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FILED
 Superior Court of California
 County of Los Angeles
09/18/2026

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court

By: R. Lozano Deputy

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

JONATHAN DE LA TORRE, individually, and
 on behalf of all others similarly situated, and on
 behalf of other aggrieved employees pursuant to
 the California Private Attorneys General Act
 ("PAGA"); NAYELI VERENCE FLORES,
 individually, and on behalf of all others similarly
 situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

GH HOSPITALITY GROUP US, INC., a
 Delaware corporation; ALMA COCINA DE
 MEXICO, an unknown business entity, and
 DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants

Case No.: 26STCV21811

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION AND
 REPRESENTATIVE ACTION
 COMPLAINT:**

1. Failure to Pay Minimum Wages [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197];
2. Failure to Pay Overtime Compensation [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194 and 1198];
3. Failure to Provide Meal Periods [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512];
4. Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Breaks [Cal. Lab. Code § 226.7];
5. Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses [Cal. Lab. Code § 2802];
6. Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201-203];
7. Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements [Cal. Lab. Code § 226];
8. Unfair Business Practices [Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.]; and
9. Civil Penalties Under PAGA [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2699, et seq.].

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL



1 Plaintiffs Jonathan De La Torre and Nayeli Verenice Flores (“Plaintiffs”), based upon
2 facts that either have evidentiary support or are likely to have evidentiary support after a
3 reasonable opportunity for further investigation and discovery, alleges as follows:

4 **INTRODUCTION & PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

5 1. Plaintiffs bring this action against Defendant GH Hospitality Group US, Inc.,
6 Alma Cocina de Mexico, and Does 1 through 10 (collectively referred to as “Defendants”) for
7 California Labor Code violations and unfair business practices stemming from Defendants’
8 failure to pay minimum wages, failure to pay overtime wages, failure to provide meal periods,
9 failure to authorize and permit rest periods, failure to maintain accurate records of hours worked
10 and meal periods, failure to timely pay all wages to terminated employees, failure to indemnify
11 necessary business expenses, and failure to furnish accurate wage statements.

12 2. Plaintiffs bring the First through Eighth Causes of Action individually and as a
13 class action on behalf of themselves and certain current and former employees of Defendants
14 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Class” or “Class Members” and defined more fully
15 below). The Class consists of Plaintiffs and all other persons who have been employed by any
16 Defendants in California as an hourly-paid, non-exempt employee during the statute of
17 limitations period applicable to the claims pleaded here.

18 3. Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre brings the Ninth Cause of Action as a
19 representative action under the California Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”) to recover
20 civil penalties that are owed to Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre, the State of California, and past
21 and present non-exempt, hourly-paid employees of Defendants who worked in California during
22 the applicable statute of limitations period (hereinafter referred to as the “Aggrieved
23 Employees”).

24 4. Defendants own/owned and operate/operated an industry, business, and
25 establishment within the State of California, including Los Angeles County. As such, and based
26 upon all the facts and circumstances incident to Defendants’ business in California, Defendants
27 are subject to the California Labor Code, Wage Orders issued by the Industrial Welfare
28 Commission (“IWC”), and the California Business & Professions Code.



1 5. Despite these requirements, throughout the statutory period Defendants
2 maintained a systematic, company-wide policy and practice of:

- 3 (a) Failing to pay employees for all hours worked, including all minimum
4 wages, and overtime wages in compliance with the California Labor Code
5 and IWC Wage Orders;
- 6 (b) Failing to provide employees with timely and duty-free meal periods in
7 compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Orders, failing
8 to maintain accurate records of all meal periods taken or missed, and
9 failing to pay an additional hour's pay at the regular rate of pay for each
10 workday a meal period violation occurred;
- 11 (c) Failing to authorize and permit employees to take timely and duty-free rest
12 periods in compliance with the California Labor Code and IWC Wage
13 Orders, and failing to pay an additional hour's pay at the employee's
14 regular rate of pay for each workday a rest period violation occurred;
- 15 (d) Failing to indemnify employees for necessary business expenses incurred;
- 16 (e) Willfully failing to pay employees all minimum wages, overtime wages,
17 meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages due within
18 the time period specified by California law when employment terminates;
- 19 (f) Failing to maintain accurate records of the hours that employees worked;
20 and
- 21 (g) Failing to provide employees with accurate, itemized wage statements
22 containing all the information required by the California Labor Code and
23 IWC Wage Orders.

24 6. On information and belief, Defendants, and each of them were on actual and
25 constructive notice of the improprieties alleged herein and intentionally refused to rectify their
26 unlawful policies. Defendants' violations, as alleged above, during all relevant times herein
27 were willful and deliberate.
28

7. At all relevant times, Defendants were and are legally responsible for all of the unlawful conduct, policies, practices, acts and omissions as described in each and all of the foregoing paragraphs as the employer of Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees. Further, Defendants are responsible for each of the unlawful acts or omissions complained of herein under the doctrine of “respondeat superior”.

THE PARTIES

Plaintiffs

8. Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre is a California resident that worked for Defendants in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, as an hourly, non-exempt Server from approximately June 2024 to approximately October 2025.

9. Plaintiff Nayeli Verence Flores is a California resident that worked for Defendants in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, as an hourly, non-exempt Sous Chef from approximately 2022 to approximately June 2024.

10. Plaintiffs reserve the right to seek leave to amend this complaint to add new Plaintiffs, if necessary, in order to establish suitable representative(s) pursuant to *La Sala v. American Savings and Loan Association* (1971) 5 Cal.3d 864, 872, and other applicable law.

Defendants

11. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based upon that information and belief alleges, that Defendant GH Hospitality Group US, Inc. is:

- (a) A Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California;
- (b) A business entity conducting business in numerous counties throughout the State of California, including in Los Angeles; and
- (c) The former employer of Plaintiffs, and the current and/or former employer of the putative Class and the Aggrieved Employees. Defendant suffered and permitted Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to work, and/or controlled their wages, hours, or working conditions.

///



1 12. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based upon that information and belief
2 alleges, that Defendant Alma Cocina de Mexico is:

- 3 (a) An unknown business entity that maintains offices, has agents, employs
4 individuals, and/or transacts business in the State of California;
5 (b) A business entity conducting business in numerous counties throughout the
6 State of California, including in Los Angeles; and
7 (c) The former employer of Plaintiffs, and the current and/or former employer
8 of the putative Class and the Aggrieved Employees. Defendant suffered
9 and permitted Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to work,
10 and/or controlled their wages, hours, or working conditions.

11 13. Plaintiffs do not currently know the true names or capacities of the persons or
12 entities sued herein as Does 1-10, inclusive, and therefore sues said Defendants by such
13 fictitious names. Each of the Doe Defendants was in some manner legally responsible for the
14 damages suffered by Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees as alleged herein.
15 Plaintiffs will amend this complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of these
16 Defendants when they have been ascertained, together with appropriate charging allegations, as
17 may be necessary.

18 14. At all times mentioned herein, the Defendants named as Does 1-10, inclusive, and
19 each of them, were residents of, doing business in, availed themselves of the jurisdiction of,
20 and/or injured a significant number of the Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees in
21 the State of California.

22 15. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon alleges that at all relevant times
23 each Defendant, directly or indirectly, or through agents or other persons, employed Plaintiffs
24 and the other employees described in the class definitions below, and exercised control over
25 their wages, hours, and working conditions. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon
26 alleges that, at all relevant times, each Defendant was the principal, agent, partner, joint
27 venturer, officer, director, controlling shareholder, subsidiary, affiliate, parent corporation,
28 successor in interest and/or predecessor in interest of some or all of the other Defendants, and

1 was engaged with some or all of the other Defendants in a joint enterprise for profit, and bore
2 such other relationships to some or all of the other Defendants so as to be liable for their conduct
3 with respect to the matters alleged below. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon
4 alleges that each Defendant acted pursuant to and within the scope of the relationships alleged
5 above, that each Defendant knew or should have known about, and authorized, ratified, adopted,
6 approved, controlled, aided and abetted the conduct of all other Defendants.

7 **ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

8 16. Plaintiffs are California residents who worked for Defendants in the County of Los
9 Angeles, State of California, as a Server and Sous Chef during the statutory period. Plaintiffs
10 were typically scheduled to work 5 days in a workweek, and typically in excess of 8 hours in a
11 single workday.

12 17. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs for all hours
13 worked (including minimum wages and overtime wages), failed to provide Plaintiffs with
14 uninterrupted meal periods, failed to authorize and permit Plaintiffs to take uninterrupted rest
15 periods, failed to indemnify Plaintiffs for necessary business expenses, failed to timely pay all
16 final wages to Plaintiffs when Defendants terminated Plaintiffs' employment, and failed to
17 furnish accurate wage statements to Plaintiffs. As discussed below, Plaintiffs' experience
18 working for Defendants was typical and illustrative.

19 18. Throughout the statutory period, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved
20 Employees worked more than 8 hours in a workday and more than 40 hours in a workweek.
21 Defendants maintained a policy and practice of not paying Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
22 Aggrieved Employees for all hours worked, including all overtime wages. In those instances
23 where Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees earned non-discretionary bonuses and
24 other remuneration, Defendants failed to incorporate all remuneration when calculating the
25 correct overtime rate of pay, meal break premium rate of pay, rest break premium rate of pay,
26 and sick day rate of pay. Defendants also regularly used a system of time rounding in a manner
27 that resulted, over a period of time, in failing to compensate Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
28 Aggrieved Employees properly for all the time they have actually worked, even though the



1 realities of Defendants' operations are such that it is possible, practical, and feasible to count
2 and pay for work time to the minute. Also throughout the statutory period, Plaintiffs, the Class,
3 and the Aggrieved Employees were required to work "off-the-clock" and uncompensated. For
4 example, due to Defendants only providing two terminals for clocking in and out, Plaintiffs, the
5 Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were required to wait in line for several minutes off-the-
6 clock to utilize Defendants' time clock machine. Additionally, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
7 Aggrieved Employees were required to respond to work requests from supervisors while clocked
8 out during purported meal periods. Despite being required to perform these work tasks,
9 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were not compensated for this time worked.
10 In maintaining a practice of not paying all wages owed, Defendants failed to maintain accurate
11 records of the hours Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees worked.

12 19. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to provide
13 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees with legally compliant meal periods.
14 Defendants often required Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to work in excess
15 of five consecutive hours a day without providing 30-minute, continuous and uninterrupted,
16 duty-free meal period for every five hours of work, or without compensating Plaintiffs, the
17 Class, and the Aggrieved Employees for meal periods that were not provided by the end of the
18 fifth hour of work or tenth hour of work. Defendants also did not adequately inform Plaintiffs,
19 the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees of their right to take a meal period by the end of the
20 fifth hour of work, or, for shifts greater than 10 hours, by the end of the tenth hour of work.
21 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were often required to work during their
22 meal periods, leading to the failure to provide uninterrupted meal periods. For example,
23 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were required to prioritize urgent work tasks
24 before starting their meal periods or during their meal periods, resulting in late, shortened, or
25 interrupted meal periods. These requirements also meant Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
26 Aggrieved Employees were not relieved of all duty during their meal periods. For example,
27 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were required to respond to work requests
28 from supervisors while clocked out during purported meal periods. Due to Defendants' severe



1 understaffing, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were required to prioritize
2 work tasks over taking meal periods, resulting in them forgoing meal periods when necessary to
3 meet work demands. As a result, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were not
4 provided with uninterrupted and complete meal periods. Accordingly, Defendants' policy and
5 practice was to not provide meal periods to Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees
6 in compliance with California law.

7 20. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to authorize
8 and permit Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to take timely and duty-free rest
9 periods. Defendants often required Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to work
10 in excess of four consecutive hours a day without Defendants authorizing and permitting them to
11 take a net 10-minute, continuous and uninterrupted, rest period for every four hours of work (or
12 major fraction thereof), or without compensating Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved
13 Employees for rest periods that were not authorized or permitted. Defendants also did not
14 adequately inform Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees of their right to take a rest
15 period. Moreover, Defendants did not have adequate policies or practices permitting or
16 authorizing rest periods for Plaintiffs, the Class and the Aggrieved Employees, nor did
17 Defendants have adequate policies or practices regarding the timing of rest periods. Defendants
18 also did not have adequate policies or practices to verify whether Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
19 Aggrieved Employees were taking their required rest periods. Further, Defendants did not
20 maintain accurate records of employee work periods, and therefore Defendants cannot
21 demonstrate that Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees took rest periods during the
22 middle of each work period. For example, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees
23 were required to respond to work requests from supervisors while on their purported rest
24 periods. Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were required to remain on premises
25 during rest periods, and remain ready to respond to work-related requests. Due to Defendants'
26 severe understaffing, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were required to
27 prioritize work tasks over taking rest periods, resulting in them forgoing rest periods. As a
28 result, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were rarely provided with compliant



1 rest periods and were regularly required to work through their rest periods. Accordingly,
2 Defendants' policy and practice was to not authorize and permit Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
3 Aggrieved Employees to take rest periods in compliance with California law.

4 21. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants wrongfully required Plaintiffs, the
5 Class, and the Aggrieved Employees to pay expenses that they incurred in direct discharge of
6 their duties for Defendants without reimbursement. For example, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the
7 Aggrieved Employees were required to use their personal cell phones for work purposes such as
8 communicating with co-workers and supervisors regarding work-related issues. Plaintiffs, the
9 Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were also required to purchase tools such as aprons and
10 knives but were not reimbursed for these expenses. Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved
11 Employees were not adequately compensated for these work-related expenses.

12 22. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants willfully failed and refused to timely
13 pay Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees at the conclusion of their employment all
14 wages for all minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest period
15 premium wages. Further, Defendants did not pay Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved
16 Employees their final paychecks immediately upon termination.

17 23. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to furnish Plaintiffs, the Class,
18 and the Aggrieved Employees with accurate, itemized wage statements showing all applicable
19 hourly rates, and all gross and net wages earned (including correct hours worked, correct wages
20 earned for hours worked, correct overtime hours worked, correct wages for meal periods that
21 were not provided in accordance with California law, correct wages for rest periods that were
22 not authorized and permitted to take in accordance with California law, and Defendant's
23 address). As a result of these violations of California Labor Code § 226(a), the Plaintiffs and the
24 Class suffered injury because, among other things:

- 25 (a) the violations led them to believe that they were not entitled to be paid
26 minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest
27 period premium wages to which they were entitled, even though they were
28 entitled;

- 1 (b) the violations led them to believe that they had been paid the minimum,
2 overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages, even
3 though they had not been;
- 4 (c) the violations led them to believe they were not entitled to be paid
5 minimum, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages
6 at the correct California rate even though they were;
- 7 (d) the violations led them to believe they had been paid minimum, overtime,
8 meal period premium, and rest period premium wages at the correct
9 California rate even though they had not been;
- 10 (e) the violations hindered them from determining the amounts of minimum,
11 overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium owed to them;
- 12 (f) in connection with their employment before and during this action, and in
13 connection with prosecuting this action, the violations caused them to have
14 to perform mathematical computations to determine the amounts of wages
15 owed to them, computations they would not have to make if the wage
16 statements contained the required accurate information;
- 17 (g) by understating the wages truly due them, the violations caused them to
18 lose entitlement and/or accrual of the full amount of Social Security,
19 disability, unemployment, and other governmental benefits;
- 20 (h) the wage statements inaccurately understated the wages, hours, and wages
21 rates to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were
22 entitled, and Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees were paid
23 less than the wages and wage rates to which they were entitled.

24 Thus, Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees are owed the amounts provided for in
25 California Labor Code § 226(e), including actual damages.

26 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

27 24. Plaintiffs bring certain claims individually, as well as on behalf of each and all
28 other persons similarly situated, and thus, seek class certification under California Code of Civil

1 Procedure § 382.

2 25. All claims alleged herein arise under California law for which Plaintiffs seeks
3 relief authorized by California law.

4 26. The proposed Class consists of and is defined as:

5 All persons who worked for any Defendant in California as an hourly, non-
6 exempt employee at any time during the period beginning four years before the
7 filing of the initial complaint in this action and ending when notice of class
certification to the Class is sent.

8 27. At all material times, Plaintiffs was a member of the Class.

9 28. Plaintiffs undertake this concerted activity to improve the wages and working
10 conditions of all Class Members.

11 29. There is a well-defined community of interest in the litigation and the Class is
12 readily ascertainable:

13 (a) Numerosity: The members of the Class (and each subclass, if any) are so
14 numerous that joinder of all members would be unfeasible and impractical.
15 The membership of the entire Class is unknown to Plaintiffs at this time,
16 however, the Class is estimated to be greater than 100 individuals and the
17 identity of such membership is readily ascertainable by inspection of
18 Defendants' records.

19 (b) Typicality: Plaintiffs is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect
20 the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-
21 defined community of interest, and Plaintiff's claims (or defenses, if any)
22 are typical of all Class Members' claims as demonstrated herein.

23 (c) Adequacy: Plaintiffs is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect
24 the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-
25 defined community of interest and typicality of claims, as demonstrated
26 herein. Plaintiffs has no conflicts with or interests antagonistic to any
27 Class Member. Plaintiff's attorneys, the proposed class counsel, are versed
28 in the rules governing class action discovery, certification, and settlement.



1 Plaintiffs has incurred, and throughout the duration of this action, will
2 continue to incur costs and attorneys' fees that have been, are, and will be
3 necessarily expended for the prosecution of this action for the substantial
4 benefit of each class member.

5 (d) Superiority: A Class Action is superior to other available methods for the
6 fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy, including consideration
7 of:

- 8 1) The interests of the members of the Class in individually
9 controlling the prosecution or defense of separate actions;
- 10 2) The extent and nature of any litigation concerning the controversy
11 already commenced by or against members of the Class;
- 12 3) The desirability or undesirability of concentrating the litigation of
13 the claims in the particular forum; and
- 14 4) The difficulties likely to be encountered in the management of a
15 class action.

16 (e) Public Policy Considerations: The public policy of the State of California
17 is to resolve the California Labor Code claims of many employees through
18 a class action. Indeed, current employees are often afraid to assert their
19 rights out of fear of direct or indirect retaliation. Former employees are
20 also fearful of bringing actions because they believe their former
21 employers might damage their future endeavors through negative
22 references and/or other means. Class actions provide the class members
23 who are not named in the complaint with a type of anonymity that allows
24 for the vindication of their rights at the same time as their privacy is
25 protected.

26 30. There are common questions of law and fact as to the Class (and each subclass, if
27 any) that predominate over questions affecting only individual members, including without
28 limitation, whether, as alleged herein, Defendants have:

- (a) Failed to pay Class Members for all hours worked, including minimum wages, and overtime wages;
- (b) Failed to provide meal periods and pay meal period premium wages to Class Members;
- (c) Failed to authorize and permit rest periods and pay rest period premium wages to Class Members;
- (d) Failed to promptly pay all wages due to Class Members upon their discharge or resignation;
- (e) Failed to maintain accurate records of all hours Class Members worked, and all meal periods Class Members took or missed;
- (f) Failed to reimburse Class Members for all necessary business expenses; and
- (g) Violated California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et. seq.* as a result of their illegal conduct as described above.

31. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a class action pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 because:

- (a) The questions of law and fact common to the Class predominate over any question affecting only individual members;
- (b) A class action is superior to any other available method for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the Class;
- (c) The members of the Class are so numerous that it is impractical to bring all members of the class before the Court;
- (d) Plaintiffs, and the other members of the Class, will not be able to obtain effective and economic legal redress unless the action is maintained as a class action;
- (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and equitable relief for the statutory violations, and in obtaining adequate compensation for the damages and injuries for which Defendants are

1 responsible in an amount sufficient to adequately compensate the members
2 of the Class for the injuries sustained;

3 (f) Without class certification, the prosecution of separate actions by
4 individual members of the class would create a risk of:

- 5 1) Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual
6 members of the Class which would establish incompatible standards
7 of conduct for Defendants; and/or
8 2) Adjudications with respect to the individual members which would,
9 as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other
10 members not parties to the adjudications, or would substantially
11 impair or impede their ability to protect their interests, including but
12 not limited to the potential for exhausting the funds available from
13 those parties who are, or may be, responsible Defendants; and,

14 (g) Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to
15 the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief appropriate with respect to
16 the class as a whole.

17 32. Plaintiffs contemplate the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed members of
18 the Class that would set forth the subject and nature of the instant action. The Defendants' own
19 business records may be utilized for assistance in the preparation and issuance of the
20 contemplated notices. To the extent that any further notices may be required, Plaintiffs would
21 contemplate the use of additional techniques and forms commonly used in class actions, such as
22 published notice, e-mail notice, website notice, first-class mail, or combinations thereof, or by
23 other methods suitable to the Class and deemed necessary and/or appropriate by the Court.

24 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

25 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Minimum Wages for All Hours Worked)**

26 33. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
27 paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

28 ///

1 34. “Hours worked” is the time during which an employee is subject to the control of
2 an employer, and includes all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work, whether or
3 not required to do so.

4 35. At all relevant times herein mentioned, Defendants knowingly failed to pay to
5 Plaintiffs and the Class compensation for all hours they worked. By their failure to pay
6 compensation for each hour worked as alleged above, Defendants willfully violated the
7 provisions of Section 1194 of the California Labor Code, and any additional applicable Wage
8 Orders, which require such compensation to non-exempt employees.

9 36. Accordingly, Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to recover minimum wages for
10 all non-overtime hours worked for Defendants.

11 37. By and through the conduct described above, Plaintiffs and the Class have been
12 deprived of their rights to be paid wages earned by virtue of their employment with Defendants.

13 38. By virtue of the Defendants’ unlawful failure to pay additional compensation to
14 Plaintiffs and the Class for their non-overtime hours worked without pay, Plaintiffs and the
15 Class suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages in amounts which are presently unknown to
16 Plaintiffs and the Class, but which exceed the jurisdictional minimum of this Court, and which
17 will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

18 39. By failing to keep adequate time records required by California Labor Code §
19 1174(d), Defendants have made it difficult to calculate the full extent of minimum wage
20 compensation due Plaintiffs and the Class.

21 40. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 1194.2, Plaintiffs and the Class are
22 entitled to recover liquidated damages (double damages) for Defendants’ failure to pay
23 minimum wages.

24 41. California Labor Code section 204 requires employers to provide employees with
25 all wages due and payable twice a month. Throughout the statute of limitations period
26 applicable to this cause of action, Plaintiffs and the Class were entitled to be paid twice a month
27 at rates required by law, including minimum wages. However, during all such times,
28

Defendants systematically failed and refused to pay Plaintiffs and the Class all such wages due, and failed to pay those wages twice a month.

42. Plaintiffs and the Class are also entitled to seek recovery of all unpaid minimum wages, interest, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 218.5, 218.6, and 1194(a).

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Overtime Wages)

43. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

44. California Labor Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed more than eight (8) hours in any workday or forty (40) hours in a workweek unless they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.

45. California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1198 provide that employees in California shall not be employed more than eight hours in any workday unless they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law. Additionally, California Labor Code § 1198 states that the employment of an employee for longer hours than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.

46. At all times relevant hereto, Plaintiffs and the Class have worked more than eight hours in a workday, as employees of Defendants.

47. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs and the Class overtime compensation for the hours they have worked in excess of the maximum hours permissible by law as required by California Labor Code § 510 and 1198. Plaintiffs and the Class are regularly required to work overtime hours.

48. By virtue of Defendants' unlawful failure to pay additional premium rate compensation to the Plaintiffs and the Class for their overtime hours worked, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages in amounts which are presently unknown to them but which exceed the jurisdictional minimum of this Court and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

49. By failing to keep adequate time records required by Labor Code § 1174(d), Defendants have made it difficult to calculate the full extent of overtime compensation due to Plaintiffs and the Class.

50. Plaintiffs and the Class also request recovery of overtime compensation according to proof, interest, attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194(a), as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against Defendants, in a sum as provided by the California Labor Code and/or other statutes.

51. California Labor Code § 204 requires employers to provide employees with all wages due and payable twice a month. The Wage Orders also provide that every employer shall pay to each employee, on the established payday for the period involved, overtime wages for all overtime hours worked in the payroll period. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs and the Class with all compensation due, in violation of California Labor Code § 204.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against All Defendants for Failure to Provide Meal Periods)

52. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

53. Under California law, Defendants have an affirmative obligation to relieve the Plaintiffs and the Class of all duty in order to take their first daily meal periods no later than the start of Plaintiffs and the Class' sixth hour of work in a workday, and to take their second meal periods no later than the start of the eleventh hour of work in the workday. Section 512 of the California Labor Code, and Section 11 of the applicable Wage Orders require that an employer provide unpaid meal periods of at least 30 minutes for each five-hour period worked. It is a violation of Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code for an employer to require any employee to work during any meal period mandated under any Wage Order.

54. Despite these legal requirements, Defendants regularly failed to provide Plaintiffs and the Class with both meal periods as required by California law. By their failure to permit and authorize Plaintiffs and the Class to take all meal periods as alleged above (or due to the fact that Defendants made it impossible or impracticable to take these uninterrupted meal periods),



Defendants willfully violated the provisions of Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders.

55. Under California law, Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to be paid one hour of additional wages at the regular rate of pay for each workday he or she was not provided with all required meal period(s), plus interest thereon.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against All Defendants for Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods)

56. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

57. Defendants are required by California law to authorize and permit breaks of net 10 uninterrupted minutes for each four hours of work or major fraction thereof (i.e. more than two hours). Section 512 of the California Labor Code, the applicable Wage Orders require that the employer permit and authorize all employees to take paid rest periods of 10 minutes each for each 4-hour period worked. Thus, for example, if an employee's work time is 6 hours and ten minutes, the employee is entitled to two rest breaks. Each failure to authorize rest breaks as so required is itself a violation of California's rest break laws. It is a violation of Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code for an employer to require any employee to work during any rest period mandated under any Wage Order.

58. Despite these legal requirements, Defendants failed to authorize Plaintiffs and the Class to take rest breaks, regardless of whether employees worked more than 4 hours in a workday. By their failure to permit and authorize Plaintiffs and the Class to take rest periods as alleged above (or due to the fact that Defendants made it impossible or impracticable to take these uninterrupted rest periods), Defendants willfully violated the provisions of Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders.

59. Under California law, Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to be paid one hour of additional wages at the regular rate of pay for each workday he or she was not provided with all required rest break(s), plus interest thereon.

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1 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(Against All Defendants for Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses)**

3 60. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
4 paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

5 61. Defendants violated Labor Code section 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders, by
6 failing to pay and indemnify the Plaintiffs and the Class for their necessary expenditures and
7 losses incurred in direct consequence of the discharge of their duties or of their obedience to
8 directions of Defendants.

9 62. As a result, Plaintiffs and the Class were damaged at least in the amounts of the
10 expenses they paid, or which were deducted by Defendants from their wages.

11 63. Plaintiffs and the class they represent are entitled to attorney's fees, expenses, and
12 costs of suit pursuant to Labor Code section 2802(c) and interest pursuant to Labor Code section
13 2802(b).

14 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

15 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Wages of Discharged Employees – Waiting Time**
16 **Penalties)**

17 64. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
18 paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

19 65. At all times herein set forth, California Labor Code §§ 201 and 202 provide that if
20 an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are
21 due and payable immediately, and that if an employee voluntarily leaves his or her employment,
22 his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than seventy-two (72) hours thereafter,
23 unless the employee has given seventy-two (72) hours previous notice of his or her intention to
24 quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.

25 66. Within the applicable statute of limitations, the employment of Plaintiffs and
26 many other members of the Class ended, i.e. was terminated by quitting or discharge, and the
27 employment of others will be. However, during the relevant time period, Defendants failed, and
28 continue to fail to pay terminated Class Members, without abatement, all wages required to be

1 paid by California Labor Code sections 201 and 202 either at the time of discharge, or within
2 seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ.

3 67. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs and those Class members who are no longer
4 employed by Defendants their wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge, or within
5 seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ, is in violation of California Labor
6 Code §§ 201 and 202.

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

11 69. Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to recover from Defendants their additionally
12 accruing wages for each day they were not paid, at their regular hourly rate of pay, up to 30 days
13 maximum pursuant to California Labor Code § 203.

14 70. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 218.5, 218.6 and 1194, Plaintiffs and the
15 Class are also entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees, interest, expenses, and costs
16 incurred in this action.

17 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

18 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Provide and Maintain Accurate and** 19 **Compliant Wage Records)**

20 71. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
21 paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

22 72. At all material times set forth herein, California Labor Code § 226(a) provides that
23 every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees an accurate itemized wage statement
24 in writing showing nine pieces of information, including: (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours
25 worked by the employee, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate
26 if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions
27 made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5) net
28 wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name

1 of the employee and the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee
2 identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal
3 entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and
4 the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

5 73. Defendants have intentionally and willfully failed to provide employees with
6 complete and accurate wage statements. The deficiencies include, among other things, the
7 failure to correctly identify the gross wages earned by Plaintiffs and the Class, the failure to list
8 the true “total hours worked by the employee,” and the failure to list the true net wages earned.

9 74. As a result of Defendants’ violation of California Labor Code § 226(a), Plaintiffs
10 and the Class have suffered injury and damage to their statutorily-protected rights.

11 75. Specifically, Plaintiffs and the members of the Class have been injured by
12 Defendants’ intentional violation of California Labor Code § 226(a) because they were denied
13 both their legal right to receive, and their protected interest in receiving, accurate, itemized wage
14 statements under California Labor Code § 226(a).

15 76. Calculation of the true wage entitlement for Plaintiffs and the Class is difficult and
16 time consuming. As a result of this unlawful burden, Plaintiffs and the Class were also injured
17 as a result of having to bring this action to attempt to obtain correct wage information following
18 Defendants’ refusal to comply with many of the mandates of California’s Labor Code and
19 related laws and regulations.

20 77. Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to recover from Defendants their actual
21 damages caused by Defendants’ failure to comply with California Labor Code § 226(a).

22 78. Plaintiffs and the Class are also entitled to injunctive relief, as well as an award of
23 attorney’s fees and costs to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor
24 Code § 226(h).

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1 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(Against all Defendants for Violation of California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200,**
3 **et seq.)**

4 79. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
5 paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

6 80. Defendants, and each of them, are “persons” as defined under California Business
7 & Professions Code § 17201.

8 81. Defendants’ conduct, as alleged herein, has been, and continues to be, unfair,
9 unlawful, and harmful to Plaintiffs, other Class members, and to the general public. Plaintiffs
10 seeks to enforce important rights affecting the public interest within the meaning of Code of
11 Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

12 82. Defendants’ activities, as alleged herein, are violations of California law, and
13 constitute unlawful business acts and practices in violation of California Business & Professions
14 Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

15 83. A violation of California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* may be
16 predicated on the violation of any state or federal law. All of the acts described herein as
17 violations of, among other things, the California Labor Code, are unlawful and in violation of
18 public policy; and in addition are immoral, unethical, oppressive, fraudulent and unscrupulous,
19 and thereby constitute unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices in violation of
20 California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

21 **Failure to Pay Minimum Wages**

22 84. Defendants’ failure to pay minimum wages, and other benefits in violation of the
23 California Labor Code constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by California
24 Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

25 **Failure to Pay Overtime Wages**

26 85. Defendants’ failure to pay overtime compensation and other benefits in violation
27 of California Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and 1198 constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity
28 prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*



1 **Failure to Maintain Accurate Records of All Hours Worked**

2 86. Defendants' failure to maintain accurate records of all hours worked in accordance
3 with California Labor Code § 1174.5 and the IWC Wage Orders constitutes unlawful and/or
4 unfair activity prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

5 **Failure to Provide Meal Periods**

6 87. Defendants' failure to provide meal periods in accordance with California Labor
7 Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above, constitutes unlawful
8 and/or unfair activity prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

9 **Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods**

10 88. Defendants' failure to authorize and permit rest periods in accordance with
11 California Labor Code § 226.7 and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above, constitutes
12 unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

13 **Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses**

14 89. Defendants' failure to indemnify employees for necessary business expenses in
15 accordance with California Labor Code § 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above,
16 constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by Business and Professions Code §§
17 17200, *et seq.*

18 **Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements**

19 90. Defendants' failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements in accordance
20 with California Labor Code § 226, as alleged above, constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity
21 prohibited by California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

22 91. By and through their unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices
23 described herein, the Defendants, have obtained valuable property, money and services from
24 Plaintiffs, and all persons similarly situated, and have deprived Plaintiffs, and all persons
25 similarly situated, of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law, all to their detriment.

26 92. Plaintiffs and the Class Members suffered monetary injury as a direct result of
27 Defendants' wrongful conduct.

28 ///

1 93. Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, are
2 entitled to, and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to disgorge money and/or property
3 which the Defendants have wrongfully acquired, or of which Plaintiffs and the Class have been
4 deprived, by means of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices.
5 Plaintiffs and the Class are not obligated to establish individual knowledge of the wrongful
6 practices of Defendants in order to recover restitution.

7 94. Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, are further
8 entitled to and do seek a declaration that the above described business practices are unfair,
9 unlawful and/or fraudulent, and injunctive relief restraining the Defendants, and each of them,
10 from engaging in any of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
11 practices in the future.

12 95. Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, have no
13 plain, speedy, and/or adequate remedy at law to redress the injuries which the Class Members
14 suffered as a consequence of the Defendants' unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
15 practices. As a result of the unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices described
16 above, Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, has suffered and
17 will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless the Defendants, and each of them, are restrained
18 from continuing to engage in said unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices.

19 96. Plaintiffs also allege that if Defendants are not enjoined from the conduct set forth
20 herein above, they will continue to avoid paying the appropriate taxes, insurance and other
21 withholdings.

22 97. Pursuant to California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, Plaintiffs
23 and putative Class Members are entitled to restitution of the wages withheld and retained by
24 Defendants during a period that commences four years prior to the filing of this complaint; a
25 permanent injunction requiring Defendants to pay all outstanding wages due to Plaintiffs and
26 Class Members; an award of attorneys' fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §
27 1021.5 and other applicable laws; and an award of costs.

28 ///

1 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(Against all Defendants for Civil Penalties Under the Private Attorneys General Act of**
3 **2004, Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 et seq.)**

4 98. Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre incorporate by reference and re-alleges as if fully
5 stated herein paragraphs 1 through 23 in this Complaint.

6 99. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants were subject to the Labor Code of the
7 State of California and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Orders.

8 100. California Labor Code § 2699(a) specifically provides for a private right of action
9 to recover penalties for violations of the Labor Code: “Notwithstanding any other provision of
10 law, any provision of this code that provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by
11 the Labor and Workforce Development Agency or any of its departments, divisions,
12 commissions, boards, agencies, or employees, for a violation of this code, may, as an alternative,
13 be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or
14 herself and other current or former employees pursuant to the procedures specified in Section
15 2699.3.”

16 101. Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre has exhausted his administrative remedies pursuant
17 to California Labor Code § 2699.3. On July 10, 2026, he gave a written notice by online filing
18 to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency and by certified mail to Defendants of the
19 specific provisions of the Labor Code that Defendants have violated against Plaintiff Jonathan
20 De La Torre and certain current and former aggrieved employees, including the facts and
21 theories to support the violations. Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre also paid the filing fee.
22 Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre’s PAGA case number is LWDA-CM-1190251-26.

23 102. More than 65 days has elapsed since Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre provided
24 notice, but the Labor and Workforce Development Agency have not indicated that it intends to
25 investigate Defendants’ Labor Code violations discussed in the notice. Accordingly, Plaintiff
26 Jonathan De La Torre may commence a civil action to recover penalties under Labor Code §
27 2699 pursuant to § 2699.3 for the violations of the Labor Code described in this Complaint.
28



1 These penalties include, but are not limited to, penalties under California Labor Code §§ 210,
2 226.3, 558, and 2699(f)(2).

3 103. In addition, Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre seek penalties for Defendants'
4 violation of California Labor Code § 1174(d). Pursuant to California Labor Code § 1174.5, any
5 person, including any entity, employing labor who willfully fails to maintain accurate and
6 complete records required by California Labor Code § 1174 is subject to a penalty under §
7 1174.5. Pursuant to the applicable IWC Order § 7(A)(3), every employer shall keep time
8 records showing when the employee begins and ends each work period. Meal periods, and total
9 hours worked daily shall also be recorded. Additionally, pursuant to the applicable IWC Order §
10 7(A)(5), every employer shall keep total hours worked in the payroll period and applicable rates
11 of pay.

12 104. During the time period of employment for Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre and the
13 Aggrieved Employees, Defendants failed to maintain records pursuant to the Labor Code and
14 IWC Orders by failing to maintain accurate records showing meal periods, and accurate records
15 of the hours Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre and the Aggrieved Employees worked. Defendants'
16 failure to provide and maintain records required by the Labor Code IWC Wage Orders deprived
17 Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre and the Aggrieved Employees the ability to know, understand
18 and question the accuracy and frequency of meal periods, and the time they actually worked.
19 Therefore, Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre and the Aggrieved Employees had no way to dispute
20 the resulting failure to pay wages, all of which resulted in an unjustified economic enrichment to
21 Defendants. As a direct result, Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre and the Aggrieved Employees
22 have suffered and continue to suffer, substantial losses related to the use and enjoyment of such
23 wages, lost interest on such wages and expenses and attorney's fees in seeking to compel
24 Defendants to fully perform its obligation under state law, all to their respective damage in
25 amounts according to proof at trial. Because of Defendants' knowing failure to comply with the
26 Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage Orders, Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre and the
27 Aggrieved Employees have also suffered an injury in that they were prevented from knowing,
28 understanding, and disputing the wage payments paid to them.

105. Based on the conduct described in this Complaint, Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre is entitled to an award of civil penalties on behalf of himself, the State of California, and similarly Aggrieved Employees of Defendants. The exact amount of the applicable penalties, in all, is in an amount to be shown according to proof at trial. These penalties are in addition to all other remedies permitted by law.

106. In addition, Plaintiff Jonathan De La Torre seeks an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699(g)(1), which states, "Any employee who prevails in any action shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs."

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated only with respect to the class claims, pray for relief and judgment against Defendants, jointly and severally, as follows:

Class Certification

1. That this action be certified as a class action with respect to the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Causes of Action;
2. That Plaintiffs be appointed as the representative of the Class; and
3. That counsel for Plaintiffs be appointed as Class Counsel.

As to the First Cause of Action

4. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 204 and 1194 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to pay all minimum wages due;
5. For general unpaid wages as may be appropriate;
6. For pre-judgment interest on any unpaid compensation commencing from the date such amounts were due;
7. For liquidated damages;
8. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194(a); and,

9. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Second Cause of Action

10. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1198 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to pay all overtime wages due;

11. For general unpaid wages at overtime wage rates as may be appropriate;

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

13. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194(a); and,

14. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Third Cause of Action

15. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the IWC Wage Orders;

16. For unpaid meal period premium wages as may be appropriate;

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

18. For reasonable attorneys' fees under California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

19. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Fourth Cause of Action

20. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the IWC Wage Orders;

21. For unpaid rest period premium wages as may be appropriate;

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

23. For reasonable attorneys' fees under California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

24. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Fifth Cause of Action

25. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code § 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders;

26. For general unpaid wages and reimbursement of business expenses as may be appropriate;

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

28. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

29. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Sixth Cause of Action

30. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Labor Code §§ 201, 202, and 203 by willfully failing to pay all compensation owed at the time of termination of the employment;

31. For statutory wage penalties pursuant to California Labor Code § 203 for former employees who have left Defendants' employ;

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

33. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

34. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Seventh Cause of Action

35. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated the record keeping provisions of California Labor Code § 226(a) and applicable IWC Wage Orders, and willfully failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements thereto;

36. For penalties and actual damages pursuant to California Labor Code § 226(e);

37. For injunctive relief to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor Code § 226(h);

38. For reasonable attorneys' fees and for costs of suit incurred herein; and

39. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Eighth Cause of Action

40. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* by failing to pay wages for all hours worked (including minimum and overtime wages), failing to provide meal periods, failing to maintain accurate records of meal periods, failing to authorize and permit rest periods, and failing to maintain accurate records of all hours worked and meal periods, failing to furnish accurate wage statements, and failing to indemnify necessary business expenses;

41. For restitution of unpaid wages to Plaintiffs and all Class Members and prejudgment interest from the day such amounts were due and payable;

42. For the appointment of a receiver to receive, manage and distribute any and all funds disgorged from Defendants and determined to have been wrongfully acquired by Defendants as a result of violations of California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et seq.*;

43. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5;

44. For injunctive relief to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*; and,

45. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

As to the Ninth Cause of Action

46. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated the California Labor Code by failing to pay all wages owed, including overtime, failure to provide meal periods, failing to maintain accurate records of meal periods, failing to authorize and permit rest periods, failing to indemnify necessary business expenses, failing to pay final wages at termination, and failing to furnish accurate wage statements;

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

48. For all civil penalties pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 2699, *et seq.*, and all other applicable Labor Code provisions;

1 49. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein pursuant to
2 California Labor Code § 2699; and,

3 For such other and further relief as the Court may deem equitable and appropriate.

4 As to all Causes of Action

5 50. For any additional relief that the Court deems just and proper.

6
7 Dated: September 18, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

8 **THE SENTINEL FIRM, APC**

9
10 By: 

11 Seung L. Yang
12 Tiffany Hyun
13 Won Christina Chang
14 Yasmeen Abushahla
15 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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17
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19 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

20 Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury as to all causes of action triable by jury.

21
22 Dated: September 18, 2026

THE SENTINEL FIRM, APC

23
24 By: 

25 Seung L. Yang
26 Tiffany Hyun
27 Won Christina Chang
28 Yasmeen Abushahla
Attorneys for Plaintiffs



1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 *Case No.: 26STCV21811*

3 *De La Torre v. GH Hospitality Group US, Inc.*

4 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

5 I am employed in the State of California, County of Los Angeles. I am over the age of 18 and not a
6 party to the within suit. The name and address of my residence or business is The Sentinel Firm,
7 APC, 707 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 4700, Los Angeles, CA 90017. On the date indicated below, I served
8 the document described as:

9 **FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION AND REPRESENTATIVE ACTION COMPLAINT**
10 **FOR DAMAGES: JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

11 on the interested parties in this action by sending [] the original [or] [✓] a true copy thereof [✓]
12 to interested parties as follows [or] [] as stated on the attached service list:

13 **FISHER & PHILLIPS, LLP**

14 *Attorneys for Defendant GH Hospitality Group US, Inc.*

15 Andrew J. Hoag (ahoag@fisherphillips.com)

16 Cristina Medina (cmolina@fisherphillips.com)

17 Amy Stark (astark@fisherphillips.com)

18 444 South Flower Street, Suite 1500

19 Los Angeles, CA 90071

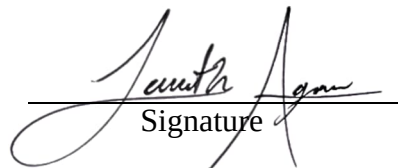
20 [✓] **BY E-MAIL:** I hereby certify that this document was served from Los Angeles,
21 California, by e-mail delivery on the parties listed herein at their most recent known e-
22 mail address from e-mail janeth.aguirre@thesentinelfirm.com pursuant to California
23 Rules of Court. I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any
24 electronic message or other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful.

25 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is
26 true and correct.

27 Executed on September 18, 2026, at Los Angeles, California.

28 Janeth Aguirre

Name


Signature

