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and on behalf of all others similarly situated
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9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
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11 ALBERTO GATICA-CASTRO, individually,
12 and on behalf of all others similarly situated

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 SPECIALTY TEAM PLASTERING, INC., a
California corporation, and DOES 1 through
16 50, inclusive,

17 Defendants
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CASE NO.: 22CV01120

CLASS ACTION

COMPLAINT FOR:

1. Failure to Provide Required Meal Periods
2. Failure to Provide Required Rest Periods
3. Failure to Pay Overtime Wages
4. Failure to Pay Minimum Wages
5. Failure to Pay All Wages Due to Discharged and Quitting Employees
6. Failure to Furnish Accurate Itemized Wage Statements
7. Failure to Maintain Required Records
8. Failure to Indemnify Employees for Necessary Expenditures Incurred in Discharge of Duties
9. Unfair and Unlawful Business Practices

REPRESENTATIVE ACTION:

10. Penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act, as Representative Action

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The Superior Court of the State of California has jurisdiction in this matter because PLAINTIFF is a resident of the State of California, and Defendants SPECIALTY TEAM PLASTERING, INC., a California corporation, and DOES 1 through 50 (collectively “DEFENDANTS”), are qualified to do business in California and regularly conduct business in California. Further, no federal question is at issue because the claims are based solely on California law.

PLAINTIFF

3. PLAINTIFF is a resident of the State of California and a former employee of DEFENDANTS during the relevant time period.

-2-
COMPLAINT

5. PLAINTIFF brings this action on behalf of himself and the following similarly situated class of individuals (“CLASS MEMBERS”): all current and former non-exempt employees of DEFENDANTS in the State of California at any time within the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this action and ending at the time this action settles or the class is certified (the “CLASS PERIOD”). PLAINTIFF reserves the right to name additional class representatives.

DEFENDANTS

6. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendant SPECIALTY TEAM PLASTERING, INC. is, and at all times relevant hereto was, a California corporation. PLAINTIFF is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendant SPECIALTY TEAM PLASTERING, INC. is authorized to conduct business in the State of California, and does conduct business in the State of California. Specifically, Defendant SPECIALTY TEAM PLASTERING, INC. maintains offices and facilities and conducts business in, and engages in illegal payroll practices or policies in, the County of Santa Barbara, State of California.

7. The true names and capacities of DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are unknown to PLAINTIFF at this time, and PLAINTIFF therefore sues such DOE Defendants under fictitious names. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each Defendant designated as a DOE is in some manner highly responsible for the occurrences alleged herein, and that PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS' injuries and damages, as alleged herein, were proximately caused by the conduct of such DOE Defendants. PLAINTIFF will seek leave of the court to amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities of such DOE Defendants when ascertained.

8. At all relevant times herein, DEFENDANTS were the joint employers of PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that at all times material to this complaint DEFENDANTS were the alter egos, divisions, affiliates, integrated enterprises, joint employers, subsidiaries, parents, principals, related entities, co-conspirators, authorized agents, partners, joint venturers, and/or guarantors, actual or ostensible, of each other. Each Defendant was completely dominated by his, her or its co-Defendant, and each

1 was the alter ego of the other.

2 9. At all relevant times herein, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS were employed
3 by DEFENDANTS under employment agreements that were partly written, partly oral, and partly
4 implied. In perpetrating the acts and omissions alleged herein, DEFENDANTS, and each of them,
5 acted pursuant to, and in furtherance of, their policies and practices of not paying PLAINTIFF and
6 CLASS MEMBERS all wages earned and due, through methods and schemes which include, but
7 are not limited to, failing to pay overtime premiums; failing to provide rest and meal periods; failing
8 to properly maintain records; failing to provide accurate itemized statements for each pay period;
9 failing to properly compensate PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS for necessary expenditures;
10 and requiring, permitting or suffering the employees to work off the clock, in violation of the
11 California Labor Code and the applicable Welfare Commission ("IWC") Orders.

12 10. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes, and thereon allege, that each and every one of
13 the acts and omissions alleged herein were performed by, and/or attributable to, all DEFENDANTS,
14 each acting as agents and/or employees, and/or under the direction and control of, each of the other
15 DEFENDANTS, and that said acts and failures to act were within the course and scope of said
16 agency, employment and/or direction and control.

17 11. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 558.1, DEFENDANTS and any person acting
18 on behalf of any of the DEFENDANTS, are liable for violating, or causing to violate, any provision
19 regulating minimum wages or hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare
20 Commission, or Labor Code §§ 203, 226, 226.7, 1193.6, 1194, or 2802.

21 12. As a direct and proximate result of the unlawful actions of DEFENDANTS,
22 PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have suffered, and continue to suffer, from loss of earnings
23 in amounts as yet unascertained, but subject to proof at trial, and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

24 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

25 13. This action is appropriately suited for a Class Action because:

26 a. The potential class is a significant number. Joinder of all current and former
27 employees individually would be impractical.

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b. This action involves common questions of law and fact to the potential class because the action focuses on DEFENDANTS' systematic course of illegal payroll practices and policies, which was applied to all non-exempt employees in violation of the Labor Code, the applicable IWC wage order, and the Business and Professions Code which prohibits unfair business practices arising from such violations.

c. The claims of PLAINTIFF are typical of the class because DEFENDANTS subjected all non-exempt employees to identical violations of the Labor Code, the applicable IWC wage order, and the Business and Professions Code.

d. PLAINTIFF is able to fairly and adequately protect the interests of all members of the class because it is in his best interests to prosecute the claims alleged herein to obtain full compensation due to them for all services rendered and hours worked.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure to Provide Required Meal Periods

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197; IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 11]

(Against all DEFENDANTS)

14. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

15. During the CLASS PERIOD, as part of DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and practices to deprive their non-exempt employees all wages earned and due, DEFENDANTS required, permitted or otherwise suffered PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS to take less than the 30-minute meal period, or to work through them, and have failed to otherwise provide the required meal periods to PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS pursuant to California Labor Code § 226.7, 512 and IWC Order No. 16-2001, § 11.

16. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 11 by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS who were not provided with a meal period, in accordance with the applicable wage order, one additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a meal period was not provided.

1 17. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7, 510, 1194, 1197,
2 and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001 by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS
3 for all hours worked during their meal periods.

4 18. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and CLASS
5 MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned
6 and due, interest, penalties, expenses, and costs of suit.

7 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

8 **Failure to Provide Required Rest Periods**

9 **[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512; IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 12]**

10 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

11 19. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
12 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

13 20. At all times relevant herein, as part of DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and
14 practices to deprive their non-exempt employees all wages earned and due, DEFENDANTS failed
15 to provide rest periods to PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS as required under California Labor
16 Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 12.

17 21. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage
18 Order No. 16-2001, § 12 by failing to pay PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS who were not
19 provided with a rest period, in accordance with the applicable wage order, one additional hour of
20 compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a rest period was not
21 provided.

22 22. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and CLASS
23 MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned
24 and due, interest, penalties, expenses, and costs of suit.

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1 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **Failure to Pay Overtime Wages**

3 **[Cal. Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, 1198; IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 3]**

4 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

5 23. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
6 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

7 24. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001,
8 § 3, DEFENDANTS are required to compensate PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS for all
9 overtime, which is calculated at one and one-half (1 ½) times the regular rate of pay for all hours
10 worked in excess of eight (8) hours per day and/or forty (40) hours per week, and for the first eight
11 (8) hours on the seventh consecutive workday, with double time for all hours worked in excess of
12 twelve (12) hours in any workday and for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours on the seventh
13 consecutive day of work in any workweek.

14 25. PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS are current and former non-exempt employees
15 entitled to the protections of California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-
16 2001. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and CLASS
17 MEMBERS for all overtime hours worked as required under the foregoing provisions of the
18 California Labor Code and IWC Wage Order by, among other things: failing to pay overtime at one
19 and one-half (1 ½) or double the regular rate of pay as provided by California Labor Code §§ 510,
20 1194, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 3; requiring, permitting or suffering PLAINTIFF and
21 CLASS MEMBERS to work off the clock; requiring, permitting or suffering PLAINTIFF and
22 CLASS MEMBERS to work through meal and rest breaks; illegally and inaccurately recording time
23 in which PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS worked; failing to properly maintain PLAINTIFF's
24 and CLASS MEMBERS' records; failing to provide accurate itemized wage statements to
25 PLAINTIFF for each pay period; and other methods to be discovered.

26 26. In violation of California law, DEFENDANTS have knowingly and willfully refused
27 to perform their obligations to compensate PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS for all wages
28 earned and all hours worked. As a proximate result, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have

1 suffered, and continue to suffer, substantial losses related to the use and enjoyment of such wages,
2 lost interest on such wages, and expenses and attorneys' fees in seeking to compel DEFENDANTS
3 to fully perform their obligations under state law, all to their respective damages in amounts
4 according to proof at time of trial, and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

5 27. DEFENDANTS' conduct described herein violates California Labor Code §§ 510,
6 1194, 1198 and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 3. Therefore, pursuant to California Labor Code
7 §§ 200, 203, 226, 558, 1194, 1197.1, and other applicable provisions under the California Labor
8 Code and IWC Wage Orders, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to recover the
9 unpaid balance of wages owed to them by DEFENDANTS, plus interest, penalties, attorneys' fees,
10 expenses, and costs of suit.

11 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

12 **Failure to Pay Minimum Wages**

13 **[Cal Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197; IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 4]**

14 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

15 28. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
16 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

17 29. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-
18 2001, § 4, payment to an employee of less than the applicable minimum wage for all hours worked
19 in a payroll period is unlawful.

20 30. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to pay PLAINTIFF and CLASS
21 MEMBERS minimum wages for all hours worked by, among other things: requiring, permitting or
22 suffering PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS to work off the clock; requiring, permitting or
23 suffering PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS to work through meal and rest breaks; illegally and
24 inaccurately recording time in which PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS worked; failing to
25 properly maintain PLAINTIFF's and CLASS MEMBERS' records; failing to provide accurate
26 itemized wage statements to PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS for each pay period; and other
27 methods to be discovered.

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1 31. DEFENDANTS' conduct described herein violates California Labor Code §§ 1194,
2 1197, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 4. As a proximate result of the aforementioned
3 violations, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to
4 proof at trial. Therefore, pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 200, 203, 226, 558, 1194, 1197.1,
5 and other applicable provisions under the Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, PLAINTIFF and
6 CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to recover the unpaid balance of wages owed to them by
7 DEFENDANTS, plus interest, penalties, attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs of suit.

8 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

9 **Failure to Pay All Wages Due to Discharged and Quitting Employees**

10 **[Cal. Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203]**

11 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

12 32. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
13 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

14 33. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 201, 202, and 203, DEFENDANTS are required
15 to pay all earned and unpaid wages to an employee who is discharged. California Labor Code § 201
16 mandates that if an employer discharges an employee, the employee's wages accrued and unpaid at
17 the time of discharge are due and payable immediately.

18 34. Furthermore, pursuant to California Labor Code § 202, DEFENDANTS are required
19 to pay all accrued wages due to an employee no later than 72 hours after the employee quits his or
20 her employment, unless the employee provided 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to
21 quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.

22 35. California Labor Code § 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to pay, in
23 accordance with California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202, any wages of an employee who is
24 discharged or who quits, the employer is liable for waiting time penalties in the form of continued
25 compensation to the employee at the same rate for up to 30 workdays.

26 36. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS have willfully failed to pay accrued
27 wages and other compensation to PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS in accordance with
28 California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202.

37. As a result, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties, including the waiting time penalties provided in California Labor Code § 203, together with interest thereon, as well as other available remedies.

38. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful actions and omissions, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have been deprived of compensation in an amount according to proof at the time of trial, but in excess of the jurisdiction of this Court, and are entitled to recovery of such amounts, plus interest thereon, and attorneys' fees and costs, pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 2699.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure to Furnish Accurate Itemized Wage Statements

[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226; IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 7]

(Against all DEFENDANTS)

39. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

40. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS routinely failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS with timely, accurate, and itemized wage statements in writing showing each employee's gross wages earned, total hours worked, the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate, all deductions made, net wages earned, the name and address of the legal entity or entities employing PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS, the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, only the last four digits of the employees social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number, and all applicable hourly rates in effect during each pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate, in violation of California Labor Code § 226 and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 7.

41. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS knowingly and intentionally failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS with timely, accurate, and itemized wage statements in accordance with California Labor Code § 226(a).



1 42. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful actions and omissions,
2 PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
3 and seek all wages earned and due, plus interest thereon. Additionally, PLAINTIFF and CLASS
4 MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties, including but not limited to civil
5 penalties pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 226(e), 226.3, and 1174.5, and an award of costs,
6 expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees, including but not limited to those provided in California
7 Labor Code § 226(e), as well as other available remedies.

8 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

9 **Failure to Maintain Required Records**

10 **[Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 1174; IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 7]**

11 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

12 43. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
13 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

14 44. During the CLASS PERIOD, as part of DEFENDANTS' illegal payroll policies and
15 practices to deprive PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS of all wages earned and due,
16 DEFENDANTS knowingly and intentionally failed to maintain records as required under California
17 Labor Code §§ 226, 1174, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 7, including but not limited to the
18 following records: total daily hours worked by each employee; applicable rates of pay; all
19 deductions; meal periods; time records showing when each employee begins and ends each work
20 period; and accurate itemized statements.

21 45. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful actions and omissions,
22 PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
23 and are entitled to all wages earned and due, plus interest thereon. Additionally, PLAINTIFF and
24 CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all available statutory penalties, including but not limited to civil
25 penalties pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 226(e), 226.3, and 1174.5, and an award of costs,
26 expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees, including but not limited to those provided in California
27 Labor Code § 226(e), as well as other available remedies.

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1 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **Failure to Indemnify Employees for Necessary Expenditures Incurred in Discharge of Duties**

3 **[Cal. Labor Code § 2802]**

4 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

5 46. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
6 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

7 47. California Labor Code § 2802(a) requires an employer to indemnify an employee for
8 all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge
9 of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer.

10 48. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS knowingly and willfully failed to
11 indemnify PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS for all business expenses and/or losses incurred in
12 direct consequence of the discharge of their duties while working under the direction of
13 DEFENDANTS, including but not limited to expenses for uniforms, tools, safety equipment,
14 mileage, cell phone usage, and other employment-related expenses, in violation of California Labor
15 Code § 2802.

16 49. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful actions and omissions,
17 PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
18 and seek reimbursement of all necessary expenditures, plus interest thereon pursuant to California
19 Labor Code § 2802(b). Additionally, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to all
20 available statutory penalties and an award of costs, expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees,
21 including those provided in California Labor Code § 2802(c), as well as other available remedies.

22 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

23 **Unfair and Unlawful Business Practices**

24 **[Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et. seq.]**

25 **(Against all DEFENDANTS)**

26 50. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference, as though fully set forth, the
27 allegations in the foregoing paragraphs.

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1 51. Each and every one of DEFENDANTS' acts and omissions in violation of the
2 California Labor Code and/or the applicable IWC Wage Order as alleged herein, including but not
3 limited to DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to provide required meal periods, DEFENDANTS'
4 failure and refusal to provide required rest periods, DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to pay
5 overtime compensation, DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to pay minimum wages,
6 DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to pay all wages due to discharged or quitting employees,
7 DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to furnish accurate itemized wage statements; DEFENDANTS'
8 failure and refusal to maintain required records, DEFENDANTS' failure and refusal to indemnify
9 PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS for necessary expenditures and/or losses incurring in
10 discharging their duties, constitutes an unfair and unlawful business practice under California
11 Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.

12 52. DEFENDANTS' violations of California wage and hour laws constitute a business
13 practice because DEFENDANTS' aforementioned acts and omissions were done repeatedly over a
14 significant period of time, and in a systematic manner, to the detriment of PLAINTIFF and CLASS
15 MEMBERS.

16 53. DEFENDANTS have avoided payment of wages, overtime wages, meal periods, rest
17 periods, and other benefits as required by the California Labor Code, the California Code of
18 Regulations, and the applicable IWC Wage Order. Further, DEFENDANTS have failed to record,
19 report, and pay the correct sums of assessment to the state authorities under the California Labor
20 Code and other applicable regulations.

21 54. As a result of DEFENDANTS' unfair and unlawful business practices,
22 DEFENDANTS have reaped unfair and illegal profits during the CLASS PERIOD at the expense
23 of PLAINTIFF, CLASS MEMBERS, and members of the public. DEFENDANTS should be made
24 to disgorge their ill-gotten gains and to restore them to PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS.

25 55. DEFENDANTS' unfair and unlawful business practices entitle PLAINTIFF and
26 CLASS MEMBERS to seek preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including but not limited
27 to orders that DEFENDANTS account for, disgorge, and restore to PLAINTIFF and CLASS
28 MEMBERS the wages and other compensation unlawfully withheld from them. PLAINTIFF and

1 CLASS MEMBERS are entitled to restitution of all monies to be disgorged from DEFENDANTS
2 in an amount according to proof at the time of trial, but in excess of the jurisdiction of this Court.

3 **TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

4 **Representative Action for Civil Penalties**

5 **[Cal. Labor Code §§ 2698–2699.5]**

6 **(Against All DEFENDANTS)**

7 56. PLAINTIFF incorporates herein by specific reference as though fully set forth the
8 allegations in all preceding paragraphs, with exception of the allegations in paragraph 13 and the
9 subparagraphs thereto.

10 57. PLAINTIFF is an “aggrieved employee” within the meaning of California Labor
11 Code § 2699(c), and a proper representative to bring a civil action on behalf of himself and other
12 current and former employees of DEFENDANTS pursuant to the procedures specified in California
13 Labor Code § 2699.3, because PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS were employed by
14 DEFENDANTS and the alleged violations of the California Labor Code were committed against
15 PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS.

16 58. Pursuant to the California Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”), Labor
17 Code §§ 2698–2699.5, PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBBERS seeks to recover civil penalties,
18 including but not limited to penalties under California Labor Code §§ 2699, 210, 226.3, 558,
19 1174.5, 1197.1, and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001, § 20, from DEFENDANTS in a representative
20 action for the violations set forth above, including but not limited to violations of California Labor
21 Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 1174, 1194, 1197, 1198, and 2802. PLAINTIFF
22 and CLASS MEMBERS are also entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs
23 pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699(g)(1).

24 59. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 2699.3, PLAINTIFF gave written notice on
25 January 13, 2022 by online filing to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency
26 (“LWDA”) and by certified mail to DEFENDANTS of the specific provisions of the California
27 Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders alleged to have been violated, including the facts and theories
28 to support the alleged violations. More than sixty-five (65) days have passed and the LWDA has

1 not provided notice to PLAINTIFF that it intends to investigate the alleged violations.

2 60. Therefore, PLAINTIFF has complied with all of the requirements set forth in
3 California Labor Code § 2699.3 to commence a representative action under PAGA.

4 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

5 **WHEREFORE**, PLAINTIFF, individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly
6 situated, respectfully prays for relief against DEFENDANTS and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,
7 and each of them, as follows:

- 8 1. For compensatory damages in an amount to be ascertained at trial;
- 9 2. For restitution of all monies due to PLAINTIFF and CLASS MEMBERS, as well as
10 disgorged profits from DEFENDANTS' unfair and unlawful business practices;
- 11 3. For meal and rest period compensation pursuant to California Labor Code § 226.7
12 and IWC Wage Order No. 16-2001;
- 13 4. For liquidated damages pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 1194.2 and 1197.1;
- 14 5. For preliminary and permanent injunctive relief enjoining DEFENDANTS from
15 violating the relevant provisions of the California Labor Code and the IWC Wage Orders, and from
16 engaging in the unlawful business practices complained of herein;
- 17 6. For waiting time penalties pursuant to California Labor Code § 203;
- 18 7. For statutory and civil penalties according to proof, including but not limited to all
19 penalties authorized by the California Labor Code §§ 226(e) and §§ 2698–2699.5;
- 20 8. For interest on the unpaid wages at 10% per annum pursuant to California Labor
21 Code §§ 218.6, 1194, 2802, California Civil Code §§ 3287, 3288, and/or any other applicable
22 provision providing for pre-judgment interest;
- 23 9. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 218.5,
24 1194, 2699, 2802, California Civil Code § 1021.5, and any other applicable provisions providing
25 for attorneys' fees and costs;
- 26 10. For declaratory relief;
- 27 11. For an order requiring and certifying the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth,
28 Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Causes of Action as a class action;

1 12. For an order appointing PLAINTIFF as class representative, and PLAINTIFF's
2 counsel as class counsel; and

3 13. For such further relief that the Court may deem just and proper.
4

5 DATED: March 21, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

6 MATERN LAW GROUP, PC
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8 By:



9 MATTHEW J. MATERN
10 MATTHEW W. GORDON
11 KEVIN S. WALLENTINE
12 Attorneys for Plaintiff
13 ALBERT GATICA-CASTRO, individually,
14 and on behalf of all other persons similarly
15 situated
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