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8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**
10

11 DEVANTE XAVIER NEWMAN, individually,
and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

12 Plaintiff,

13
14 vs.

15 STRAUCH MANAGEMENT, LLC, a limited
16 liability company; CAMERON PARK
PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation;
17 M & M FUELS, INC., a California corporation;
WOODCREEK OAKS PETROLEUM, INC., a
18 California corporation; STRAUCH &
COMPANY, a California corporation; and
19 DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

20 Defendants
21
22
23
24

Case No.: 24CV008370

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS 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]; and
8. Unfair Business Practices [Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.].
9. Civil Penalties Under PAGA [Cal. Lab. Code § 2699, et seq.].

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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1 Plaintiff Devante Xavier Newman (“Plaintiff”), based upon facts that either have
2 evidentiary support or are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for
3 further investigation and discovery, alleges as follows:

4 **INTRODUCTION & PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

5 1. Plaintiff brings this action against Defendants Strauch Management, LLC,
6 Cameron Park Petroleum, Inc., M & M Fuels, Inc., Woodcreek Oaks Petroleum, Inc., Strauch &
7 Company, and Does 1 through 10 (collectively referred to as “Defendants”) for California Labor
8 Code violations and unfair business practices stemming from Defendants’ failure to pay
9 minimum wages, failure to pay overtime wages, failure to provide meal periods, failure to
10 authorize and permit rest periods, failure to maintain accurate records of hours worked and meal
11 periods, failure to timely pay all wages to terminated employees, failure to indemnify necessary
12 business expenses, and failure to furnish accurate wage statements.

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

19 3. Plaintiff brings the Ninth Cause of Action as a representative action under the
20 California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) to recover civil penalties that are owed to
21 Plaintiff, the State of California, and past and present employees of Defendants (hereinafter
22 referred to as the “Aggrieved Employees”).

23 4. Defendants own/owned and operate/operated an industry, business, and
24 establishment within the State of California, including Sacramento County. As such, and based
25 upon all the facts and circumstances incident to Defendants’ business in California, Defendants
26 are subject to the California Labor Code, Wage Orders issued by the Industrial Welfare
27 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 for each workday a meal period
10 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 for each workday a rest
14 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 and
- 20 (f) Failing to maintain accurate records of the hours that employees worked.
- 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 were
27 willful and deliberate.

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 Plaintiff, the Class, and 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

A. Plaintiff

8. Plaintiff is a California resident that worked for Defendants in the County of Sacramento, State of California, as a cashier and baker from approximately November 2023 to January 2024.

9. Plaintiff reserves 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.

B. Defendants

10. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based upon that information and belief alleges, that Defendants are:

- (a) California corporations with their principal places of business in Sacramento, California.
- (b) Business entities conducting business in numerous counties throughout the State of California, including in Sacramento County;
- (c) The former employers of Plaintiff, and the current and/or former employers of the putative Class. Defendants suffered and permitted Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees to work, and/or controlled their wages, hours, or working conditions; and
- (d) At all times mentioned herein, Defendants are and were the joint employers of Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees.

11. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that there exists, and at all times herein mentioned there existed, Defendants, and each of them, were at all relevant times

1 the joint employer of Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees, were alter egos of each
2 other, and/or were operating as an integrated enterprise with each other, and as a common
3 scheme with each other because, among other things:

- 4 (a) Defendants advertise as having multiple locations in California and other
5 states, including those locations operated by each Defendant;
- 6 (b) As a condition of employment for working anywhere in California,
7 Defendants require their employees to sign documents regarding the terms
8 and conditions of their employment. All of these documents are the same
9 for each and every California location. Further, on information and belief,
10 these documents were authored by human resources personnel employed
11 by each of these entities.
- 12 (c) Payroll and personnel matters related to Defendants' California locations
13 are handled by a single human resources department
- 14 (d) There is a seamless flow of employees between each Defendant.
15 Employees are able to transfer between locations without being retrained
16 because Defendants' policies and procedures are the same for each
17 location.
- 18 (e) Defendants routinely comingle assets in order to pay for expenses,
19 including paying wages to employees.
- 20 (f) All Defendants share the same corporate address.
- 21 (g) All Defendants share the same CEO/President, members and/or
22 shareholders.
- 23 (h) Defendants used the assets of the other corporate entities for their own use,
24 caused assets of the other corporations to be transferred freely between the
25 corporate entities without adequate consideration, and withdrew funds
26 from one corporate entity to be transferred to another corporate entity
27 without adequate consideration;
- 28

- 1 (i) Defendants are, and at all times herein mentioned were, mere shells,
2 instrumentalities, and conduits of one another through which each
3 Defendant carried on their business, exercising complete control and
4 dominance of such business to such an extent that any individuality or
5 separateness of each individual Defendant does not, and at all times herein
6 mentioned did not, exist;
- 7 (j) Defendants are and at all times herein mentioned were, controlled,
8 dominated, and operated by a single owner or owners, as his or their
9 individual business and alter ego;
- 10 (k) Defendants share the same corporate address and share the same corporate
11 officers and directors. Further, Defendants share the same employees, in
12 that employees were transferred between Defendants' locations;
- 13 (l) Defendants failed to comply with corporate formalities, including but not
14 limited to (1) the nonexistence of bylaws; (2) the failure to conduct
15 corporate meetings of the board of directors; (3) the failure to take or
16 maintain corporate minutes of any corporate proceedings; (4) the failure to
17 create any corporate resolutions or voting; (5) the entering and carrying out
18 of unapproved, undocumented transactions without adequate consideration
19 between and among Defendants; and (6) Defendants have at all times
20 herein failed to have any assets;
- 21 (m) Defendants were conceived, intended, and used as a device to avoid
22 liability;
- 23 (n) Defendants are, and at all times herein mentioned were, so inadequately
24 capitalized that, compared with the business to be done by Defendants and
25 the risk of loss, its capitalization was trifling.

26 12. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that adherence to the fiction
27 of the separate existence of Defendants as distinct from one another would permit an abuse of the
28 corporate privilege and would sanction fraud and promote injustice.

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

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

11 15. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all relevant times
12 each Defendant, directly or indirectly, or through agents or other persons, employed Plaintiff and
13 the other employees described in the class definitions below, and exercised control over their
14 wages, hours, and working conditions. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges
15 that, at all relevant times, each Defendant was the principal, agent, partner, joint venturer, officer,
16 director, controlling shareholder, subsidiary, affiliate, parent corporation, successor in interest
17 and/or predecessor in interest of some or all of the other Defendants, and was engaged with some
18 or all of the other Defendants in a joint enterprise for profit, and bore such other relationships to
19 some or all of the other Defendants so as to be liable for their conduct with respect to the matters
20 alleged below. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each Defendant acted
21 pursuant to and within the scope of the relationships alleged above, that each Defendant knew or
22 should have known about, and authorized, ratified, adopted, approved, controlled, aided and
23 abetted the conduct of all other Defendants.

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

25 16. Plaintiff is a California resident who worked for Defendants in the County of
26 Sacramento, State of California during the statutory period. During the statutory period,
27 Defendants misclassified as an exempt employee, when in fact Plaintiff, the Class, and
28 Aggrieved Employees should have been classified as non-exempt.

1 17. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff for all hours
2 worked (including minimum wages and overtime wages), failed to provide Plaintiff with
3 uninterrupted meal periods, failed to authorize and permit Plaintiff to take uninterrupted rest
4 periods, failed to indemnify Plaintiff for necessary business expenses, failed to timely pay all
5 final wages to Plaintiff when Defendants terminated Plaintiff's employment, and failed to furnish
6 accurate wage statements to Plaintiff. As discussed below, Plaintiff's experience working for
7 Defendants was typical and illustrative.

8 18. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of
9 not paying Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees for all hours worked, including all
10 overtime wages. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees received non-discretionary
11 bonuses, shift differentials, and other remuneration. However, Defendants failed to incorporate
12 all remuneration when calculating the correct overtime rate of pay, meal break premium rate of
13 pay, and sick day rate of pay, leading to underpayment to Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved
14 Employees. Also, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees were required to take
15 interrupted meal breaks, leading to underpayment of wages.

16 19. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to provide
17 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees with legally compliant meal periods. Defendants
18 sometimes, but not always, required Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees to work in
19 excess of five consecutive hours a day without providing 30-minute, continuous and
20 uninterrupted, duty-free meal period for every five hours of work, or without compensating
21 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees for meal periods that were not provided by the end
22 of the fifth hour of work or tenth hour of work. Defendants also did not adequately inform
23 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees of their right to take a meal period by the end of
24 the fifth hour of work, or, for shifts greater than 10 hours, by the end of the tenth hour of work.
25 Defendants also failed to accurately record meal periods. Accordingly, Defendants' policy and
26 practice was to not provide meal periods to Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees in
27 compliance with California law.

1 20. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants have wrongfully failed to authorize
2 and permit Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees to take timely and duty-free rest
3 periods. Defendants sometimes, but not always, required Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved
4 Employees to work in excess of four consecutive hours a day without Defendants authorizing and
5 permitting them to take a 10-minute, continuous and uninterrupted, rest period for every four
6 hours of work (or major fraction of four hours), or without compensating Plaintiff, the Class, and
7 Aggrieved Employees for rest periods that were not authorized or permitted. Defendants also did
8 not adequately inform Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees of their right to take a rest
9 period. Moreover, Defendants did not have adequate policies or practices permitting or
10 authorizing rest periods for Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees, nor did Defendants
11 have adequate policies or practices regarding the timing of rest periods. Defendants also did not
12 have adequate policies or practices to verify whether Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved
13 Employees were taking their required rest periods. Further, Defendants did not maintain accurate
14 records of employee work periods, and therefore Defendants cannot demonstrate that Plaintiff,
15 the Class, and Aggrieved Employees took rest periods during the middle of each work period.
16 Accordingly, Defendants' policy and practice was to not authorize and permit Plaintiff, the Class,
17 and Aggrieved Employees to take rest periods in compliance with California law.

18 21. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants wrongfully required Plaintiff, the
19 Class, and Aggrieved Employees to pay expenses that they incurred in direct discharge of their
20 duties for Defendants without reimbursement, which included the use of maintenance of
21 uniforms without reimbursement, and the occasional use of personal cellular telephones for work
22 purposes without reimbursement.

23 22. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants willfully failed and refused to timely
24 pay Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees at the conclusion of their employment all
25 wages for all minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest period
26 premium wages.

27 23. Throughout the statutory period, Defendants failed to furnish Plaintiff, the Class,
28 and Aggrieved Employees with accurate, itemized wage statements showing all applicable hourly

1 rates, and all gross and net wages earned (including correct hours worked, correct wages earned
2 for hours worked, correct overtime hours worked, correct wages for meal periods that were not
3 provided in accordance with California law, correct wages for rest periods that were not
4 authorized and permitted to take in accordance with California law, and Defendant's address).
5 Further, the wage statements do not show Defendant's address as required by California law. As
6 a result of these violations of California Labor Code § 226(a), the Plaintiff, the Class, and
7 Aggrieved Employees suffered injury because, among other things:

- 8 (a) the violations led them to believe that they were not entitled to be paid
9 minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and rest
10 period premium wages to which they were entitled, even though they were
11 entitled;
- 12 (b) the violations led them to believe that they had been paid the minimum,
13 overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages, even
14 though they had not been;
- 15 (c) the violations led them to believe they were not entitled to be paid
16 minimum, overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium wages
17 at the correct California rate even though they were;
- 18 (d) the violations led them to believe they had been paid minimum, overtime,
19 meal period premium, and rest period premium wages at the correct
20 California rate even though they had not been;
- 21 (e) the violations hindered them from determining the amounts of minimum,
22 overtime, meal period premium, and rest period premium owed to them;
- 23 (f) in connection with their employment before and during this action, and in
24 connection with prosecuting this action, the violations caused them to have
25 to perform mathematical computations to determine the amounts of wages
26 owed to them, computations they would not have to make if the wage
27 statements contained the required accurate information;

- 1 (g) by understating the wages truly due them, the violations caused them to
2 lose entitlement and/or accrual of the full amount of Social Security,
3 disability, unemployment, and other governmental benefits;
4 (h) the wage statements inaccurately understated the wages, hours, and wages
5 rates to which Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees were entitled,
6 and Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees were paid less than the
7 wages and wage rates to which they were entitled.

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

10 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

11 24. Plaintiff brings certain claims individually, as well as on behalf of each and all
12 other persons similarly situated, and thus, seek class certification under California Code of Civil
13 Procedure § 382.

14 25. All claims alleged herein arise under California law for which Plaintiff seeks relief
15 authorized by California law.

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

17 All persons who worked for any Defendant in California as an employee at any
18 time during the period beginning four years before the filing of the initial
19 complaint in this action and ending when notice to the Class is sent.

20 27. At all material times, Plaintiff was a member of the Class.

21 28. Plaintiff undertakes this concerted activity to improve the wages and working
22 conditions of all Class Members.

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

- 25 (a) Numerosity: The members of the Class (and each subclass, if any) are so
26 numerous that joinder of all members would be unfeasible and impractical.
27 The membership of the entire Class is unknown to Plaintiff at this time,
28 however, the Class is estimated to be greater than 100 individuals and the

identity of such membership is readily ascertainable by inspection of Defendants' records.

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

(c) Adequacy: Plaintiff is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect the interests of each Class Member with whom there is a shared, well-defined community of interest and typicality of claims, as demonstrated herein. Plaintiff has no conflicts with or interests antagonistic to any Class Member. Plaintiff's attorneys, the proposed class counsel, are versed in the rules governing class action discovery, certification, and settlement. Plaintiff has incurred, and throughout the duration of this action, will continue to incur costs and attorneys' fees that have been, are, and will be necessarily expended for the prosecution of this action for the substantial benefit of each class member.

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

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

(e) Public Policy Considerations: The public policy of the State of California

1 is to resolve the California Labor Code claims of many employees through
2 a class action. Indeed, current employees are often afraid to assert their
3 rights out of fear of direct or indirect retaliation. Former employees are
4 also fearful of bringing actions because they believe their former
5 employers might damage their future endeavors through negative
6 references and/or other means. Class actions provide the class members
7 who are not named in the complaint with a type of anonymity that allows
8 for the vindication of their rights at the same time as their privacy is
9 protected.

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

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

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

- 1 (a) The questions of law and fact common to the Class predominate over any
2 question affecting only individual members;
- 3 (b) A class action is superior to any other available method for the fair and
4 efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the Class;
- 5 (c) The members of the Class are so numerous that it is impractical to bring all
6 members of the class before the Court;
- 7 (d) Plaintiff, and the other members of the Class, will not be able to obtain
8 effective and economic legal redress unless the action is maintained as a
9 class action;
- 10 (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and
11 equitable relief for the statutory violations, and in obtaining adequate
12 compensation for the damages and injuries for which Defendants are
13 responsible in an amount sufficient to adequately compensate the members
14 of the Class for the injuries sustained;
- 15 (f) Without class certification, the prosecution of separate actions by
16 individual members of the class would create a risk of:
- 17 1) Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual
18 members of the Class which would establish incompatible standards
19 of conduct for Defendants; and/or
- 20 2) Adjudications with respect to the individual members which would,
21 as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other
22 members not parties to the adjudications, or would substantially
23 impair or impede their ability to protect their interests, including but
24 not limited to the potential for exhausting the funds available from
25 those parties who are, or may be, responsible Defendants; and,
- 26 (g) Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to
27 the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief appropriate with respect to
28 the class as a whole.

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

8 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

10 33. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
11 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

12 34. "Hours worked" is the time during which an employee is subject to the control of
13 an employer, and includes all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work, whether or
14 not required to do so.

15 35. At all relevant times herein mentioned, Defendants knowingly failed to pay to
16 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees compensation for all hours they worked. By their
17 failure to pay compensation for each hour worked as alleged above, Defendants willfully violated
18 the provisions of Section 1194 of the California Labor Code, and any additional applicable Wage
19 Orders, which require such compensation to non-exempt employees.

20 36. Accordingly, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are entitled to recover
21 minimum wages for all non-overtime hours worked for Defendants.

22 37. By and through the conduct described above, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved
23 Employees have been deprived of their rights to be paid wages earned by virtue of their
24 employment with Defendants.

25 38. By virtue of the Defendants' unlawful failure to pay additional compensation to
26 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees for their non-overtime hours worked without pay,
27 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages in
28 amounts which are presently unknown to Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees, but

1 which exceed the jurisdictional minimum of this Court, and which will be ascertained according
2 to proof at trial.

3 39. By failing to keep adequate time records required by California Labor Code §
4 1174(d), Defendants have made it difficult to calculate the full extent of minimum wage
5 compensation due Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees.

6 40. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 1194.2, Plaintiff, the Class, and
7 Aggrieved Employees are entitled to recover liquidated damages (double damages) for
8 Defendants' failure to pay minimum wages.

9 41. California Labor Code section 204 requires employers to provide employees with
10 all wages due and payable twice a month. Throughout the statute of limitations period applicable
11 to this cause of action, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees were entitled to be paid
12 twice a month at rates required by law, including minimum wages. However, during all such
13 times, Defendants systematically failed and refused to pay Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved
14 Employees all such wages due, and failed to pay those wages twice a month.

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

18 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

19 **(Against all Defendants for Failure to Pay Overtime Wages)**

20 43. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
21 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

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

25 45. California Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1198 provide that employees in California
26 shall not be employed more than eight hours in any workday unless they receive additional
27 compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law. Additionally, California
28 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, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees have worked more than eight hours in a workday, as employees of Defendants.

47. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees 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. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are regularly required to work overtime hours.

48. By virtue of Defendants' unlawful failure to pay additional premium rate compensation to the Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees for their overtime hours worked, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees 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 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees.

50. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees 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 Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees 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. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein

1 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

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

11 54. Despite these legal requirements, Defendants regularly failed to provide Plaintiff,
12 the Class, and Aggrieved Employees with both meal periods as required by California law. By
13 their failure to permit and authorize Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees to take all
14 meal periods as alleged above (or due to the fact that Defendants made it impossible or
15 impracticable to take these uninterrupted meal periods), Defendants willfully violated the
16 provisions of Section 226.7 of the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders.

17 55. Under California law, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are entitled
18 to be paid one hour of additional wages for each workday he or she was not provided with all
19 required meal period(s), plus interest thereon.

20 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

22 56. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
23 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

24 57. Defendants are required by California law to authorize and permit breaks of 10
25 uninterrupted minutes for each four hours of work or major fraction of four hours (i.e. more than
26 two hours). Section 512 of the California Labor Code, the applicable Wage Orders require that
27 the employer permit and authorize all employees to take paid rest periods of 10 minutes each for
28 each 4-hour period worked. Thus, for example, if an employee's work time is 6 hours and ten

1 minutes, the employee is entitled to two rest breaks. Each failure to authorize rest breaks as so
2 required is itself a violation of California's rest break laws. It is a violation of Section 226.7 of
3 the California Labor Code for an employer to require any employee to work during any rest
4 period mandated under any Wage Order.

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

12 59. Under California law, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are entitled
13 to be paid one hour of premium wages rate for each workday he or she was not provided with all
14 required rest break(s), plus interest thereon.

15 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

17 60. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
18 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

19 61. Defendants violated Labor Code section 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders, by
20 failing to pay and indemnify the Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees for their
21 necessary expenditures and losses incurred in direct consequence of the discharge of their duties
22 or of their obedience to directions of Defendants.

23 62. As a result, Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees were damaged at least
24 in the amounts of the expenses they paid, or which were deducted by Defendants from their
25 wages.

26 63. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees they represent are entitled to
27 attorney's fees, expenses, and costs of suit pursuant to Labor Code section 2802(c) and interest
28 pursuant to Labor Code section 2802(b).

1 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

4 64. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
5 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

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

12 66. Within the applicable statute of limitations, the employment of Plaintiff and many
13 other members of the Class ended, i.e. was terminated by quitting or discharge, and the
14 employment of others will be. However, during the relevant time period, Defendants failed, and
15 continue to fail to pay terminated Class Members, without abatement, all wages required to be
16 paid by California Labor Code sections 201 and 202 either at the time of discharge, or within
17 seventy-two (72) hours of their leaving Defendants' employ.

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

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

26 69. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are entitled to recover from
27 Defendants their additionally accruing wages for each day they were not paid, at their regular
28 hourly rate of pay, up to 30 days maximum pursuant to California Labor Code § 203.

1 70. Pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 218.5, 218.6 and 1194, Plaintiff, the Class,
2 and Aggrieved Employees are also entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees, interest,
3 expenses, and costs incurred in this action.

4 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

7 71. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein
8 paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

9 72. At all material times set forth herein, California Labor Code § 226(a) provides that
10 every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees an accurate itemized wage statement
11 in writing showing nine pieces of information, including: (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours
12 worked by the employee, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate
13 if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made
14 on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5) net wages
15 earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the
16 employee and the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee
17 identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal
18 entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and
19 the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

20 73. Defendants have intentionally and willfully failed to provide employees with
21 complete and accurate wage statements. The deficiencies include, among other things, the
22 failure to correctly identify the gross wages earned by Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved
23 Employees, the failure to list the true "total hours worked by the employee," and the failure to
24 list the true net wages earned.

25 74. As a result of Defendants' violation of California Labor Code § 226(a), Plaintiff,
26 the Class, and Aggrieved Employees have suffered injury and damage to their statutorily-
27 protected rights.

28 75. Specifically, Plaintiff and the members of the Class have been injured by

Defendants' intentional violation of California Labor Code § 226(a) because they were denied both their legal right to receive, and their protected interest in receiving, accurate, itemized wage statements under California Labor Code § 226(a).

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

77. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are entitled to recover from Defendants their actual damages caused by Defendants' failure to comply with California Labor Code § 226(a).

78. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are also entitled to injunctive relief, as well as an award of attorney's fees and costs to ensure compliance with this section, pursuant to California Labor Code § 226(h).

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

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

79. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges as if fully stated herein paragraphs 1 through 21 in this Complaint.

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

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

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

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

7 **Failure to Pay Minimum Wages**

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

11 **Failure to Pay Overtime Wages**

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

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

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

19 **Failure to Provide Meal Periods**

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

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

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

27 **Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses**

28 89. Defendants' failure to indemnify employees for necessary business expenses in

1 accordance with California Labor Code § 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders, as alleged above,
2 constitutes unlawful and/or unfair activity prohibited by Business and Professions Code §§
3 17200, *et seq.*

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

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

8 91. By and through their unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices
9 described herein, the Defendants, have obtained valuable property, money and services from
10 Plaintiff, and all persons similarly situated, and have deprived Plaintiff, and all persons similarly
11 situated, of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law, all to their detriment.

12 92. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees Members suffered monetary injury
13 as a direct result of Defendants' wrongful conduct.

14 93. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, is entitled
15 to, and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to disgorge money and/or property which the
16 Defendants have wrongfully acquired, or of which Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees
17 have been deprived, by means of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
18 practices. Plaintiff, the Class, and Aggrieved Employees are not obligated to establish individual
19 knowledge of the wrongful practices of Defendants in order to recover restitution.

20 94. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, are further
21 entitled to and do seek a declaration that the above described business practices are unfair,
22 unlawful and/or fraudulent, and injunctive relief restraining the Defendants, and each of them,
23 from engaging in any of the above-described unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
24 practices in the future.

25 95. Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative class, have no
26 plain, speedy, and/or adequate remedy at law to redress the injuries which the Class Members
27 suffered as a consequence of the Defendants' unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business
28 practices. As a result of the unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices described

1 above, Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of members of the putative Class, has suffered and
2 will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless the Defendants, and each of them, are restrained
3 from continuing to engage in said unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices.

4 96. Plaintiff also alleges that if Defendants are not enjoined from the conduct set forth
5 herein above, they will continue to avoid paying the appropriate taxes, insurance and other
6 withholdings.

7 97. Pursuant to California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, Plaintiff
8 and putative Class Members are entitled to restitution of the wages withheld and retained by
9 Defendants during a period that commences four years prior to the filing of this complaint; a
10 permanent injunction requiring Defendants to pay all outstanding wages due to Plaintiff and
11 Class Members; an award of attorneys' fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §
12 1021.5 and other applicable laws; and an award of costs.

13 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

14 **(Against all Defendants for Civil Penalties Under the Private Attorneys General Act** 15 **of 2004, Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 et seq.)**

16 98. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-allege as if fully stated herein paragraphs
17 1 through 21 in this First Amended Complaint.

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

20 100. California Labor Code § 2699(a) specifically provides for a private right of action
21 to recover penalties for violations of the Labor Code: "Notwithstanding any other provision of
22 law, any provision of this code that provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by
23 the Labor and Workforce Development Agency or any of its departments, divisions,
24 commissions, boards, agencies, or employees, for a violation of this code, may, as an alternative,
25 be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or
26 herself and other current or former employees pursuant to the procedures specified in Section
27 2699.3."
28

1 101. Plaintiff has exhausted his administrative remedies pursuant to California Labor
2 Code § 2699.3. On April 29, 2024, Plaintiff gave written notice by online filing to the Labor and
3 Workforce Development Agency and by certified mail to Defendants of the specific provisions of
4 the Labor Code that Defendants have violated against Plaintiff and current and former aggrieved
5 employees, including the facts and theories to support the violations (See attached as Exhibit A).
6 Plaintiff's PAGA case number is No. LWDA-CM- 1025087-24. At the time of this filing, 65 days
7 has elapsed since Plaintiff provided notice, but the Labor and Workforce Development Agency
8 has not indicated that it intends to investigate Defendants' Labor Code violations discussed in the
9 notice. Accordingly, Plaintiff may commence a civil action to recover penalties under Labor Code
10 § 2699 pursuant to § 2699.3 for the violations of the Labor Code described in this Complaint.
11 These penalties include, but are not limited to, penalties under California Labor Code §§ 210,
12 226.3, 558, 1197.1, and 2699(f)(2).

13 102. In addition, Plaintiff seeks penalties for Defendants' violation of California Labor
14 Code § 1174(d). Pursuant to California Labor Code § 1174.5, any person, including any entity,
15 employing labor who willfully fails to maintain accurate and complete records required by
16 California Labor Code § 1174 is subject to a penalty under § 1174.5. Pursuant to the applicable
17 IWC Order § 7(A)(3), every employer shall keep time records showing when the employee begins
18 and ends each work period. Meal periods, and total hours worked daily shall also be recorded.
19 Additionally, pursuant to the applicable IWC Order § 7(A)(5), every employer shall keep total
20 hours worked in the payroll period and applicable rates of pay.

21 103. During the time period of employment for Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees,
22 Defendants failed to maintain records pursuant to the Labor Code and IWC Orders by failing to
23 maintain accurate records showing meal periods, and accurate records showing when employees
24 begin and end each work period. Defendants' failure to provide and maintain records required by
25 the Labor Code IWC Wage Orders deprived Plaintiff and the Aggrieved Employees the ability to
26 know, understand and question the accuracy and frequency of meal periods, and the accuracy of
27 their hours worked stated in Defendants' records. Therefore, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved
28 Employees had no way to dispute the resulting failure to pay wages, all of which resulted in an

1 unjustified economic enrichment to Defendants. As a direct result, Plaintiff and the Aggrieved
2 Employees have suffered and continue to suffer, substantial losses related to the use and
3 enjoyment of such wages, lost interest on such wages and expenses and attorney's fees in seeking
4 to compel Defendants to fully perform its obligation under state law, all to their respective
5 damage in amounts according to proof at trial. Because of Defendants' knowing failure to
6 comply with the Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage Orders, Plaintiffs and the Aggrieved
7 Employees have also suffered an injury in that they were prevented from knowing,
8 understanding, and disputing the wage payments paid to them.

9 104. Based on the conduct described in this First Amended Complaint, Plaintiff is
10 entitled to an award of civil penalties on behalf of themselves, the State of California, and
11 similarly Aggrieved Employees of Defendants. The exact amount of the applicable penalties, in
12 all, is in an amount to be shown according to proof at trial. These penalties are in addition to all
13 other remedies permitted by law.

14 103. In addition, Plaintiffs seek an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs
15 pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699(g)(1), which states, "Any employee who prevails in
16 any action shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs."

17 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

18 Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated only with respect to
19 the class claims, prays for relief and judgment against Defendants, jointly and severally, as
20 follows:

21 **Class Certification**

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

26 **As to the First Cause of Action**

- 27 4. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated California
28 Labor Code §§ 204 and 1194 and applicable IWC Wage Orders by willfully failing to pay all

1 minimum wages due;

2 5. For general unpaid wages as may be appropriate;

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

5 7. For liquidated damages;

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

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

9 As to the Second Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

19 As to the Third Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

28 As to the Fourth Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

9 As to the Fifth Cause of Action

10 25. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated Labor Code §
11 2802 and the IWC Wage Orders;

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

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

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

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

18 As to the Sixth Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

28 As to the Seventh Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

9 As to the Eighth Cause of Action

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 As to the Ninth Cause of Action

27 46. That the Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants violated the California
28 Labor Code by failing to pay minimum wages, failure to pay overtime wages, failure to provide

meal periods, failure to authorize and permit rest periods, failure to maintain accurate records of hours worked and meal periods, failure to timely pay all wages to terminated employees, failure to indemnify necessary business expenses, and failure to furnish accurate wage statements;

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

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

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

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

As to all Causes of Action

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

Dated: December 13, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

MOON LAW GROUP, PC

By:



Kane Moon
Lilit Ter-Astvatsatryan
Michael Citrin
Attorneys for Plaintiff

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury as to all causes of action triable by jury.

Dated: December 13, 2024

MOON LAW GROUP, PC

By:



Kane Moon
Lilit Ter-Astvatsatryan
Michael Citrin
Attorneys for Plaintiff

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

3
4 I am employed in the State of California, County of Los Angeles. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within suit; my business address is 725 S. Figueroa St., 31st Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017.

5 On the date indicated below, I served the document described as: **FIRST AMENDED CLASS**
6 **AND REPRESENTATIVE ACTION COMPLAINT** on the interested parties in this action by sending [
7] the original [or] [✓] a true copy thereof [✓] to interested parties as follows [or] [] as stated on the
8 attached service list:

9 Colin P. Calvert
10 Cinnamon J. Carr
11 **Fisher & Phillips LLP**
12 2050 Main Street, Suite 1000
13 Irvine, CA 92614
14 Telephone: (949) 851-2424
15 Facsimile: (949) 851-0152
16 Email: ccalvert@fisherphillips.com
17 Email: ccarr@fisherphillips.com
18 Email: eaguilasocho@fisherphillips.com
19 Email: llane@fisherphillips.com

20 *Attorneys for Defendants Strauch Management, LLC; Cameron Park Petroleum, Inc.;*
21 *M & M Fuels, Inc.; Woodcreek Oaks Petroleum, Inc.; Strauch & Company*

22 [✓] **BY U.S. MAIL:** I deposited such envelope in the mail at Los Angeles, California. The
23 envelope was mailed with postage thereon fully prepaid. I am “readily familiar” with the
24 firm’s practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice
25 it would be deposited with U.S. postal service on that same day with postage thereon fully
26 prepaid at Los Angeles, California in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on
27 motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage
28 meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

29 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
30 true and correct. Executed this **December 30, 2024** at Los Angeles, California.

31
32 Karen Castillo
33 Type or Print Name

34 /s/ Karen Castillo
35 Signature