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Attorneys for Plaintiff ELIO GARCIA,
on behalf of himself and current and former aggrieved employees

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES- CENTRAL DISTRICT**

ELIO GARCIA, on behalf of himself and current
and former aggrieved employees

Plaintiff,

vs.

L3HARRIS MARITIME POWER & ENERGY
SOLUTIONS, INC.; and DOES 1 to 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: **26STCV18696**

PAGA ACTION

**PLAINTIFF ELIO GARCIA'S
COMPLAINT FOR:**

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

COMES NOW Plaintiff ELIO GARCIA ("Plaintiff"), who alleges and complains against
Defendants L3HARRIS MARITIME POWER & ENERGY SOLUTIONS, INC.; and DOES 1 to
100, inclusive (collectively "Defendants") as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This is a Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.*
("PAGA") representative action brought by Plaintiff on behalf of the State of California, himself

1 and other current and former aggrieved employees of Defendants who worked as hourly non-exempt
2 employees in California during the relevant time period seeking civil penalties associated with
3 Defendants' violation of the Labor Code based on Defendants' failure to pay wages for all hours
4 worked at minimum wage and all overtime hours worked at the overtime rate of pay; failure to pay
5 overtime wages at the proper overtime rate of pay; failure to authorize or permit all legally required
6 and/or compliant meal periods or pay meal period premium wages; failure to authorize or permit
7 all legally required and/or compliant rest periods or pay rest period premium wages; statutory
8 penalties for failure to provide accurate wage statements; statutory waiting time penalties in the
9 form of continuation wages for failure to timely pay employees all wages due upon separation of
10 employment. Plaintiff experienced these violations personally, as well as is informed and believes
11 other aggrieved employees did as well. Plaintiff seeks on a representative basis, following notice
12 to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, civil penalties, reasonable attorneys' fees
13 pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(g)(1) and costs brought on behalf of Plaintiff, the State of
14 California, and others aggrieved.

15 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

16 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims of Plaintiff and all other current and
17 former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees because Plaintiff's lawsuit seeks
18 civil penalties on behalf of herself, all other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
19 non-exempt employees, and the State of California in excess of thirty-five thousand dollars
20 (\$35,000); Defendants employed Plaintiff and all other current and former aggrieved California-
21 based hourly non-exempt employees; and the injuries to Plaintiff and all other current and former
22 aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees occurred in locations throughout
23 California, including but not limited to Los Angeles County, at 711 W. Knox St., Gardena, CA
24 90248.

25 **III. PARTIES**

26 3. Plaintiff brings this action as a representative of the Labor and Workforce
27 Development Agency on behalf of himself and other current and former employees subject to
28 violations of the Labor Code. The named Plaintiff and the persons on whose behalf this action is

1 filed include current, former and/or future employees of Defendants who work, worked, or will work
2 for Defendants as direct employees as well as temporary employees employed through temp
3 agencies as hourly non-exempt employees in California. At all times mentioned herein, the currently
4 named Plaintiff is and was domiciled and a resident and citizen of California and was employed by
5 Defendants in an hourly position at Defendants' location in Los Angeles County from in or around
6 January 2022 until on or about October 8, 2025.

7 1. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant L3HARRIS
8 MARITIME POWER & ENERGY SOLUTIONS, INC. is authorized to do business within the State
9 of California and is doing business in the State of California and/or that Defendants DOES 1-50 are,
10 and at all times relevant hereto were persons acting on behalf of Defendant L3HARRIS MARITIME
11 POWER & ENERGY SOLUTIONS, INC. in the establishment of, or ratification of, the
12 aforementioned illegal wage and hour practices or policies. Defendant L3HARRIS MARITIME
13 POWER & ENERGY SOLUTIONS, INC. operates in Los Angeles County and employed Plaintiff
14 and aggrieved employees in Los Angeles County, including but not limited to, at 711 W. Knox
15 Street, Gardena, CA 90248.

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

21 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants DOES 51
22 through 100 are individuals unknown to Plaintiff. Each of the individual defendants is sued
23 individually and in his or her capacity as an agent, shareholder, owner, representative, manager,
24 supervisor, independent contractor and/or employee of each defendant who violated or caused to be
25 violated the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the Labor Code and/or any provision of the
26 Industrial Welfare Commission's wage orders regulating hours and days of work.

27 4. Plaintiff is unaware of the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 100. Plaintiff
28 sues said defendants by said fictitious names, and will amend this complaint when the true names

1 and capacities are ascertained or when such facts pertaining to liability are ascertained, or as
2 permitted by law or by the Court. Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the fictitiously
3 named defendants is in some manner responsible for the events and allegations set forth in this
4 complaint.

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

8 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

9 **CIVIL PENALTIES PURSUANT TO THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT OF**
10 **2004, LABOR CODE SECTIONS 2698, ET SEQ.**

11 **(Against all Defendants by Plaintiff on behalf of Themselves, the State of California, and**
12 **Other Current and Former Aggrieved Employees)**

13 6. Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.

14 7. During Plaintiff's employment and continuing through the present, Plaintiff alleges
15 Defendants violated Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 223, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197,
16 6401.7, 6401.9 and the applicable Wage Orders.

17 8. Specifically, Defendants have committed the following violations of California
18 Labor Code:

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

25 10. Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197 require an employer to compensate employees
26 for all "hours worked" at least at a minimum wage rate of pay as established by the IWC and the
27 Wage Orders.

28 11. In this case, Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly

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

6 (a) Sometimes requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-
7 based hourly non-exempt employees to line up to wait to undergo and undergo off-the-clock security
8 checks, when entering or leaving the premises, such as before clocking in for the start of their shifts,
9 after clocking out for the start of their meal break, before clocking in for the end of their meal break,
10 after clocking out for the end of their shifts; and

11 (b) Sometimes requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-
12 based hourly non-exempt employees to don personal protective equipment ("PPE") and wash their
13 hands prior to clocking in for the start of their shift and doff their PPE after clocking out for the end
14 of their shift without being paid for that time.

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

21 13. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Defendant's
22 conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Defendant
23 would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

24 14. **Failure to pay wages for overtime hours worked at the overtime rate of pay**
25 **and/or failure to pay overtime wages at the proper rate of pay:** Defendants employed many of
26 their employees, including Plaintiff, as hourly non-exempt employees. In California, an employer
27 is required to pay hourly employees for all "hours worked," which includes all time that an employee
28 is under control of the employer and all time the employee is suffered and permitted to work. This

1 includes the time an employee spends, either directly or indirectly, performing services that inure to
2 the benefit of the employer.’

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

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

14 Labor Code section 510.

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

18 (a) Sometimes requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-
19 based hourly non-exempt employees to line up to wait to undergo and undergo off-the-clock security
20 checks, when entering or leaving the premises, such as before clocking in for the start of their shifts,
21 after clocking out for the start of their meal break, before clocking in for the end of their meal break,
22 after clocking out for the end of their shifts; and

23 (b) Sometimes requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-
24 based hourly non-exempt employees to don personal protective equipment (“PPE”) and wash their
25 hands prior to clocking in for the start of their shift and doff their PPE after clocking out for the end
26 of their shift without being paid for that time.

27 17. Employee is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that
28 Employer’s conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive.
Defendant would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section
2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

18. The foregoing policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in time during each

workday that Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees were under the control of Defendants but were not compensated. To the extent that the foregoing uncompensated time occurred when Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees worked more than eight (8) hours in a workday, 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, 1194 and 1198, and the applicable Wage Order.

19. **Failure to pay wages to hourly non-exempt employees for workdays that Defendants failed to provide legally required and compliant meal periods and/or failure to pay period premium wages:** 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.

20. 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, and 1198; 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.

21. 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 sections 226.7 and 1198; Wage Order 1 at §11.

22. In this case, Defendants failed to authorize or permit legally required and compliant

1 meal periods to Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-
2 exempt employees due to Defendants' policies, practices, and/or procedures, including but not
3 limited to:

4 (a) Sometimes failing to provide Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved
5 California-based hourly non-exempt employees timely, uninterrupted, duty-free meal breaks of at
6 least 30 minutes for every five hours worked, as a result of late meal breaks beyond the fifth hour
7 of work; and

8 (b) Sometimes requiring Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-
9 based hourly non-exempt employees to line up to wait to undergo and undergo off-the-clock security
10 checks, when entering or leaving the premises, such as after clocking out for the start of their meal
11 break and before clocking in for the end of their meal break.

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

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

21 25. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Defendant's
22 conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Defendant
23 would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

24 26. **Failure to pay wages to hourly non-exempt employees for workdays that**
25 **Defendants failed to provide legally required and compliant rest periods and/or failure to pay**
26 **rest period premium:** Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
27 non-exempt employees regularly worked shifts of more than three-and-a-half (3.5) hours.

28 27. California law requires every employer to authorize and permit an employee a rest

1 period of ten (10) net minutes for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof. Labor Code
2 section 226.7; Wage Order 1 at §12. Under California law, “[e]mployees are entitled to 10 minutes’
3 rest for shifts from three and one-half to six hours in length, 20 minutes for shifts of more than six
4 hours up to 10 hours, 30 minutes for shifts of more than 10 hours up to 14 hours, and so on.” *Brinker*
5 *Restaurant Corp. v. Sup. Ct. (Hohnbaum)* (2012) 53 Cal.4th 1004, 1029; Labor Code section 226.7;
6 Wage Order 1 at §12. Rest periods, insofar as practicable, shall be in the middle of each work period.
7 Wage Order 1 at §12. Additionally, the rest period requirement ““obligates employers to permit –
8 and authorizes employees to take – off-duty rest periods.” *Augustus v. ABM Security Services, Inc.*
9 (2016) 2 Cal.5th 257, 269. That is, during rest periods employers must relieve employees of all
10 duties and relinquish control over how employees spend their time. *Id.*

11 28. If the employer fails to authorize or permit a required rest period, the employer must
12 pay the employee one (1) hour of pay at the employee’s regular rate of pay for each workday the
13 employer did not authorize or permit a legally required rest period. Labor Code section 226.7; Wage
14 Order 1 at § 12.

15 29. In this case, Defendants failed to authorize or permit all legally required and
16 compliant rest periods to Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly
17 non-exempt employees due to Defendants’ policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not
18 limited to:

19 (a) Sometimes failing to provide Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved
20 California-based hourly non-exempt employees with net ten (10) minute rest breaks for every four
21 (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof.

22 30. Additionally, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants maintained a policy, practice, and/or
23 procedure of failing to compensate Plaintiff and other current and former aggrieved California-based
24 hourly non-exempt employees with one (1) hour of pay at their regular rate of pay for each workday
25 they did not receive legally required and compliant rest periods, in violation of Labor Code section
26 226.7.

27 31. Defendants’ foregoing policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in Plaintiff and
28 other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees not receiving

1 wages to compensate them for workdays in which Defendants did not provide them with rest periods
2 in compliance with California law.

3 32. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Defendant's
4 conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Defendant
5 would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

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

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

22 35. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive.
23 Defendant would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section
24 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

25 36. **Secret payment of lower wages than designated by statute:** Labor Code section
26 223 provides that, where any statute or contract requires an employer to maintain the designated
27 wage scale, it shall be unlawful to secretly pay a lower wage while purporting to pay the wage
28 designated by statute or contract. By engaging in the unlawful conduct alleged herein, including by

1 failing to: pay overtime wages at the applicable legal overtime rate, meal break premiums and lawful
2 sick pay at the employees' regular rate of pay, as established by Labor Code sections 226.7, 246,
3 510, 1194 and sections 11 and 12 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders, as incorporated by Labor
4 Code section 1198, the Defendant secretly paid a lower wage than designated by statute while
5 purporting to pay the wages designated by statute, in violation of Labor Code section 223.

6 37. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive.
7 Defendant would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section
8 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

9 38. **Failure to Establish, Implement, and Maintain a Workplace Violence and**
10 **Injury Prevention Program in Compliance with Labor Code Sections 6401.7 and 6401.9:**
11 California Labor Code Section 6401.7 requires every employer to establish, implement, and
12 maintain an effective injury prevention program. California Labor Code Section 6401.9 requires
13 California employers to adopt a comprehensive Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (WVPP), train
14 employees on workplace violence, log safety incidents, and conduct periodic inspections to evaluate
15 workplace violence hazards.

16 Plaintiff alleges that Defendant did not comply with Defendant's responsibilities and duties
17 under Labor Code sections 6401.7 and 6401.9. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges
18 that Defendant (1) failed to establish, implement, and maintain an effective injury prevention
19 program; (2) failed to adopt a compliant Workplace Violence Prevention Plan; (3); failed to train
20 Employee and other aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees in workplace
21 violence and injury prevention; (4) failed to log safety incidents; and (5) failed to conduct compliant
22 periodic inspections. Plaintiff believes these failures were willful and intentional. Plaintiff also
23 believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Defendant would further be liable
24 for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

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

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

10 40. As a derivative of Plaintiff’s allegations above, Defendants’ failure to pay Plaintiff
11 and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees all wages
12 earned (including minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and/or rest period
13 premium wages) rendered Plaintiff’s and other current and former aggrieved California-based
14 hourly non-exempt employees’ wage statements inaccurate, in violation of Labor Code section
15 226(a)(1, 2, 5 & 9).

16 41. Plaintiff believes these failures were willful and intentional.

17 42. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive.
18 Defendant would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section
19 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

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

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

1 45. Plaintiff believes these failures were willful and intentional.

2 46. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive.
3 Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section
4 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

5 47. Labor Code sections 2699, subdivisions (a) and (g) authorize an aggrieved employee,
6 on behalf of himself or herself and other current or former employees, to bring a civil action to
7 recover civil penalties against all Defendants pursuant to the procedures specified in Labor Code
8 section 2699.3.

9 48. Plaintiff has complied with the procedures for bringing suit specified in Labor Code
10 section 2699.3. On December 22, 2025, Plaintiff filed a PAGA Claim Notice with the LWDA and
11 provided notice to Defendants by certified mail which provided notice of the specific provisions of
12 the Labor Code alleged to have been violated, including the facts and theories to support the
13 violations alleged.

14 49. On February 25, 2026, Plaintiff filed an Amended PAGA Claim Notice with the
15 LWDA and provided notice to Defendants by certified mail which provided notice of the specific
16 provisions of the Labor Code alleged to have been violated, including the facts and theories to
17 support the violations alleged.

18 50. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, the LWDA must give written notice by
19 certified mail to the parties that it intends to investigate the alleged violations of the Labor Code
20 within 60 days of the date of the complainant's written notice. The LWDA failed to provide the
21 parties notice within 60 days of the date of Plaintiff's PAGA Claim Notice that the LWDA intends
22 to investigate Plaintiff's claims.

23 51. Pursuant to Labor Code sections 2699(a) and (f), Plaintiff is entitled to recover civil
24 penalties for Defendants' violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 223, 226(a), 226.7,
25 510, 512, 1194, 6401.7 and 6401.9: During Plaintiff's employment and continuing through the
26 present, preceding Plaintiff sending the initial PAGA Claim Notice to the LWDA to the present, in
27 the following amounts:

28 a. For violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 226(a), and 226.7, one

1 hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial violation and two
2 hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent violation
3 [penalty amounts established by Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)].

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

8 c. For violations of Labor Code section 510 and 512, fifty dollars (\$50) for each
9 employee for each pay period for the initial violation, and for each subsequent violation, one
10 hundred dollars (\$100) for each underpaid employee for each pay period [penalty amounts
11 established by Labor Code section 558].

12 d. For violations of Labor Code section 204, one hundred dollars (\$100) for
13 each failure to pay each employee in any initial violation, and for each subsequent violation, or any
14 willful or intentional violation, two hundred dollars (\$200) for each failure to pay each employee,
15 plus 25 percent of the amount unlawfully withheld [penalty amounts established by Labor Code
16 section 210].

17 e. For violations of Labor Code section 223, one hundred dollars (\$100) for
18 each failure to pay each employee in any initial violation, and for each subsequent violation, or any
19 willful or intentional violation, two hundred dollars (\$200) for each failure to pay each employee,
20 plus 25 percent of the amount unlawfully withheld [penalty amounts established by Labor Code
21 section 225.5].

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

24 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

25 **WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF, ON BEHALF OF HIMSELF AND ON OTHER AGGRIEVED**
26 **EMPLOYEES, PRAYS AS FOLLOWS:**

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

28 1. That Defendants be found to have violated the provisions of the Labor Code and the

1 IWC Wages Orders as to the Plaintiff and aggrieved employees;

2 2. For any and all legally applicable penalties during the relevant statute of limitations
3 subject to any permissible tolling, including but not limited to those recoverable under the California
4 Labor Code, including but not limited to sections 210, 225.5, 226.3, 558, 2699(f);

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

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

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10 Dated: June 11, 2026

Respectfully submitted,
LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP

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By: /s/ Chloe J. Sykes
Joseph Lavi, Esq.
Vincent C. Granberry, Esq.
Jeffrey D. Klein, Esq.
Jovahn Wiggins, Esq.
Chloe J. Sykes, Esq.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
ELIO GARCIA, on behalf of himself and current and
former aggrieved employees

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