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

BRIAN L. WILLIAMS, individually, and on
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HODO, INC., a California corporation dba
HODO FOODS; and DOES 1 through 10,
inclusive,

Defendants

Case No.: 21CV000132

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

1. Failure to Pay Minimum Wages [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197];
2. Failure to Pay Overtime Compensation [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 Breaks [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7];
5. Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses [Cal. Lab. Code § 2802];
6. Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201-203];
7. Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements [Cal. Lab. Code § 226]; and
8. Unfair Business Practices [Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.].
9. Civil Penalties Under PAGA [Cal. Lab. Code § 2699, et seq.]

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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1 Plaintiff Brian L. Williams (“Plaintiff”), based upon facts that either have evidentiary
2 support or are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further
3 investigation and discovery, alleges as follows:

4 **INTRODUCTION & PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

5 1. Plaintiff brings this action against Defendants Hodo, Inc. dba Hodo Foods, and
6 Does 1 through 10 (Hodo, Inc. dba Hodo Foods, and Does 1 through 10 are collectively
7 referred to as “Defendants”) for California Labor Code violations and unfair business
8 practices stemming from Defendants’ failure to pay minimum wages, failure to pay overtime
9 wages, failure to provide meal periods, failure to authorize and permit rest periods, failure to
10 maintain accurate records of hours worked and meal periods, failure to timely pay all wages to
11 terminated employees, failure to indemnify necessary business expenses, and failure to furnish
12 accurate wage statements.

13 2. Plaintiff brings the First through Eighth Causes of Action individually and as a
14 class action on behalf of himself and certain current and former employees of Defendants
15 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Class” or “Class Members” and defined more fully
16 below). The Class consists of Plaintiff and all other persons who have been employed by any
17 Defendants in California as an hourly-paid, non-exempt employee during the statute of
18 limitations period applicable to the claims pleaded here.

19 3. Plaintiff brings the Ninth Cause of Action as a representative action under the
20 California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) to recover civil penalties that are owed to
21 Plaintiff, the State of California, and past and present non-exempt, hourly-paid employees of
22 Defendants who worked in California during the applicable statute of limitations period
23 (hereinafter referred to as the “Aggrieved Employees”).

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

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

- 3 (a) Failing to pay employees for all hours worked, including all minimum
4 wages, and overtime wages in compliance with the California Labor Code
5 and IWC Wage Orders;
- 6 (b) Failing to provide employees with timely and duty-free meal periods in
7 compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, failing
8 to maintain accurate records of all meal periods taken or missed, and
9 failing to pay an additional hour's pay for each workday a meal period
10 violation occurred;
- 11 (c) Failing to authorize and permit employees to take timely and duty-free rest
12 periods in compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage
13 Orders, and failing to pay an additional hour's pay for each workday a rest
14 period violation occurred;
- 15 (d) Failing to indemnify employees for necessary business expenses incurred;
- 16 (e) Willfully failing to pay employees all minimum wages, overtime wages,
17 meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages due within
18 the time period specified by California law when employment terminates;
19 and
- 20 (f) Failing to maintain accurate records of the hours that employees worked.
- 21 (g) Failing to provide employees with accurate, itemized wage statements
22 containing all the information required by the California Labor Code and
23 IWC Wage Orders.

24 6. On information and belief, Defendants, and each of them were on actual and
25 constructive notice of the improprieties alleged herein and intentionally refused to rectify their
26 unlawful policies. Defendants' violations, as alleged above, during all relevant times herein
27 were willful and deliberate.
28

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 is a California resident that worked for Defendants in the County of Alameda, State of California, as a sanitation worker, from approximately August 2020 to December 2020.

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 believes, and based upon that information and belief alleges, that Defendant Hodo, Inc. is:

- (a) A California corporation with its principal place of business in Alameda, California.
- (b) A business entity conducting business in numerous counties throughout the State of California, including in Alameda County;
- (c) The former employer of Plaintiff, and the current and/or former employer of the putative Class. Hodo, Inc. suffered and permitted Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to work, and/or controlled their wages, hours, or working conditions; and
- (d) At all times mentioned herein, was and is doing business as Hodo Foods.

11. Plaintiff does not currently know the true names or capacities of the persons or entities sued herein as Does 1-10, inclusive, and therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Each of the Doe Defendants was in some manner legally responsible for the

1 damages suffered by Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees as alleged herein.
2 Plaintiff will amend this complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of these
3 Defendants when they have been ascertained, together with appropriate charging allegations,
4 as may be necessary.

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

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

22 **ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

23 14. Plaintiff is a California resident who worked for Defendants in the County of
24 Alameda, State of California, as a sanitation worker, from approximately August 2020 to
25 December 2020. During the statutory period, Defendants classified Plaintiff as non-exempt
26 from California's overtime requirements, and paid Plaintiff an hourly wage.

27 15. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff for all hours
28 worked (including minimum wages and overtime wages), failed to provide Plaintiff with

1 uninterrupted meal periods, failed to authorize and permit Plaintiff to take uninterrupted rest
2 periods, failed to indemnify Plaintiff for necessary business expenses, failed to timely pay all
3 final wages to Plaintiff when Defendants terminated Plaintiff's employment, and failed to
4 furnish accurate wage statements to Plaintiff. As discussed below, Plaintiff's experience
5 working for Defendants was typical and illustrative.

6 16. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of
7 not paying Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees for all hours worked, including
8 all overtime wages. In maintaining a practice of not paying all wages owed, Defendants failed
9 to maintain accurate records of the hours Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees
10 worked.

11 17. Throughout the statutory period, Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees
12 were required to work in extreme working conditions in the warehouse, particularly
13 temperatures inside the facility were high, and without proper air conditioning or proper
14 ventilation (typically the air conditioning unit was not working), and Defendants failed to
15 provide training and air conditioned facilities as well as sufficient water for Plaintiff, the
16 Class, and the Aggrieved Employees.

17 18. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to provide
18 Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees with legally compliant meal periods.
19 Defendants sometimes, but not always, required Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
20 Employees to work in excess of five consecutive hours a day without providing 30-minute,
21 continuous and uninterrupted, duty-free meal period for every five hours of work, or without
22 compensating Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees for meal periods that were
23 not provided by the end of the fifth hour of work or tenth hour of work. Defendants also did
24 not adequately inform Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees of their right to take
25 a meal period by the end of the fifth hour of work, or, for shifts greater than 10 hours, by the
26 end of the tenth hour of work. Accordingly, Defendants' policy and practice was to not
27 provide meal periods to Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees in compliance with
28 California law.

1 19. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to authorize
2 and permit Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to take timely and duty-free rest
3 periods. Defendants sometimes, but not always, required Plaintiff, the Class, and the
4 Aggrieved Employees to work in excess of four consecutive hours a day without Defendants
5 authorizing and permitting them to take a 10-minute, continuous and uninterrupted, rest period
6 for every four hours of work (or major fraction of four hours), or without compensating
7 Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees for rest periods that were not authorized or
8 permitted. Defendants also did not adequately inform Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
9 Employees of their right to take a rest period. Moreover, Defendants did not have adequate
10 policies or practices permitting or authorizing rest periods for Plaintiff, the Class, and the
11 Aggrieved Employees, nor did Defendants have adequate policies or practices regarding the
12 timing of rest periods. Defendants also did not have adequate policies or practices to verify
13 whether Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were taking their required rest
14 periods. Further, Defendants did not maintain accurate records of employee work periods, and
15 therefore Defendants cannot demonstrate that Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
16 Employees took rest periods during the middle of each work period. Accordingly, Defendants'
17 policy and practice was to not authorize and permit Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved
18 Employees to take rest periods in compliance with California law.

19 20. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants wrongfully required Plaintiff, the
20 Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to pay expenses that they incurred in direct discharge of
21 their duties for Defendants without reimbursement. For example, Plaintiff, the Class, and the
22 Aggrieved Employees were required to use their own personal cellular telephones for work
23 purposes, including to communicate with the company and to clock a hotline application.
24 Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees also typically received their scheduled on
25 this application.

26 21. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants willfully failed and refused to timely
27 pay Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees at the conclusion of their employment
28

1 all wages for all minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest
2 period premium wages.

3 22. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to furnish Plaintiff, the Class,
4 and the Aggrieved Employees with accurate, itemized wage statements showing all applicable
5 hourly rates, and all gross and net wages earned (including correct hours worked, correct
6 wages earned for hours worked, correct overtime hours worked, correct wages for meal
7 periods that were not provided in accordance with California law, correct wages for rest
8 periods that were not authorized and permitted to take in accordance with California law, and
9 Defendant's address). Further, the wage statements do not show Defendant's address as
10 required by California law. As a result of these violations of California Labor Code § 226(a),
11 the Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees suffered injury because, among other
12 things:

- 13 (a) the violations led them to believe that they were not entitled to be paid
14 minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest
15 period premium wages to which they were entitled, even though they were
16 entitled;
- 17 (b) the violations led them to believe that they had been paid the minimum,
18 overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages, even
19 though they had not been;
- 20 (c) the violations led them to believe they were not entitled to be paid
21 minimum, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages
22 at the correct California rate even though they were;
- 23 (d) the violations led them to believe they had been paid minimum, overtime,
24 meal period premium, and rest period premium wages at the correct
25 California rate even though they had not been;
- 26 (e) the violations hindered them from determining the amounts of minimum,
27 overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium owed to them;
28

- 1 (f) in connection with their employment before and during this action, and in
2 connection with prosecuting this action, the violations caused them to have
3 to perform mathematical computations to determine the amounts of wages
4 owed to them, computations they would not have to make if the wage
5 statements contained the required accurate information;
- 6 (g) by understating the wages truly due them, the violations caused them to
7 lose entitlement and/or accrual of the full amount of Social Security,
8 disability, unemployment, and other governmental benefits;
- 9 (h) the wage statements inaccurately understated the wages, hours, and wages
10 rates to which Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were
11 entitled, and Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were paid
12 less than the wages and wage rates to which they were entitled.

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

15 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

16 23. Plaintiff brings certain claims individually, as well as on behalf of each and all
17 other persons similarly situated, and thus, seek class certification under California Code of
18 Civil Procedure § 382.

19 24. All claims alleged herein arise under California law for which Plaintiff seeks relief
20 authorized by California law.

21 25. The proposed Class consists of and is defined as:

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

25 26. At all material times, Plaintiff was a member of the Class.

26 27. Plaintiff undertakes this concerted activity to improve the wages and working
27 conditions of all Class Members.
28

28. There is a well-defined community of interest in the litigation and the Class is readily ascertainable:

- (a) Numerosity: The members of the Class (and each subclass, if any) are so numerous that joinder of all members would be unfeasible and impractical. The membership of the entire Class is unknown to Plaintiff at this time, however, the Class is estimated to be greater than 100 individuals and the identity of such membership is readily ascertainable by inspection of Defendants' records.
- (b) Typicality: Plaintiff is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-defined community of interest, and Plaintiff's claims (or defenses, if any) are typical of all Class Members' claims as demonstrated herein.
- (c) Adequacy: Plaintiff is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-defined community of interest and typicality of claims, as demonstrated herein. Plaintiff has no conflicts with or interests antagonistic to any Class 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

1 already commenced by or against members of the Class;

2 3) The desirability or undesirability of concentrating the litigation of
3 the claims in the particular forum; and

4 4) The difficulties likely to be encountered in the management of a
5 class action.

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

16 29. There are common questions of law and fact as to the Class (and each subclass, if
17 any) that predominate over questions affecting only individual members, including without
18 limitation, whether, as alleged herein, Defendants have:

19 (a) Failed to pay Class Members for all hours worked, including minimum
20 wages, and overtime wages;

21 (b) Failed to provide meal periods and pay meal period premium wages to
22 Class Members;

23 (c) Failed to authorize and permit rest periods and pay rest period premium
24 wages to Class Members;

25 (d) Failed to promptly pay all wages due to Class Members upon their
26 discharge or resignation;

27 (e) Failed to maintain accurate records of all hours Class Members worked,
28 and all meal periods Class Members took or missed;

- 1 (f) Failed to reimburse Class Members for all necessary business expenses;
2 and
3 (g) Violated California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et. seq.* as a
4 result of their illegal conduct as described above.

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

- 7 (a) The questions of law and fact common to the Class predominate over any
8 question affecting only individual members;
9 (b) A class action is superior to any other available method for the fair and
10 efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the Class;
11 (c) The members of the Class are so numerous that it is impractical to bring all
12 members of the class before the Court;
13 (d) Plaintiff, and the other members of the Class, will not be able to obtain
14 effective and economic legal redress unless the action is maintained as a
15 class action;
16 (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and
17 equitable relief for the statutory violations, and in obtaining adequate
18 compensation for the damages and injuries for which Defendants are
19 responsible in an amount sufficient to adequately compensate the members
20 of the Class for the injuries sustained;
21 (f) Without class certification, the prosecution of separate actions by
22 individual members of the class would create a risk of:
23 1) Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual
24 members of the Class which would establish incompatible standards
25 of conduct for Defendants; and/or
26 2) Adjudications with respect to the individual members which would,
27 as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other
28 members not parties to the adjudications, or would substantially

1 impair or impede their ability to protect their interests, including but
2 not limited to the potential for exhausting the funds available from
3 those parties who are, or may be, responsible Defendants; and,

4 (g) Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to
5 the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief appropriate with respect to
6 the class as a whole.

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

14 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

15 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Minimum Wages for All Hours Worked)**

16 32. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
17 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

18 33. “Hours worked” is the time during which an employee is subject to the control of
19 an employer, and includes all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work, whether
20 or not required to do so.

21 34. At all relevant times herein mentioned, Defendants knowingly failed to pay to
22 Plaintiff and the Class compensation for all hours they worked. By their failure to pay
23 compensation for each hour worked as alleged above, Defendants willfully violated the
24 provisions of Section 1194 of the California Labor Code, and any additional applicable Wage
25 Orders, which require such compensation to non-exempt employees.

26 35. Accordingly, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover minimum wages for all
27 non-overtime hours worked for Defendants.

1 36. By and through the conduct described above, Plaintiff and the Class have been
2 deprived of their rights to be paid wages earned by virtue of their employment with
3 Defendants.

4 37. By virtue of the Defendants' unlawful failure to pay additional compensation to
5 Plaintiff and the Class for their non-overtime hours worked without pay, Plaintiff and the
6 Class suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages in amounts which are presently unknown
7 to Plaintiff and the Class, but which exceed the jurisdictional minimum of this Court, and
8 which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

9 38. By failing to keep adequate time records required by California Labor Code §
10 1174(d), Defendants have made it difficult to calculate the full extent of minimum wage
11 compensation due Plaintiff and the Class.

12 39. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 1194.2, Plaintiff and the Class are
13 entitled to recover liquidated damages (double damages) for Defendants' failure to pay
14 minimum wages.

15 40. California Labor Code section 204 requires employers to provide employees with
16 all wages due and payable twice a month. Throughout the statute of limitations period
17 applicable to this cause of action, Plaintiff and the Class were entitled to be paid twice a
18 month at rates required by law, including minimum wages. However, during all such times,
19 Defendants systematically failed and refused to pay Plaintiff and the Class all such wages due,
20 and failed to pay those wages twice a month.

21 41. Plaintiff and the Class are also entitled to seek recovery of all unpaid minimum
22 wages, interest, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code §§
23 218.5, 218.6, and 1194(a).

24 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

25 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Overtime Wages)**

26 42. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
27 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

28 43. California Labor Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be

1 employed more than eight (8) hours in any workday or forty (40) hours in a workweek unless
2 they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 50. California Labor Code § 204 requires employers to provide employees with all
27 wages due and payable twice a month. The Wage Orders also provide that every employer
28 shall pay to each employee, on the established payday for the period involved, overtime wages

1 for all overtime hours worked in the payroll period. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff and
2 the Class with all compensation due, in violation of California Labor Code § 204.

3 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

4 **(Against All Defendants for Failure to Provide Meal Periods)**

5 51. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
6 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

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

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

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

24 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

26 55. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
27 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.
28

56. 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). Section 512 of the California Labor Code, 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 Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code for an employer to require any employee to work during any rest period mandated under any Wage Order.

57. 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 Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders.

58. 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 Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses)

59. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

60. Defendants violated Labor Code section 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders, by failing to pay and indemnify the Plaintiff and the Class for their necessary expenditures and losses incurred in direct consequence of the discharge of their duties or of their obedience to directions of Defendants.

61. As a result, Plaintiff and the Class were damaged at least in the amounts of the expenses they paid, or which were deducted by Defendants from their wages.

62. Plaintiff and the class they represent are entitled to attorney's fees, expenses, and costs of suit pursuant to Labor Code section 2802(c) and interest pursuant to Labor Code section 2802(b).

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

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

63. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

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

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

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

67. California Labor Code § 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to pay wages owed, in accordance with sections 201 and 202, then the wages of the employee shall

1 continue as a penalty wage from the due date, and at the same rate until paid or until an action
2 is commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than thirty (30) days.

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

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

9 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

10 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Provide and Maintain Accurate and** 11 **Compliant Wage Records)**

12 70. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
13 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

14 71. At all material times set forth herein, California Labor Code § 226(a) provides that
15 every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees an accurate itemized wage
16 statement in writing showing nine pieces of information, including: (1) gross wages earned,
17 (2) total hours worked by the employee, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any
18 applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided
19 that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as
20 one item, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is
21 paid, (7) the name of the employee and the last four digits of his or her social security number
22 or an employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and
23 address of the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect
24 during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by
25 the employee.

26 72. Defendants have intentionally and willfully failed to provide employees with
27 complete and accurate wage statements. The deficiencies include, among other things, the
28 failure to correctly identify the gross wages earned by Plaintiff and the Class, the failure to list

1 the true “total hours worked by the employee,” and the failure to list the true net wages earned.

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

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

8 75. Calculation of the true wage entitlement for Plaintiff and the Class is difficult and
9 time consuming. As a result of this unlawful burden, Plaintiff and the Class were also injured
10 as a result of having to bring this action to attempt to obtain correct wage information
11 following Defendants’ refusal to comply with many of the mandates of California’s Labor
12 Code and related laws and regulations.

13 76. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover from Defendants their actual damages
14 caused by Defendants’ failure to comply with California Labor Code § 226(a).

15 77. Plaintiff and the Class are also entitled to injunctive relief, as well as an award of
16 attorney’s fees and costs to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor
17 Code § 226(h).

18 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

21 78. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
22 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

23 79. Defendants, and each of them, are “persons” as defined under California Business
24 & Professions Code § 17201.

25 80. Defendants’ conduct, as alleged herein, has been, and continues to be, unfair,
26 unlawful, and harmful to Plaintiff, other Class members, and to the general public. Plaintiff
27 seeks to enforce important rights affecting the public interest within the meaning of Code of
28 Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

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

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

Failure to Pay Minimum Wages

83. Defendants' failure to pay minimum 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

84. 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 Maintain Accurate Records of All Hours Worked

85. Defendants' failure to maintain accurate records of all hours worked in accordance with California Labor Code § 1174.5 and the IWC Wage Orders constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

Failure to Provide Meal Periods

86. 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

87. 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

1 unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

2 **Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses**

3 88. Defendants' failure to indemnify employees for necessary business expenses in
4 accordance with California Labor Code § 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above,
5 constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by Business and Professions Code §§
6 17200, *et seq.*

7 **Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements**

8 89. Defendants' failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements in accordance
9 with California Labor Code § 226, as alleged above, constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity
10 prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

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

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

17 92. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, is entitled
18 to, and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to disgorge money and/or property which the
19 Defendants have wrongfully acquired, or of which Plaintiff and the Class have been deprived,
20 by means of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices.
21 Plaintiff and the Class are not obligated to establish individual knowledge of the wrongful
22 practices of Defendants in order to recover restitution.

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

28 94. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, have no

1 plain, speedy, and/or adequate remedy at law to redress the injuries which the Class Members
2 suffered as a consequence of the Defendants' unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
3 practices. As a result of the unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices described
4 above, Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, has suffered and
5 will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless the Defendants, and each of them, are
6 restrained from continuing to engage in said unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
7 practices.

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

11 96. Pursuant to California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, Plaintiff and
12 putative Class Members are entitled to restitution of the wages withheld and retained by
13 Defendants during a period that commences four years prior to the filing of this complaint; a
14 permanent injunction requiring Defendants to pay all outstanding wages due to Plaintiff and
15 Class Members; an award of attorneys' fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §
16 1021.5 and other applicable laws; and an award of costs.

17 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

18 **(Against all Defendants for Civil Penalties Under the Private Attorneys General Act of**
19 **2004, Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 et seq.)**

20 97. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
21 paragraphs 1 through 22 in this Complaint.

22 98. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants were subject to the Labor Code of the
23 State of California and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Orders.

24 99. California Labor Code § 2699(a) specifically provides for a private right of action
25 to recover penalties for violations of the Labor Code: "Notwithstanding any other provision of
26 law, any provision of this code that provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by
27 the Labor and Workforce Development Agency or any of its departments, divisions,
28 commissions, boards, agencies, or employees, for a violation of this code, may, as an alternative,

1 be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or
2 herself and other current or former employees pursuant to the procedures specified in Section
3 2699.3.”

4 100. Plaintiff has exhausted his administrative remedies pursuant to California Labor
5 Code § 2699.3. On October 7, 2021, he gave written notice by online filing to the Labor and
6 Workforce Development Agency and by certified mail to Defendants of the specific provisions
7 of the Labor Code that Defendants have violated against Plaintiff and certain current and former
8 aggrieved employees, including the facts and theories to support the violations. Plaintiff also
9 paid the filing fee. Plaintiff’s PAGA case number is LWDA-CM- 847783-21.

10 101. More than 65 days has elapsed since Plaintiff provided notice, but the Labor and
11 Workforce Development Agency has not indicated that it intends to investigate Defendants’
12 Labor Code violations discussed in the notice. Accordingly, Plaintiff may commence a civil
13 action to recover penalties under Labor Code § 2699 pursuant to § 2699.3 for the violations of
14 the Labor Code described in this Complaint. These penalties include, but are not limited to,
15 penalties under California Labor Code §§ 210, 226.3, 558, and 2699(f)(2).

16 102. In addition, Plaintiff seeks penalties for Defendants’ violation of California Labor
17 Code § 1174(d). Pursuant to California Labor Code § 1174.5, any person, including any entity,
18 employing labor who willfully fails to maintain accurate and complete records required by
19 California Labor Code § 1174 is subject to a penalty under § 1174.5. Pursuant to the applicable
20 IWC Order § 7(A)(3), every employer shall keep time records showing when the employee
21 begins and ends each work period. Meal periods, and total hours worked daily shall also be
22 recorded. Additionally, pursuant to the applicable IWC Order § 7(A)(5), every employer shall
23 keep total hours worked in the payroll period and applicable rates of pay.

24 103. During the time period of employment for Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees,
25 Defendants failed to maintain records pursuant to the Labor Code and IWC Orders by failing to
26 maintain accurate records showing meal periods. Defendants’ failure to provide and maintain
27 records required by the Labor Code IWC Wage Orders deprived Plaintiff and the Aggrieved
28 Employees the ability to know, understand and question the accuracy and frequency of meal

1 periods. Therefore, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees had no way to dispute the resulting
2 failure to pay wages, all of which resulted in an unjustified economic enrichment to Defendants.
3 As a direct result, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees have suffered and continue to suffer,
4 substantial losses related to the use and enjoyment of such wages, lost interest on such wages and
5 expenses and attorney's fees in seeking to compel Defendants to fully perform its obligation
6 under state law, all to their respective damage in amounts according to proof at trial. Because of
7 Defendants' knowing failure to comply with the Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage Orders,
8 Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees have also suffered an injury in that they were prevented
9 from knowing, understanding, and disputing the wage payments paid to them.

10 104. Based on the conduct described in this Complaint, Plaintiff is entitled to an award
11 of civil penalties on behalf of himself, the State of California, and similarly Aggrieved
12 Employees of Defendants. The exact amount of the applicable penalties, in all, is in an amount
13 to be shown according to proof at trial. These penalties are in addition to all other remedies
14 permitted by law.

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

18 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

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

22 **Class Certification**

- 23 1. That this action be certified as a class action with respect to the First, Second,
24 Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Causes of Action;
25 2. That Plaintiff be appointed as the representative of the Class; and
26 3. That counsel for Plaintiff be appointed as Class Counsel.

27 **As to the First Cause of Action**

- 28 4. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California

1 Labor Code §§ 204 and 1194 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to pay all
2 minimum wages due;

3 5. For general unpaid wages as may be appropriate;

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

6 7. For liquidated damages;

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

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

10 As to the Second Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

20 As to the Third Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

As to the Seventh Cause of Action

35. 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;

36. For penalties and actual damages pursuant to California Labor Code § 226(e);

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

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

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

As to the Eighth Cause of Action

40. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* by failing to pay wages for all hours worked (including minimum and overtime wages), failing to provide meal periods, failing to maintain accurate records of meal periods, failing to authorize and permit rest periods, and failing to maintain accurate records of all hours worked and meal periods, failing to furnish accurate wage statements, and failing to indemnify necessary business expenses;

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

42. 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.*;

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

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

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

As to the Ninth Cause of Action

1 46. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated the California
2 Labor Code by failing to pay all wages owed, including overtime, failure to provide meal
3 periods, failing to maintain accurate records of meal periods, failing to authorize and permit
4 rest periods, failing to pay final wages at termination, and failing to furnish accurate wage
5 statements;

6 47. For all actual, consequential and incidental losses and damages, according to proof;

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

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

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

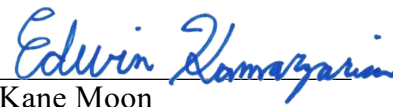
12 As to all Causes of Action

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

14
15 Dated: December 15, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

16 MOON & YANG, APC

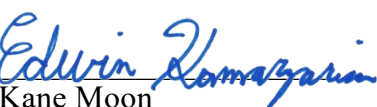
17 By: 
18 Kane Moon
19 Allen Feghali
20 Edwin Kamarzarian
21 Attorneys for Plaintiff

22 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

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

24 Dated: December 15, 2021

MOON & YANG, APC

25 By: 
26 Kane Moon
27 Allen Feghali
28 Edwin Kamarzarian
Attorneys for Plaintiff

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
3) ss
4 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

5 I am employed in the county of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18
6 and not a party to the within action; my business address is 1055 West Seventh Street, Suite 1880,
7 Los Angeles, California 90017. On December 15, 2021, I served the foregoing document
8 described as:

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

10 X by placing ___ the original X a true copy thereof enclosed in sealed envelope(s)
11 addressed as follows:

12 Heidi C. Quan
13 **MURCHISON & CUMMING LLP**
14 Mt. Diablo Plaza
15 2175 N. California Blvd. Suite 900
16 Walnut Creek, CA 94596
17 HQuan@murchisonlaw.com

18 Attorneys for Defendant HODO, INC. dba HODO FOODS

19 [✓] **BY U.S. MAIL:** I deposited such envelope in the mail at Los Angeles, California. The
20 envelope was mailed with postage thereon fully prepaid. I am “readily familiar” with
21 the firm’s practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that
22 practice it would be deposited with U.S. postal service on that same day with postage
23 thereon fully prepaid at Los Angeles, California in the ordinary course of business. I am
24 aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal
25 cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for
26 mailing in affidavit.

27 X (State) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of
28 California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on December 15, 2021, at Los Angeles, California.

29 Ximena Reyes
30 Name

31 /S/ Ximena Reyes
32 Signature