

April 30, 2025

Filed Electronically

Labor and Workforce Development Agency / Department of Industrial Relations
Accounting Unit
455 Golden Gate Avenue, 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: **Notice Letter of MARIA CERVANTES DE CABRERA on Behalf of Herself and
Aggrieved Employees under California Labor Code Section 2699.3**

Employer:

UNITED EXCHANGE CORP.
EUGENE CHOI
CAROL CHOI
5836 Corporate Ave., Suite 200
Cypress, CA 90630

PARTNERS PERSONNEL – MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC
3820 State Street Suite B
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Representative:

This letter constitutes notice under Labor Code section 2699.3 (the “PAGA Notice”). It is submitted online with the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) and accompanied by the \$75 filing fee required under Labor Code section 2699.3, subdivision (a)(1)(B). Copies of the PAGA Notice are sent via certified mail to the employer(s) listed above.

The PAGA Notice involves MARIA CERVANTES DE CABRERA (“Employee”) and other aggrieved employees who were employed by:

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(collectively as “Employer”). Employee seeks to represent all persons who were employed by Employer and suffered one or more of the alleged Labor Code violations committed by Employer (i.e., other aggrieved employees), as described below.

Employee worked for Employer from on or around June 2024 through November 15, 2024 as a non-exempt, hourly restaurant employee with duties as a warehouse employee. Other aggrieved employees that Employee seeks to represent are all other non-exempt employees of Employer in the state of California. In return, Employer paid (or purported to pay) Employee and other aggrieved employees an hourly wage for their services.

Aggrieved employees were regularly compensated an amount less than the wages earned. Aggrieved employees were regularly forced to work off-the-clock, so the aggrieved employees were not paid owed regular/minimum wages for all time worked. Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that Employer violated Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197 and the applicable Wage Orders, entitling the aggrieved employees to damages under the Labor Code, including, without limitation, Sections 1194 and 1194.2. Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 558, 1197.1, and 2699.

Aggrieved employees were not paid owed overtime wages for working over eight hours in a workday, over forty hours in a workweek, over twelve hours in a workday, the first eight hours on the seventh consecutive workday in a workweek, and/or over eight hours on the seventh consecutive workday in a workweek. Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that Employer violated Labor Code sections 510, 1194, and the applicable Wage Orders, entitling the aggrieved employees to damages under the Labor Code. Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 558 and 2699.

Employer had a practice of failing to provide aggrieved employees with a thirty-minute, uninterrupted, and timely meal period for days on which those employees worked in excess of five hours in a workday, and a second thirty-minute, uninterrupted, and timely meal period for days on which those employees worked in excess of ten hours in a workday. The aggrieved employees were not compensated with premium payments for the missed, interrupted, or untimely meal periods, which payments are required by California law. Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that Employer violated Labor Code section 512 and the applicable Wage Orders, entitling

aggrieved employees to premium payments under the Labor Code, including, without limitation, Section 226.7. Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 558 and 2699.

Employer had a practice of failing to authorize and permit aggrieved employees with a timely, full, and uninterrupted ten-minute rest period per four hours of work (or major fraction thereof) as required by the applicable Wage Orders. The aggrieved employees were not compensated with premium payments for the missed, interrupted, or untimely rest periods, which payments are required by California law. Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that the aggrieved employees are entitled to premium payments under the Labor Code, including, without limitation, Section 226.7. Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 558 and 2699.

Aggrieved employees were regularly compensated an amount less than the wages earned. The unlawful wages practices included, but were not limited to, aggrieved employees were regularly forced to work off-the-clock, were not paid all wages earned, were not paid for all hours worked, and were penalized by having wages withheld, so the aggrieved employees were not paid owed regular/minimum wages for all time worked. Aggrieved employees were not compensated owed overtime wages. Further, aggrieved employees were not paid meal and rest period premiums for break violations. As a result, the aggrieved employees' wage statements did not accurately show all of the information required under Labor Code section 226, subdivision (a), including the gross wages earned, the total hours worked by the employee, the net wages earned, and the rates of pay at which wages should have been paid. The wage statements also did not include the aggrieved employees' properly named employer and other employee information required by Labor Code section 226(a). Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that the aggrieved employees are entitled to penalties under Labor Code section 226, subdivision (e). Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 226.3, 558, and 2699.

Aggrieved employees were not paid all wages owed at the time of employment separation. Those wages were not timely paid to aggrieved employees upon separation. Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that Employer violated Labor Code sections 201, 202, and 203, entitling the aggrieved employees to waiting-time penalties under Labor Code section 203, subdivision (a). Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 558 and 2699.

Employee complained about the unlawful wage practices as set forth above to Employer and was retaliated for complaining. Employee is informed and believes, and therefore alleges, that Employer violated Labor Code section 1102.5, entitling Employee to damages under the Labor Code, including, without limitation, Sections 1102.5 and 98.6. Employer is also liable for civil penalties under Labor Code sections 2699 and 98.6.

Employee was not properly reimbursed for business expenses in violation of Labor Code § 2802, entitling Employee to damages under the Labor Code as well as civil penalties under Labor Code sections, including but not limited to, 2699 and 98.6.

Further, Employee asserts that Employer failed to pay overtime at the proper rate (under Labor Code section 558, 11971.1), failed to pay accrued vacation wage (under Labor Code section 227.3), failed to timely pay wages during employment (under Labor Code section 204), and failed to properly pay sick pay (under Labor Code section 246). Employee asserts that Employer failed to properly pay reporting time pay.

In accordance with Labor Code section 2699.3, subdivision (a)(2)(A), please notify us within 60 calendar days of the postmarked date of the PAGA Notice as to whether the LWDA intends to investigate the violations alleged above. Our understanding is that if we do not receive a notice within 65 calendar days of the postmarked date of the PAGA Notice, Employee may commence a civil action against Employer, on behalf of himself and other aggrieved employees, under Labor Code section 2699.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



Orion S. Robinson

OSR:mbv
cc: (Via Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested)

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