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on behalf of herself and others similarly situated

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

KELLY ERIN CARPENTER, an individual
on behalf of herself and all others similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, LLC;
a Delaware limited liability company;
ACTALENT SCIENTIFIC, LLC, a
Maryland limited liability company;
AEROTEK, INC., a Maryland Corporation;
and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 23STCV30634

CLASS ACTION

Assigned for All Purposes To:
Hon. William F. Highberger
Dept.: 10

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT FOR:**

1. Failure to Pay Minimum Wages;
2. Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime Under Labor Code § 510;
3. Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7;
4. Violation of Labor Code § 226(a);
5. Violation of Labor Code § 203;
6. Violation of Labor Code § 204;
7. Failure to Pay Wages Due, Negotiable and Payable in Cash on Demand (Labor Code §§ 212 and 213);
8. Failure to Keep Required Payroll Records under Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5;
9. Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*; and
10. Penalties under PAGA, Labor Code § 2698

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiff KELLY ERIN CARPENTER (“Plaintiff”) brings this action on behalf of herself and the Class Members who are defined as “all current and former employees within the State of California who, at any time from four (4) years prior to the filing of this lawsuit, are or were employed as non-exempt hourly employees by Defendants EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, ACTALENT SCIENTIFIC, LLC, a Maryland limited liability company; AEROTEK, INC., a Maryland Corporation, and DOES 1 through 50” (all defendants being collectively referred to herein as “Defendants”).

2. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants, and each of them, violated various provisions of the California Labor Code, relevant orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC), and the California Business & Professions Code, and seeks redress for these violations.

3. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff was employed by Defendants and (1) shared similar job duties and responsibilities; (2) was subjected to the same policies and practices; and (3) endured similar violations at the hands of Defendants as the other Class Members who served in similar and related positions.

THE PARTIES

A. The Plaintiff

4. Plaintiff KELLY ERIN CARPENTER resides in California, during the time period relevant to this Complaint, was employed by Defendants as a non-exempt hourly employee within the State of California.

B. The Defendants

5. Defendant EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company and is registered with the California Secretary of State. Defendant EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, LLC has been the employer listed on the wage statements and employment records issued to Plaintiff during the relevant time period that Plaintiff was employed with Defendants.

6. Defendant ACTALENT SCIENTIFIC, LLC is a Maryland limited liability company and is registered with the California Secretary of State. Defendant ACTALENT

1 SCIENTIFIC, LLC has been the employer listed on the wage statements and employment records
2 issued to Plaintiff during the relevant time period that Plaintiff was employed with Defendants.

3 7. Defendant AEROTEK, INC. is a Maryland Corporation and is registered with the
4 California Secretary of State. Defendant AEROTEK, INC. has been the employer listed on the
5 wage statements and employment records issued to Plaintiff during the relevant time period that
6 Plaintiff was employed with Defendants.

7 8. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or
8 whatever else, of the Defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 50, inclusive, are currently
9 unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sue these Defendants by such fictitious names under Code of
10 Civil Procedure § 474. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants
11 designated herein as Does 1 through 50, inclusive, and each of them, are legally responsible in
12 some manner for the unlawful acts referred to herein. Plaintiff will seek leave of court to amend
13 this Complaint to reflect the true names and capacities of the Defendants designated herein as
14 Does 1 through 50 when their identities become known.

15 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each Defendant acted in
16 all respects pertinent to this action as the agent of the other Defendants, that Defendants carried
17 out a joint scheme, business plan, or policy in all respects pertinent hereto, and that the acts of
18 each Defendant are legally attributable to the other Defendants. Furthermore, Defendants acted in
19 all respects as the employers or joint employers of Class Members. Defendants, and each of them,
20 exercised control over the wages, hours or working conditions of Class Members, or suffered or
21 permitted Class Members to work, or engaged, thereby creating a common law employment
22 relationship, with Class Members. Therefore, Defendants, and each of them, employed or jointly
23 employed Class Members.

24 10. Whenever and wherever reference is made in this Complaint to any act by a
25 defendant or defendants, such allegations and references shall also be deemed to mean the acts and
26 failures to act of each defendant acting individually, jointly, and severally.

27 11. Whenever and wherever reference is made to individuals who are not named as a
28 Defendant in this Complaint but were agents, servants, employees and/or supervisors of

1 Defendants, such individuals at all relevant times acted on behalf of Defendants within the scope
2 of their employment.

3 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4 12. This Court has jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to California Code of Civil
5 Procedure § 410.10 and California Business & Professions Code § 17203. This Action is brought
6 as a Class Action on behalf of similarly situated Class Members of Defendants pursuant to
7 California Code of Civil Procedure § 382. Venue as to Defendants is also proper in this judicial
8 district pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 395 *et seq.* Upon information and belief,
9 the obligations and liabilities giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in part in Los Angeles County.
10 Defendants maintain and operate facilities in Los Angeles County and employs Plaintiff and other
11 Class Members in Los Angeles County, while doing business throughout California.

12 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

13 13. Class Members consistently worked at Defendants behest without being paid all
14 wages due. Class Members were either not paid by Defendants for all hours worked or were not
15 paid at the appropriate minimum, regular and overtime rates. Plaintiff also contends that
16 Defendants failed to pay Class Members all wages due and owing, including by requiring off the
17 clock work, unlawfully rounding to their detriment, failure to pay wages due, negotiable and
18 payable in cash on demand, failing to provide meal breaks, failing to furnish accurate wage
19 statements, failing to timely pay wages including final wages, and failing to maintain accurate
20 records all in violation of various provisions of the California Labor Code and applicable Wage
21 Orders.

22 14. During the course of Class Members' employment with Defendants, they were not
23 paid all wages they were owed, including for all work performed resulting in off the clock work.
24 Defendants required Class Members to perform off the clock work. For instance, Defendants
25 automatically deducted time from Class Members' time records for lunch breaks regardless of
26 whether Class Members actually received their full break.

27 15. Moreover, Defendants had a consistent policy and practice of unlawfully rounding
28 hours worked to the detriment of the Class Members. Rather than paying Class Members for all

1 hours and minutes they actually worked, Defendants followed a uniform policy and practice of
2 rounding all time entries to the nearest quarter-hour or half-hour (i.e. to the nearest 15-minute or
3 30-minute time increment), and generally did so to the detriment of the Class Members, and
4 Plaintiff contend this policy is not neutral and resulted, over time, to the detriment of the Class
5 Members by systematically under-compensating them. Rather than reflecting the actual hours
6 worked by Class Members, the time entries were rounded and reduced to reflect the scheduled
7 work time rather than the actual hours worked. These unlawfully rounded time entries were
8 inputted into Defendants' payroll system from which wage statements and payroll checks were
9 created.

10 16. By implementing policies, programs, practices, procedures and protocols which
11 resulted in off the clock work and unlawful rounding, Defendants' willful actions resulted in the
12 systematic underpayment of wages to Class Members, including underpayment of overtime pay to
13 Class Members over the relevant time period. For example, the above described off the clock work
14 addressed above caused Plaintiff to begin receiving overtime pay later than they should have.

15 17. As a result of the above described requirements to work off the clock, unlawful
16 rounding, and the other wage violations they endured at Defendants' hands, Class Members were
17 not properly paid all wages earned and all wages owed to them by Defendants, including when
18 working more than eight (8) hours in any given day and/or more than forty (40) hours in any given
19 week.

20 18. As a result of Defendants' unlawful policies and practices, Class Members incurred
21 overtime hours worked for which they were not adequately and completely compensated, in
22 addition to the hours they were required to work off the clock. To the extent applicable,
23 Defendants also failed to pay Class Members at an overtime rate of 1.5 times the regular rate for
24 the first eight hours of the seventh consecutive work day in a week and overtime payments at the
25 rate of 2 times the regular rate for hours worked over eight (8) on the seventh consecutive work
26 day, as required under the Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage Orders.

27 19. Therefore, from at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this lawsuit and
28 continuing to the present, Defendants had a consistent policy or practice of failing to pay Class

1 Members for all hours worked, and failing to pay minimum wages for all time worked, as required
2 by California law. Defendants thus failed to pay Class Members at least minimum wages for all
3 the time they worked for Defendants in violation of the Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage
4 Orders as the actual times when Class Members were under the control and direction of
5 Defendants was under reported in the hours reflected on the timekeeping records. Furthermore,
6 Defendants' willful actions resulted in the systematic underpayment of wages to Class Members,
7 including underpayment of overtime pay to Class Members over a period of time.

8 20. Therefore, from at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this lawsuit and
9 continuing to the present, Defendants had a consistent policy or practice of failing to pay Class
10 Members for all hours worked. Also, from at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this lawsuit
11 and continuing to the present, Defendants also had a consistent policy or practice of failing to pay
12 Class Members their true and correct overtime compensation at premium overtime rates for all
13 hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours a day and/or forty (40) hours a week, and double-time
14 rates for all hours worked in excess of twelve (12) hours a day, in violation of Labor Code § 510
15 and the corresponding sections of IWC Wage Orders.

16 21. Additionally, Defendants failed to provide all the legally required unpaid, off-duty
17 meal periods to Class Members, as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. Class
18 Members were required to perform work as ordered by Defendants for more than five (5) hours
19 during a shift but were often required to do so without receiving a lawful and timely meal break.
20 In addition to untimely meal periods, Defendants also required Class Members to respond to work
21 demands. Defendants placed their needs over Class Members lawful meal breaks and this resulted
22 in Class Members often having to work through their scheduled meal breaks, or otherwise taking
23 shortened ones, because the demands of the job would not avail them the opportunity to take a
24 lawfully uninterrupted and off duty meal break.

25 22. On the occasions when Class Members worked over 10 hours in a shift, Defendants
26 also failed to provide them with a second, uninterrupted, timely and duty-free meal period. As a
27 result, Defendants' failure to provide Class Members with all legally required off-duty, unpaid
28 meal periods is and will be evidenced by Defendants' business records, or lack thereof.

1 Defendants also failed to pay Class Members “premium pay,” i.e. one hour of wages at each Class
2 Member’s effective hourly rate of pay, for each meal period that Defendants failed to provide or
3 deficiently provided.

4 23. Therefore, for at least four years prior to the filing of this action and through to the
5 present, Defendants have regularly required Class Members to work shifts in excess of five (5)
6 hours without providing them with uninterrupted meal periods of not less than thirty (30) minutes,
7 and shifts in excess of (10) hours without providing them with second meal periods of not less
8 than thirty minutes; nor did Defendants pay Class Members “premium pay,” i.e. one hour of
9 wages at each Class Member’s effective hourly rate of pay, for each meal period that Defendants
10 failed to provide or deficiently provided.

11 24. Meal period violations thus occurred in one or more of the following manners:

- 12 (a) Class Members were not provided full thirty-minute duty free meal periods
13 for work days in excess of five (5) hours and were not compensated one (1)
14 hour’s wages in lieu thereof, all in violation of, among others, Labor Code
15 §§ 226.7, 512, and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage
16 Order(s);
- 17 (b) Class Members were not provided second full thirty-minute duty free meal
18 periods for work days in excess of ten (10) hours;
- 19 (c) Class Members were required to work through at least part of their daily
20 meal period(s);
- 21 (d) Meal periods were provided after five (5) hours of continuous work during
22 a shift; and
- 23 (e) Class Members were restricted in their ability to take a full thirty-minute
24 meal period.

25 25. Defendants also consistently failed to issue accurate itemized wage statements as
26 required by Labor Code § 226(a). Specifically, the wage statements given to Class Members failed
27 to accurately account for unpaid wages and overtime because Defendants had unlawfully rounded
28 time entries to the detriment of the Class Members and their actual hours worked were under-

1 reported due to off the clock work. Additionally, the wage statements given to Class Members
2 failed to accurately account for premium pay for deficiently provided meal periods.

3 26. From at least four (4) years prior to filing this lawsuit and continuing to the present,
4 Defendants have thus also had a consistent policy of failing to pay all wages owed to Class
5 Members at the time of their termination of within seventy-two (72) hours of their resignation, as
6 required by California wage-and-hour laws. Specifically, Plaintiff was not paid her final wages
7 until eighteen days after her termination. Moreover, Class Members were not paid all regular and
8 overtime wages because Defendants failed to pay for all hours worked, required off the clock
9 work, and unlawfully rounded time entries to the detriment of Class Members. Additionally,
10 Defendants failed to pay premium wages owed for unprovided meal periods, as further detailed in
11 this Complaint. Defendants' failure to pay said wages within the required time was willful within
12 the meaning of Labor Code § 203.

13 27. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff and Class Members with an order, check, draft,
14 note, memorandum, or other acknowledgment of indebtedness that was payable on demand,
15 without discount at some established place of business in the state. Defendants' issued pay cards to
16 Plaintiff and Class Members for wages earned. These pay cards were useable for a fee and did not
17 have a provision for use and payment in California at no cost to the employee. Therefore,
18 Defendants' failed to provide Plaintiff and Class Members with checks, drafts, notes or other
19 acknowledgements of indebtedness that were payable on demand without discount as required by
20 Labor Code § 212, which required Plaintiff and Class Members to incur fees to use, was not fully
21 cashable, and not usable at all financial institutions.

22 28. In light of the foregoing, Plaintiff and Class Members bring this action pursuant to,
23 *inter alia*, Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 246, 248, 510, 512, 558,
24 558.1, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1185, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1199, 2698 *et seq.*, and California
25 Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 11000 *et seq.*

26 29. Furthermore, pursuant to Business and Professions Code §§ 17200-17208, Plaintiff
27 and the Class Members seek injunctive relief, restitution, and disgorgement of all benefits
28 Defendants have enjoyed from their violations of Labor Code and the other unfair, unlawful, or

fraudulent practices alleged in this Complaint.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

30. Plaintiff seeks to represent the Subclasses composed of and defined as follows:

a. Subclass 1. Minimum Wages Subclass. All Class Members who were not compensated for all hours worked for Defendants at the applicable minimum wage.

b. Subclass 2. Wages and Overtime Subclass. All Class Members who were not compensated for all hours worked for Defendants at the required rates of pay, including for all hours worked in excess of eight in a day and/or forty in a week.

c. Subclass 3. Meal Period Subclass. All Class Members who were subject to Defendants' policy and/or practice of failing to provide unpaid 30-minute uninterrupted and duty-free meal periods or one hour of pay at the Class Member's regular rate of pay in lieu thereof.

d. Subclass 4. Wage Statement Subclass. All Class Members who, within the applicable limitations period, were not provided with accurate itemized wage statements.

e. Subclass 5. Termination Pay Subclass. All Class Members who, within the applicable limitations period, either voluntarily or involuntarily separated from their employment and were subject to Defendants' policy and/or practice of failing to timely pay wages upon termination.

f. Subclass 6: Failure to Timely Pay Wages Twice Monthly Subclass. All Class Members who were subject to Defendants' policy and practice of not timely paying all wages earned when they were due and payable at least twice monthly.

g. Subclass 7. Payroll Records Subclass. All Class members who were subject to Defendants' policy and/or practice of failing to keep accurate time and wage records as required by California wage-and-hour laws.

h. Subclass 8. Pay Card Subclass. All persons employed by Defendants in California who were paid by pay card (or similar means) at any time during the relevant time period.

i. Subclass 9. UCL Subclass. All Class Members who are owed restitution as a result of Defendants' business acts and practices, to the extent such acts and practices are found to be unlawful, deceptive, and/or unfair.

1 31. Plaintiff reserves the right under California Rule of Court 3.765 to amend or
2 modify the class description with greater particularity or further division into subclasses or
3 limitation to particular issues. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the Class
4 against Defendants, the Class Period should be adjusted accordingly.

5 32. Defendants, as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, and in violation
6 of the applicable Labor Code, Industrial Welfare Commission (“IWC”) Wage Order requirements,
7 and the applicable provisions of California law, intentionally, knowingly, and willfully, engaged
8 in a practice whereby Defendants failed to correctly calculate compensation for the time worked
9 by Class Members, even though Defendants enjoyed the benefit of this work, required Class
10 Members to perform this work and permitted or suffered to permit this work. Defendants have
11 uniformly denied these Class Members wages to which these employees are entitled and failed to
12 provide meal periods, in order to unfairly cheat the competition and unlawfully profit.

13 33. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained as a class action
14 under the provisions of Code of Civil Procedure § 382 because there is a well-defined community
15 of interest in litigation and proposed class is easily ascertainable.

16 **A. Numerosity**

17 34. The potential members of the class as defined are so numerous that joinder of all
18 the member of the class is impracticable. While the precise number of class member has not been
19 determined at this time, Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendants employ or, during the
20 time period relevant to this lawsuit, hundreds of employees who satisfy the Class definition within
21 the State of California.

22 35. Accounting for employee turnover during the relevant time period increases this
23 number substantially. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants’ employment records will provide
24 information as to the number and location of all Class Members.

25 **B. Commonality**

26 36. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class that predominates over
27 any questions affecting only individual Class Members. These common questions of law and fact
28 include:

- a. Whether Defendants failed to pay Class Members minimum wages;
- b. Whether Defendants failed to pay Class Members wages for all hours worked;
- c. Whether Defendants failed to pay Class Members overtime as required under Labor Code § 510;
- d. Whether Defendants violated Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512, and the applicable IWC Wage Orders, by failing to provide Class Members with requisite meal periods or premium pay in lieu thereof;
- e. Whether Defendants violated Labor Code § 226(a) by providing Class Members with inaccurate wage statements;
- f. Whether Defendants violated Labor Code §§ 201, 202, and 203 by failing to pay wages and compensation due and owing at the time of termination of employment;
- g. Whether Defendants' conduct was willful;
- h. Whether Defendants violated Labor Code § 226 and § 1174 and the IWC Wage Orders by failing to maintain accurate records of Class Members' earned wages and work periods;
- i. Whether Defendants violated Labor Code § 1194 by failing to compensate all Class Members during the relevant time period for all hours worked, whether regular or overtime;
- j. Whether Defendants violated Labor Code § 204 by failing to timely pay wages;
- k. Whether Defendants failed to pay wages due, negotiable and payable in cash on demand;
- l. Whether Defendants violated Business and Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*; and
- m. Whether Class Members are entitled to equitable relief pursuant to Business and Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*

C. Typicality

37. The claims of the named plaintiff is typical of those of Class Members. The Class Members all sustained injuries and damages arising out of and caused by Defendants' common course of conduct in violation of statutes, as well as regulations that have the force and effect of

1 law, as alleged herein.

2 **D. Adequacy of Representation**

3 38. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interest of the Class
4 Members. Counsel who represents Class Members are experienced and competent in litigating
5 employment class actions.

6 **E. Superiority of Class Action**

7 39. A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient
8 adjudication of this controversy. Individual joinder of all Class Members is not practicable, and
9 questions of law and fact common to all Class Members predominate over any questions affecting
10 only individual Class Members. Each Class Member has been damaged and is entitled to recovery
11 by reason of Defendants' illegal policies or practices of failing to compensate Class Members
12 properly.

13 40. As to the issues raised in this case, a class action is superior to all other methods for
14 the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, as joinder of all Class Members is
15 impracticable and many legal and factual questions to be adjudicated apply uniformly to all Class
16 Members. Further, as the economic or other loss suffered by vast numbers of Class Members may
17 be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual actions makes it difficult for the Class
18 Members to individually redress the wrongs they have suffered. Moreover, in the event
19 disgorgement is ordered, a class action is the only mechanism that will permit the employment of
20 a fluid fund recovery to ensure that equity is achieved. There will be relatively little difficulty in
21 managing this case as a class action, and proceeding on a class-wide basis will permit Class
22 Members to vindicate their rights for violations they endured which they would otherwise be
23 foreclosed from receiving in a multiplicity of individual lawsuits that would be cost prohibitive to
24 them.

25 41. Class action treatment will allow those persons similarly situated to litigate their
26 claims in the manner that is most efficient and economical for the parties and the judicial system.
27 Plaintiff is unaware of any difficulties in managing this case that should preclude class treatment.
28 Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed Class Members that would

1 set forth the subject and nature of the instant action. The Defendants' own business records can be
2 utilized for assistance in the preparation and issuance of the contemplated notices. To the extent
3 that any further notice is required additional media and/or mailings can be used.

4 42. Defendants, as prospective and actual employers of the Class Members, had a
5 special fiduciary duty to disclose to prospective Class Members the true facts surrounding
6 Defendants' pay practices, policies and working conditions imposed upon Class Members as well
7 as the effect of any alleged arbitration agreements that may have been forced upon them. In
8 addition, Defendants knew they possessed special knowledge about pay practices and policies,
9 most notably intentionally refusing to pay for all hours actually worked which should have been
10 recorded in Defendants' pay records and the consequence of the alleged arbitration agreements
11 and policies and practices on Class Members.

12 43. Class Members did not discover the fact that they were entitled to all pay under the
13 Labor Code until shortly before the filing of this lawsuit nor was there ever any discussion about
14 Plaintiff's and the Class' waiver of their Constitutional rights of trial by jury, right to collectively
15 organize and oppose unlawful pay practices under California law as well as obtain injunctive relief
16 preventing such practices from continuing. As a result, the applicable statutes of limitation were
17 tolled until such time as Plaintiff and the Class Members discovered their claims.

18 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

19 **FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES**

20 **(Against All Defendants)**

21 44. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporate all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
22 full herein.

23 45. Defendants failed to pay Class Members minimum wages for all hours worked.
24 Defendants had a consistent policy of misstating Class Members' time records and failing to pay
25 Class Members for all hours worked. Class Members would work hours and not receive wages,
26 including as alleged above in connection with off the clock work and unlawful rounding of hours.
27 During the relevant time period, Defendants thus regularly failed to pay minimum wages to Class
28 Members, to their detriment. Additionally, Defendants had a consistent policy of failing to pay

1 Class Members for hours worked during alleged meal periods for which Class Members were
2 consistently denied, as also addressed herein. Defendants' uniform pattern of unlawful wage and
3 hour practices manifested, without limitation, applicable to the Class as a whole, as a result of
4 implementing a uniform policy and practice that denied accurate compensation to Class Members
5 as to minimum wage pay.

6 46. In California, employees must be paid at least the then applicable state minimum
7 wage for all hours worked. (IWC Wage Order MW-2014). Additionally, pursuant to California
8 Labor Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public policy, an employer must
9 timely pay its employees for all hours worked. Defendants failed to do so.

10 47. California Labor Code § 1197, entitled "Pay of Less Than Minimum Wage" states:
11 "The minimum wage for employees fixed by the commission is the minimum wage to be paid to
12 employees, and the payment of a less wage than the minimum so fixed is unlawful."

13 48. The applicable minimum wages fixed by the commission for work during the
14 relevant period is found in Paragraph 4(A)-4(D) of the IWC Wage Orders.

15 49. The minimum wage provisions of California Labor Code are enforceable by private
16 civil action pursuant to Labor Code § 1194(a) which states: "Notwithstanding any agreement to
17 work for a lesser wage, any employee receiving less than the legal minimum wage or the legal
18 overtime compensation applicable to the employee is entitled to recover in a civil action the
19 unpaid balance of the full amount of this minimum wage or overtime compensation, including
20 interest thereon, reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit."

21 50. As described in California Labor Code §§ 1185 and 1194.2, any action for wages
22 incorporates the applicable Wage Order of the California Industrial Welfare Commission. Also,
23 California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197, 1197.1 and those Industrial Welfare Commission Wage
24 Orders entitle non-exempt employees to an amount equal to or greater than the minimum wage for
25 all hours worked. All hours must be paid at the statutory or agreed rate and no part of this rate may
26 be used as a credit against a minimum wage obligation.

27 51. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, Defendants
28 inaccurately recorded, or required Class Members to input times that did not reflect their actual

1 hours worked, or calculated the correct time worked and consequently underpaid the actual time
2 worked by Class Members. Defendants acted in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all
3 earned wages, and other benefits in violation of the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare
4 Commission requirements and other applicable laws and regulations. As a result of these
5 violations, Defendant also failed to timely pay all wages earned in accordance with California
6 Labor Code § 1194.

7 52. California Labor Code § 1194.2 also provides for the following remedies: “In any
8 action under Section 1194 . . . to recover wages because of the payment of a wage less than the
9 minimum wages fixed by an order of the commission, an employee shall be entitled to recover
10 liquidated damages in an amount equal to the wages unlawfully unpaid and interest thereon.”

11 53. In addition to restitution for all unpaid wages, pursuant to California Labor Code §
12 1197.1, Class Members are entitled to recover a penalty of \$100.00 for the initial failure to timely
13 pay each employee minimum wages, and \$250.00 for each subsequent failure to pay each
14 employee minimum wages.

15 54. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194.2, Class Members are further entitled to
16 recover liquidated damages in an amount equal to wages unlawfully unpaid and interest thereon.

17 55. Defendants have the ability to pay minimum wages for all time worked and have
18 willfully refused to pay such wages with the intent to secure for Defendants a discount upon this
19 indebtedness with the intent to annoy, harass, oppress, hinder, delay, or defraud Class Members.

20 56. Wherefore, Class Members are entitled to recover the unpaid minimum wages
21 (including double minimum wages), liquidated damages in an amount equal to the minimum
22 wages unlawfully unpaid, interest thereon and reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of suit pursuant
23 to California Labor Code § 1194(a). Plaintiff and the other members of the Class further request
24 recovery of all unpaid wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
25 assessment of any statutory penalties against Defendants, in a sum as provided by the California
26 Labor Code, including § 558, and/or other applicable statutes.

27 ///

28 ///

1 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **FAILURE TO PAY WAGES AND OVERTIME UNDER LABOR CODE § 510**

3 **(Against All Defendants)**

4 57. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
5 full herein.

6 58. California Labor Code § 1194 provides that “any employee receiving less than the
7 legal minimum wage or the legal overtime compensation applicable to the employee is entitled to
8 recover in a civil action the unpaid balance of the full amount of this minimum wage or overtime
9 compensation, including interest thereon, reasonable attorney’s fees, and costs of suit.” The action
10 may be maintained directly against the employer in an employee’s name without first filing a
11 claim with the Division of Labor Standards and Enforcement.

12 59. By their conduct, as set forth herein, Defendants violated California Labor Code §
13 510 (and the relevant orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission) by failing to pay Class
14 Members: (a) time and one-half their regular hourly rates for hours worked in excess of eight (8)
15 hours in a workday or in excess of forty (40) hours in any workweek or for the first eight (8) hours
16 worked on the seventh day of work in any one workweek; or (b) twice their regular rate of pay for
17 hours worked in excess of twelve (12) hours in any one (1) day or for hours worked in excess of
18 eight (8) hours on any seventh day of work in a workweek.

19 60. Defendants had a consistent policy of not paying Class Members wages for all
20 hours worked, including by requiring off the clock work and unlawfully rounding down actual
21 hours worked as addressed above. Defendants, and each of them, have intentionally and
22 improperly rounded, changed, adjusted, and/or modified certain employees’ hours, including
23 Plaintiff’s, in order to avoid paying Class Members all earned and owed straight time and
24 overtime wages and other benefits, in violation of the California Labor Code, the California Code
25 of Regulations and the IWC Wage Orders and guidelines set forth by the Division of Labor
26 Standards and Enforcement. Defendants have also violated these provisions by requiring Class
27 Members to work through portions of their meal period. Therefore, Class Members were not
28 properly compensated, nor were they paid overtime rates for hours worked in excess of eight hours

1 in a given day, and/or forty hours in a given week. Based on information and belief, Defendants
2 did not make available to Class Members a reasonable protocol for correcting time records when
3 Class Members worked overtime hours or to fix incorrect time entries or those that Defendants
4 unlawfully rounded to the Class Members' detriment.

5 61. Defendants' failure to pay Class Members the unpaid balance of regular wages
6 owed and overtime compensation, as required by California law, violates the provisions of Labor
7 Code §§ 510 and 1198, and is therefore unlawful.

8 62. Additionally, Labor Code § 558(a) provides "any employer or other person acting
9 on behalf of an employer who violates, or causes to be violated, a section of this chapter or any
10 provisions regulating hours and days of work in any order of the IWC shall be subject to a civil
11 penalty as follows: (1) For any violation, fifty dollars (\$50) for each underpaid employee for each
12 pay period for which the employee was underpaid in addition to an amount sufficient to recover
13 underpaid wages. (2) For each subsequent violation, one hundred dollars (\$100) for each
14 underpaid employee for each pay period for which the employee was underpaid in addition to an
15 amount sufficient to recover underpaid wages. (3) Wages recovered pursuant to this section shall
16 be paid to the affected employee." Labor Code § 558(c) states, "the civil penalties provided for in
17 this section are in addition to any other civil or criminal penalty provided by law." Defendants
18 have violated provisions of the Labor Code regulating hours and days of work as well as the IWC
19 Wage Orders. Accordingly, Plaintiff and the Class Members seek the remedies set forth in Labor
20 Code § 558.

21 63. Defendants' failure to pay compensation in a timely fashion also constituted a
22 violation of California Labor Code § 204, which requires that all wages shall be paid
23 semimonthly. From four (4) years prior to the filing of this lawsuit to the present, in direct
24 violation of that provision of the California Labor Code, Defendants have failed to pay all wages
25 and overtime compensation earned by Class Members. Each such failure to make a timely
26 payment of compensation to Class Members constitutes a separate violation of California Labor
27 Code § 204.

28 64. Class Members have been damaged by these violations of California Labor Code

1 §§ 204 and 510 (and the relevant orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission).

2 65. Consequently, pursuant to the California Labor Code, including Labor Code §§
3 204, 510, 558, and 1194, and the applicable IWC Wage Order, paragraph 3(A) and 4(B),
4 Defendants are liable to Class Members for the full amount of all their unpaid wages and overtime
5 compensation, with interest, plus their reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, as well as the
6 assessment of any statutory penalties against Defendants, and each of them, and any additional
7 sums as provided by the Labor Code and/or other statutes.

8 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

9 **MEAL-PERIOD LIABILITY UNDER LABOR CODE § 226.7**

10 **(Against All Defendants)**

11 66. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
12 full herein.

13 67. Class Members regularly worked shifts greater than five (5) hours and in some
14 instances, greater than ten (10) hours. Pursuant to Labor Code § 512 an employer may not employ
15 someone for a shift of more than five (5) hours without providing him or her with a meal period of
16 not less than thirty (30) minutes or for a shift of more than ten (10) hours without providing him or
17 her with a second meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes.

18 68. Defendants failed to provide Class Members with meal periods as required under
19 the Labor Code. Defendants placed their needs over Class Members lawful meal breaks and this
20 resulted in Class Members consistently having to work through their scheduled meal breaks
21 because the demands of the job would not avail them the opportunity to take a lawfully
22 uninterrupted and off-duty meal break. Furthermore, upon information and belief, on the occasions
23 when Class Members worked more than ten (10) hours in a given shift, they did so without
24 receiving a second uninterrupted thirty (30) minute meal period as required by law.

25 69. Defendants thus failed to provide Class Members with meal periods as required by
26 the Labor Code, including by not providing them with the opportunity to take meal breaks, by
27 providing them late or for less than thirty (30) minutes, or by requiring them to perform work
28 during breaks.

1 70. Moreover, Defendants failed to compensate Class Members for each meal period
2 not provided or inadequately provided, as required under Labor Code § 226.7 and paragraph 11 of
3 the applicable IWC Wage Orders, which provide that, if an employer fails to provide an employee
4 a meal period in accordance with this section, the employer shall pay the employee one (1) hour of
5 pay at the employee's regular rate of compensation for each workday that the meal period is not
6 provided. Defendants failed to compensate Class Members for each meal period not provided or
7 inadequately provided, as required under Labor Code § 226.7.

8 71. Therefore, pursuant to Labor Code § 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order,
9 paragraph 11, Class Members are entitled to damages in an amount equal to one (1) hour of wages
10 at their effective hourly rates of pay for each meal period not provided or deficiently provided, a
11 sum to be proven at trial, as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against the
12 Defendants, and each of them, in a sum as provided by the Labor Code and other statutes.

13 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
14 **VIOLATION OF LABOR CODE § 226(a)**
15 **(Against All Defendants)**

16 72. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
17 full herein.

18 73. California Labor Code § 226(a) requires an employer to furnish each of his or her
19 employees with an accurate, itemized statement in writing showing the gross and net earnings,
20 total hours worked, and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate; these
21 statements must be appended to the detachable part of the check, draft, voucher, or whatever else
22 serves to pay the employee's wages; or, if wages are paid by cash or personal check, these
23 statements may be given to the employee separately from the payment of wages; in either case the
24 employer must give the employee these statements twice a month or each time wages are paid.

25 74. Defendants failed to provide Class Members with accurate itemized wage
26 statements in writing, as required by the Labor Code. Specifically, the wage statements fail to
27 include the total hours worked and do not comply with Labor Code § 226(a)(2). Additionally, the
28 wage statements fail to include all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and do

not comply with Labor Code § 226(a)(9). Additionally, the wage statements given to Class Members failed to accurately account for unpaid wages and overtime because Defendants had unlawfully rounded time entries to the detriment of Class Members and their actual hours worked were under-reported due to off the clock work. Additionally, the wage statements given to Class Members failed to accurately account for premium pay for deficiently provided meal periods.

75. Throughout the liability period, Defendants intentionally failed to furnish to Class Members, upon each payment of wages, itemized statements accurately showing: (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked by the employee, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and only the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee pursuant to Labor Code § 226, amongst other statutory requirements. Defendants knowingly and intentionally failed to provide Class Members with such timely and accurate wage and hour statements.

76. Class Members suffered injury as a result of Defendants' knowing and intentional failure to provide them with the accurate wage and hour statements as required by law and are presumed to have suffered injury and be entitled to penalties under Labor Code § 226(e), as the Defendants have failed to provide wage statements with accurate and complete information as required by any one or more of items Labor Code § 226 (a)(1) to (9), inclusive, and Class Members cannot promptly and easily determine from the wage statement alone one or more of the following: (i) The amount of the gross wages or net wages paid to the employee during the pay period or any of the other information required to be provided on the itemized wage statement pursuant to items (2) to (4), inclusive, (6), and (9) of subdivision (a), (ii) Which deductions the employer made from gross wages to determine the net wages paid to the employee during the pay period, (iii) The name and address of the employer and, (iv) The name of the employee and only the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee identification number other

1 than a social security number. For purposes of Labor Code § 226(e) “promptly and easily
2 determine” means a reasonable person [i.e. an objective standard] would be able to readily
3 ascertain the information without reference to other documents or information.

4 77. Therefore, as a direct and proximate cause of Defendants’ violation of Labor Code
5 § 226(a), Class Members suffered injuries, including among other things confusion over whether
6 they received all wages owed them, the difficulty and expense involved in reconstructing pay
7 records, and forcing them to make mathematical computations to analyze whether the wages paid
8 in fact compensated them correctly for all hours worked.

9 78. Pursuant to Labor Code §§ 226(a) and 226(e) and 1174, and the applicable IWC
10 Wage Order, paragraph 7(B), Class Members are entitled to recover the greater of all actual
11 damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period in which a violation occurs and one
12 hundred dollars (\$100) for each violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding an aggregate
13 penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000). They are also entitled to an award of costs and
14 reasonable attorneys’ fees.

15 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
16 **VIOLATION OF LABOR CODE § 203**
17 **(Against All Defendants)**

18 79. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
19 full herein.

20 80. Numerous Class Members are no longer employed by Defendants; they either quit
21 Defendants’ employ or were fired therefrom.

22 81. Defendants failed to pay these Class Members all wages due and certain at the time
23 of termination or within seventy-two (72) hours of resignation.

24 82. The wages withheld from these Class Members by Defendants remained due and
25 owing for more than thirty (30) days from the date of separation from employment.

26 83. Defendants failed to pay Class Members without abatement, all wages as defined
27 by applicable California law. Specifically, Defendants did not provide Plaintiff with her final
28 paycheck until eighteen days after she was terminated, and did not include waiting time penalties

1 in the final paycheck. Moreover, Class Members were not paid all regular and overtime wages
2 because Defendants failed to pay for all hours worked, unlawfully rounded time entries to the
3 detriment of Class Members, and required off the clock work. Additionally, Defendants failed to
4 pay premium wages owed for unprovided meal periods, as further detailed in this Complaint.
5 Defendants' failure to pay said wages within the required time was willful within the meaning of
6 Labor Code § 203.

7 84. Defendants' failure to pay wages, as alleged entitles these Class Members to
8 penalties under Labor Code § 203, which provides that an employee's wages shall continue until
9 paid for up to thirty (30) days from the date they were due.

10 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
11 **VIOLATION OF LABOR CODE § 204**
12 **(Against All Defendants)**

13 85. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
14 full herein.

15 86. Labor Code § 204 instructs that: "All wages, ...earned by any person in any
16 employment are due and payable twice during each calendar month, on days designated in
17 advance by the employer as the regular paydays. Labor performed between the 1st and 15th days,
18 inclusive, of any calendar month shall be paid for between the 16th and the 26th day of the month
19 during which the labor was performed, and labor performed between the 16th and the last day,
20 inclusive, of any calendar month, shall be paid for between the 1st and 10th day of the following
21 month." Additionally, the requirements of this section shall be deemed satisfied by the payment of
22 wages for weekly, biweekly, or semimonthly payroll if the wages are paid not more than seven
23 calendar days following the close of the payroll period." As detailed above, Defendants
24 maintained a consistently applied policy and practice of not paying all wages earned between the
25 1st and 15th days of a month between the 16th and 26th day and failed to pay all wages earned
26 between the 16th and the last day of the month between the 1st and 10th day of the following month.
27 Defendants similarly failed to pay all wages earned by not more than seven calendar days
28 following the close of the payroll period. These failures all arose from either Defendants' failure to

1 pay for all hours worked or failure to pay all earned commission wages.

2 87. All wages due and owing to Plaintiff and the Class Members, including as required
3 under Labor Code § 510, were therefore not timely paid by Defendants, as addressed in detail
4 above. Additionally, wages required by Labor Code § 1194 and other sections became due and
5 payable to each Class Member in each pay period that he or she was not provided with a meal
6 period or paid straight or overtime wages or commissions to which he or she was entitled.

7 88. Defendants thus violated Labor Code § 204 by systematically refusing to pay
8 wages due under the Labor Code, as addressed above. Additionally, under paragraph 4(B) of the
9 applicable IWC Wage Orders, employers are required “to pay each employee, on the established
10 payday for the period involved, not less than the applicable minimum wage for all hours worked in
11 the payroll period, ...” Under Labor Code § 1198, “[t]he employment of any employee for longer
12 hours than those fixed by the order or under conditions of labor prohibited by the order is
13 unlawful.” Plaintiff and the Class Members may therefore pursue damages and penalties for
14 violations of Labor Code § 204 and paragraph 4(B) of the applicable IWC Wage Orders, including
15 penalties under paragraph 20 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders.

16 89. As a result of the unlawful acts of Defendants, Plaintiff and Class Members seek to
17 represent they have been deprived of wages in amounts to be determined at trial, and they are
18 entitled to recovery of such amounts, plus interest and penalties thereon, attorneys’ fees, and costs,
19 pursuant to Labor Code § 210, 218.5, 1194 and 1198, and paragraphs 4(B) and 20 of the
20 applicable IWC Wage Orders.

21 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

22 **FAILURE TO PAY WAGES DUE, NEGOTIABLE AND PAYABLE IN CASH ON**
23 **DEMAND**

24 **(Lab. Code §§ 212 and 213)**

25 **(Against All Defendants)**

26 90. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint as if fully alleged
27 herein.

28 91. Labor Code § 212 states that no employer “shall issue in payment of wages due” by

1 “order, check, draft, note, memorandum, or other acknowledgment of indebtedness, unless it is
2 negotiable and payable in cash, on demand, without discount, at some established place of
3 business in the state.”

4 92. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff and Class Members with an order, check, draft,
5 note, memorandum, or other acknowledgment of indebtedness that was payable on demand,
6 without discount at some established place of business in the state. Defendants issued pay cards to
7 Plaintiff and Class Members for wages earned. These pay cards were useable for a fee and did not
8 have a provision for use and payment in California at no cost to the employee. Therefore,
9 Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff and Class Members with checks, drafts, notes or other
10 acknowledgements of indebtedness that were payable on demand without discount as required by
11 Labor Code § 212, which required Plaintiff and Class Members to incur fees to use, was not fully
12 cashable, and not usable at all financial institutions.

13 93. Such a pattern, practice and uniform administration of corporate policy regarding
14 illegal employee compensation as described herein is unlawful and creates an entitlement to
15 recovery by Plaintiff and Class Members in a civil action for damages and wages owed and for
16 costs and attorneys' fees.

17 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

18 **FAILURE TO KEEP REQUIRED PAYROLL RECORDS UNDER LABOR CODE § 1174**
19 **AND 1174.5**

20 **(Against All Defendants)**

21 94. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
22 full herein.

23 95. California Labor Code § 1174 requires that all employers shall keep accurate time
24 and wage records for all employees. California Labor Code § 1174.5 further requires that any
25 employee suffering injury due to a willful violation of the aforementioned obligations may seek
26 damages, including civil penalties, from the employer.

27 96. During the course of Plaintiff's and Class Members' employment, Defendants
28 consistently failed to maintain accurate time and wage records for Plaintiff and Class Members as

1 required by California Labor Code § 1174 by failing to pay Plaintiff and Class Members proper
2 wages, overtime, and premium pay as discussed above.

3 97. Accordingly, Defendants are liable for civil penalties pursuant to the California
4 Labor Code § 1174.5 for the three (3) years prior to the filing of this Complaint.

5 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

6 **VIOLATION OF BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200 *ET SEQ.***

7 **(Against All Defendants)**

8 98. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
9 full herein.

10 99. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself, Class Members, and the general public, brings this
11 claim pursuant to Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* The conduct of Defendants as
12 alleged in this Complaint has been and continues to be unfair, unlawful, and harmful to Class
13 Members and the general public. Plaintiff seeks to enforce important rights affecting the public
14 interest within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

15 100. Plaintiff is a “person” within the meaning of Business & Professions Code
16 § 17204, has suffered injury, and therefore has standing to bring this cause of action for injunctive
17 relief, restitution, and other appropriate equitable relief.

18 101. Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* prohibits unlawful and unfair
19 business practices. By the conduct alleged herein, Defendants’ practices were deceptive and
20 fraudulent in that Defendants’ policy and practice failed to provide the required amount of
21 compensation for missed meal breaks, and failed to adequately compensate Class Members for all
22 hours worked, due to systematic business practices as alleged herein that cannot be justified,
23 pursuant to the applicable California Labor Code and Industrial Welfare Commission
24 requirements in violation of California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and for
25 which this Court should issue injunctive and equitable relief, pursuant to California Business &
26 Professions Code § 17203, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

27 102. Wage-and-hour laws express fundamental public policies. Paying employees their
28 wages and overtime, providing them with meal periods, etc., are fundamental public policies of

1 California. Labor Code § 90.5(a) articulates the public policies of this State vigorously to enforce
2 minimum labor standards, to ensure that employees are not required or permitted to work under
3 substandard and unlawful conditions, and to protect law-abiding employers and their employees
4 from competitors who lower costs to themselves by failing to comply with minimum labor
5 standards.

6 103. Defendants have violated statutes and public policies. Through the conduct alleged
7 in this Complaint Defendants have acted contrary to these public policies, have violated specific
8 provisions of the Labor Code, and have engaged in other unlawful and unfair business practices in
9 violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*; which conduct has deprived Plaintiff,
10 and all persons similarly situated, and all interested persons, of the rights, benefits, and privileges
11 guaranteed to all employees under the law.

12 104. Defendants' conduct, as alleged above, constitutes unfair competition in violation
13 of the Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*

14 105. Defendants, by engaging in the conduct herein alleged, by failing to pay wages and
15 overtime, failing to provide meal periods, etc., either knew or in the exercise of reasonable care
16 should have known that their conduct was unlawful; therefore their conduct violates the Business
17 & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*

18 106. By the conduct alleged herein, Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in
19 a business practice which violates California and federal law, including but not limited to, the
20 applicable Industrial Wage Order(s), the California Code of Regulations, and the California Labor
21 Code including Sections 203, 204, 226, 226.7, 512, 1194, 1197, and 1198, for which this Court
22 should issue declaratory and other equitable relief pursuant to California Business & Professions
23 Code § 17203 as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct held to constitute unfair
24 competition, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

25 107. As a proximate result of the above-mentioned acts of Defendants, Class Members
26 have been damaged, in a sum to be proven at trial.

27 108. Unless restrained by this Court Defendants will continue to engage in such
28 unlawful conduct as alleged above. Pursuant to the Business & Professions Code, this Court

1 should make such orders or judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be
2 necessary to prevent the use by Defendants or their agents or employees of any unlawful or
3 deceptive practice prohibited by the Business & Professions Code, including but not limited to the
4 disgorgement of such profits as may be necessary to restore Class Members to the money
5 Defendants have unlawfully failed to pay.

6 **TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
7 **VIOLATION OF LABOR CODE § 2698, ET SEQ.**
8 **(Against All Defendants)**

9 109. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates all preceding paragraphs, as though set forth in
10 full herein.

11 110. Plaintiff and the Employees in the Class are also Class Members as defined under
12 Labor Code § 2699(c) in that they suffered the violations alleged in this Complaint and either were
13 or are employed by the alleged violators, Defendants (“Class Members”) during the relevant time
14 period.

15 111. In failing to pay Class Members minimum wages and overtime, not providing
16 proper meal periods, failing to provide accurate wage statements, and failing to Pay Employees
17 upon termination or timely upon resignation, all discussed above, Defendants failed to timely pay
18 Class Members wages on a semimonthly basis as required under Labor Code § 204. Defendants
19 also failed to maintain records showing accurate hours worked daily and the wages paid to Class
20 Members, as required by Labor Code § 1174 and paragraph 7 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders.

21 112. As such, Employees seek wages and penalties under Labor Code §§ 2698 and 2699
22 for Defendants’ violation of Labor Code provisions included under Labor Code 2699.5, including
23 the penalty provisions, without limitation, based, inter alia, on the following California Labor
24 Code sections: 201, 202, 203, 204, 226, 226.2, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1185, 1194,
25 1194.1, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 1199, and 2698 *et seq.*

26 113. More specifically, after complying with the notice procedures of Labor Code §
27 2699.3, Plaintiff asserts, as a representative action on behalf of the California Attorney General
28 and other similarly Class Members, a PAGA claim for violations of the above addressed

underlying claims and seeking penalties as specified by the applicable corresponding provisions, including as follows:

(a) Wage Claims: For failure to provide Plaintiff and the Class Members all earned regular pay and minimum wages for regular hours worked and for failure to pay overtime premium wages for overtime hours worked under Labor Code §§ 226.2, 510, 1194(a), 1197, and 1198, and paragraphs 2(K), 3(A), 4(A), 4(B) and 20 of the applicable IWC Wage Order(s) seeking all civil and statutory penalties available and applicable, and wages, under Labor Code §§ 510, 558, 1194.2, 1197.1, 1199, 2699(f)(2), and 2699.5, and also for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code § 2699(g)(1);

(b) Meal Period Claims: For failure to provide Plaintiff and the Class Members off-duty, timely, and unpaid meal periods and failure to pay one hour of regular pay in lieu thereof, under Labor Code §§ 512, 1198, and 226.7, and Sections 11 of the applicable IWC Wage Order(s) seeking all civil and statutory penalties available and applicable, including under paragraph 20 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders, and wages under Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512, 558, including sections 558(a)(1)-(3), 1199, and 2699(f)(2), and also for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code § 2699(g)(1);

(c) Inaccurate Wage Statements and Failure to Maintain Records: For failure to provide Plaintiff and Class Members with accurate, itemized wage statements and failure to maintain employment records for Plaintiff and Class Members under Labor Code §§ 226, 1174, and 1198.5, and Sections 7(A), 7(B), and 7(C) of the applicable IWC Wage Order(s) seeking all civil and statutory penalties and wages available and applicable under Labor Code §§ 226€, 226.3, 558, 1174.5, 1199, 2699(f)(2), and paragraph 20 of the applicable IWC Wage Order, and also for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code § 2699(g)(1). More specifically, by providing inaccurate wage statements and failing to maintain records as required under Labor Code § 226(a), Defendants committed ongoing violations giving rise to civil penalties under Labor Code § 226.3, which in addition to other penalties provided by law, subjects Defendants to "a penalty in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per employee per violation in an initial citation and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per employee for each violation in a subsequent citation, ..."

1 (d) Failure to Timely Pay Wages: For failure to timely pay all wages owed, including at
2 least semi-monthly and upon separation or termination, under Labor Code §§ 201, 201, 203, 204,
3 226.2, 1197.5, 2926, and 2927 seeking all civil penalties available and applicable, and wages,
4 under Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 210, 558, 1197, 1198, 1199 and 2699(f)(2), and paragraph 20
5 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders, and also for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code
6 § 2699(g)(1);

7 (e) All Alleged Violations of the IWC Wage Orders and Other Labor Code
8 Sections: For any above addressed violation of the applicable provisions of the IWC Wage
9 Orders, each of which constitute separate violations of Labor Code § 1198 and Labor Code §
10 2699.5, and seeking penalties available and applicable under Labor Code § 2699(f)(2) and
11 paragraph 20 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders, and for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to
12 Labor Code § 2699(g)(1).

13 114. As also addressed above, Plaintiff, on behalf of the Class Members, also seeks the
14 penalties and remedies set forth in Labor Code § 558, which states:

15 (a) Any employer or other person acting on behalf of an employer who violates, or
16 causes to be violated, a section of this chapter or any provision regulating hours and days of work
17 in any order of the Industrial Welfare Commission shall be subject to a civil penalty as follows:
18 (1) For any initial violation, fifty dollars (\$50) for each underpaid employee for each pay period
19 for which the employee was underpaid in addition to an amount sufficient to recover underpaid
20 wages. (2) For any subsequent violation, one hundred dollars (\$100) for each underpaid employee
21 for each pay period for which the employee was underpaid in addition to an amount sufficient to
22 recover underpaid wages. (3) Wages recovered pursuant to this section shall be paid to the affected
23 employee.

24 (b) If upon inspection or investigation the Labor Commissioner determines that a
25 person had paid or caused to be paid a wage for overtime work in violation of any provision of this
26 chapter, or any provision regulating hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare
27 Commission, the Labor Commissioner may issue a citation. The procedures for issuing,
28 contesting, and enforcing judgments for citations or civil penalties issued by the Labor

Commissioner for a violation of this chapter shall be the same as those set out in Section 1197.1.

(c) The penalties provided for in this section are in addition to any other civil or criminal penalty provided by law.

115. Plaintiff has exhausted her administrative remedies by sending a certified letter to the LWDA and Defendants postmarked on **December 15, 2023**, addressing in detail the specific provisions of the Labor Code Defendants have violated and addressing the facts and legal theories to support the alleged violations and requested penalties. The LWDA has not provided notice of its intent to investigate the alleged violations within 65 calendar days of the postmark date of the letter, and Plaintiff adds this claim seeking penalties under the PAGA for the violations addressed herein and in the PAGA Notice Letter and the original Complaint.

RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

1. For an order certifying this action as a class action;
2. For compensatory damages in the amount of the unpaid minimum wages for work performed by Class Members and unpaid overtime compensation from at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this action, as may be proven;
3. For liquidated damages in the amount equal to the unpaid minimum wage and interest thereon, from at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this action, according to proof;
4. For compensatory damages in the amount of all unpaid wages, including overtime and double-time pay, as may be proven;
5. For compensatory damages in the amount of the hourly wage made by Class Members for each missed or deficient meal period where no premium pay was paid therefor from four (4) years prior to the filing of this action, as may be proven;
6. For penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 226(e) for Class Members, as may be proven;
7. For penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 203 for all Class Members who quit or were fired in an amount equal to their daily wage times thirty (30) days, as may be proven;
8. For restitution and/or damages for all amounts unlawfully withheld from the wages

1 for all class members in violation of Labor Code § 204, as may be proven;

2 9. For restitution for unfair competition pursuant to Business & Professions Code
3 § 17200 *et seq.*, including disgorgement or profits, as may be proven;

4 10. For an order enjoining Defendants and their agents, servants, and employees, and
5 all persons acting under, in concert with, or for them, from acting in derogation of any rights or
6 duties adumbrated in this Complaint;

7 11. For penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*, as may be proven;

8 12. For other wages and penalties under the Labor Code as may be proven;

9 13. For all general, special, and incidental damages as may be proven;

10 14. For an award of pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;

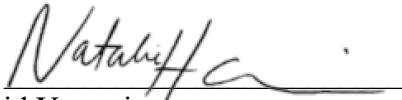
11 15. For an award providing for the payment of the costs of this suit;

12 16. For an award of attorneys' fees; and

13 17. For such other and further relief as this Court may deem proper and just.

14
15 DATED: February 16, 2024

D.LAW, INC.

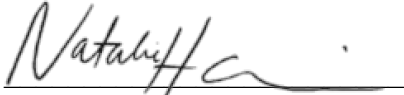
16
17 By: 
18 David Yeremian
19 Natalie Haritonian
20 Jonas Agle
21 Attorneys for Plaintiff KELLY ERIN
22 CARPENTER, and all others similarly
23 situated.
24
25
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27
28

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands trial of her claims by jury to the extent authorized by law.

DATED: February 16, 2024

D.LAW, INC.

By: 
David Yeremian
Natalie Haritounian
Jonas Agle
Attorneys for Plaintiff KELLY ERIN
CARPENTER, and all others similarly
situated.

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I am employed in the aforesaid county, State of California; I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action; my business address is 880 E Broadway, Glendale, CA 91205.

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[X] (STATE) I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February 16, 2024, at Glendale, California.

Silvia Pimentel
Silvia Pimentel