

Joseph Lavi, Esq. (SBN 209776)
Vincent C. Granberry, Esq. (SBN 276483)
Danielle Montero, Esq. (SBN 333945)

LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
8889 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
Beverly Hills, California 90211
Telephone: (310) 432-0000
Facsimile: (310) 432-0001
Emails: jlavi@lelawfirm.com
vgranberry@lelawfirm.com
dmontero@lelawfirm.com
wh2@lelawfirm.com

Assigned for All Purposes
Judge Randall J. Sherman
cx-105

Attorneys for Plaintiff OCTAVIO CASSO LOPEZ,
on behalf of himself and current and former aggrieved employees

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

OCTAVIO CASSO LOPEZ, on behalf of
himself and other aggrieved employees,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BARS BAKERS, LLC; CONNECT STAFFING,
INC.; and DOES 1 to 100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 30-2022-01284641-CU-OE-CXC

PAGA ACTION

**PLAINTIFF OCTAVIO CASSO
LOPEZ'S COMPLAINT FOR:**

- CIVIL PENALTIES PURSUANT
TO THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS
GENERAL ACT OF 2004
("PAGA"), LABOR CODE
SECTIONS 2698, ET SEQ**

COMES NOW Plaintiff OCTAVIO CASSO LOPEZ ("Plaintiff"), who alleges and
complains against Defendants BARS BAKERS, LLC; CONNECT STAFFING, INC.; and DOES
1 to 100, inclusive (collectively "Defendants") as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This is a Private Attorneys' General Act of 2004, Lab. Code §§ 2698, *et seq.*
("PAGA") representative action brought by Plaintiff on behalf of the State of California, himself
and other current and former aggrieved employees of Defendants who worked as hourly non-
exempt employees in California during the relevant time period seeking civil penalties associated
with Defendants' violation of the Labor Code based on Defendants' failure to pay wages for all
hours worked at minimum wage and all overtime hours worked at the overtime rate of pay; failure
to authorize or permit all legally required and compliant meal periods or pay meal period

1 premium wages; failure to authorize or permit all legally required and compliant rest periods or
2 pay rest period premium wages; statutory penalties for failure to timely pay earned wages during
3 employment; statutory penalties for failure to provide accurate wage statements; statutory waiting
4 time penalties in the form of continuation wages for failure to timely pay employees all wages due
5 upon separation of employment. Plaintiff seeks on a representative basis, following notice to the
6 Labor and Workforce Development Agency, civil penalties, reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to
7 Labor Code section 2699(g)(1) and costs brought on behalf of Plaintiff, the State of California,
8 and others aggrieved.

9 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

10 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims of Plaintiff and all other current and
11 former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees because Plaintiff's lawsuit seeks
12 civil penalties on behalf of herself, all other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
13 non-exempt employees, and the State of California in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars
14 (\$25,000); Defendants employed Plaintiff and all other current and former aggrieved California-
15 based hourly non-exempt employees; and the injuries to Plaintiff and all other current and former
16 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees occurred in locations throughout
17 California, including but not limited to Orange County at 10711 Bloomfield St. Los Alamitos, CA
18 90720.

19 3. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Judicial Council of California enacted
20 Emergency Rule 9 to the California Rules of Court, which provided that, notwithstanding any
21 other law, the statutes of limitations and repose for civil causes of action that exceed 180 days are
22 tolled from April 6, 2020, until October 1, 2020.

23 **III. PARTIES**

24 4. Plaintiff brings this action as a representative of the Labor and Workforce
25 Development Agency on behalf of himself and other current and former employees subject to
26 violations of the Labor Code. The named Plaintiff and the persons on whose behalf this action is
27 filed include current, former and/or future employees of Defendants who work, worked, or will
28 work for Defendants as direct employees as well as temporary employees employed through temp

1 agencies as hourly non-exempt employees in California. At all times mentioned herein, the
2 currently named Plaintiff is and was domiciled and a resident and citizen of California and was
3 employed by Defendants in an hourly position at Defendants' location in Orange from
4 approximately September 2018 until his termination on or about September 13, 2021.

5 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant BARS
6 BAKERS, LLC is authorized to do business within the State of California and is doing business in
7 the State of California and/or that Defendants DOES 1-25 are, and at all times relevant hereto
8 were persons acting on behalf of Defendant BARS BAKERS, LLC in the establishment of, or
9 ratification of, the aforementioned illegal wage and hour practices or policies. Defendant BARS
10 BAKERS, LLC operates in Orange County and employed Plaintiff and putative class members in
11 Orange County, including but not limited to, at 10711 Bloomfield St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

12 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant CONNECT
13 STAFFING, INC. is authorized to do business within the State of California and is doing business
14 in the State of California and/or that Defendants DOES 26-50 are, and at all times relevant hereto
15 were persons acting on behalf of Defendant CONNECT STAFFING, INC. in the establishment of,
16 or ratification of, the aforementioned illegal wage and hour practices or policies. Defendant
17 CONNECT STAFFING, INC. operates in Orange County and employed Plaintiff and putative
18 class members in Orange County, including but not limited to, at 10711 Bloomfield St., CA
19 90720.

20 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants DOES 1
21 through 50 are corporations or are other business entities or organizations of a nature unknown to
22 Plaintiff that employed Plaintiff and aggrieved California non-exempt employees, permitted
23 Plaintiff and aggrieved employees to work, and exercised control over the wages, hours and
24 working conditions of employment of Plaintiff and aggrieved employees.

25 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants DOES 51
26 through 100 are individuals unknown to Plaintiff. Each of the individual defendants is sued
27 individually and in his or her capacity as an agent, shareholder, owner, representative, manager,
28 supervisor, independent contractor and/or employee of each defendant who violated or caused to

1 be violated the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the Labor Code and/or any provision of
2 the Industrial Welfare Commission's wage orders regulating hours and days of work.

3 9. Plaintiff is unaware of the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 100. Plaintiff
4 sues said defendants by said fictitious names and will amend this complaint when the true names
5 and capacities are ascertained or when such facts pertaining to liability are ascertained, or as
6 permitted by law or by the Court. Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the fictitiously
7 named defendants is in some manner responsible for the events and allegations set forth in this
8 complaint.

9 10. Plaintiff makes the allegations in this complaint without any admission that, as to
10 any particular allegation, Plaintiff bears the burden of pleading, proving, or persuading and
11 Plaintiff reserves all of Plaintiff's right to plead in the alternative.

12 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **CIVIL PENALTIES AND WAGES PURSUANT TO THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS**

14 **GENERAL ACT OF 2004, LABOR CODE SECTIONS 2698, ET SEQ.**

15 **(Against all Defendants by Plaintiff)**

16 11. Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.

17 12. During the period beginning one (1) year preceding Plaintiff sending the initial
18 PAGA Claim Notice to the LWDA to the present, Defendants violated Labor Code sections 201,
19 202, 203, 204, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197, and Sections 14 and 15 of the applicable Wage
20 Orders.

21 13. Specifically, Defendants have committed the following violations of California
22 Labor Code:

23 14. **Failure to pay wages for all hours worked at the legal minimum wage:**
24 Defendants employed many of their employees, including Plaintiff, as hourly non-exempt
25 employees. In California, an employer is required to pay hourly employees for all "hours worked,"
26 which includes all time that an employee is under control of the employer and all time the
27 employee is suffered and permitted to work. This includes the time an employee spends, either
28 directly or indirectly, performing services which inure to the benefit of the employer.

1 15. Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197 require an employer to compensate employees
2 for all “hours worked” at least at a minimum wage rate of pay as established by the IWC and the
3 Wage Orders.

4 16. In this case, Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based
5 hourly non-exempt employees worked more minutes per shift than Defendants credited them with
6 having worked. Specifically, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff and other current and former
7 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees all wages at the applicable minimum
8 wage for all hours worked due to Defendants’ policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but
9 not limited to:

10 (a) Requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
11 non-exempt employees to perform off-the-clock hand washing prior to being allowed to return
12 from their meal breaks.

13 (b) Since the COVID-19 pandemic, requiring Plaintiff and other current and former
14 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to line up and wait to undergo off-the-
15 clock temperature checks and medical questionnaires prior to being permitted to clock-in for the
16 start of their shift.

17 17. Therefore, Defendants suffered, permitted, and required Plaintiff and other current
18 and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to be subject to Defendants’
19 control without paying wages for that time. This resulted in Plaintiff and other current and former
20 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees working time for which they were not
21 compensated any wages, in violation of Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197 and the applicable
22 Wage Order.

23 18. **Failure to pay wages for overtime hours worked at the overtime rate of pay:**
24 Defendants employed many of their employees, including Plaintiff, as hourly non-exempt
25 employees. In California, an employer is required to pay hourly employees for all “hours worked,”
26 which includes all time that an employee is under control of the employer and all time the
27 employee is suffered and permitted to work. This includes the time an employee spends, either
28 directly or indirectly, performing services that inure to the benefit of the employer.’

1 19. Labor Code sections 510 and 1194 require an employer to compensate employees a
2 higher rate of pay for hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, in excess of forty
3 (40) hours in a workweek, and on any seventh consecutive day of work in a workweek:

4 Any work in excess of eight (8) hours in one workday, any work in excess of forty (40)
5 hours in any one (1) workweek, and the first eight (8) hours worked on the seventh day of
6 work in any one (1) workweek, shall be compensated at the rate of no less than one-and-
7 one-half (1.5) times the regular rate of pay for an employee. Any work in excess of twelve
8 (12) hours in one (1) day shall be compensated at the rate of no less than twice the regular
9 rate of pay for an employee. In addition, any work in excess of eight (8) hours on any
10 seventh day of a workweek shall be compensated at the rate of no less than twice the
11 regular rate of pay of an employee.

12 Labor Code section 510.

13 20. In this case, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff and other current and former
14 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees overtime wages for all overtime hours
15 worked due to Defendants' policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not limited to:

16 (a) Requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
17 non-exempt employees to perform off-the-clock hand washing prior to being allowed to return
18 from their meal breaks.

19 (b) Since the COVID-19 pandemic, requiring Plaintiff and other current and former
20 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to line up and wait to undergo off-the-
21 clock temperature checks and medical questionnaires prior to being permitted to clock-in for the
22 start of their shift.

23 21. The foregoing policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in time during each
24 workday that Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt
25 employees were under the control of Defendants but were not compensated. To the extent that the
26 foregoing uncompensated time occurred when Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved
27 California-based hourly non-exempt employees worked more than eight (8) hours in a workday,
28 more than forty (40) hours in a workweek, and/or seven (7) days in a workweek, Defendants failed
to pay them at their overtime rate of pay for overtime hours worked, in violation of Labor Code
sections 510 and 1194 and the applicable Wage Order.

22. **Failure to pay wages to hourly non-exempt employees for workdays that**

Defendants failed to provide legally required and compliant meal periods: Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees regularly worked shifts of more than five (5) hours in length and shifts of more than ten (10) hours in length.

23. California law requires an employer to authorize or permit an employee an uninterrupted meal period of no less than thirty (30) minutes in which the employee is relieved of all duties and the employer relinquishes control over the employee's activities prior to the employee's sixth hour of work. Labor Code sections 226.7, 512; Wage Order 1 at §11; *Brinker Rest. Corp. v. Super Ct. (Hohnbaum)* (2012) 53 Cal.4th 1004. An employer may not employ an employee for a work period of more than ten (10) hours per day without providing the employee with a second such meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the eleventh hour of work. *Id.* If the employee is not relieved of all duty during a meal period, the meal period shall be considered an "on duty" meal period and counted as time worked. A paid "on duty" meal period is only permitted when: (1) the nature of the work prevents an employee from being relieved of all duty; and (2) the parties have a written agreement agreeing to on-duty meal periods.

24. If an employer fails to provide an employee a meal period in accordance with the law, the employer must pay the employee one (1) hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a legally required and compliant meal period was not provided. Labor Code section 226.7; Wage Order 1 at §11.

25. In this case, Defendants failed to authorize or permit legally required and compliant meal periods to Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees due to Defendants' policies, practices, and/or procedures, including but not limited to:

(a) Requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to perform off-the-clock hand washing during their meal periods prior to clocking back into work, resulting in meal breaks that were less than thirty (30) minutes and/or on-duty;

(b) Requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to travel to and to remain in designated area during their meal periods,

1 resulting in meal periods that were not duty-free and/or less than thirty (30) minutes; and

2 (c) Failing to provide Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based
3 hourly non-exempt employees with a second uninterrupted, duty-free meal period of no less than
4 thirty (30) minutes after each ten-hour period of work, as required by California law.

5 26. Additionally, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants maintained a policy, practice, and/or
6 procedure of failing to compensate Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-
7 based hourly non-exempt employees one (1) hour of pay at their regular rate of pay for each
8 workday that Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt
9 employees did not receive legally required and compliant meal periods, in violation of Labor Code
10 section 226.7.

11 27. Defendants' foregoing policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in Plaintiff
12 and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees not
13 receiving wages to compensate them for workdays during which Defendants did not provide them
14 with meal periods in compliance with California law.

15 28. **Failure to pay wages to hourly non-exempt employees for workdays that**
16 **Defendants failed to provide legally required and compliant rest periods:** Plaintiff and other
17 current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees regularly worked
18 shifts of more than three-and-a-half (3.5) hours.

19 29. California law requires every employer to authorize and permit an employee a rest
20 period of ten (10) net minutes for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof. Labor
21 Code section 226.7; Wage Order 1 at §12. Under California law, "[e]mployees are entitled to 10
22 minutes' rest for shifts from three and one-half to six hours in length, 20 minutes for shifts of more
23 than six hours up to 10 hours, 30 minutes for shifts of more than 10 hours up to 14 hours, and so
24 on." *Brinker Restaurant Corp. v. Sup. Ct. (Hohnbaum)* (2012) 53 Cal.4th 1004, 1029; Labor Code
25 section 226.7; Wage Order 1 at §12. Rest periods, insofar as practicable, shall be in the middle of
26 each work period. Wage Order 1 at §12. Additionally, the rest period requirement "obligates
27 employers to permit – and authorizes employees to take – off-duty rest periods." *Augustus v. ABM*
28 *Security Services, Inc.*, (2016) 5 Cal.5th 257, 269. That is, during rest periods employers must

1 relieve employees of all duties and relinquish control over how employees spend their time. *Id.*

2 30. If the employer fails to authorize or permit a required rest period, the employer
3 must pay the employee one (1) hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of pay for each workday
4 the employer did not authorize or permit a legally required rest period. Labor Code section 226.7;
5 Wage Order 1 at § 12.

6 31. In this case, Defendants failed to authorize or permit all legally required and
7 compliant rest periods to Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
8 non-exempt employees due to Defendants' policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not
9 limited to:

10 (a) Requiring Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based
11 hourly non-exempt employees to remain on-duty during rest periods by requiring Plaintiff and
12 similarly situated employees to remain on Employer's premises during their rest periods.
13 Employer's control over how Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based
14 hourly non-exempt employees spent their rest breaks resulted in rest breaks that were not duty-
15 free;

16 (b) Requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
17 non-exempt employees to travel to and to remain in designated area during their rest periods,
18 resulting in rest periods that were not duty-free and/or less than ten (10) minutes;

19 (c) Failing to provide Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based
20 hourly non-exempt employees with a second uninterrupted, duty-free rest period of no less than
21 ten (10) minutes for each worked shift of more than six (6) hours up to ten (10) hours, as required
22 by California law; and

23 (d) Failing to provide Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based
24 hourly non-exempt employees with a third uninterrupted, duty-free meal period of no less than ten
25 (10) minutes for each worked shift of more than ten (10) hours up to fourteen (14) hours, as
26 required by California law.

27 32. Additionally, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants maintained a policy, practice, and/or
28 procedure of failing to compensate Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-

1 based hourly non-exempt employees with one (1) hour of pay at their regular rate of pay for each
2 workday they did not receive legally required and compliant rest periods, in violation of Labor
3 Code section 226.7.

4 33. Defendants' foregoing policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in Plaintiff
5 and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees not
6 receiving wages to compensate them for workdays in which Defendants did not provide them with
7 rest periods in compliance with California law.

8 34. **Failure to timely pay earned wages during employment:** In California, wages
9 must be paid at least twice during each calendar month on days designated in advance by the
10 employer as regular paydays, subject to some exceptions. Labor Code section 204(a). Wages
11 earned between the 1st and 15th days, inclusive, of any calendar month must be paid between the
12 16th and the 26th day of that month and wages earned between the 16th and the last day,
13 inclusive, of any calendar month must be paid between the 1st and 10th day of the following
14 month. *Id.* Other payroll periods such as those that are weekly, biweekly, or semimonthly, must be
15 paid within seven (7) calendar days following the close of the payroll period in which wages were
16 earned. Labor Code section 204(d).

17 35. As a derivative of Plaintiff's claims above, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants failed
18 to timely pay Plaintiff's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-
19 exempt employees' earned wages (including minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period
20 premium wages and/or rest period premium wages), in violation of Labor Code section 204.
21 Defendants' aforementioned policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in their failure to pay
22 Plaintiff's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees'
23 their earned wages within the applicable time frames outlined in Labor Code section 204.

24 36. **Failure to provide complete and accurate wage statements:** Labor Code section
25 226, subdivision (a). Labor Code section 226(a) provides, *inter alia*, that, upon paying an
26 employee his or her wages, the employer must "furnish each of his or her employees ... an
27 itemized statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked by the
28 employee, except for any employee whose compensation is solely based on a salary and who is

1 exempt from payment of overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of
2 the Industrial Welfare Commission, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable
3 piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided, that all
4 deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5)
5 net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the pay period for which the employee is paid, (7) the
6 name of the employee and his or her social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal
7 entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and
8 the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.”

9 37. As a derivative of Plaintiff’s allegations above, Defendants’ failure to pay Plaintiff
10 and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees all wages
11 earned (including minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and/or rest
12 period premium wages) rendered Plaintiff’s and other current and former aggrieved California-
13 based hourly non-exempt employees’ wage statements inaccurate, in violation of Labor Code
14 section 226.

15 38. **Failure to pay employees all wages due at time of termination/resignation:** An
16 employer is required to pay all unpaid wages timely after an employee’s employment ends. The
17 wages are due immediately upon termination (Labor Code section 201) or within seventy-two (72)
18 hours of resignation (Labor Code section 202).

19 39. As a derivative of Plaintiff’s allegations above, because Defendants failed to pay
20 Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees
21 all their earned wages (including minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages,
22 and/or rest period premium wages), Defendants failed to pay those employees timely after each
23 employee’s termination and/or resignation, in violation of Labor Code sections 201, 202, and 203.

24 40. Defendants’ violations of Wage Order 1 constituted violations of Labor Code
25 section 1198, which prohibits employment under conditions of labor that violate the Wage Orders.

26 41. Labor Code sections 2699, subdivisions (a) and (g) authorize an aggrieved
27 employee, on behalf of himself or herself and other current or former employees, to bring a civil
28 action to recover civil penalties against all Defendants pursuant to the procedures specified in

1 Labor Code section 2699.3.

2 42. Plaintiff has complied with the procedures for bringing suit specified in Labor
3 Code section 2699.3. On May 19, 2022, Plaintiff filed a PAGA Claim Notice with the LWDA and
4 provided notice to Defendants by certified mail which provided notice of the specific provisions of
5 the Labor Code alleged to have been violated, including the facts and theories to support the
6 violations alleged.

7 43. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, the LWDA must give written notice by
8 certified mail to the parties that it intends to investigate the alleged violations of the Labor Code
9 within 60 days of the date of the complainant's written notice. The LWDA failed to provide the
10 parties notice within 60 days of the date of Plaintiff's PAGA Claim Notice that the LWDA intends
11 to investigate Plaintiff's claims.

12 44. Pursuant to Labor Code sections 2699(a) and (f), Plaintiff is entitled to recover civil
13 penalties for Defendants' violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204 226, 226.7, 510,
14 512, 1194, 1197, 1198, beginning one (1) year preceding Plaintiff sending the initial PAGA Claim
15 Notice to the LWDA to the present, in the following amounts:

16 a. For violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226.7, 2802, 512,
17 and 1198; one hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial
18 violation and two hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each
19 subsequent violation [penalty amounts established by Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)].

20 b. For violations of Labor Code section 226, two hundred fifty dollars (\$250)
21 for each employee for each pay period for the initial violation, and for each subsequent violation,
22 one thousand dollars (\$1000) for each underpaid employee for each pay period [penalty amounts
23 established by Labor Code section 226.3].

24 c. For violations of Labor Code section 510, fifty dollars (\$50) for each
25 employee for each pay period for the initial violation, and for each subsequent violation, one
26 hundred dollars (\$100) for each underpaid employee for each pay period [penalty amounts
27 established by Labor Code section 558] and any unpaid wages.

28 d. For violations of Labor Code section 1194 and 1197, one hundred dollars

1 (\$100) for each underpaid employee for each pay period for the initial violation, and for each
2 subsequent violation, two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each underpaid employee for each pay
3 period [penalty amounts established by Labor Code section 1197.1] and any unpaid wages.

4 45. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(g), Plaintiff is entitled to an award of
5 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in connection with his claims for civil penalties.

6 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

7 **WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,**
8 **HIMSELF, AND ON OTHER AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES, PRAYS AS FOLLOWS:**

9 **ON THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION:**

10 1. That Defendants be found to have violated the provisions of the Labor Code and
11 the IWC Wages Orders as to the Plaintiff and aggrieved employees;

12 2. For any and all legally applicable penalties during the relevant statute of limitations
13 subject to any permissible tolling, including but not limited to those recoverable under the
14 California Labor Code, including but not limited to section 2699(f);

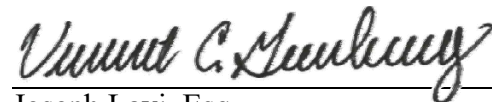
15 3. For attorneys' fees and costs of suit, including but not limited to those recoverable
16 under California Labor Code section 2699(g); and

17 4. For such and other further relief, in law and/or equity, as the Court deems just or
18 appropriate

19
20 Dated: October 3, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP

21
22 By:



23 Joseph Lavi, Esq.
24 Vincent C. Granberry, Esq.
25 Danielle E. Montero, Esq.
26 William Tran, Esq.
27 Attorneys for Plaintiff
28 OCTAVIO CASSO LOPEZ
on behalf of himself and current and former
aggrieved employees