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Job: 6732952 Due: _____
Recipient: _____
Server: BLS Courts Fee: _____
Facility Phone: _____ Created: 02/24/2022

Case #		Plaintiff	Navarrette
Court	Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Stanley Mosk Courthouse	Defendant	Delano
Documents	RUSH		
Instructions	BOSCO LEGAL SERVICES		
E File: Summons Complaint Civil Case Cover Sheet			

Date/Time/Initials: **Submitted 2-24-22** Description of Service / Recipient: **Adv \$435**
#6572281
Accepted 2-24-22
off \$4.20

Person Served: _____
Date Served: _____ Time (Military): _____ Served By: _____
Age: _____ Gender: _____ Ethnicity: _____ Weight: _____
Height: _____ Hair: _____ Eyes: _____ Relationship: _____

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Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

Receipt EFM-2022-4417917.1

Date: 2/24/22 11:34 AM

Time: 2/24/22 11:34 AM

CASE # 22STCV06780

SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE, AN

Unlimited Civil- Compt/UD/Pet filed >25k - GC70611,70602.5,70602.6_Def endant	435.00
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Court Transaction Fee	2.25
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Case Total:	<u>437.25</u>
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Total Paid:	<u>437.25</u>
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22LA00236125

SUM-100

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

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

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

DELANO FOODS, LLC, a California limited liability company, and
DOES 1-50, inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE, an individual, on behalf of herself, all
aggrieved employees, and the State of CA as a Private Attorneys General,

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

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

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

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

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

The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles, Stanley Mosk Courthouse
111 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso):
22STCV06780

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Nazo Koulloukian, SBN 263809, 3435 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1710, Los Angeles, CA 90010, Tel:(213) 761-5484

Sherri R. Carter Executive Officer / Clerk of Court

DATE: 02/24/2022
(Fecha)

Clerk, by _____, Deputy
(Secretario) N. Miramontes (Adjunto)

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

[SEAL]



NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

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

under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation)	☐ CCP 416.60 (minor)
☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)	☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership)	☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
☐ other (specify):	
4. ☐ by personal delivery on (date):

Page 1 of 1

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Attorneys for Plaintiff,
SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE on behalf of
herself, all aggrieved employees, and the State
of California as a Private Attorneys General

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE, an individual,) Case No.: 22STCV06780
on behalf of herself, all aggrieved employees,)
and the State of CA as a Private Attorneys)
General,)

Plaintiff,

REPRESENTATIVE ACTION

vs.

**Violation of the Private Attorneys General
Act of 2004, Cal. Labor Code §2698 et seq.**

DELANO FOODS, LLC, a California limited
liability company, and DOES 1-50, inclusive,

Defendant.

Plaintiff SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE brings this PAGA representative action complaint
on behalf of herself, all aggrieved employees, and the State of California as a Private Attorneys
General, and alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE worked as an employee for defendant DELANO FOODS, LLC and Does 1-50 (collectively “Defendant”). Defendant operates a fast food restaurant business. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”), Cal. Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*, on a representative basis. All current and former hourly, non-exempt employees of Defendant in California within one year of serving notice on the LWDA to the present are aggrieved employees.

2. Defendant failed to comply with California Labor Code requirements due to erroneous, willful and intentional employment practices and policies. Plaintiff brings this representative action on behalf of herself, all other similarly situated aggrieved employees, and the State of California, based upon the claims articulated below. Plaintiff provided notice of her claims pursuant to §2698 *et. seq.*, to the Labor and Workforce and Development Agency (“LWDA”) as illustrated by the attached Exhibit, the content of which is expressly incorporated herein. The LWDA has not provided any notice to Plaintiff following the exhaustion of the 65-day notice period required by 2699.3(a)(2)(B). Accordingly, Plaintiff now brings this Complaint for civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”), Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*

3. Defendant has had a consistent policy and/or practice of: (1) failing to pay for all hours worked, including overtime hours worked; (2) failing to pay wages due upon termination; (3) failing to provide rest breaks; (4) failing to provide uninterrupted meal breaks and second meal breaks; (5) failing to provide place of employment that is safe and healthful; (6) failing to reimburse for required business expenses; (7) failing to provide cool-down periods; (8) failing to provide suitable seating; (9) failing to provide safe working conditions; and, (10) failing to provide accurate wage statements and maintain accurate payroll records. Defendants are therefore liable for civil penalties under the Cal. Labor Code, including the Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”), Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*, as described more fully herein.

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1 **THE PARTIES**

2 7. Plaintiff SAMANTHA NAVARRETTE is a resident of the State of California and was
3 employed as an hourly, nonexempt employee of Defendants until March of 2021, earning \$14 per
4 hour at the time of separation.

5 8. Defendant DELANO FOODS, LLC is a California limited liability company authorized
6 to do business and doing business in California with the capacity to sue and to be sued, and doing
7 business, in the county of Los Angeles, State of California.

8 9. Plaintiff is unaware of the true names, capacities, relationships, and extent of
9 participation in the conduct alleged herein, of the Defendants sued as DOES 1 through 50, but is
10 informed and believes and thereon alleges that said Defendants are legally responsible for the
11 wrongful conduct alleged herein and therefore sues these Defendants by such fictitious names,
12 Plaintiffs will amend this complaint when their true names and capabilities are ascertained.

13 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each Defendant, directly or
14 indirectly, or through agents or other persons, employed Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees
15 of the representative class, and exercised control over their wages, hours, and working conditions.
16 Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon allege that each Defendant acted in all respects
17 pertinent to this action as the agent of the other Defendants, carried out a joint scheme, business
18 plan or policy in all respects pertinent hereto, and the acts of each Defendant is legally attributable
19 to the other Defendants.

20 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

21 11. Venue is proper in this judicial district because Defendant conduct business in this
22 county and each defendant has legal obligations to Plaintiff and many of the aggrieved employees
23 in this case that arose in this county.

24 12. The statutory penalties sought by Plaintiff exceeds the minimal jurisdictional limits of
25 the Superior Court and will be established according to proof at trial. Based on information,
26 investigation and analysis, Plaintiff alleges that the amount in controversy, including claims for
27 monetary damages, penalties and attorney's fees is more than twenty-five thousand dollars
28 (\$25,000).

1 13. The California Superior Court has jurisdiction in this matter because Plaintiff is a
2 resident of California and Defendant is qualified to do business in California and regularly conduct
3 business in California. Further, there is no federal question at issue as the claims herein are based
4 solely on California law.

5 **PAGA REPRESENTATIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

6 14. During the relevant time-period, Defendant committed various violations of the
7 California Labor Code as alleged below in more detail. Defendant enforces multiple policies that
8 violate state law, which are intended to increase profits to the detriment of aggrieved employees.

9 15. This representative action represents over one hundred current and former aggrieved
10 employees.

11 16. For at least one (1) year prior to the date of service notice on the LWDA, and continuing
12 to the present, Defendant engaged in unlawful employment practices that resulted in violations of
13 numerous Labor Code sections, as set forth more fully below.

14 17. Plaintiff and all current and former hourly, non-exempt employees in California within
15 one year of filing this action to the present are aggrieved employees within the meaning of Labor
16 Code 2699, *et seq.* (See Labor code §2699(c).)

17 18. Defendants, and each of them, have committed the following violations of the
18 California Labor Code:

19 **Failure to Pay for All Hours Worked, Including Overtime Hours Worked**

20 (Cal. Labor Code §§218, 510, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*,

21 Wage Order 5)

22 19. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
23 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

24 20. Section 2(K) of Wage Order 5 defines “hours worked” as “the time during which an
25 employee is subject to the control of an including all the time the employee is suffered or permitted
26 to work, whether or not required to do so.” When employees like Plaintiff and her coworkers
27 earning wages at or near minimum wage do not receive payment for all hours worked, the result
28 is that they are earning less than the statutory minimum wages for all hours worked. Defendant

1 has been engaged in many unlawful employment practices which resulted in underpayment for
2 hours worked each pay period.

3 21. Off-the-Clock Hours Worked for Covid-19 Temperature Checks. Plaintiff and
4 aggrieved employees were required to participate in temperature checks and COVID-19 health
5 questioning prior to clocking in, wherein they were under the Defendant's control but not
6 compensated for their time. For example, when Plaintiff would arrive for her shift, she would not
7 clock in, and would have to wait to have her temperature taken before entering the building to
8 clock in. Even though Plaintiff would arrive to begin her work shift and would begin work, she
9 was not able to clock in until the required temperature check was complete. Plaintiff and aggrieved
10 employees were not paid for this time worked, resulting in failure to pay wages, including overtime
11 and minimum wages. Defendant has violated Labor Code §§510 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1199
12 and Wage Order 5. Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*

13 22. Failure to Pay COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave. Pursuant to Labor Code
14 §1197, "[t]he minimum wage for employees fixed by the commission or by any applicable state
15 or local law, is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a lower wage than
16 the minimum so fixed is unlawful." In the case of COVID-19, Labor Code Sections 248 - 248.5
17 require that employers provide 80 hours of paid sick leave to full time employees if the worker is
18 subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19, or the
19 worker is advised by a health care provider to self-isolate or self-quarantine due to health concerns
20 related to COVID-19, or the worker is prohibited from working by the worker's hiring entity due
21 to health care concerns related to the potential transmission of COVID-19. In this case, Defendant
22 is a covered employer under Labor Code 248-248.5, and Plaintiff and aggrieved employees are
23 covered employees. Although many aggrieved employees became sick with symptoms of COVID-
24 19 and were unable to report to work, many employees were not provided with the required hours
25 of additional paid sick time. As a result of these practices, Defendant has violated Cal. Labor Code
26 §§218, 510, 1194, 1197, 1198 and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders
27 paragraph(3)(A)(1) for failure to pay overtime. Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant to
28 Cal. Labor Code §558 and 2698 *et seq.*

1 23. Work Performed During Unpaid Meal Periods. As more fully set forth below,
2 Defendant failed to permit Plaintiff and others to take timely, off-duty meal breaks of “not less
3 than 30 minutes” for each five consecutive hours of work in violation of Labor Code §§226.7 and
4 512. Employees were frequently not given their meal break within the statutory time period
5 required and breaks were interrupted with work duties resulting in underpaid hours worked.
6 Defendant also failed to pay meal period penalty wages as the regular rate of pay.

7 24. Failure to Pay Wages- Required Minimum Wage. Defendant failed to pay Plaintiff and
8 aggrieved employees for all hours worked as a result of Defendant’s practice of requiring
9 employees to take off-the-clock covid screening and work during mandated meal and rest periods.
10 Based on Defendant’s unlawful conduct described above, and because Plaintiff and the aggrieved
11 employees were paid at or near minimum wage, Defendant’s failure to pay for all hours worked,
12 including overtime, resulted in a payment of less than the minimum wage for all hours worked, in
13 violation of Labor Code §1197, 1197.1, 1199 and Wage Order 5-2001 4(B). Defendant is liable
14 for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code §§558 and 2699 *et seq.*

15 25. Failure to Pay All Wages Owed Twice Per Month. Defendant was required to pay
16 Plaintiff and aggrieved employees all wages earned twice during each calendar month pursuant to
17 Labor Code §204(a). Defendant failed to pay all wages earned to employees as a result of the
18 unlawful employment policies and practices discussed herein. As a result of these practices,
19 Employees were underpaid for hours worked, including overtime and penalty wages, and this
20 underpayment resulted in a failure to pay all wages owed twice per month. Due to this failure,
21 Defendant is liable under Labor Code §210 for failure to pay wages as required by law.

22 **Failure to Pay Wages Due Upon Termination**

23 (Cal. Lab. Code §§201, 202, 203, 256 and 2698 *et seq.*)

24 26. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
25 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

26 27. An employee who is discharged must be paid all of his or her wages, including accrued
27 vacation, immediately at the time of termination. (Labor Code Sections 201 and 227.3.) As set
28 forth above, Defendant knowingly and willfully failed to pay all compensation due and owing to

1 Plaintiff at the time employment terminated. Defendant willfully failed to pay employees who are
2 no longer employed by it all compensation due upon termination of employment as required by
3 Cal. Lab. Code §§201 and 202. Plaintiff and similarly situated individuals are now entitled to
4 recover up to thirty (30) days pay as waiting time under the terms of §203. Moreover, Defendant
5 is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 *et seq.*

6 **Failure to Provide Rest Breaks**

7 (Cal. Labor Code §§226, 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*)

8 28. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
9 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

10 29. Defendant has failed to maintain a compliant rest period policy and practice that
11 provides its employees with off-duty rest periods as required by California law. Defendant did not
12 authorize or permit all of its hourly employees to take at least a ten minute rest period in which
13 they were relieved of all duties, for every 4 hours of work, or major fraction thereof, as required
14 by Cal. Lab. Code §226.7, §512 and Wage Order 5-2001 12(A). According to Plaintiff, she almost
15 never received rest breaks, and this experience is consistent with that of other aggrieved
16 employees.

17 30. The claims made on behalf of Plaintiff are also based on the following common facts
18 and theories: Through Defendant's common policies and practices rest periods were either less
19 than ten minutes, not provided, interrupted or late, "on duty", or not scheduled before and after a
20 meal period for shifts greater than six hours, as prescribed by California law because Defendant:
21 (1) did not account for all hours worked that were unaccounted for on their timecard; (2) did not
22 adequately inform and train employees about their rights to rest breaks and premium payments for
23 non-compliant rest breaks; (3) did not adequately inform and train employees about when, where
24 and how to take timely and uninterrupted ten-minute rest breaks; (4) because Defendant did not
25 staff enough people to schedule all timely and uninterrupted ten-minute rest breaks; and/or (5)
26 because management at various levels, affecting all hourly, non-exempt employees, refused to
27 offer, permit, or enforce a lawfully compliant rest break policy.

1 31. Because Defendant violated Section 12(A) of Wage Order 5, Defendant is liable under
2 Labor Code §1198. Further, as a derivative claim, Plaintiff also alleges that her pay statements
3 were inaccurate, failing to include required rest period penalties, thus failing the requirements of
4 Labor Code §226(a). As a result of these violations, Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant
5 to Cal. Labor Code §558 and §2698 *et. seq.*

6 **Failure to Provide Uninterrupted Meal Breaks & Second Meal Breaks**

7 (Cal. Labor Code §§226, 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, 2699 *et seq.*)

8 32. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
9 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

10 33. During Plaintiff's employment, Defendant failed to maintain a compliant meal period
11 policy and practice. Defendant failed to provide all of its hourly employees with their right to take
12 an off-duty unpaid 30-minute meal period. Labor Code §512 provides, "[a]n Defendant may not
13 employ an employee for a work period of more than five hours per day without providing the
14 employee with a meal period of not less than 30 minutes..." Labor Code §226.7(a) provides, "[n]o
15 employer shall require an employee to work during any meal... period mandated by an applicable
16 order of the Industrial Welfare Commission." Paragraph 11(A) of the Wage Orders provides, in
17 pertinent part, "[u]nless an employee is relieved of all duty during a 30 minute meal period, the
18 meal period shall be considered an 'on duty' meal period and counted as time worked."

19 34. Full, uninterrupted, off-duty, thirty-minute meal periods were not provided because
20 Defendant: (1) did not account for all hours worked that were unaccounted for on their timecard;
21 (2) did not adequately inform and train employees about their rights to meal periods and premium
22 payments for non-compliant meal periods; (3) did not adequately inform and train employees about
23 when, where and how to take timely and uninterrupted thirty-minute meal periods; (4) because
24 Defendant did not staff enough people to schedule all timely and uninterrupted thirty-minute meal
25 periods; and/or (5) because management at various levels, affecting all hourly, non-exempt
26 employees, refused to offer, permit, or enforce a lawfully compliant meal period policy.
27 Additionally, on busy days, Plaintiff and aggrieved employees were instructed to clock out early
28

1 and continue working, and to take their meal break at the very end of their shift, which is
2 unlawfully late.

3 35. Defendant failed to permit Plaintiff and others to take timely, off-duty, meal breaks of
4 “not less than 30 minutes” for each five consecutive hours of work in violation of Labor Code
5 §§226.7 and 512. Moreover, because Defendant’s policy violates a Wage Order, Defendant is
6 liable under Labor Code §1198. As a derivative claim, Plaintiff alleges that pay statements were
7 inaccurate, failing to include required meal period penalties, thus failing the requirements of Labor
8 Code §226(a). As a result of these violations, Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant to
9 Cal. Labor Code §558 and §2698 *et. seq.*

10 **Failure to Provide Place of Employment that is Safe and Healthful**

11 (Cal. Labor Code §§6400, 6401, 6402, 6403, 6404, 6407, 2699 *et seq.*, 8 CCR 3202)

12 36. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
13 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

14 37. Cal. Labor Code § 6400(a) provides that every employer shall furnish employment
15 and a place of employment that is safe and healthful for the employees therein. Cal. Labor Code
16 §6401 provides that “every employer shall furnish and use safety devices and safeguards, and
17 shall adopt and use practices, means, methods, operations, and processes which are reasonably
18 adequate to render such employment and place of employment safe and healthful. Pursuant to
19 Cal. Labor Code §6402, no employer shall require, or permit any employee to go or be in any
20 employment or place of employment which is not safe and healthful. Cal. Labor Code §6403
21 states that no employer shall fail or neglect to provide and use safety devices and safeguards
22 reasonably adequate to render the employment and place of employment safe, or to adopt and use
23 methods and processes reasonably adequate to render the employment and place of employment
24 safe, or to do every other thing reasonably necessary to protect the life, safety, and health of
25 employees. Cal. Labor Code § 6404 provides that no employer shall occupy or maintain any
26 place of employment that is not safe and healthful. Cal. Labor Code § 6407 provides that every
27 employer and every employee shall comply with occupational safety and health standards,
28

1 with Section 25910 of the Health and Safety Code, and with all rules, regulations, and orders
2 pursuant to this division which are applicable to his own actions and conduct.

3 38. Defendant failed implement and take precautions to ensure Employee safety after the
4 onset of COVID. Under LC §6409.6(a)(1) “COVID-19” means severe acute respiratory
5 syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The Employees were not required to socially distance.
6 Employees were forced to work in tight spaces near each other, ignoring social distancing
7 mandates. Defendant failed to provide sufficient masks and PPE to keep employees safe. In
8 addition, several employees became sick with COVID-19 and management was not informing
9 those at work who had been in contact with them or taking any precautions to quarantine those
10 who had been in contact with a fellow employee who had been infected with COVID-19. As a
11 result of these practices, Defendants have violated Cal. Labor Code §§6400, 6401, 6402, 6403,
12 6404, and 6407 for failure to provide a safe and healthful environment for their Employees, as
13 outlined above. Defendants are liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §2699 *et*
14 *seq.*

15 39. Defendant failed implement and take precautions to ensure employee safety after the
16 onset of COVID. Under LC §6409.6(a)(1) “COVID-19” means severe acute respiratory
17 syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Plaintiff and aggrieved employees were not required to
18 socially distance. Employees were forced to work in tight spaces near each other, ignoring social
19 distancing mandates. Defendant failed to provide sufficient masks and PPE to keep employees
20 safe. In addition, several employees became sick with COVID-19 and management was not
21 informing those at work who had been in contact with them or taking any precautions to
22 quarantine those who had been in contact with a fellow employee who had been infected with
23 COVID-19. As a result of these practices, Defendant violated Cal. Labor Code §§6400, 6401,
24 6402, 6403, 6404, and 6407 for failure to provide a safe and healthful environment for their
25 Employees, as outlined above. Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Labor Code
26 §2699 *et seq.*

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1 45. The kitchen area in the worksite was excessively hot and did not have proper ventilation
2 or effective climate control given the climate issues caused by the grill and fry cook area.
3 Temperatures would soar above 100 degrees. The only areas with proper air conditioning and
4 ventilation are the guest areas. Employee areas are excessively hot and caused Plaintiff and
5 aggrieved employees to suffer and sweat profusely under the conditions.

6 46. Defendant Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations cover standards for indoor heat
7 exposure. Section 3203 requires that employers take the steps necessary to protect employees'
8 health and safety when the temperature exceeds 85 degrees in the workplace. Labor Code 226.7
9 requires that breaks comply with requirements of the wage orders.

10 47. Those employees who worked in the kitchen worked under extreme heat with no
11 cooling or ventilation. Defendant did not give employees cool-down periods. Employers who fail
12 to provide required recovery periods are liable for damages under Labor Code 226.7.

13 **Failure to Provide Suitable Seating**

14 (Lab. Code section 1198 and Wage Order 5 Section 14)

15 48. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
16 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

17 49. Labor Code section 1198 states, in pertinent part, "The employment of any employee...
18 under conditions of labor prohibited by the [Wage Order] is unlawful."

19 50. Section 14 of Wage Order 5 provides that:

20 (A) All working employees shall be provided with suitable seats when the nature of the
21 work reasonably permits the use of seats.

22 (B) When employees are not engaged in the active duties of their employment and the
23 nature of the work requires standing, an adequate number of suitable seats shall be
24 placed in reasonable proximity to the work area and employees shall be permitted to
25 use such seats when it does not interfere with the performance of their duties.

26 51. At all relevant times, Defendant failed to provide Plaintiff and aggrieved employees
27 with suitable seating during their employment as required by section 14 of the applicable Wage
28 Order. When Plaintiff and aggrieved employees worked at the cash register, including at the drive-

1 thru window, they were not provided with seating despite that the job could be successfully and
2 efficiently completed while seated. Accordingly, Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and aggrieved
3 employees, will pursue civil penalties under Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*, and all available remedies
4 to the extent allowed by law for the alleged violations.

5 **Failure to Provide Safe Working Conditions**

6 (Cal. Labor Code §1198, Wage Order 5)

7 52. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
8 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

9 53. Labor Defendant's workplaces would get unsafely hot in the kitchen and food prep
10 area. Many aggrieved employees are required to work with the flames of the grill and fry area
11 with insufficient air circulation, ventilation or cooling mechanism. Defendant does not have
12 proper climate control. Plaintiff and her coworkers worked in unbearable heat.

13 54. As stated above, Section 15 of Wage Order 5 provides that:

14 (A) The temperature maintained in each work area shall provide reasonable comfort
15 consistent with industry-wide standards for the nature of the process and the work performed.
16

17 (B) If excessive heat or humidity is created by the work process, the employer shall
18 take all feasible means to reduce such excessive heat or humidity to a degree providing reasonable
19 comfort.
20

21 55. In addition to climate control issues, Defendant failed to take safety measures
22 required to keep employees safe during COVID-19. Labor Code 1198 makes it unlawful to
23 employ employee in conditions prohibited by the wage order. By violating the wage order,
24 Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant to §2698 *et. seq.*

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1 **Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements & Violation of Record Keeping**
2 **Requirements**

3 (Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 1174(d), 2699 *et seq.*)

4 56. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
5 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

6 57. Defendant knowingly and intentionally failed to provide timely, accurate, itemized
7 wage statements to Plaintiff and the aggrieved employees in accordance with Labor Code §§ 226
8 and keep accurate records as required by §1174(d). The statements provided to Plaintiff and
9 aggrieved employees, and the records maintained by Defendant, have not accurately reflected
10 actual gross wages earned, including pay for all hours worked, and overtime.

11 58. Such failures caused injury to Plaintiff and others, by, among other things, impeding
12 them from knowing the total hours worked and the amount of wages to which they are and were
13 entitled. Defendant knowingly and intentionally failed to itemize the gross wages earned, net
14 wages earned, and total hours worked. Defendant is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor
15 Code § 2698 *et seq.*

16 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

17 **Against All Defendants for Violation of the Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”)**

18 **(California Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*)**

19 59. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth and
20 incorporate said paragraphs herein by reference.

21 60. Plaintiff is an “aggrieved employee” under PAGA, as she was employed by Defendant
22 during the applicable statutory period and suffered one or more of the Labor Code violations set
23 forth herein. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks to recover on behalf of herself and all other current and
24 former aggrieved employees of Defendant, the civil penalties provided by PAGA, plus reasonable
25 attorneys’ fees and costs.

26 61. Plaintiff seeks to recover the PAGA civil penalties through a representative action
27 permitted by PAGA and the California Supreme Court in *Arias v. Superior Court* (2009) 46 Cal.
28 4th 969. Therefore, class certification of the PAGA claims brought herein is not required.

1 62. Plaintiff seeks civil penalties pursuant to PAGA for violations of the following Labor
2 Code provisions:

- 3 a. Failure to Pay for All Hours Worked, Including Overtime Hours Worked (Cal.
4 Labor Code §§218, 510, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*, Wage Order
5 5);
- 6 b. Failure to Pay Wages Due Upon Termination (Cal. Lab. Code §§201, 202, 203, 256
7 and 2698 *et seq.*);
- 8 c. Failure to Provide Rest Breaks (Cal. Labor Code §§226, 226.7, 512, 558, 1198,
9 2698 *et seq.*);
- 10 d. Failure to Provide Uninterrupted Meal Breaks & Second Meal Breaks (Cal. Labor
11 Code §§226, 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, 2699 *et seq.*);
- 12 e. Failure to Provide Place of Employment that is Safe and Healthful (Cal. Labor Code
13 §§6400, 6401, 6402, 6403, 6404, 6407, 2699 *et seq.*, 8 CCR 3202);
- 14 f. Failure to Reimburse for Required Business Expenses (Cal. Labor Code §§1198,
15 2802, 2699 *et seq.*);
- 16 g. Failure to Provide Cool-Down Periods (Cal. Labor Code §§226 (a), 226.7, 512,
17 558, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*, Wage Order 5);
- 18 h. Failure to Provide Suitable Seating (Lab. Code section 1198 and Wage Order 5
19 Section 14);
- 20 i. Failure to Provide Safe Working Conditions (Cal. Labor Code §1198, Wage Order
21 5);
- 22 j. Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements and Violation of Record
23 Keeping Requirements (Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 1174(d), 2699 *et seq.*).

24 63. With respect to violations of Labor Code §226(a), Labor Code §226.3 imposes a civil
25 penalty in addition to any other penalty provided by law of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per
26 aggrieved employee for the first violation, and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per aggrieved
27 employee for each subsequent violation of Labor Code §226(a).
28

1 64. With respect to violations of Labor Code §512, Labor Code §558 imposes a civil
2 penalty in addition to any other penalty provided by law of fifty dollars (\$50) for initial violations
3 for each underpaid employee for each pay period for which the employee was underpaid, and one
4 hundred dollars (\$100) for subsequent violations for each underpaid employee for each pay period
5 for which the employee was underpaid.

6 65. Labor Code §2698 *et seq.* imposes a civil penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100) per
7 pay period, per aggrieved employee for initial violations, and two hundred dollars (\$200) per pay
8 period, per aggrieved employee for subsequent violations for all Labor Code provisions for which
9 a civil penalty is not specifically provided.

10 66. Plaintiff and the other current and former employees of Defendant are aggrieved
11 employees. They were or are employed by Defendants, and each of them, and the violations alleged
12 herein were committed against them. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and all other
13 current and former aggrieved employees.

14 67. At the time of each violation, Defendant employed one or more employees.

15 68. As a result of the aforesaid wrongful and illegal conduct of Defendants, and each of
16 them, Plaintiff and aggrieved employees are entitled to civil penalties in an amount to be
17 determined at trial, pre-judgment interest, costs and attorneys' fees.

18 69. Plaintiff has complied with all procedural requirements of Labor Code §2699.3 prior
19 to filing this Complaint. By the Notice attached as Exhibit 1, submitted online to the Labor and
20 Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and served by certified mail upon Defendant,
21 Plaintiff through counsel notified the LWDA and Defendant of the specific Labor Code provisions
22 that Defendant violated. The LWDA did not respond to Plaintiff's Notice within the statutory
23 timeframe, and Plaintiff has therefore exhausted administrative remedies. Pursuant to Labor Code
24 §2699.3, Plaintiff may now pursue her PAGA claims in this action on behalf of aggrieved
25 employees and the State of California.

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

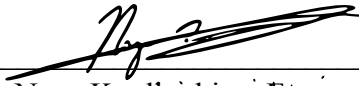
2 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the aggrieved employees, prays for
3 judgement against Defendant as follows:

- 4 1. An award of civil penalties pursuant to PAGA and the Cal. Labor Code in an amount to be
5 determined at trial, but at least the jurisdictional amount of this Court;
- 6 2. An award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code §2699(g)
7 and/or other applicable law;
- 8 3. For civil penalties as provided under Labor Code §§226.3 and 558, and/or other applicable
9 law;
- 10 4. Pre-judgement and post-judgement interest as provided by law; and
- 11 5. Such other and further relief that the Court may deem just and proper.
- 12

13 DATED: February 24, 2022

KOUL LAW FIRM

LAW OFFICES OF SAHAG MAJARIAN II

14
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17 
18 BY: Nazo Koulloukian, Esq.
19 Attorneys for Plaintiff SAMANTHA
20 NAVARRETTE, and all aggrieved employees
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EXHIBIT 1



Nazo@Koullaw.com

P (213) 761 – 5484

F (818) 561 – 3938

3435 WILSHIRE BLVD

SUITE 1710

LOS ANGELES, CA 90010

www.koullaw.com

December 17, 2021

Via E-filing:

California Labor & Workforce
Development Agency
455 Golden Gate Avenue, 9th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Certified U.S. Mail:

Delano Foods, LLC
4917 Genesta Ave
Encino, CA 91316

Via Certified U.S. Mail:

Delano Foods, LLC
c/o Pamela Tahim Thakur, Esq.
Thakur Law Firm, APC
1400 N. Harbor Boulevard, Suite 410
Fullerton, CA 92835

Re: PAGA Notice Pursuant to California Labor Code §2699
Claimant: Samantha Navarrette
Employer: Delano Foods, LLC

Dear Sir or Madam:

Claimant Samantha Navarrette has retained Nazo Koulloukian, Esq. of the KOUL LAW FIRM and Sahag Majarian II of LAW OFFICES OF SAHAG MAJARIAN II to represent her, and all other aggrieved employees, for wage and hour claims against her former employer, Delano Foods, LLC (“Employer”).

Employer is a fast food restaurant business. Claimant’s proposed PAGA representative action would represent numerous non-exempt, hourly aggrieved employees who worked in Employer’s restaurants. Claimant worked for Employer until March of 2021, earning \$14 per hour at the time of separation.

Employer has violated, and/or has caused to be violated, several Labor Code provisions and is therefore liable for civil penalties under Cal. Labor Code §2698 *et seq.* We request that your agency investigate the claims alleged below or permit Claimant to seek civil penalties under the Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”), Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*, on behalf of the Labor and Workforce and development Agency (“LWDA”) and the State of California in a representative action. This letter will serve as notice of these allegations pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §2699.3.

Failure to Pay For All Hours Worked, Including Overtime Hours Worked

(Cal. Labor Code §§218, 510, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*,

Wage Order 5)

Section 2(K) of Wage Order 5 defines “hours worked” as “the time during which an employee is subject to the control of an including all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work, whether or not required to do so.” When employees like Claimant and her coworkers earning wages at or near minimum wage do not receive payment for all hours worked, the result is that they are earning less than the statutory minimum wages for all hours worked. Employer has been engaged in many unlawful employment practices which resulted in underpayment for hours worked each pay period.

Off-the-Clock Hours Worked for Covid-19 Temperature Checks

Claimant and aggrieved employees were required to participate in temperature checks and COVID-19 health questioning prior to clocking in, wherein they were under the Employer’s control but not compensated for their time. For example, when Claimant would arrive for her shift, she would not clock in, and would have to wait to have her temperature taken before entering the building to clock in. Even though Claimant would arrive to begin her work shift and would begin work, she was not able to clock in until the required temperature check was complete. Claimant and aggrieved employees were not paid for this time worked, resulting in failure to pay wages, including overtime and minimum wages. Employer has violated Labor Code §§510 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1199 and Wage Order 5. Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*

Failure to Pay COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave

Pursuant to Labor Code §1197, “[t]he minimum wage for employees fixed by the commission or by any applicable state or local law, is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a lower wage than the minimum so fixed is unlawful.” In the case of COVID-19, Labor Code Sections 248 - 248.5 require that employers provide

80 hours of paid sick leave to full time employees if the worker is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19, or the worker is advised by a health care provider to self-isolate or self-quarantine due to health concerns related to COVID-19, or the worker is prohibited from working by the worker's hiring entity due to health care concerns related to the potential transmission of COVID-19.

In this case, Employer is a covered employer under Labor Code 248-248.5, and Claimant and aggrieved employees are covered employees. Although many aggrieved employees became sick with symptoms of COVID-19 and were unable to report to work, many employees were not provided with the required hours of additional paid sick time. As a result of these practices, Employer has violated Cal. Labor Code §§218, 510, 1194, 1197, 1198 and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders paragraph(3)(A)(1) for failure to pay overtime. Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §558 and 2698 *et seq.*

Work Performed During Unpaid Meal Periods

As more fully set forth below, Employer failed to permit Claimant and others to take timely, off-duty meal breaks of “not less than 30 minutes” for each five consecutive hours of work in violation of Labor Code §§226.7 and 512. Employees were frequently not given their meal break within the statutory time period required and breaks were interrupted with work duties resulting in underpaid hours worked. Employer also failed to pay meal period penalty wages as the regular rate of pay.

Failure to Pay Wages- Required Minimum Wage

Employer failed to pay Claimant and aggrieved employees for all hours worked as a result of Employer's practice of requiring employees to take off-the-clock covid screening and work during mandated meal and rest periods. Based on Employer's unlawful conduct described above, and because Claimant and the aggrieved employees were paid at or near minimum wage, Employer's failure to pay for all hours worked, including overtime, resulted in a payment of less than the minimum wage for all hours worked, in violation of Labor Code §1197, 1197.1, 1199 and Wage Order 5-2001 4(B). Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code §§558 and 2699 *et seq.*

Failure to Pay All Wages Owed Twice Per Month

Employer was required to pay Claimant and aggrieved employees all wages earned twice during each calendar month pursuant to Labor Code §204(a). Employer failed to pay all wages earned to employees as a result of the unlawful employment policies and practices discussed herein. As a result of these practices, Employees were underpaid for hours worked, including overtime and penalty wages, and this underpayment resulted in a

failure to pay all wages owed twice per month. Due to this failure, Employer is liable under Labor Code §210 for failure to pay wages as required by law.

Failure to Pay Wages Due Upon Termination

(Cal. Lab. Code §§201, 202, 203, 256 and 2698 *et seq.*)

An employee who is discharged must be paid all of his or her wages, including accrued vacation, immediately at the time of termination. (Labor Code Sections 201 and 227.3.) As set forth above, Employer knowingly and willfully failed to pay all compensation due and owing to Claimant at the time employment terminated. Employer willfully failed to pay employees who are no longer employed by it all compensation due upon termination of employment as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§201 and 202. Claimant and similarly situated individuals are now entitled to recover up to thirty (30) days pay as waiting time under the terms of §203. Moreover, Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 *et. seq.*

Failure to Provide Rest Breaks

Cal. Labor Code §§226, 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*

Employer has failed to maintain a compliant rest period policy and practice that provides its employees with off-duty rest periods as required by California law. Employer did not authorize or permit all of its hourly employees to take at least a ten minute rest period in which they were relieved of all duties, for every 4 hours of work, or major fraction thereof, as required by Cal. Lab. Code §226.7, §512 and Wage Order 5-2001 12(A). According to Claimant, she almost never received rest breaks, and this experience is consistent with that of other aggrieved employees.

The claims made on behalf of Claimant are also based on the following common facts and theories: Through Employer's common policies and practices rest periods were either less than ten minutes, not provided, interrupted or late, "on duty", or not scheduled before and after a meal period for shifts greater than six hours, as prescribed by California law because Employer: (1) did not account for all hours worked that were unaccounted for on their timecard; (2) did not adequately inform and train employees about their rights to rest breaks and premium payments for non-compliant rest breaks; (3) did not adequately inform and train employees about when, where and how to take timely and uninterrupted ten-minute rest breaks; (4) because Employer did not staff enough people to schedule all timely and uninterrupted ten-minute rest breaks; and/or (5) because management at various levels, affecting all hourly, non-exempt employees, refused to offer, permit, or enforce a lawfully compliant rest break policy.

Because Employer violated Section 12(A) of Wage Order 5, Employer is liable under Labor Code §1198. Further, as a derivative claim, Claimant also alleges that her pay statements were inaccurate, failing to include required rest period penalties, thus failing the requirements of Labor Code §226(a). As a result of these violations, Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §558 and §2698 *et. seq.*

Failure to Provide Uninterrupted Meal Breaks & Second Meal Breaks

Cal. Labor Code §§226, 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, 2699 et seq.

During Claimant's employment, Employer failed to maintain a compliant meal period policy and practice. Employer failed to provide all of its hourly employees with their right to take an off-duty unpaid 30-minute meal period. Labor Code §512 provides, "[a]n employer may not employ an employee for a work period of more than five hours per day without providing the employee with a meal period of not less than 30 minutes..." Labor Code §226.7(a) provides, "[n]o employer shall require an employee to work during any meal... period mandated by an applicable order of the Industrial Welfare Commission." Paragraph 11(A) of the Wage Orders provides, in pertinent part, "[u]nless an employee is relieved of all duty during a 30 minute meal period, the meal period shall be considered an 'on duty' meal period and counted as time worked."

Full, uninterrupted, off-duty, thirty-minute meal periods were not provided because Employer: (1) did not account for all hours worked that were unaccounted for on their timecard; (2) did not adequately inform and train employees about their rights to meal periods and premium payments for non-compliant meal periods; (3) did not adequately inform and train employees about when, where and how to take timely and uninterrupted thirty-minute meal periods; (4) because Employer did not staff enough people to schedule all timely and uninterrupted thirty-minute meal periods; and/or (5) because management at various levels, affecting all hourly, non-exempt employees, refused to offer, permit, or enforce a lawfully compliant meal period policy. Additionally, on busy days, Claimant and aggrieved employees were instructed to clock out early and continue working, and to take their meal break at the very end of their shift, which is unlawfully late.

Employer failed to permit Claimant and others to take timely, off-duty, meal breaks of "not less than 30 minutes" for each five consecutive hours of work in violation of Labor Code §§226.7 and 512. Moreover, because Employer's policy violates a Wage Order, Employer is liable under Labor Code §1198. As a derivative claim, Claimant alleges that pay statements were inaccurate, failing to include required meal period penalties, thus failing the requirements of Labor Code §226(a). As a result of these violations, Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §558 and §2698 *et. seq.*

Failure to Provide Place of Employment that is Safe and Healthful

(Cal. Labor Code §§6400, 6401, 6402, 6403, 6404, 6407, 2699 *et seq.*, 8 CCR 3202)

Cal. Labor Code § 6400(a) provides that every employer shall furnish employment and a place of employment that is safe and healthful for the employees therein. Cal. Labor Code §6401 provides that “every employer shall furnish and use safety devices and safeguards, and shall adopt and use practices, means, methods, operations, and processes which are reasonably adequate to render such employment and place of employment safe and healthful. Pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §6402, no employer shall require, or permit any employee to go or be in any employment or place of employment which is not safe and healthful. Cal. Labor Code §6403 states that no employer shall fail or neglect to provide and use safety devices and safeguards reasonably adequate to render the employment and place of employment safe, or to adopt and use methods and processes reasonably adequate to render the employment and place of employment safe, or to do every other thing reasonably necessary to protect the life, safety, and health of employees. Cal. Labor Code § 6404 provides that no employer shall occupy or maintain any place of employment that is not safe and healthful. Cal. Labor Code § 6407 provides that every employer and every employee shall comply with occupational safety and health standards, with Section 25910 of the Health and Safety Code, and with all rules, regulations, and orders pursuant to this division which are applicable to his own actions and conduct.

Employer failed implement and take precautions to ensure Employee safety after the onset of COVID. Under LC §6409.6(a)(1) “COVID-19” means severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The Employees were not required to socially distance. Employees were forced to work in tight spaces near each other, ignoring social distancing mandates. Employer failed to provide sufficient masks and PPE to keep employees safe. In addition, several employees became sick with COVID-19 and management was not informing those at work who had been in contact with them or taking any precautions to quarantine those who had been in contact with a fellow employee who had been infected with COVID-19. As a result of these practices, Employers have violated Cal. Labor Code §§6400, 6401, 6402, 6403, 6404, and 6407 for failure to provide a safe and healthful environment for their Employees, as outlined above. Employers are liable for civil penalties pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §2699 *et seq.*

Failure to Reimburse For Required Business Expenses

(Cal. Labor Code §§1198, 2802, 2699 *et seq.*)

Labor Code §2802 requires employers to indemnify employees for necessary expenditures or losses incurred by employees in direct consequence of discharge of duties. Here, Claimant and aggrieved employees were mandated to wear masks during their work shifts, however, they had to provide their own required masks for work as Employer did not make any masks available to them. Employer not only did not provide mandatory masks for Claimant and aggrieved employees, they also failed to reimburse Claimant and employees for this use as required by the Labor Code. In addition, Claimant and aggrieved employees were required to participate in communicating via a group chat on their personal mobile phones. Work schedules would be posted to this group chat. Claimant also communicated directly with her manager by messaging on her personal mobile phone.

Claimant and aggrieved employees were not reimbursed for the cost of the masks or the use of their phones. Accordingly, Employer is liable for civil penalties under PAGA §2699 *et eq.*

Failure to Provide Cool-Down Periods

(Cal. Labor Code §§226 (a), 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, 2698 *et seq.*, Wage Order 5)

Section 15 of Wage Order 5 provides that:

(A) The temperature maintained in each work area shall provide reasonable comfort consistent with industry-wide standards for the nature of the process and the work performed.

(B) If excessive heat or humidity is created by the work process, the employer shall take all feasible means to reduce such excessive heat or humidity to a degree providing reasonable comfort.

The kitchen area in the worksite was excessively hot and did not have proper ventilation or effective climate control given the climate issues caused by the grill and fry cook area. Temperatures would soar above 100 degrees. The only areas with proper air conditioning and ventilation are the guest areas. Employee areas are excessively hot and caused Claimant and aggrieved employees to suffer and sweat profusely under the conditions.

Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations cover standards for indoor heat exposure. Section 3203 requires that employers take the steps necessary to protect

employees' health and safety when the temperature exceeds 85 degrees in the workplace. Labor Code 226.7 requires that breaks comply with requirements of the wage orders.

Those employees who worked in the kitchen worked under extreme heat with no cooling or ventilation. Employer did not give employees cool-down periods. Employers who fail to provide required recovery periods are liable for damages under Labor Code 226.7.

Failure To Provide Suitable Seating

(Lab. Code section 1198 and Wage Order 5 Section 14)

Labor Code section 1198 states, in pertinent part, "The employment of any employee... under conditions of labor prohibited by the [Wage Order] is unlawful."

Section 14 of Wage Order 5 provides that:

- (A) All working employees shall be provided with suitable seats when the nature of the work reasonably permits the use of seats.
- (B) When employees are not engaged in the active duties of their employment and the nature of the work requires standing, an adequate number of suitable seats shall be placed in reasonable proximity to the work area and employees shall be permitted to use such seats when it does not interfere with the performance of their duties.

At all relevant times, Employer failed to provide Claimant and aggrieved employees with suitable seating during their employment as required by section 14 of the applicable Wage Order. When Claimant and aggrieved employees worked at the cash register, including at the drive-thru window, they were not provided with seating despite that the job could be successfully and efficiently completed while seated. Accordingly, Claimant, on behalf of herself and aggrieved employees, will pursue civil penalties under Labor Code §2698 *et seq.*, and all available remedies to the extent allowed by law for the alleged violations.

Failure to Provide Safe Working Conditions

(Cal. Labor Code §1198, Wage Order 5)

Employer's workplaces would get unsafely hot in the kitchen and food prep area. Many aggrieved employees are required to work with the flames of the grill and fry area with insufficient air circulation, ventilation or cooling mechanism. Employer does not have proper climate control. Claimant and her coworkers worked in unbearable heat.

As stated above, Section 15 of Wage Order 5 provides that:

(A) The temperature maintained in each work area shall provide reasonable comfort consistent with industry-wide standards for the nature of the process and the work performed.

(B) If excessive heat or humidity is created by the work process, the employer shall take all feasible means to reduce such excessive heat or humidity to a degree providing reasonable comfort.

In addition to climate control issues, Employer failed to take safety measures required to keep employees safe during COVID-19. Labor Code 1198 makes it unlawful to employ employee in conditions prohibited by the wage order. By violating the wage order, Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to §2698 *et. seq.*

Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements & Violation of Record

Keeping Requirements

(Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 1174(d), 2699 *et seq*)

Employer knowingly and intentionally failed to provide timely, accurate, itemized wage statements to Claimant and the aggrieved employees in accordance with Labor Code §§ 226 and keep accurate records as required by §1174(d). The statements provided to Claimant and aggrieved employees, and the records maintained by Employer, have not accurately reflected actual gross wages earned, including pay for all hours worked, and overtime.

Such failures caused injury to Claimant and others, by, among other things, impeding them from knowing the total hours worked and the amount of wages to which they are and were entitled. Employer knowingly and intentionally failed to itemize the gross wages earned, net wages earned, and total hours worked. Employer is liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*

Conclusion

Employer has violated a number of California wage and hour laws. Claimant respectfully requests that the agency investigate the above allegations and hereby provides notice of the allegations pursuant to PAGA's provisions. Alternatively, Claimant requests that the agency inform her if it does not intend to investigate these violations so that she may pursue her claims as a representative action in civil court.

Respectfully submitted,



Nazo Koulloukian, Esq.
Attorney for Claimant

Cc:

Sahag Majarian II
Law Offices of Sahag Majarian II
18250 Ventura Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91356

CM-010

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address): Nazo Koulloukian, SBN 263809; Christine Harmandayan, SBN 320999 KOUL LAW FIRM 3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1710 Los Angeles, CA 90010 TELEPHONE NO.: (213) 761-5484 FAX NO.: (818) 561-3938 ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff, MANUEL CASTILLO-GUERRERO		FOR COURT USE ONLY
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES STREET ADDRESS: 111 N. Hill Street MAILING ADDRESS: 111 N. Hill Street CITY AND ZIP CODE: Los Angeles 90012 BRANCH NAME: Stanley Mosk Courthouse		
CASE NAME: NAVARRETTE v. DELANO FOODS, LLC, et al.		
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ☒ Unlimited (Amount demanded exceeds \$25,000)	☐ Limited (Amount demanded is \$25,000 or less)	CASE NUMBER: 22STCV06780
Complex Case Designation ☐ Counter ☐ Joinder Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)		JUDGE: DEPT:

Items 1–6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).

1. Check one box below for the case type that best describes this case:

Auto Tort	Contract	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400–3.403)
☐ Auto (22)	☐ Breach of contract/warranty (06)	☐ Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)
☐ Uninsured motorist (46)	☐ Rule 3.740 collections (09)	☐ Construction defect (10)
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	☐ Other collections (09)	☐ Mass tort (40)
☐ Asbestos (04)	☐ Insurance coverage (18)	☐ Securities litigation (28)
☐ Product liability (24)	☐ Other contract (37)	☐ Environmental/Toxic tort (30)
☐ Medical malpractice (45)	Real Property	☐ Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)
☐ Other PI/PD/WD (23)	☐ Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14)	
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort	☐ Wrongful eviction (33)	Enforcement of Judgment
☐ Business tort/unfair business practice (07)	☐ Other real property (26)	☐ Enforcement of judgment (20)
☐ Civil rights (08)	Unlawful Detainer	Miscellaneous Civil Complaint
☐ Defamation (13)	☐ Commercial (31)	☐ RICO (27)
☐ Fraud (16)	☐ Residential (32)	☐ Other complaint (<i>not specified above</i>) (42)
☐ Intellectual property (19)	☐ Drugs (38)	Miscellaneous Civil Petition
☐ Professional negligence (25)	Judicial Review	☐ Partnership and corporate governance (21)
☐ Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	☐ Asset forfeiture (05)	☐ Other petition (<i>not specified above</i>) (43)
Employment	☐ Petition re: arbitration award (11)	
☐ Wrongful termination (36)	☐ Writ of mandate (02)	
☒ Other employment (15)	☐ Other judicial review (39)	

2. This case ☐ is ☒ is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:
- a. ☐ Large number of separately represented parties d. ☐ Large number of witnesses
- b. ☐ Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve e. ☐ Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court
- c. ☐ Substantial amount of documentary evidence f. ☐ Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision
3. Remedies sought (*check all that apply*): a. ☒ monetary b. ☒ nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. ☒ punitive
4. Number of causes of action (*specify*): One (1)
5. This case ☐ is ☒ is not a class action suit.
6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (*You may use form CM-015.*)

Date: February 24, 2022

Nazo Koulloukian

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

NOTICE

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
- File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
- If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
- Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.



Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) INFORMATION PACKAGE

THE PLAINTIFF MUST SERVE THIS ADR INFORMATION PACKAGE ON EACH PARTY WITH THE COMPLAINT.

CROSS-COMPLAINANTS must serve this ADR Information Package on any new parties named to the action with the cross-complaint.

What is ADR?

ADR helps people find solutions to their legal disputes without going to trial. The main types of ADR are negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and settlement conferences. When ADR is done by phone, videoconference or computer, it may be called Online Dispute Resolution (ODR). These alternatives to litigation and trial are described below.

Advantages of ADR

- **Saves Time:** ADR is faster than going to trial.
- **Saves Money:** Parties can save on court costs, attorney's fees, and witness fees.
- **Keeps Control** (with the parties): Parties choose their ADR process and provider for voluntary ADR.
- **Reduces Stress/Protects Privacy:** ADR is done outside the courtroom, in private offices, by phone or online.

Disadvantages of ADR

- **Costs:** If the parties do not resolve their dispute, they may have to pay for ADR, litigation, and trial.
- **No Public Trial:** ADR does not provide a public trial or a decision by a judge or jury.

Main Types of ADR

1. **Negotiation:** Parties often talk with each other in person, or by phone or online about resolving their case with a settlement agreement instead of a trial. If the parties have lawyers, they will negotiate for their clients.
2. **Mediation:** In mediation, a neutral mediator listens to each person's concerns, helps them evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their case, and works with them to try to create a settlement agreement that is acceptable to all. Mediators do not decide the outcome. Parties may go to trial if they decide not to settle.

Mediation may be appropriate when the parties

- want to work out a solution but need help from a neutral person.
- have communication problems or strong emotions that interfere with resolution.

Mediation may not be appropriate when the parties

- want a public trial and want a judge or jury to decide the outcome.
- lack equal bargaining power or have a history of physical/emotional abuse.

How to Arrange Mediation in Los Angeles County

Mediation for **civil cases** is voluntary and parties may select any mediator they wish. Options include:

a. **The Civil Mediation Vendor Resource List**

If all parties in an active civil case agree to mediation, they may contact these organizations to request a "Resource List Mediation" for mediation at reduced cost or no cost (for selected cases).

- **ADR Services, Inc.** Case Manager Elizabeth Sanchez, elizabeth@adrservices.com (949) 863-9800
- **JAMS, Inc.** Assistant Manager Reggie Joseph, RJoseph@jamsadr.com (310) 309-6209
- **Mediation Center of Los Angeles** Program Manager info@mediationLA.org (833) 476-9145

These organizations cannot accept every case and they may decline cases at their discretion. They may offer online mediation by video conference for cases they accept. Before contacting these organizations, review important information and FAQs at www.lacourt.org/ADR.Res.List

NOTE: The Civil Mediation Vendor Resource List program does not accept family law, probate or small claims cases.

b. **Los Angeles County Dispute Resolution Programs**

<https://hrc.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/DRP-Fact-Sheet-23October19-Current-as-of-October-2019-1.pdf>

Day of trial mediation programs have been paused until further notice.

Online Dispute Resolution (ODR). Parties in small claims and unlawful detainer (eviction) cases should carefully review the Notice and other information they may receive about (ODR) requirements for their case.

c. Mediators and ADR and Bar organizations that provide mediation may be found on the internet.

3. Arbitration: Arbitration is less formal than trial, but like trial, the parties present evidence and arguments to the person who decides the outcome. In "binding" arbitration, the arbitrator's decision is final; there is no right to trial. In "nonbinding" arbitration, any party can request a trial after the arbitrator's decision. For more information about arbitration, visit <http://www.courts.ca.gov/programs-adr.htm>

4. Mandatory Settlement Conferences (MSC): MSCs are ordered by the Court and are often held close to the trial date or on the day of trial. The parties and their attorneys meet with a judge or settlement officer who does not make a decision but who instead assists the parties in evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the case and in negotiating a settlement. For information about the Court's MSC programs for civil cases, visit <http://www.lacourt.org/division/civil/C10047.aspx>

Los Angeles Superior Court ADR website: <http://www.lacourt.org/division/civil/C10109.aspx>
For general information and videos about ADR, visit <http://www.courts.ca.gov/programs-adr.htm>

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES		Reserved for Clerk's File Stamp FILED Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles 02/24/2022 Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court By: <u>N. Miramontes</u> Deputy
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS: Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012		
NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE		
Your case is assigned for all purposes to the judicial officer indicated below.		CASE NUMBER: 22STCV06780

THIS FORM IS TO BE SERVED WITH THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

ASSIGNED JUDGE		DEPT	ROOM		ASSIGNED JUDGE		DEPT	ROOM
✓	Barbara A. Meiers	12						

Given to the Plaintiff/Cross-Complainant/Attorney of Record

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court

on 02/24/2022
(Date)

By N. Miramontes, Deputy Clerk

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HANDLING UNLIMITED CIVIL CASES

The following critical provisions of the California Rules of Court, Title 3, Division 7, as applicable in the Superior Court, are summarized for your assistance.

APPLICATION

The Division 7 Rules were effective January 1, 2007. They apply to all general civil cases.

PRIORITY OVER OTHER RULES

The Division 7 Rules shall have priority over all other Local Rules to the extent the others are inconsistent.

CHALLENGE TO ASSIGNED JUDGE

A challenge under Code of Civil Procedure Section 170.6 must be made within **15** days after notice of assignment for all purposes to a judge, or if a party has not yet appeared, within 15 days of the first appearance.

TIME STANDARDS

Cases assigned to the Independent Calendaring Courts will be subject to processing under the following time standards:

COMPLAINTS

All complaints shall be served within 60 days of filing and proof of service shall be filed within 90 days.

CROSS-COMPLAINTS

Without leave of court first being obtained, no cross-complaint may be filed by any party after their answer is filed. Cross-complaints shall be served within 30 days of the filing date and a proof of service filed within 60 days of the filing date.

STATUS CONFERENCE

A status conference will be scheduled by the assigned Independent Calendar Judge no later than 270 days after the filing of the complaint. Counsel must be fully prepared to discuss the following issues: alternative dispute resolution, bifurcation, settlement, trial date, and expert witnesses.

FINAL STATUS CONFERENCE

The Court will require the parties to attend a final status conference not more than 10 days before the scheduled trial date. All parties shall have motions in limine, bifurcation motions, statements of major evidentiary issues, dispositive motions, requested form jury instructions, special jury instructions, and special jury verdicts timely filed and served prior to the conference. These matters may be heard and resolved at this conference. At least five days before this conference, counsel must also have exchanged lists of exhibits and witnesses, and have submitted to the court a brief statement of the case to be read to the jury panel as required by Chapter Three of the Los Angeles Superior Court Rules.

SANCTIONS

The court will impose appropriate sanctions for the failure or refusal to comply with Chapter Three Rules, orders made by the Court, and time standards or deadlines established by the Court or by the Chapter Three Rules. Such sanctions may be on a party, or if appropriate, on counsel for a party.

This is not a complete delineation of the Division 7 or Chapter Three Rules, and adherence only to the above provisions is therefore not a guarantee against the imposition of sanctions under Trial Court Delay Reduction. Careful reading and compliance with the actual Chapter Rules is imperative.

Class Actions

Pursuant to Local Rule 2.3, all class actions shall be filed at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse and are randomly assigned to a complex judge at the designated complex courthouse. If the case is found not to be a class action it will be returned to an Independent Calendar Courtroom for all purposes.

***Provisionally Complex Cases**

Cases filed as provisionally complex are initially assigned to the Supervising Judge of complex litigation for determination of complex status. If the case is deemed to be complex within the meaning of California Rules of Court 3.400 et seq., it will be randomly assigned to a complex judge at the designated complex courthouse. If the case is found not to be complex, it will be returned to an Independent Calendar Courtroom for all purposes.

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

MAY 03 2019

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk

By Rizalinda Mina, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

IN RE LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT) FIRST AMENDED GENERAL ORDER
 – MANDATORY ELECTRONIC FILING)
 FOR CIVIL)

On December 3, 2018, the Los Angeles County Superior Court mandated electronic filing of all documents in Limited Civil cases by litigants represented by attorneys. On January 2, 2019, the Los Angeles County Superior Court mandated electronic filing of all documents filed in Non-Complex Unlimited Civil cases by litigants represented by attorneys. (California Rules of Court, rule 2.253(b).) All electronically filed documents in Limited and Non-Complex Unlimited cases are subject to the following:

1) DEFINITIONS

- a) **“Bookmark”** A bookmark is a PDF document navigational tool that allows the reader to quickly locate and navigate to a designated point of interest within a document.
- b) **“Efiling Portal”** The official court website includes a webpage, referred to as the efiling portal, that gives litigants access to the approved Electronic Filing Service Providers.
- c) **“Electronic Envelope”** A transaction through the electronic service provider for submission of documents to the Court for processing which may contain one or more PDF documents attached.
- d) **“Electronic Filing”** Electronic Filing (eFiling) is the electronic transmission to a Court of a document in electronic form. (California Rules of Court, rule 2.250(b)(7).)

- e) **“Electronic Filing Service Provider”** An Electronic Filing Service Provider (EFSP) is a person or entity that receives an electronic filing from a party for retransmission to the Court. In the submission of filings, the EFSP does so on behalf of the electronic filer and not as an agent of the Court. (California Rules of Court, rule 2.250(b)(8).)
- f) **“Electronic Signature”** For purposes of these local rules and in conformity with Code of Civil Procedure section 17, subdivision (b)(3), section 34, and section 1010.6, subdivision (b)(2), Government Code section 68150, subdivision (g), and California Rules of Court, rule 2.257, the term “Electronic Signature” is generally defined as an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with an electronic record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the electronic record.
- g) **“Hyperlink”** An electronic link providing direct access from one distinctively marked place in a hypertext or hypermedia document to another in the same or different document.
- h) **“Portable Document Format”** A digital document format that preserves all fonts, formatting, colors and graphics of the original source document, regardless of the application platform used.

2) MANDATORY ELECTRONIC FILING

a) Trial Court Records

Pursuant to Government Code section 68150, trial court records may be created, maintained, and preserved in electronic format. Any document that the Court receives electronically must be clerically processed and must satisfy all legal filing requirements in order to be filed as an official court record (California Rules of Court, rules 2.100, et seq. and 2.253(b)(6)).

b) Represented Litigants

Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 2.253(b), represented litigants are required to electronically file documents with the Court through an approved EFSP.

c) Public Notice

The Court has issued a Public Notice with effective dates the Court required parties to electronically file documents through one or more approved EFSPs. Public Notices containing effective dates and the list of EFSPs are available on the Court’s website, at www.lacourt.org.

1 d) Documents in Related Cases

2 Documents in related cases must be electronically filed in the eFiling portal for that case type if
3 electronic filing has been implemented in that case type, regardless of whether the case has
4 been related to a Civil case.

5 3) EXEMPT LITIGANTS

6 a) Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 2.253(b)(2), self-represented litigants are exempt
7 from mandatory electronic filing requirements.

8 b) Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1010.6, subdivision (d)(3) and California Rules of
9 Court, rule 2.253(b)(4), any party may make application to the Court requesting to be excused
10 from filing documents electronically and be permitted to file documents by conventional
11 means if the party shows undue hardship or significant prejudice.

12 4) EXEMPT FILINGS

13 a) The following documents shall not be filed electronically:

14 i) Peremptory Challenges or Challenges for Cause of a Judicial Officer pursuant to Code of
15 Civil Procedure sections 170.6 or 170.3;

16 ii) Bonds/Undertaking documents;

17 iii) Trial and Evidentiary Hearing Exhibits

18 iv) Any ex parte application that is filed concurrently with a new complaint including those
19 that will be handled by a Writs and Receivers department in the Mosk courthouse; and

20 v) Documents submitted conditionally under seal. The actual motion or application shall be
21 electronically filed. A courtesy copy of the electronically filed motion or application to
22 submit documents conditionally under seal must be provided with the documents
23 submitted conditionally under seal.

24 b) Lodgments

25 Documents attached to a Notice of Lodgment shall be lodged and/or served conventionally in
26 paper form. The actual document entitled, "Notice of Lodgment," shall be filed electronically.

27 //

28 //

1 5) ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM WORKING PROCEDURES

2 Electronic filing service providers must obtain and manage registration information for persons
3 and entities electronically filing with the court.

4 6) TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

5 a) Electronic documents must be electronically filed in PDF, text searchable format **when**
6 technologically feasible without impairment of the document's image.

7 b) The table of contents for any filing must be bookmarked.

8 c) Electronic documents, including but not limited to, declarations, proofs of service, and
9 exhibits, must be bookmarked within the document pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule
10 3.1110(f)(4). Electronic bookmarks must include links to the first page of each bookmarked
11 item (e.g. exhibits, declarations, deposition excerpts) and with bookmark titles that identify the
12 bookedmarked item and briefly describe the item.

13 d) Attachments to primary documents must be bookmarked. Examples include, but are not
14 limited to, the following:

15 i) Depositions;

16 ii) Declarations;

17 iii) Exhibits (including exhibits to declarations);

18 iv) Transcripts (including excerpts within transcripts);

19 v) Points and Authorities;

20 vi) Citations; and

21 vii) Supporting Briefs.

22 e) Use of hyperlinks within documents (including attachments and exhibits) is strongly
23 encouraged.

24 f) Accompanying Documents

25 Each document accompanying a single pleading must be electronically filed as a **separate**
26 digital PDF document.

27 g) Multiple Documents

28 Multiple documents relating to one case can be uploaded in one envelope transaction.

1 h) Writs and Abstracts

2 Writs and Abstracts must be submitted as a separate electronic envelope.

3 i) Sealed Documents

4 If and when a judicial officer orders documents to be filed under seal, those documents must be
5 filed electronically (unless exempted under paragraph 4); the burden of accurately designating
6 the documents as sealed at the time of electronic submission is the submitting party's
7 responsibility.

8 j) Redaction

9 Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 1.201, it is the submitting party's responsibility to
10 redact confidential information (such as using initials for names of minors, using the last four
11 digits of a social security number, and using the year for date of birth) so that the information
12 shall not be publicly displayed.

13 7) ELECTRONIC FILING SCHEDULE

14 a) Filed Date

15 i) Any document received electronically by the court between 12:00 am and 11:59:59 pm
16 shall be deemed to have been effectively filed on that court day if accepted for filing. Any
17 document received electronically on a non-court day, is deemed to have been effectively
18 filed on the next court day if accepted. (California Rules of Court, rule 2.253(b)(6); Code
19 Civ. Proc. § 1010.6(b)(3).)

20 ii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this order, if a digital document is not filed in due
21 course because of: (1) an interruption in service; (2) a transmission error that is not the
22 fault of the transmitter; or (3) a processing failure that occurs after receipt, the Court may
23 order, either on its own motion or by noticed motion submitted with a declaration for Court
24 consideration, that the document be deemed filed and/or that the document's filing date
25 conform to the attempted transmission date.

26 8) EX PARTE APPLICATIONS

27 a) Ex parte applications and all documents in support thereof must be electronically filed no later
28 than 10:00 a.m. the court day before the ex parte hearing.

- b) Any written opposition to an ex parte application must be electronically filed by 8:30 a.m. the day of the ex parte hearing. A printed courtesy copy of any opposition to an ex parte application must be provided to the court the day of the ex parte hearing.

9) PRINTED COURTESY COPIES

- a) For any filing electronically filed two or fewer days before the hearing, a courtesy copy must be delivered to the courtroom by 4:30 p.m. the same business day the document is efiled. If the e filing is submitted after 4:30 p.m., the courtesy copy must be delivered to the courtroom by 10:00 a.m. the next business day.
- b) Regardless of the time of electronic filing, a printed courtesy copy (along with proof of electronic submission) is required for the following documents:
- i) Any printed document required pursuant to a Standing or General Order;
 - ii) Pleadings and motions (including attachments such as declarations and exhibits) of 26 pages or more;
 - iii) Pleadings and motions that include points and authorities;
 - iv) Demurrers;
 - v) Anti-SLAPP filings, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 425.16;
 - vi) Motions for Summary Judgment/Adjudication; and
 - vii) Motions to Compel Further Discovery.
- c) Nothing in this General Order precludes a Judicial Officer from requesting a courtesy copy of additional documents. Courtroom specific courtesy copy guidelines can be found at www.lacourt.org on the Civil webpage under "Courtroom Information."

10) WAIVER OF FEES AND COSTS FOR ELECTRONICALLY FILED DOCUMENTS

- a) Fees and costs associated with electronic filing must be waived for any litigant who has received a fee waiver. (California Rules of Court, rules 2.253(b)(), 2.258(b), Code Civ. Proc. § 1010.6(d)(2).)
- b) Fee waiver applications for waiver of court fees and costs pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1010.6, subdivision (b)(6), and California Rules of Court, rule 2.252(f), may be electronically filed in any authorized action or proceeding.

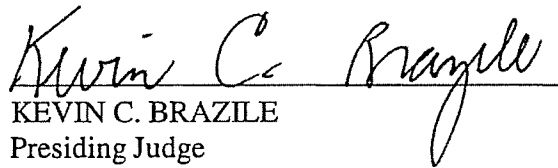
1 11) SIGNATURES ON ELECTRONIC FILING

2 For purposes of this General Order, all electronic filings must be in compliance with California
3 Rules of Court, rule 2.257. This General Order applies to documents filed within the Civil
4 Division of the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

5
6 This First Amended General Order supersedes any previous order related to electronic filing,
7 and is effective immediately, and is to remain in effect until otherwise ordered by the Civil
8 Supervising Judge and/or Presiding Judge.

9
10 DATED: May 3, 2019



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KEVIN C. BRAZILE
Presiding Judge

VOLUNTARY EFFICIENT LITIGATION STIPULATIONS

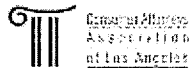


Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

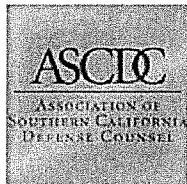


Los Angeles County
Bar Association
Litigation Section

Los Angeles County
Bar Association Labor and
Employment Law Section



Consumer Attorneys
Association of Los Angeles



Southern California
Defense Counsel



Association of
Business Trial Lawyers



California Employment
Lawyers Association

The Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation, Discovery Resolution Stipulation, and Motions in Limine Stipulation are voluntary stipulations entered into by the parties. The parties may enter into one, two, or all three of the stipulations; however, they may not alter the stipulations as written, because the Court wants to ensure uniformity of application. These stipulations are meant to encourage cooperation between the parties and to assist in resolving issues in a manner that promotes economic case resolution and judicial efficiency.

The following organizations endorse the goal of promoting efficiency in litigation and ask that counsel consider using these stipulations as a voluntary way to promote communications and procedures among counsel and with the court to fairly resolve issues in their cases.

◆ Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section ◆

◆ Los Angeles County Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section ◆

◆ Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles ◆

◆ Southern California Defense Counsel ◆

◆ Association of Business Trial Lawyers ◆

◆ California Employment Lawyers Association ◆

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY:		STATE BAR NUMBER	Reserved for Clerk's File Stamp
TELEPHONE NO.: E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): ATTORNEY FOR (Name):		FAX NO. (Optional):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES			
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:			
PLAINTIFF:			
DEFENDANT:			CASE NUMBER:
STIPULATION – EARLY ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING			

This stipulation is intended to encourage cooperation among the parties at an early stage in the litigation and to assist the parties in efficient case resolution.

The parties agree that:

1. The parties commit to conduct an initial conference (in-person or via teleconference or via videoconference) within 15 days from the date this stipulation is signed, *to discuss and consider whether there can be agreement on the following:*
 - a. Are motions to challenge the pleadings necessary? If the issue can be resolved by amendment as of right, or if the Court would allow leave to amend, could an amended complaint resolve most or all of the issues a demurrer might otherwise raise? If so, the parties agree to work through pleading issues so that a demurrer need only raise issues they cannot resolve. Is the issue that the defendant seeks to raise amenable to resolution on demurrer, or would some other type of motion be preferable? Could a voluntary targeted exchange of documents or information by any party cure an uncertainty in the pleadings?
 - b. Initial mutual exchanges of documents at the “core” of the litigation. (For example, in an employment case, the employment records, personnel file and documents relating to the conduct in question could be considered “core.” In a personal injury case, an incident or police report, medical records, and repair or maintenance records could be considered “core.”);
 - c. Exchange of names and contact information of witnesses;
 - d. Any insurance agreement that may be available to satisfy part or all of a judgment, or to indemnify or reimburse for payments made to satisfy a judgment;
 - e. Exchange of any other information that might be helpful to facilitate understanding, handling, or resolution of the case in a manner that preserves objections or privileges by agreement;
 - f. Controlling issues of law that, if resolved early, will promote efficiency and economy in other phases of the case. Also, when and how such issues can be presented to the Court;
 - g. Whether or when the case should be scheduled with a settlement officer, what discovery or court ruling on legal issues is reasonably required to make settlement discussions meaningful, and whether the parties wish to use a sitting judge or a private mediator or other options as

SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
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discussed in the "Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Information Package" served with the complaint;

- h. Computation of damages, including documents, not privileged or protected from disclosure, on which such computation is based;
 - i. Whether the case is suitable for the Expedited Jury Trial procedures (see information at www.lacourt.org under "Civil" and then under "General Information").
2. The time for a defending party to respond to a complaint or cross-complaint will be extended to _____ (INSERT DATE) for the complaint, and _____ (INSERT DATE) for the cross-complaint, which is comprised of the 30 days to respond under Government Code § 68616(b), and the 30 days permitted by Code of Civil Procedure section 1054(a), good cause having been found by the Civil Supervising Judge due to the case management benefits provided by this Stipulation. A copy of the General Order can be found at www.lacourt.org under "Civil", click on "General Information", then click on "Voluntary Efficient Litigation Stipulations".
 3. The parties will prepare a joint report titled "Joint Status Report Pursuant to Initial Conference and Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation, and if desired, a proposed order summarizing results of their meet and confer and advising the Court of any way it may assist the parties' efficient conduct or resolution of the case. The parties shall attach the Joint Status Report to the Case Management Conference statement, and file the documents when the CMC statement is due.
 4. References to "days" mean calendar days, unless otherwise noted. If the date for performing any act pursuant to this stipulation falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Court holiday, then the time for performing that act shall be extended to the next Court day

The following parties stipulate:

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY:		STATE BAR NUMBER	Reserved for Clerk's File Stamp
TELEPHONE NO.: E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): ATTORNEY FOR (Name):		FAX NO. (Optional):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES			
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:			
PLAINTIFF:			
DEFENDANT:			CASE NUMBER:
STIPULATION – DISCOVERY RESOLUTION			

This stipulation is intended to provide a fast and informal resolution of discovery issues through limited paperwork and an informal conference with the Court to aid in the resolution of the issues.

The parties agree that:

1. Prior to the discovery cut-off in this action, no discovery motion shall be filed or heard unless the moving party first makes a written request for an Informal Discovery Conference pursuant to the terms of this stipulation.
2. At the Informal Discovery Conference the Court will consider the dispute presented by parties and determine whether it can be resolved informally. Nothing set forth herein will preclude a party from making a record at the conclusion of an Informal Discovery Conference, either orally or in writing.
3. Following a reasonable and good faith attempt at an informal resolution of each issue to be presented, a party may request an Informal Discovery Conference pursuant to the following procedures:
 - a. The party requesting the Informal Discovery Conference will:
 - i. File a Request for Informal Discovery Conference with the clerk's office on the approved form (copy attached) and deliver a courtesy, conformed copy to the assigned department;
 - ii. Include a brief summary of the dispute and specify the relief requested; and
 - iii. Serve the opposing party pursuant to any authorized or agreed method of service that ensures that the opposing party receives the Request for Informal Discovery Conference no later than the next court day following the filing.
 - b. Any Answer to a Request for Informal Discovery Conference must:
 - i. Also be filed on the approved form (copy attached);
 - ii. Include a brief summary of why the requested relief should be denied;

SHORT TITLE:

CASE NUMBER:

- iii. Be filed within two (2) court days of receipt of the Request; and
 - iv. Be served on the opposing party pursuant to any authorized or agreed upon method of service that ensures that the opposing party receives the Answer no later than the next court day following the filing.
- c. No other pleadings, including but not limited to exhibits, declarations, or attachments, will be accepted.
- d. If the Court has not granted or denied the Request for Informal Discovery Conference within ten (10) days following the filing of the Request, then it shall be deemed to have been denied. If the Court acts on the Request, the parties will be notified whether the Request for Informal Discovery Conference has been granted or denied and, if granted, the date and time of the Informal Discovery Conference, which must be within twenty (20) days of the filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference.
- e. If the conference is not held within twenty (20) days of the filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference, unless extended by agreement of the parties and the Court, then the Request for the Informal Discovery Conference shall be deemed to have been denied at that time.
4. If (a) the Court has denied a conference or (b) one of the time deadlines above has expired without the Court having acted or (c) the Informal Discovery Conference is concluded without resolving the dispute, then a party may file a discovery motion to address unresolved issues.
5. The parties hereby further agree that the time for making a motion to compel or other discovery motion is tolled from the date of filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference until (a) the request is denied or deemed denied or (b) twenty (20) days after the filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference, whichever is earlier, unless extended by Order of the Court.
- It is the understanding and intent of the parties that this stipulation shall, for each discovery dispute to which it applies, constitute a writing memorializing a "specific later date to which the propounding [or demanding or requesting] party and the responding party have agreed in writing," within the meaning of Code Civil Procedure sections 2030.300(c), 2031.320(c), and 2033.290(c).
6. Nothing herein will preclude any party from applying *ex parte* for appropriate relief, including an order shortening time for a motion to be heard concerning discovery.
7. Any party may terminate this stipulation by giving twenty-one (21) days notice of intent to terminate the stipulation.
8. References to "days" mean calendar days, unless otherwise noted. If the date for performing any act pursuant to this stipulation falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Court holiday, then the time for performing that act shall be extended to the next Court day.

SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
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The following parties stipulate:

Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)
Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR _____)
Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR _____)
Date:	➤	
_____		_____
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

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NAME AND ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY:		STATE BAR NUMBER	Reserved for Clerk's File Stamp
TELEPHONE NO.: E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): ATTORNEY FOR (Name):		FAX NO. (Optional):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES			
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:			
PLAINTIFF:			
DEFENDANT:			CASE NUMBER:
INFORMAL DISCOVERY CONFERENCE (pursuant to the Discovery Resolution Stipulation of the parties)			

1. This document relates to:

☐

Request for Informal Discovery Conference

☐

Answer to Request for Informal Discovery Conference

2. Deadline for Court to decide on Request: _____ (insert date 10 calendar days following filing of the Request).

3. Deadline for Court to hold Informal Discovery Conference: _____ (insert date 20 calendar days following filing of the Request).

4. **For a Request for Informal Discovery Conference, briefly describe the nature of the discovery dispute, including the facts and legal arguments at issue. For an Answer to Request for Informal Discovery Conference, briefly describe why the Court should deny the requested discovery, including the facts and legal arguments at issue.**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY:		STATE BAR NUMBER	Reserved for Clerk's File Stamp
TELEPHONE NO.: E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): ATTORNEY FOR (Name):		FAX NO. (Optional):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES			
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:			
PLAINTIFF:			
DEFENDANT:			CASE NUMBER:
STIPULATION AND ORDER – MOTIONS IN LIMINE			

This stipulation is intended to provide fast and informal resolution of evidentiary issues through diligent efforts to define and discuss such issues and limit paperwork.

The parties agree that:

1. At least ____ days before the final status conference, each party will provide all other parties with a list containing a one paragraph explanation of each proposed motion in limine. Each one paragraph explanation must identify the substance of a single proposed motion in limine and the grounds for the proposed motion.
2. The parties thereafter will meet and confer, either in person or via teleconference or videoconference, concerning all proposed motions in limine. In that meet and confer, the parties will determine:
 - a. Whether the parties can stipulate to any of the proposed motions. If the parties so stipulate, they may file a stipulation and proposed order with the Court.
 - b. Whether any of the proposed motions can be briefed and submitted by means of a short joint statement of issues. For each motion which can be addressed by a short joint statement of issues, a short joint statement of issues must be filed with the Court 10 days prior to the final status conference. Each side's portion of the short joint statement of issues may not exceed three pages. The parties will meet and confer to agree on a date and manner for exchanging the parties' respective portions of the short joint statement of issues and the process for filing the short joint statement of issues.
3. All proposed motions in limine that are not either the subject of a stipulation or briefed via a short joint statement of issues will be briefed and filed in accordance with the California Rules of Court and the Los Angeles Superior Court Rules.

SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
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The following parties stipulate:

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

➤

(ATTORNEY FOR _____)

THE COURT SO ORDERS.

Date: _____

JUDICIAL OFFICER

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FILED
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

MAY 11 2011

JOHN A. CLARKE, CLERK
N. Navarro
BY NANCY NAVARRO, DEPUTY

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

General Order Re	)	ORDER PURSUANT TO CCP 1054(a),
Use of Voluntary Efficient Litigation	)	EXTENDING TIME TO RESPOND BY
Stipulations	)	30 DAYS WHEN PARTIES AGREE
	)	TO EARLY ORGANIZATIONAL
	)	MEETING STIPULATION

Whereas the Los Angeles Superior Court and the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association have cooperated in drafting "Voluntary Efficient Litigation Stipulations" and in proposing the stipulations for use in general jurisdiction civil litigation in Los Angeles County;

Whereas the Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section; the Los Angeles County Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section; the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles; the Association of Southern California Defense Counsel; the Association of Business Trial Lawyers of Los Angeles; and the California Employment Lawyers Association all "endorse the goal of promoting efficiency in litigation, and ask that counsel consider using these stipulations as a voluntary way to promote communications and procedures among counsel and with the court to fairly resolve issues in their cases;"

1 Whereas the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation is intended to encourage
2 cooperation among the parties at an early stage in litigation in order to achieve
3 litigation efficiencies;

4 Whereas it is intended that use of the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation
5 will promote economic case resolution and judicial efficiency;

6
7 Whereas, in order to promote a meaningful discussion of pleading issues at the
8 Early Organizational Meeting and potentially to reduce the need for motions to
9 challenge the pleadings, it is necessary to allow additional time to conduct the Early
10 Organizational Meeting before the time to respond to a complaint or cross complaint
11 has expired;

12
13 Whereas Code of Civil Procedure section 1054(a) allows a judge of the court in
14 which an action is pending to extend for not more than 30 days the time to respond to
15 a pleading "upon good cause shown";

16 Now, therefore, this Court hereby finds that there is good cause to extend for 30
17 days the time to respond to a complaint or to a cross complaint in any action in which
18 the parties have entered into the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation. This finding
19 of good cause is based on the anticipated judicial efficiency and benefits of economic
20 case resolution that the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation is intended to
21 promote.
22

23
24 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, in any case in which the parties have entered
25 into an Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation, the time for a defending party to
26 respond to a complaint or cross complaint shall be extended by the 30 days permitted
27
28

1 by Code of Civil Procedure section 1054(a) without further need of a specific court
2 order.

3
4 DATED: May 11, 2011

Carolyn B. Kuhl
Carolyn B. Kuhl, Supervising Judge of the
Civil Departments, Los Angeles Superior Court