ms. Carter was responsible for drafting the successful petition for review in *McGill v. Citibank N.A.*, as well as the petition for review and briefing on the merits in *Williams v. Superior Court*, 2017 WL 2980258. Ms. Carter also has extensive prior experience in overseeing settlement negotiations and obtaining court approval of class action settlements.

Ms. Carter was admitted to the California bar in 1999 after graduating from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, where she was an Articles Editor on the board of the *Southern California Law Review*. She received her undergraduate degree with honors from the University of California, Irvine.

Anthony Castillo. Anthony Castillo is a senior counsel with Capstone Law. His practice focuses on analyzing and developing pre-litigation wage-and-hour and consumer claims, including PAGA representative actions and class actions for failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, meal and rest period violations, and claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Investigative Consumer Reporting Agency Act. Prior to joining Capstone, he was an associate at a California bankruptcy practice, where he represented individual and business debtors in liquidations and re-organizations as well as various debt and foreclosure defense-related issues.

Mr. Castillo graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles in 2009, where he volunteered with the Disability Rights Legal Center. He attended Stanford University for his undergraduate degree, majoring in Political Science and minoring in History. Anthony is admitted to practice law in California and Washington and before the United States District Court for the Central and Southern Districts of California.

Molly DeSario. Molly DeSario is a senior counsel with Capstone Law, specializing in employment class action litigation. Ms. DeSario's practice focuses primarily on wage-and-hour class action and Private Attorneys General Act litigation on behalf of employees for failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide meal and rest breaks, and provide compensation for off-the-clock work. She has experience briefing and arguing a multitude of dispositive motions in state and federal court and has successfully certified and settled numerous classes for claims such as exempt misclassifications, unpaid wages, missed meal and rest breaks, and unreimbursed business expenses.

Ms. DeSario began her career as a general practice litigation associate with Sandler & Mercer in Rockville, Maryland, handling a wide range of civil and criminal matters. Since 2005, she has primarily litigated class action cases and, for the last seven years, has focused on representing employees and consumers in class and collective actions across California and the nation, helping them recover millions of dollars in unpaid wages, restitution, and penalties. Molly graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 2002. During law school, she interned for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Boston, Massachusetts, and the Honorable Paul L. Friedman at the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. She received her undergraduate degree in Marketing and International Business from the University of Cincinnati, where she graduated summa cum laude.

Helga Hakimi. Helga Hakimi is a senior counsel at Capstone Law. Her practice primarily involves employment law class action litigation, namely wage-and-hour class actions and PAGA litigation on behalf of

employees for failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide meal and rest breaks, and provide compensation for off-the-clock work, and related employer violations under the Fair Labor Standards Act and California Labor Code.

Prior to joining Capstone, Ms. Hakimi was a partner at a civil litigation firm in West Los Angeles, where she handled mainly real estate litigation, business litigation, and defense of some employment law matters; prior to that, she worked as a civil litigation attorney handling complex personal injury litigation. Ms. Hakimi's interest in advocating for employee rights began in law school, where she volunteered for the Workers' Rights Clinic and assisted low-income community members in Northern California's greater Bay Area region with employment-related legal issues. Upon graduating from law school, Ms. Hakimi worked as an associate for a municipal law firm, and thereafter at the local City Attorney's Office, where she advised municipalities and cities in civil matters involving land use, environmental law, development issues, Constitutional law, and First Amendment rights. Ms. Hakimi graduated from Berkeley Law (Boalt Hall School of Law), where she earned her Juris Doctorate and was awarded the Prosser Award in Remedies. Ms. Hakimi received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in Education Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles, and graduated summa cum laude and with Departmental Highest Honors.

Daniel Jonathan. Daniel Jonathan is a senior counsel at Capstone Law. His practice primarily involves wage-and-hour class actions and PAGA litigation on behalf of employees for the failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, failure to provide meal and rest breaks, claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act, and other California Labor Code violations.

Prior to joining Capstone, Mr. Jonathan began his career as an associate at Kirkland & Ellis representing Fortune 500 clients in high-stakes litigation in various matters, including class action defense and plaintiff's actions for accounting fraud. Following that, he was a senior counsel at a boutique litigation firm where he successfully first-chaired several trials. Mr. Jonathan graduated from the Northwestern University School of Law. He received his undergraduate degree in Accounting from the University of Southern California, where he graduated cum laude. He has passed the CPA examination and worked as an auditor at Deloitte before attending law school.

Jonathan Lee. A senior counsel with Capstone, Jonathan Lee primarily litigates employment class actions. At Capstone, Mr. Lee has worked on several major successful class certification motions, and his work has contributed to multi-million dollar class settlements against various employers, including restaurant chains, retail stores, airport staffing companies, and hospitals. Prior to joining Capstone, Mr. Lee defended employers and insurance companies in workers' compensation actions throughout California.

Mr. Lee graduated in 2009 from Pepperdine University School of Law, where he served as an editor for the Journal of Business, Entrepreneurship and the Law; he received his undergraduate degree from UCLA.

Mark A. Ozzello. Mark A. Ozzello is a senior counsel with Capstone Law. He is a nationally recognized and respected consumer and employment attorney who has litigated those issues throughout the country. He has always been at the forefront of consumer rights, sitting on the Board of Governors for the Consumer Attorneys of California and regularly appearing as a featured speaker on consumer rights issues nationwide.

Mr. Ozzello is a former partner of Arias Ozzello & Gignac and, most recently, was Of Counsel to Markun Zusman Freniere & Compton, LLP. In his capacity as a litigator, he has obtained results for his clients in excess of \$200 million dollars. Mark has also achieved consistent success in the California Courts of Appeal,

and several judicial opinions regularly cite to his matters as authority for class certification issues. He has also argued appellate issues in several Circuit Courts of Appeals with great success. Mr. Ozzello attended Pepperdine University School of Law where he was an Editor to the Law Review, publishing several articles during his tenure in that capacity. He received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.

Mr. Ozzello has always strived to be an integral part of local communities. He has established educational scholarship programs at several charitable organizations, including El Centro De Amistad in Los Angeles and St. Bonaventure Indian Mission and School in Thoreau, New Mexico, and presides over a legal clinic in Los Angeles which provides pro bono legal assistance to non-English speaking individuals.

Cody Padgett. A senior counsel at Capstone Law, Cody Padgett's practice focuses on prosecuting automotive defect and other consumer class action cases in state and federal court. He handles consumer cases at all stages of litigation, and has contributed to major settlements of automobile defect actions valued in the tens of millions. Prior to joining Capstone Law, Mr. Padgett was a certified legal intern with the San Diego County Public Defender's Office. During law school, Mr. Padgett served as a judicial extern to the Honorable C. Leroy Hansen, United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. He graduated from California Western School of Law in the top 10% of his class and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California, where he graduated *cum laude*.

Eduardo Santos. Eduardo Santos is a senior counsel at Capstone Law, and concentrates his practice on managing and obtaining court approval of many of Capstone's wage-and-hour, consumer, and PAGA settlements, from the initial contract drafting phase to motion practice, including contested motion practice on attorneys' fees. Over the course of his career, Mr. Santos has helped to secure court approval of over one hundred high-stakes class and representative action settlements totaling over \$100 million.

Before joining Capstone, Mr. Santos began his career at a prominent plaintiff's firm in Los Angeles specializing in mass torts litigation, with a focus on complex pharmaceutical cases. Most notably, he was involved in the national Vioxx settlement, which secured a total of \$4.85 billion for thousands of individuals with claims of injuries caused by taking Vioxx. Mr. Santos graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, where he was a recipient of a full-tuition scholarship awarded in recognition of academic excellence. While in law school, Mr. Santos served as an extern for the Honorable Thomas L. Willhite, Jr. of the California Court of Appeal. He graduated magna cum laude from UCLA and was a recipient of the Ralph J. Bunche Scholarship for academic achievement.

Mao Shiokura. Mao Shiokura is a senior counsel with Capstone. Her practice focuses on identifying, evaluating, and developing new claims, including PAGA representative actions and class actions for wage-and-hour violations and consumer actions under the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, False Advertising Law, Unfair Competition Law, and other consumer protection statutes. Prior to joining Capstone, Ms. Shiokura was an associate at a California lemon law firm, where she represented consumers in Song-Beverly, Magnuson-Moss, and fraud actions against automobile manufacturers and dealerships.

Ms. Shiokura graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles in 2009, where she served as a staff member of Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California, where she was a Presidential Scholar and majored in Business Administration, with an emphasis in Cinema-Television and Finance.

John Stobart. John Stobart is a senior counsel with Capstone Law. He focuses on appellate issues in state and federal courts and contributes to the firm's amicus curiae efforts to protect and expand the legal rights of California employees and consumers. Mr. Stobart has significant appellate experience having drafted over two dozen writs, appeals and petitions, and having argued before the Second, Fourth, and Fifth Districts of the California Court of Appeal.

Prior to joining Capstone, Mr. Stobart was a law and motion attorney who defended against civil liability in catastrophic injury and wrongful death cases brought against his clients, which included the railroad, public schools, small businesses, and commercial and residential landowners. He has drafted and argued scores of dispositive motions at the trial court level and had success in upholding judgments and verdicts on appeal. He graduated cum laude from Thomas Jefferson School of Law where he was on the mock trial competition team and earned his undergraduate degree from the Ohio State University.

Roxanna Tabatabaepour. Roxanna Tabatabaepour is a senior counsel with Capstone Law. Her practice primarily involves representing employees in class actions and representative actions for various violations of the California Labor Code.

Before joining Capstone, Ms. Tabatabaepour's experience included representing workers in single-plaintiff and class/representative action lawsuits regarding wage-and-hour violations, as well as individual claims for discrimination, retaliation, failure to accommodate, harassment, and wrongful termination, under both California and federal laws. Ms. Tabatabaepour received her undergraduate degrees from the University of California San Diego. She subsequently graduated from the American University, Washington College of Law, where she was a Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Fellow and taught Constitutional Literacy to teens in marginalized communities.

Orlando Villalba. Orlando Villalba is a senior counsel at Capstone Law. His practice primarily involves wage-and-hour class actions and PAGA litigation on behalf of employees for the failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, failure to provide meal and rest breaks, claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act, and other California Labor Code violations.

Mr. Villalba began his career at Kirkland & Ellis where he handled a wide range of business litigation matters, including transnational contract disputes, insurance-related tort claims, developer litigation, and civil rights actions. He also has extensive plaintiff-side experience representing government agencies and note-holders in the pursuit of mortgage and other fraud losses. Mr. Villalba graduated from Stanford Law School, where he served as an articles editor on the Stanford Journal of Law, Business & Finance. After law school, he clerked for the Honorable Warren Matthews of the Alaska Supreme Court. Orlando received his bachelor's degree in International Business from the University of Southern California.

Tarek Zohdy. A senior counsel with Capstone Law, Tarek Zohdy develops, investigates and litigates automotive defect class actions, along with other consumer class actions for breach of warranty and consumer fraud. At Capstone, he has worked on several large-scale automotive class actions from investigation through settlements that have provided significant relief to millions of defrauded car owners. Before joining Capstone, Mr. Zohdy spent several years representing individual consumers in their actions against automobile manufacturers and dealerships for breaches of express and implied warranties pursuant to the Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act and the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, commonly referred to together as "Lemon Law." He also handled fraudulent misrepresentation and omission cases pursuant to the Consumers Legal Remedies Act. Mr. Zohdy graduated from Louisiana State University *magna cum laude* in

2003, and Boston University School of Law in 2006, where he was a member of the criminal clinic representing underprivileged criminal defendants.

Associates

Tyler Anderson. Tyler Anderson is an associate with Capstone Law. His practice focuses on complex motions, writs, and appeals. Before joining Capstone, Mr. Anderson was Co-Director of the Los Angeles Center for Community Law and Action (“LACCLA”), a nonprofit law firm that represents tenant unions and union organizers. While there, Mr. Anderson tried a disparate impact federal Fair Housing Act case that resulted in a jury verdict of over \$1,000,000. He also frequently used California Anti-SLAPP laws to block attempts to silence tenant union organizers. Prior to working at LACCLA, Mr. Anderson clerked for the Honorable Martha Vazquez, a federal district court judge for the District of New Mexico who, at the time, sat on the Executive Committee of the Federal Judiciary. Before that, Mr. Anderson was a litigation associate at the international law firm Jenner & Block LLP. Mr. Anderson graduated from Harvard Law School, where he was the Executive Articles Editor of the Harvard Journal on Legislation as well as President of one of the largest student-run pro bono organizations at Harvard University, Project No One Leaves. He graduated with several “Dean’s Scholar” prizes for receiving top grades in his constitutional law courses.

Sairah Budhwani. Sairah Budhwani is an associate with Capstone Law. Her practice focuses on evaluating and analyzing pre-litigation wage-and-hour claims, including claims for violations of overtime and minimum wage law, meal and rest period requirements, and off-the-clock work violations. Previously, Ms. Budhwani litigated employment discrimination, harassment, and retaliation claims, and also represented incarcerated individuals contesting the conditions of their confinement. Ms. Budhwani graduated from UCLA School of Law in 2019 and received an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from University of California, Irvine in 2012. Ms. Budhwani is admitted to practice law in California. She is fluent in Urdu.

Laura Goolsby. Laura Goolsby is an associate with Capstone Law. Her practice focuses on prosecuting automotive defect and other consumer class action cases in state and federal court. Prior to joining Capstone Law, Ms. Goolsby was an associate at a California civil litigation practice representing individuals in toxic tort disputes. Previous to that, Ms. Goolsby was a trial attorney in a California lemon law firm, trying cases against automobile manufacturers in state and federal court. Ms. Goolsby is published in the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Law and Change law review and served as a judicial intern to the U.S. Department of Justice Immigration Court while in law school. Ms. Goolsby graduated from California Western School of Law, where she was a member of the award-winning Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court team and spent multiple trimesters on the Dean’s List. She graduated with several Academic Excellence Awards for receiving top grades in various international law, civil rights law, and legal skills courses.

Joseph Hakakian. Joseph Hakakian is an associate with Capstone Law. His practice focuses on prosecuting wage-and-hour class and representative actions in state and federal court. Prior to joining Capstone Law, Mr. Hakakian served as a summer clerk for Mark Ozzello at Markun Zusman Freniere & Compton, LLP, working on various actions including wage-and-hour claims, unpaid overtime, false advertising, and unfair competition. He graduated from UCLA School of Law, with a business law specialization, where he served as a staff editor for the Journal of Environmental Law and Policy and worked as a law clerk with the Consumer Protection Division of the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office. Prior to attending law school, Mr. Hakakian received his undergraduate degree from University of California, Los Angeles, in 2013, where he graduated summa cum laude, Dean’s Honor List, and College Honors, and received scholastic achievement awards from Golden Key Honor Society and Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society. Joseph is an active member of

the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles (CAALA), Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC), and Beverly Hills, Los Angeles County, and Santa Monica Bar Associations.

Ninel Kocharyan. Ninel Kocharyan is an associate with Capstone Law. Her practice focuses on evaluating and analyzing pre-litigation wage-and-hour claims, including claims for violation of overtime and minimum wage law, meal and rest period requirements, and off-the-clock work violations. Ms. Kocharyan began her career in entertainment law reviewing, drafting, and negotiating contracts for talent and ensuring FTC compliance. She immigrated to the United States from Russia at the age of 15 with a passion to pursue a career in law. Ms. Kocharyan graduated from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 2014 and received her undergraduate degree from University of California, Los Angeles where she majored in Political Science. Ms. Kocharyan is admitted to practice law in California.

Alexander Lima. Alexander Lima is an associate with Capstone Law. His practice focuses on evaluating pre-litigation wage-and-hour claims, including potential violations of overtime and minimum wage law, meal and rest period requirements, and off-the-clock work issues, as well as consumer protection claims. Previously, Mr. Lima was an associate at a California civil litigation practice representing individuals and entities in real estate disputes. Mr. Lima graduated from Santa Clara University, School of Law in 2018, where he served as an Executive Board Member of the Honors Moot Court and was selected as a regional finalist for the American Bar Association Negotiation Competition. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Riverside in 2014.

Trisha Monesi. Trisha Monesi is an associate with Capstone. Her practice focuses on prosecuting consumer class actions in state and federal court. Ms. Monesi graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles in 2014, where she served as an editor of the Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review and was a certified law clerk at the Center for Juvenile Law and Policy. She earned her undergraduate degree from Boston University in 2011, where she majored in Political Science and International Relations. She is an active member of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles County and Beverly Hills Bar Associations.

Jezzette Ron. Jezzette Ron is an associate with Capstone Law. Her practice focuses on analyzing pre-litigation wage-and-hour and consumer claims, including claims for overtime wages, meal and rest periods, and off-the-clock work violations. She began her career as in-house counsel for a private entity reviewing and drafting company policies. During this time, she actively supported the company with human resource and workers compensation matters. Additionally, she ensured company compliance with California Labor Codes and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations. She also implemented an Illness Injury Prevention Program, which included a COVID-19 Exposure Control and Response procedure in compliance with OSHA. Ms. Ron graduated from Whittier Law in 2017, where she served as a board member of the Student Bar Association. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Riverside in 2012 where she majored in Business Management and Public Policy. Ms. Ron is admitted to practice law in California and takes pride in being an advocate for creating a work friendly environment for all employees.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

To increase public awareness about the issues affecting class action and other representative litigation in the consumer and employment areas, Capstone publishes the Impact Litigation Journal



(www.impactlitigation.com). Readers have access to news bulletins, op-ed pieces, and legal resources. By taking advantage of social media, Capstone hopes to spread the word about consumer protection and employee rights to a larger audience than has typically been reached by traditional print sources, and to thereby contribute to the enforcement of California's consumer and workplace protection laws.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, JOEY GONZALEZ, am employed in the County of San Francisco, State of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within action. My business address is 1965 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94103. On **March 17, 2023**, in the case of *Milar, et al. v. Socal Food Group, L.P. d/b/a Del Taco*, San Diego Superior Court Case Number 37-2021-00018665-CU-OE-CTL, I served the foregoing document(s):

DECLARATION OF RAUL PEREZ IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF PAGA SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS, PLAINTIFFS' SERVICE AWARDS, AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION COSTS

on the interested party(ies) below, using the following means:

Beth A. Kahn, Esq.
Ryan C. McKim, Esq.

Attorneys for Defendant
SOCAL FOOD GROUP, L.P. D/B/A DEL TACO

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☒	(BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE) by electronically mailing a true and correct copy in PDF format through our electronic mail system to the email address(es) set forth above, or as stated on the attached service list per agreement between the parties.
☒	(STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.


JOEY GONZALEZ