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BY: SJB
Samantha Bedarra, Deputy

1 DOUGLAS HAN (SBN 232858)
2 SHUNT TATAVOS-GHARAJEH (SBN 272164)
3 HALINA E. SZYMANSKI (SBN 341183)
4 **JUSTICE LAW CORPORATION**
5 751 N. Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 101
Pasadena, California 91103
Telephone: (818) 230-7502
Facsimile: (818) 230-7259

6 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

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8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

9 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**

10 SANTOS APARICIO and ANDRES
11 AVINA, individually, and on behalf of other
12 members of the general public similarly
situated;

13 Plaintiffs,

14 v.

15 CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY, a
16 California corporation; and DOES 1 through
17 100, inclusive;

18 Defendants.

Case No.: CIVSB2202694

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

- (1) Violation of California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1198 (Unpaid Overtime);
- (2) Violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512(a) (Unpaid Meal Period Premiums);
- (3) Violation of California Labor Code § 226.7 (Unpaid Rest Period Premiums);
- (4) Violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1197 (Unpaid Minimum Wages);
- (5) Violation of California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202 (Final Wages Not Timely Paid);
- (6) Violation of California Labor Code § 226(a) (Non-Compliant Wage Statements);
- (7) Violation of California Labor Code §§ 2800 and 2802 (Unreimbursed Business Expenses);
- (8) Violation of California Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.* (Private Attorneys General Act of 2004); and
- (9) Violation of California Business & Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.*

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 COME NOW, Plaintiffs SANTOS APARICIO, ANDRES AVINA, and JEAN
2 HYUNG CHOI (“Plaintiffs”), individually, and on behalf of other members of the general
3 public similarly situated, and allege as follows:

4 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5 1. This class action is brought pursuant to the Code of Civil Procedure section 382.
6 The monetary damages and restitution sought by Plaintiffs exceeds the minimal jurisdiction
7 limits of the Superior Court and will be established according to proof at trial.

8 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the California
9 Constitution, Article VI, Section 10, which grants the superior court “original jurisdiction in
10 all other causes” except those given by statute to other courts. The statutes under which this
11 action is brought do not specify any other basis for jurisdiction.

12 3. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants because, upon information and
13 belief, Defendants are citizens of California, have sufficient minimum contacts in California,
14 or otherwise intentionally avail themselves of the California market so as to render the exercise
15 of jurisdiction over them by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair
16 play and substantial justice.

17 4. Venue is proper in this Court because, upon information and belief, Defendants
18 maintain offices, have agents, and/or transact business in the State of California, including the
19 County of San Bernardino. The majority of the acts and omissions alleged herein relating to
20 Plaintiffs took place in the State of California. Defendants employed Plaintiffs within the State
21 of California.

22 **PARTIES**

23 5. Plaintiff SANTOS APARICIO is an individual residing in the State of California,
24 County of San Bernardino. Plaintiff ANDRES AVINA is an individual residing in the State of
25 California, County of Los Angeles. Plaintiff JEAN HYUNG CHOI is an individual residing
26 in the State of California, County of Riverside.

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1 6. Defendant CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY at all times herein mentioned, was
2 and is, upon information and belief, a California corporation, and at all times herein
3 mentioned, was and is, an employer whose employees are engaged throughout the State of
4 California, including the County of San Bernardino.

5 7. At all relevant times, Defendant CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY was the
6 “employer” of Plaintiffs within the meaning of all applicable California laws and statutes.

7 8. At all times herein relevant, Defendant CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and
8 DOES 1 through 100, and each of them, were the agents, partners, joint venturers, joint
9 employers, representatives, servants, employees, successors-in-interest, co-conspirators and
10 assigns, each of the other, and at all times relevant hereto were acting within the course and
11 scope of their authority as such agents, partners, joint venturers, joint employers,
12 representatives, servants, employees, successors, co-conspirators and assigns, and all acts or
13 omissions alleged herein were duly committed with the ratification, knowledge, permission,
14 encouragement, authorization, and consent of each defendant designated herein.

15 9. The true names and capacities, whether corporate, associate, individual or
16 otherwise, of Defendants DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiffs, who sue
17 said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based on
18 that information and belief allege, that each of the Defendants designated as a DOE is legally
19 responsible for the events and happenings referred to in this Complaint, and unlawfully caused
20 the injuries and damages to Plaintiffs and the other class members as alleged in this Complaint.
21 Plaintiffs will seek leave of court to amend this Complaint to show the true names and
22 capacities when the same have been ascertained.

23 10. Defendants CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100 will
24 hereinafter collectively be referred to as “Defendants.”

25 11. Plaintiffs further allege that Defendants directly or indirectly controlled or
26 affected the working conditions, wages, working hours, and conditions of employment of
27 Plaintiffs and the other class members so as to make each of said Defendants employers and
28 employers liable under the statutory provisions set forth herein.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

12. Plaintiffs bring this action on their own behalf and on behalf of all other members of the general public similarly situated, and, thus, seeks class certification under Code of Civil Procedure section 382.

13. The proposed class is defined as follows:

All current and former hourly-paid or non-exempt employees of Defendants within the State of California at any time during the period from February 10, 2018, through April 12, 2023.

14. Plaintiffs reserve the right to establish subclasses as appropriate.

15. The class is ascertainable and there is a well-defined community of interest in the litigation:

a. Numerosity: The class members are so numerous that joinder of all class members is impracticable. The membership of the entire class is unknown to Plaintiffs at this time; however, the class is estimated to be greater than one hundred (100) individuals and the identity of such membership is readily ascertainable by inspection of Defendants' employment records.

b. Typicality: Plaintiffs' claims are typical of all other class members' claims as demonstrated herein. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the other class members with whom they have a well-defined community of interest.

c. Adequacy: Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of each class member, with whom they have a well-defined community of interest and typicality of claims, as demonstrated herein. Plaintiffs have no interest that is antagonistic to the other class members. Plaintiffs' attorneys, the proposed class counsel, are versed in the rules governing class action discovery, certification, and settlement. Plaintiffs have incurred, and during the pendency of this action will continue to incur,

costs and attorneys' fees, that have been, are, and will be necessarily expended for the prosecution of this action for the substantial benefit of each class member.

d. Superiority: A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation because individual joinder of all class members is impractical.

e. Public Policy Considerations: Certification of this lawsuit as a class action will advance public policy objectives. Employers of this great state violate employment and labor laws every day. Current employees are often afraid to assert their rights out of fear of direct or indirect retaliation. However, class actions provide the class members who are not named in the complaint anonymity that allows for the vindication of their rights.

16. There are common questions of law and fact as to the class members that predominate over questions affecting only individual members. The following common questions of law or fact, among others, exist as to the members of the class:

- a. Whether Defendants' failure to pay wages, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with the Labor Code, was willful;
- b. Whether Defendants failed to pay their hourly-paid or non-exempt employees within the State of California for all hours worked, missed meal periods and rest breaks in violation of California law;
- c. Whether Defendants required Plaintiffs and the other class members to work over eight (8) hours per day and/or over forty (40) hours per week and failed to pay the legally required overtime compensation to Plaintiffs and the other class members;
- d. Whether Defendants properly calculated the regular rate for Plaintiffs and the other class members who worked overtime and earned incentive pay and sick leave pay;

- 1 e. Whether Defendants deprived Plaintiffs and the other class members of
2 meal and/or rest periods or required Plaintiffs and the other class
3 members to work during meal and/or rest periods without compensation;
4 f. Whether Defendants failed to pay minimum wages to Plaintiffs and the
5 other class members for all hours worked;
6 g. Whether Defendants failed to pay all wages due to Plaintiffs and the other
7 class members within the required time upon their discharge or
8 resignation;
9 h. Whether Defendants failed to timely pay all wages due to Plaintiffs and
10 the other class members during their employment;
11 i. Whether Defendants complied with wage reporting as required by the
12 Labor Code, including, inter alia, section 226;
13 j. Whether Defendants failed to reimburse Plaintiffs and the other class
14 members for necessary business-related expenses and costs;
15 k. Whether Defendants' conduct was willful or reckless;
16 l. Whether Defendants engaged in unfair business practices in violation of
17 Business & Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*;
18 m. The appropriate amount of damages, restitution, and/or monetary
19 penalties resulting from Defendants' violation of California law;
20 n. Whether Defendants' payment of discretionary or non-discretionary
21 bonuses violated California law; and
22 o. Whether Plaintiffs and the other class members are entitled to
23 compensatory damages pursuant to the Labor Code.

24 **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

25 17. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants employed Plaintiffs
26 and other persons as hourly-paid or non-exempt employees within the State of California.

27 18. Defendants, jointly and severally, employed Plaintiff APARICIO, Plaintiff
28 AVINA, and Plaintiff CHOI during the relevant time period in the State of California.

1 19. Defendants had the authority to hire and terminate Plaintiffs and other class
2 members; to set work rules and conditions governing Plaintiffs' and other class members'
3 employment; and to supervise their daily employment activities.

4 20. Defendants exercised sufficient authority over the terms and conditions of
5 Plaintiffs and other class members' employment for them to be joint employers of Plaintiffs
6 and the other class members.

7 21. Defendants directly hired and paid wages and benefits to Plaintiffs and other
8 class members.

9 22. Defendants continue to employ hourly-paid or non-exempt employees within the
10 State of California.

11 23. Plaintiffs and other class members worked over eight (8) hours in a day, and/or
12 forty (40) hours in a week during their employment with Defendants.

13 24. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
14 engaged in a pattern and practice of wage abuse against their hourly-paid or non-exempt
15 employees within the State of California. This scheme involved, *inter alia*, failing to pay them
16 for all hours worked, sick leave, missed meal periods, and missed rest breaks in violation of
17 California law.

18 25. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
19 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to receive
20 certain wages for overtime compensation and that Plaintiffs and other class members were not
21 receiving wages for overtime compensation.

22 26. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
23 failed to provide Plaintiffs and other class members the required rest and meal periods during
24 the relevant time period as required under the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders
25 and thus they are entitled to any and all applicable penalties.

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1 27. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
2 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to receive
3 all timely and complete meal periods or payment of one additional hour of pay at Plaintiffs'
4 and the other class members' regular rate of pay when a meal period was missed, late or
5 interrupted, and that Plaintiffs and other class members did not receive all timely and proper
6 meal periods or payment of one additional hour of pay at their regular rates of pay when a
7 meal period was missed.

8 28. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
9 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to receive
10 all timely rest periods without interruption or payment of one additional hour of pay at
11 Plaintiffs and the other class members' regular rates of pay when a rest period was missed,
12 late or interrupted, and that Plaintiffs and other class members did not receive all rest periods
13 or payment of one additional hour of pay at their regular rates of pay when a rest period was
14 missed.

15 29. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
16 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to receive
17 at least minimum wages for compensation and that Plaintiffs and other class members were
18 not receiving at least minimum wages for all hours worked.

19 30. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
20 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to receive
21 the wages owed to them upon discharge or resignation, including overtime and minimum
22 wages and meal and rest period premiums, and that Plaintiffs and other class members did not,
23 in fact, receive such wages owed to them at the time of their discharge or resignation.

24 31. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
25 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to receive
26 complete and accurate wage statements in accordance with California law, but, in fact,
27 Plaintiffs and other class members did not receive complete and accurate wage statements
28 from Defendants. The deficiencies included, inter alia, the failure to include the total number

1 of hours worked by Plaintiffs and other class members.

2 32. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
3 knew or should have known that Plaintiffs and other class members were entitled to
4 reimbursement for necessary business-related expenses.

5 33. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
6 knew or should have known that Defendants had to keep complete and accurate payroll records
7 for Plaintiffs and other class members in accordance with California law, but, in fact, did not
8 keep complete and accurate payroll records for Plaintiffs and other class members.

9 34. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants
10 knew or should have known that they had a duty to compensate Plaintiffs and other class
11 members pursuant to California law, and that Defendants had the financial ability to pay such
12 compensation, but willfully, knowingly, and intentionally failed to do so, and falsely
13 represented to Plaintiffs and other class members that they were properly denied wages, all in
14 order to increase Defendants' profits.

15 35. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
16 Defendants failed to pay overtime wages to Plaintiffs and other class members for all hours
17 worked. Plaintiffs and other class members were required to work more than eight (8) hours
18 per day and/or forty (40) hours per week without overtime compensation.

19 36. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to properly
20 calculate and pay sick leave to Plaintiffs and the other class members.

21 37. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
22 Defendants failed to provide the requisite uninterrupted and timely meal and rest periods to
23 Plaintiffs and other class members.

24 38. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
25 Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs and other class members at least minimum wages for all
26 hours worked.

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39. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs and other class members the wages owed to them upon discharge or resignation.

40. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to provide complete or accurate wage statements to Plaintiffs and other class members.

41. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to keep complete or accurate payroll records for Plaintiffs and other class members.

42. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to properly compensate Plaintiffs and other class members pursuant to California law in order to increase Defendants' profits.

43. Labor Code section 218 states that nothing in Article 1 of the Labor Code shall limit the right of any wage claimant to “sue directly . . . for any wages or penalty due to him [or her] under this article.”

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1198)

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

44. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 43, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

45. Labor Code section 1198 and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission (“IWC”) Wage Order provide that it is unlawful to employ persons without compensating them at a rate of pay either time-and-one-half or two-times that person’s regular rate of pay, depending on the number of hours worked by the person on a daily or weekly basis.

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1 46. Specifically, the applicable IWC Wage Order provides that Defendants are and
2 were required to pay Plaintiffs and other class members employed by Defendants, who
3 work(ed) more than eight (8) hours in a day or more than forty (40) hours in a workweek, at
4 the rate of time-and-one-half for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or more
5 than forty (40) hours in a workweek.

6 47. The applicable IWC Wage Order further provides that Defendants are and were
7 required to pay Plaintiffs and other class members overtime compensation at a rate of two
8 times their regular rates of pay for all hours worked in excess of twelve (12) hours in a day.

9 48. Labor Code section 510 codifies the right to overtime compensation at one-and-
10 one-half times the regular hourly rate for hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day
11 or forty (40) hours in a week or for the first eight (8) hours worked on the seventh day of work,
12 and overtime compensation at twice the regular hourly rate for hours worked in excess of
13 twelve (12) hours in a day or in excess of eight (8) hours in a day on the seventh day of work.

14 49. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Plaintiffs and other class
15 members (but not all) worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day, and/or in excess of forty
16 (40) hours in a week.

17 50. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
18 Defendants intentionally and willfully failed to pay overtime wages owed to Plaintiffs and
19 other class members (but not all).

20 51. Defendants' pattern and practice of failing to pay Plaintiffs and other class
21 members the unpaid balance of overtime compensation, as required by California laws,
22 violates the provisions of Labor Code sections 510 and 1198, and is therefore unlawful.

23 52. Pursuant to Labor Code section 1194, Plaintiffs and other class members are
24 entitled to recover unpaid overtime compensation and interest, costs, and attorneys' fees.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512(a))

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

53. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 52, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

54. During the relevant time period set forth herein, the IWC Order and Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512(a) were applicable to Plaintiffs' and other class members' employment by Defendants.

55. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Labor Code section 226.7 provides that no employer shall require an employee to work during any meal or rest period mandated by an applicable order of the IWC.

56. During the relevant time period set forth herein, the applicable IWC Wage Order and Labor Code section 512(a) provide that an employer may not require, cause or permit an employee to work for a work period of more than five (5) hours per day without providing the employee with a meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes, except that if the total work period per day of the employee is no more than six (6) hours, the meal period may be waived by mutual consent of both the employer and employee.

57. During the relevant time period set forth herein, the applicable IWC Wage Order and Labor Code section 512(a) further provide that an employer may not require, cause, or permit an employee to work for a work period of more than ten (10) hours per day without providing the employee with a second uninterrupted meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes, except that if the total hours worked is no more than twelve (12) hours, the second meal period may be waived by mutual consent of the employer and the employee only if the first meal period was not waived.

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1 58. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
2 Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) who were scheduled to work for a period of
3 time no longer than six (6) hours, and who did not waive their legally-mandated meal periods
4 by mutual consent, were required to work for periods longer than five (5) hours without an
5 uninterrupted meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes and/or without a rest period.

6 59. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
7 Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) who were scheduled to work for a period of
8 time no longer than twelve (12) hours, and who did not waive their legally-mandated meal
9 periods by mutual consent, were required to work for periods longer than ten (10) hours
10 without an uninterrupted meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes and/or without a rest
11 period.

12 60. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
13 Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) who were scheduled to work for a period of
14 time in excess of six (6) hours were required to work for periods longer than five (5) hours
15 without an uninterrupted meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes and/or without a rest
16 period.

17 61. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
18 Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) who were scheduled to work for a period of
19 time in excess of twelve (12) hours were required to work for periods longer than ten (10)
20 hours without an uninterrupted meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes and/or without
21 a rest period.

22 62. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
23 Defendants intentionally and willfully required Plaintiffs and other class members (but not
24 all) to work during meal periods and failed to compensate Plaintiffs and other class members
25 (but not all) the full meal period premium for work performed during meal periods.

26 63. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein,
27 Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) the full meal period
28 premium due pursuant to Labor Code section 226.7.

64. Defendants' conduct violates applicable IWC Wage Order and Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512(a).

65. Pursuant to the applicable IWC Wage Order and Labor Code section 226.7(b), Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover from Defendants one additional hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of compensation for each workday that the meal or rest period is not provided.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Labor Code § 226.7)

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

66. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 65, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

67. During the relevant time period set forth herein, the applicable IWC Wage Order and Labor Code section 226.7 were applicable to Plaintiffs' and other class members' employment by Defendants.

68. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Labor Code section 226.7 provides that no employer shall require an employee to work during any rest period mandated by an applicable order of the IWC.

69. During the relevant time period set forth herein, the applicable IWC Wage Order provides that "[e]very employer shall authorize and permit all employees to take rest periods, which insofar as practicable shall be in the middle of each work period" and that the "rest period time shall be based on the total hours worked daily at the rate of ten (10) minutes net rest time per four (4) hours or major fraction thereof" unless the total daily work time is less than three and one-half (3 ½) hours.

70. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants required Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) to work four (4) or more hours without authorizing or permitting a ten (10) minute rest period per each four (4) hour period worked.

71. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants willfully required Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) to work during rest periods and failed to pay Plaintiffs and the other class members the full rest period premium for work performed during rest periods.

72. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) the full rest period premium due pursuant to Labor Code section 226.7.

73. Defendants' conduct violates applicable IWC Wage Orders and Labor Code section 226.7.

74. Pursuant to the applicable IWC Wage Orders and Labor Code section 226.7(b), Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover from Defendants one additional hour of pay at the employees' regular hourly rates of compensation for each workday that the rest period was not provided.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1197)

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

75. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 74 and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

76. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197 provide that the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a lesser wage than the minimum so fixed, is unlawful.

77. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants failed to pay minimum wages to Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) as required, pursuant to Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197.

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78. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs and other class members the minimum wage as required violates Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197. Pursuant to those sections, Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover the unpaid balance of their minimum wage compensation as well as interest, costs, and attorney's fees, and liquidated damages in an amount equal to the wages unlawfully unpaid and interest thereon.

79. Pursuant to Labor Code section 1194.2, Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover liquidated damages in an amount equal to the wages unlawfully unpaid and interest thereon.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202)

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

80. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 79, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

81. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Labor Code sections 201 and 202 provide that if an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately, and if an employee quits his or her employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than seventy-two (72) hours thereafter, unless the employee has given seventy-two (72) hours' notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.

82. As a pattern and practice, during the relevant time period set forth herein, Defendants intentionally and willfully failed to pay Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) who are no longer employed by Defendants their wages, earned and unpaid, within seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ.

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83. Defendants' pattern and practice of failing to pay Plaintiffs and other class members who are no longer employed by Defendants their wages, earned and unpaid, within seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ, is in violation of Labor Code sections 201 and 202.

84. Labor Code section 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to pay wages owed, in accordance with sections 201 and 202, then the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action is commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than thirty (30) days.

85. Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover from Defendants the statutory penalty wages for each day they were not paid, up to the thirty (30) day maximum as provided by Labor Code section 203.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Labor Code § 226(a))

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

86. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 85, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

87. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Labor Code section 226(a) provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees an accurate itemized statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked by the employee, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and his or her Social Security number, (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee. The deductions made from payments of wages shall be recorded in ink or other indelible form, properly dated,

1 showing the month, day, and year, and a copy of the statement or a record of the deductions
2 shall be kept on file by the employer for at least three years at the place of employment or at
3 a central location within the State of California.

4 88. As a pattern and practice, Defendants have intentionally and willfully failed to
5 provide Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) with complete and accurate wage
6 statements. The deficiencies include, but are not limited to, the failure to include the total
7 number of hours worked by Plaintiffs and other class members.

8 89. As a result of Defendants' violation of Labor Code section 226(a), Plaintiffs and
9 other class members have suffered injury and damage to their statutorily protected rights.

10 90. More specifically, Plaintiffs and other class members have been injured by
11 Defendants' intentional and willful violation of Labor Code section 226(a) because they were
12 denied both their legal right to receive, and their protected interest in receiving, accurate and
13 itemized wage statements pursuant to Labor Code section 226(a).

14 91. Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover from Defendants the
15 greater of their actual damages caused by Defendants' failure to comply with Labor Code
16 section 226(a), or an aggregate penalty not exceeding four thousand dollars per employee.

17 92. Plaintiffs and other class members are also entitled to injunctive relief to ensure
18 compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor Code section 226(g).

19 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

20 **(Violation of California Labor Code §§ 2800 and 2802)**

21 **(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)**

22 93. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1
23 through 92, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set
24 forth herein.

25 94. During the relevant time period set forth herein, Labor Code sections 2800 and
26 2802 provide that an employer must reimburse its employee for all necessary expenditures
27 incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her job duties or in
28 direct consequence of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer.

95. As a pattern and practice, Defendants have intentionally and willfully failed to reimburse Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) for all necessary business-related expenses and costs.

96. Pursuant to Labor Code sections 2800 and 2802, Plaintiffs and other class members are entitled to recover from Defendants their business-related expenses and costs incurred during the course and scope of their employment, plus interest accrued from the date on which the employee incurred the necessary expenditures at the same rate as judgments in civil actions in the State of California.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.)

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

97. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 96, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

98. The Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”) expressly establishes that any provision of the Labor Code which provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”), or any of its departments, divisions, commissions, boards, agencies or employees for a violation of the Labor Code, may be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or herself, and other current or former employees.

99. On March 10, 2023, Plaintiff CHOI provided written notice to the LWDA and Defendants of the specific provisions of the Labor Code she contends were violated, and the theories supporting her contentions. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated by reference is a copy of the March 10, 2023 written notice to the LWDA. Plaintiff CHOI believes that on or about May 15, 2023, the sixty-five (65) day notice period will expire as to all Defendants, and the LWDA will not take any action to investigate or prosecute this matter. Thus, Plaintiff CHOI will have exhausted the statutory time period to bring this action.

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100. Plaintiff CHOI and the other hourly-paid or non-exempt employees are “aggrieved employees” as defined by Labor Code section 2699(c) in that they are all current and former hourly-paid or non-exempt employees of Defendants within the State of California at any time during the period from March 10, 2022, through April 12, 2023, and one or more of the alleged violations was committed against them.

Failure to Pay Minimum and Overtime Wages

101. At all times relevant herein, Defendants were required to compensate their nonexempt employees minimum wages for all hours worked and overtime wages for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a workweek, pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code sections 510, 1194, 1197, and 1198.

102. As a policy and practice, Defendants failed to compensate Plaintiff CHOI and the other aggrieved current and former employees for all hours worked, resulting in a failure to pay all minimum wages and overtime wages, where applicable.

Failure to Provide Meal Periods and Rest Breaks

103. In accordance with the mandates of Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512, Defendants were required to authorize and permit their non-exempt employees to take a 10-minute rest break for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof and were further required to provide their non-exempt employees with a 30-minute meal period for every five (5) hours worked.

104. As a policy and practice, Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff CHOI and the other aggrieved current and former employees with legally mandated meal periods and rest breaks and failed to pay proper compensation for this failure.

Failure to Timely Pay Wages During Employment

105. At all times relevant herein, Defendants were required to pay their employees within a specified time period pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code section 204.

106. As a policy and practice, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff CHOI and the other aggrieved current and former employees all wages due and owing them within the required time period.

1 **Failure to Timely Pay Wages Upon Termination**

2 107. At all times relevant herein, Defendants were required to pay their employees
3 all wages owed in a timely fashion at the end of employment pursuant to Labor Code sections
4 201 to 204.

5 108. As a result of Defendants' Labor Code violations alleged above, Defendants
6 failed to pay Plaintiff CHOI and the other aggrieved former employees their final wages
7 pursuant to Labor Code sections 201 to 204 and accordingly owe waiting time penalties
8 pursuant to Labor Code section 203.

9 **Failure to Provide Complete and Accurate Wage Statements**

10 109. At all times relevant herein, Defendants were required to keep accurate records
11 regarding their California employees pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code sections 226 and
12 1174.

13 110. As a result of Defendants' various Labor Code violations, Defendants failed to
14 keep accurate records regarding Plaintiff CHOI and the other aggrieved current and former
15 employees. For example, Defendants failed in their affirmative obligation to keep accurate
16 records regarding Plaintiff and the other aggrieved current and former employees' gross wages
17 earned, total hours worked, all deductions, net wages earned, and all applicable hourly rates
18 and the number of hours worked at each hourly rate.

19 **Failure to Reimburse Business Expenses**

20 111. At all times relevant herein, Defendants were required to reimburse its
21 employees for any and all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employees in direct
22 consequences of the discharge or his or her duties pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code
23 sections 2800 and 2802.

24 112. As a policy and practice, Defendants failed to reimburse Plaintiff CHOI and the
25 other aggrieved current and former employees for all business expenses incurred and owing
26 them within the required time period.

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Failure to Provide Paid Sick Days

113. At all times relevant herein, Defendants were required to provide their employees with paid sick days pursuant to the methods outlined in Labor Code section 246.

114. As a policy and practice, Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff CHOI and other aggrieved current and former employees with paid sick days pursuant to methods outlined in Labor Code section 246.

Penalties

115. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699, Plaintiff CHOI, individually, and on behalf of the other current and former aggrieved employees, requests and is entitled to recover from Defendants, and each of them, civil penalties, interest, attorneys' fees and costs, including but not limited to:

- a. Penalties under Labor Code section 2699 in the amount of a hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial violation, and two hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent violation;
- b. Penalties under Code of Regulations Title 8 section 11040 in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial violation, and one hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent violation;
- c. Penalties under Labor Code section 210 in addition to, and entirely independent and apart from, any other penalty provided in the Labor Code in the amount of a hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial violation, and two hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent violation;

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- d. Penalties under Labor Code section 1197.1 in the amount of a hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial violation, and two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent violation;
- e. Any and all additional penalties as provided by the Labor Code and/or other statutes; and
- f. Attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code sections 210, 1194, and 2699, and any other applicable statute.

NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Business & Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.*)

(Against CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY and DOES 1 through 100)

116. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 115, and each and every part thereof with the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

117. Defendants' conduct, as alleged herein, has been, and continues to be unfair, unlawful and harmful to Plaintiffs, other class members, to the general public, and Defendants' competitors. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek to enforce important rights affecting the public interest within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5.

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

119. A violation of Business & Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.* may be predicated on the violation of any state or federal law. In this instant case, Defendants' pattern and practice of requiring Plaintiffs and other class members to work overtime hours without paying them proper compensation violates Labor Code sections 510 and 1198. Additionally, Defendants' pattern and practice of requiring Plaintiffs and other class members to work through their meal and rest periods without paying them proper compensation violates Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512(a). Moreover, Defendants' pattern and practice of failing to

1 timely pay wages to Plaintiffs and other class members violates Labor Code sections 201 and
2 202. Defendants also violated Labor Code sections 226(a), 1194, 1197, 2800, and 2802.

3 120. As a result of the herein described violations of California law, Defendants
4 unlawfully gained an unfair advantage over other businesses.

5 121. Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) have been personally injured by
6 Defendants' unlawful business acts and practices as alleged herein, including but not
7 necessarily limited to the loss of money and/or property.

8 122. Pursuant to Business & Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*, Plaintiffs and
9 other class members are entitled to restitution of the wages withheld and retained by
10 Defendants during a period that commences four years prior to the filing of this Complaint;
11 an award of attorneys' fees pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 and other
12 applicable laws; and an award of costs.

13 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

14 Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of other members of the general public similarly
15 situated, request a trial by jury.

16 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

17 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of all other members of the
18 general public similarly situated, pray for relief and judgment against Defendants, jointly and
19 severally, as follows:

20 **Class Certification**

- 21 1. That this action be certified as a class action;
22 2. That Plaintiffs be appointed as representatives of the Class;
23 3. That counsel for Plaintiffs be appointed as Class Counsel; and
24 4. That Defendants provide to Class Counsel immediately the names and most
25 current contact information (address, e-mail address, and telephone numbers) of all class
26 members.

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As to the Third Cause of Action

17. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code section 226.7 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to provide all rest periods to Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all);

18. That the Court make an award to Plaintiffs and the other class members of one (1) hour of pay at each employee's regular rate of compensation for each workday that a rest period was not provided;

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

20. For premium wages pursuant to Labor Code section 226.7(b);

21. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid wages from the date such amounts were due; and

22. For such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

As to the Fourth Cause of Action

23. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197 by willfully failing to pay minimum wages to Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all);

24. For general unpaid wages and such general and special damages as may be appropriate;

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

26. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to Labor Code section 1194(a);

27. For liquidated damages pursuant to Labor Code section 1194.2; and

28. For such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

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As to the Fifth Cause of Action

29. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code sections 201, 202, and 203 by willfully failing to pay all compensation owed at the time of termination of the employment of Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) no longer employed by Defendants;

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

31. For statutory wage penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 203 for the other class members who have left Defendants' employ;

32. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid compensation from the date such amounts were due; and

33. For such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

As to the Sixth Cause of Action

34. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated the record keeping provisions of Labor Code section 226(a) and applicable IWC Wage Orders as to Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all), and willfully failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements thereto;

35. For actual, consequential, and incidental losses and damages, according to proof;

36. For statutory penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 226(e);

37. For injunctive relief to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to Labor Code section 226(g); and

38. For such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

As to the Seventh Cause of Action

39. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code sections 2800 and 2802 by willfully failing to reimburse Plaintiffs and other class members (but not all) for all necessary business-related expenses as required by Labor Code sections 2800 and 2802;

40. For actual, consequential, and incidental losses and damages, according to proof;

- 1 41. For the imposition of civil penalties and/or statutory penalties;
2 42. For punitive damages and/or exemplary damages according to proof at trial;
3 43. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein; and
4 44. For such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

5 **As to the Eighth Cause of Action**

6 45. That the Court declare, adjudge, and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code
7 section 2698, *et seq.*, the PAGA, for civil penalties pursuant to Defendants' violations of Labor
8 Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 218.5, 221, 226(a), 226.3, 226.7, 246(l), 510, 512(a), 558,
9 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, and the IWC Wage Orders;

10 46. Upon the Cause of Action, for costs and attorneys' fees pursuant to Labor Code
11 Sections 210, 1194, and 2699, and any other applicable statute; and

12 47. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

13 **As to the Ninth Cause of Action**

14 48. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated Business &
15 Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.* by failing to provide Plaintiffs and other class
16 members all overtime compensation due to them, failing to provide all meal and rest periods
17 to Plaintiffs and other class members, failing to pay at least minimum wages to Plaintiffs and
18 other class members, failing to provide paid sick days to Plaintiff and the other class members,
19 and failing to pay Plaintiffs and other class members' wages timely as required by Labor Code
20 sections 201 and 202.

21 49. For restitution of unpaid wages to Plaintiffs and other class members and all pre-
22 judgment interest from the day such amounts were due and payable;

23 50. For the appointment of a receiver to receive, manage and distribute any and all
24 funds disgorged from Defendants and determined to have been wrongfully acquired by
25 Defendants as a result of violation of Business & Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*;

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27 51. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to Code
28 of Civil Procedure section 1021.5;

1 52. For injunctive relief to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to Business
2 & Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*; and

3 53. For such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.
4

5 Dated: July 21, 2023

JUSTICE LAW CORPORATION

6
7 By: 

8 Douglas Han
9 Shunt Tatavos-Gharajeh
10 Halina E. Szymanski
11 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*
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EXHIBIT 1

March 10, 2023

BY U.S. EMAIL/ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

PAGAfilings@dir.ca.gov
State of California
Labor & Workforce Development Agency
800 Capitol Mall, MIC-55
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: CAMERON WELDING SUPPLY

Dear Representative:

We have been retained to represent Jean Hyung Choi against Cameron Welding Supply (including any and all affiliates, managers, members, subsidiaries, and parents, and their shareholders, officers, directors, and employees), any individual, owner, officer and managing agent, DOES 1-10 as an “Employer” or person acting on behalf of an “Employer” pursuant to California Labor Code section 558.1, for violations of California wage-and-hour laws (hereinafter collectively referred to as “CAMERON”).

Ms. Choi is pursuing her California Labor Code section 2698, *et seq.*, the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”) claim on a representative basis. Therefore, Ms. Choi may seek penalties for violations of the Labor Code on behalf of the State of California and aggrieved employees, which are recoverable under PAGA. This letter is sent in compliance with the reporting requirements of California Labor Code section 2699.3.

Cameron Welding Supply is a California corporation headquartered at 11061 Dale St., Stanton, California 90680.

CAMERON employed Ms. Choi as an hourly-paid, non-exempt Specialist Guest Technician until in or around November 2022 in the State of California. CAMERON directly controlled the wages, hours and/or working conditions of Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees’ employment, including direction, retention, scheduling, supervision, and termination.

The “aggrieved employees” that Ms. Choi may seek penalties on behalf of are all current and former hourly-paid or non-exempt employees of CAMERON within the State of California.

CAMERON failed to properly pay its hourly-paid or non-exempt employees for all hours worked, failed to properly provide or compensate minimum and overtime wages and for meal and rest breaks, failed to issue compliant wage statements and failed to reimburse for all necessary business-related costs and expenses, thus resulting in other Labor Code violations as stated below.

Pursuant to *Huff v. Securitas Security Services USA, Inc.* (2018) 23 Cal.App.5th 745, 751, an employee who brings a representative action and was affected by at least one of the violations alleged in the complaint has standing to pursue penalties on behalf of the state not only for that violation, but for violations affecting other employees as well. Accordingly, Ms. Choi has standing to pursue penalties on behalf of the state for violations affecting all the aggrieved employees at CAMERON, regardless of their classification, job title, location, or whether they were hired directly or through a staffing agency.

CAMERON has violated and/or continues to violate, among other provisions of the California Labor Code and applicable wage law, California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 218.5, 221, 226(a), 226.3, 226.7, 246(l), 510, 512(a), 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, and the IWC Wage Orders.

California Labor Code sections 510, 1194, and 1198 require employers to pay at least minimum wage for all hours worked, pay time-and-a-half, or double-time overtime wages, and make it unlawful to work employees for hours longer than eight hours in one day and/or over forty hours in one week without paying the premium overtime rates.

During the relevant time period, Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees routinely worked in excess of 8 hours in a day and 40 hours in a week. CAMERON failed to compensate Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees for all hours worked, in part due to CAMERON'S improper policy and practice of rounding aggrieved employees' time and CAMERON'S make-up time policy, and for performing off-the-clock work. Such off-the-clock work consisted of but was not limited to: (1) pre-shift work including complying with security procedures, donning uniforms, completing paperwork, and checking trucks; (2) post-shift work including doffing uniforms, filling up trucks for the next day, and completing driver debriefings; and (3) working during meal breaks.

CAMERON also failed to include non-discretionary bonuses and commissions in aggrieved employees' regular rates of pay for purposes of overtime compensation. Therefore, Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees were entitled to receive certain wages for overtime compensation, but they were not paid for all overtime hours worked.

California Labor Code section 246 requires that employers provide employees with paid sick leave of not less than one hour per every 30 hours worked. California Labor Code section 246(l) also requires that paid sick leave be paid at a non-exempt employee's regular rate of pay for the workweek in which the employee uses paid sick time or at a rate calculated by dividing the employee's total wages, not including overtime premium pay, by the employee's total hours worked in the full pay periods of the prior 90 days of employment.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON failed to pay Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees paid sick leave that complied with California Labor Code section 246, by, for example, failing to pay paid sick leave at non-exempt employees' regular rates of pay or at a rate calculated by dividing the employee's total wages, not including overtime premium pay, by the employee's total hours worked in the full pay periods of the prior 90 days of employment.

California Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512 require employers to pay an employee one additional hour of pay at the employee's regular rate for each workday that a meal or rest break is not provided.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON routinely required Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees to work through, interrupt, cut short, and/or delay their meal and rest breaks to comply with CAMERON'S policies and expectations and to keep up with their heavy workloads. CAMERON also failed to authorize and permit Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees to take the requisite number of meal and rest breaks, including second meal breaks and third rest breaks, when working shifts exceeding 10 hours in length. Despite these facts, CAMERON failed to compensate Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees all the premium wages they were owed, including failing to pay premium wages at Ms. Choi's and other aggrieved employees' regular rates of pay.

California Labor Code section 201 requires that if an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately. California Labor Code section 202 requires that if an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting. California Labor Code section 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with Labor Code sections 201, 201.3, 201.5, 201.6, 201.8, 201.9, 202, and 205.5, any wages of an employee who is discharged or who quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than 30 days.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON failed to pay Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees all wages, including as a result of CAMERON'S improper policy and practice of rounding as well as for uncompensated off-the-clock work, unpaid sick leave, unpaid overtime premiums, and unpaid premium wages for failing to provide legally mandated meal and rest breaks due to them within any time period specified by California Labor Code sections 201 and 203 and, therefore, is liable under California Labor Code section 203.

California Labor Code section 204 requires that all wages earned by any person in any employment between the 1st and the 15th days, inclusive, of any calendar month, other than those wages due upon termination of an employee, are due and payable between the 16th and the 26th day of the month during which the labor was performed, and that all wages earned by any person in any employment between the 16th and the last day, inclusive, of any calendar month, other than those wages due upon termination of an employee, are due and payable between the 1st and the 10th day of the following month. California Labor Code section 204 also requires that all wages earned for labor in excess of the normal work period shall be paid no later than the payday for the next regular payroll period.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON failed to pay Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees all wages due to them, including as a result of rounding and for uncompensated off-the-clock work, unpaid sick leave, unpaid overtime premiums, and unpaid premium wages for failing to provide legally mandated meal and rest breaks within any time period specified by California Labor Code section 204.

California Labor Code section 226 requires employers to make, keep and provide complete and accurate itemized wage statements to their employees.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON did not provide Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees with complete and accurate itemized wage statements. The wage statements they received from CAMERON were in violation of California Labor Code section 226(a). The violations include, but are not limited to, the failure to include: (1) gross wages earned by Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees; (2) total hours worked by Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees; (3) all deductions for Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees; (4) net wages earned by Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees; and (5) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees.

California Labor Code section 558 allows recovery of penalties. (a) Any employer or other person acting on behalf of an employer who violates, or causes to be violated, a section of this chapter or any provision regulating hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare Commission shall be subject to a civil penalty as follows: (1) For any initial violation, fifty dollars (\$50) for each underpaid employee for each pay period for which the employee was underpaid in addition to an amount sufficient

to recover underpaid wages. (2) For each subsequent violation, one hundred dollars (\$100) for each underpaid employee for each pay period for which the employee was underpaid in addition to an amount sufficient to recover underpaid wages. (3) Wages recovered pursuant to this section shall be paid to the affected employee.

During the relevant time period, Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees have been denied their wages and premium wages and, therefore, are entitled to penalties.

California Labor Code sections 1174(d) requires an employer to keep, at a central location in the state or at the plants or establishments at which employees are employed, payroll records showing the hours worked daily by and the wages paid to employees employed at the respective plants or establishments. These records shall be kept with rules established for this purpose by the commission, but in any case, shall be kept on file for not less than two years.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON failed to keep accurate and complete payroll records showing the hours worked daily and the wages paid to Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees.

California Labor Code sections 1194, 1197, and 1197.1 provide the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a lesser wage than the minimum so fixed is unlawful.

During the relevant time period, CAMERON did not provide Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees with the minimum wages to which they were entitled despite constructive and actual knowledge of off-the-clock work, including pre-shift and post-shift and during meal breaks.

California Labor Code sections 2800 and 2802 require an employer to reimburse its employee for all necessary expenditures incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her job duties or in direct consequence of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer.

During their employment, Ms. Choi and other aggrieved employees incurred necessary business-related expenses and costs that were not fully reimbursed by CAMERON, including: (1) using their personal cellular phones for work-related purposes between three times per week and every shift, including to communicate with supervisors; (2) using their personal vehicles for work-related purposes, such as making deliveries; and (3) purchasing hard-toed industrial work boots out-of-pocket.

We believe that Ms. Choi and other current and former California-based hourly-paid or non-exempt employees are entitled to penalties as allowed under California Labor Code section 2698, *et seq.* for violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 218.5, 221, 226(a), 226.3, 226.7, 246(l), 510, 512(a), 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, and the IWC Wage Orders.

California Labor Code section 2699.3 requires that a claimant send a certified letter to the employer in questions and the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency setting forth the claims, and the basis for the claims, thereby giving the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency an opportunity to investigate the claims and/or take any action it deems appropriate.

The purpose of this letter is to satisfy the requirement created by California Labor code section 2699 prior to seeking penalties allowed by law for the aforementioned statutory violations. We look forward to determining whether California Labor & Workforce Development Agency intends to take any action in reference to these claims. We kindly request that you respond to this notice according to the time frame contemplated by the California Labor Code.

Ms. Choi will seek these penalties on her own behalf and on behalf of other similarly situated California-based hourly-paid or non-exempt employees of CAMERON within one year of the date of this letter, as allowed by law.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your attention to this matter and the noble cause you advance each and every day.

Very truly yours,

JUSTICE LAW CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Han", written over a horizontal line.

Douglas Han, Esq.

CC: (By Email Only):

Andrew Kaplan

akaplan@kaplan-lawfirm.com

Matthew Reinstein

mreinstein@kaplan-lawfirm.com

Counsel for Cameron Welding Supply

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PROOF OF SERVICE