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September 8, 2026

**NOTICE OF LABOR CODE VIOLATIONS PURSUANT TO
LABOR CODE SECTION 2699.3**

To: California Labor and Workforce Development Agency
Attn. PAGA Administrator
1515 Clay Street, Suite 801
Oakland, California 94612
Via Online Submission Only

<u>THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.</u> Registered Agent for Process of Service c/o CSC- Lawyers Incorporating Service 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N Sacramento, California 95833 <u>Certified No.: 9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 94</u>	<u>THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.</u> Attention: Legal Department 26901 Malibu Hills Road, Suite 123 Calabasas, California 91301 <u>Certified No.: 9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 87</u>
<u>THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.</u> Attention: Legal Department 395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 305 Santa Monica, California 90401 <u>Certified No.: 9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 70</u>	

From: SERGIO RAMIREZ, on behalf of himself and all other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees of THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.

c/o Joseph Lavi, Esq.
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Our firm has been retained by aggrieved employee SERGIO RAMIREZ concerning a representative action pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.* ("PAGA") against his employers, THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.

We are filing this written notice with the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") pursuant to the provisions of the California Labor Code Sections 2699, 2699.3, and 2698, *et seq.* The purpose of this letter is to inquire whether LWDA intends to investigate and seek civil penalties associated with my client's allegations of violations of the Labor Code by his Employer. In addition to submitting this letter and the \$75.00 filing fee via the online PAGA filing system, I am causing a copy of this letter to be mailed to the Department of Industrial Relations – Accounting Unit.

FACTUAL STATEMENT AND THEORIES OF LABOR CODE VIOLATIONS

Aggrieved employee SERGIO RAMIREZ ("Plaintiff" or "Employee") was employed by THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC. ("Defendants" or "Employers") as an hourly non-exempt employee from in or around April 15, 2024, until on or around August 2026. Plaintiff believes Defendant(s) employed more than one hundred (100) employees in total during the period covered by this notice, and Labor Code section 2999.3(c)(2) does not apply.

1. *Failure to Pay the Minimum Wage Rate of Pay for All Hours Worked in Violation of Labor Code Sections 1194 and 1197*

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to pay him and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees with compensation at the minimum wage rate of pay for all the hours that they worked in violation of Labor Code sections 1194 and 1197. Labor Code section 1197 provides, "The minimum wage for employees fixed by the commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a less wage than the minimum so fixed is unlawful." Labor Code section 1194 states, "...any employee receiving less than the legal minimum wage or the legal overtime compensation applicable to the employee is entitled to recover in a civil action the unpaid balance of the full amount of this minimum wage or overtime compensation, including interest thereon, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs of suit."

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to pay him and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees all wages at the applicable minimum wage for all hours worked due to Employer's policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not limited to:

- Requiring Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to answer daily, off-the-clock phone calls regarding work assignments and scheduling without being paid for that time.

Employee and other Aggrieved Employees personally suffered these violations. Employee is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Employer's conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees were not paid for this time resulting in Employer's failure to pay minimum wage for all the hours Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees worked.

Employer's aforementioned policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in time each day in which Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees were subject to the control of Employer without being compensated for that time.

Based on these violations, Employee intends to seek civil penalties pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA"), California Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, and Labor Code section 1197.1, subdivisions (a)(1)-(2), on behalf of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California. As a derivative claim of Employer's failure to pay wages at a minimum wage rate for all hours worked, Employee will also seek civil penalties for Defendant's violations of Labor Code section 226(a) under Labor Code sections 226.3 and/or 2699(f)(2) because the failure to pay such minimum wages for all hours worked rendered Employee's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees' pay calculations inaccurate and resulted in their wage statements being inaccurate with respect to gross wages earned, total hours worked, net wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate, in violation of Labor Code sections 226(a)(1, 2, 5 & 9).

2. *Failure to Pay Overtime Wages for Overtime Hours Work and/or Failure to Pay Overtime wages at the Proper Overtime Rate of Pay in Violation of Labor Code Section 510 and 1194*

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to pay him and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees for the overtime hours that they worked at their overtime rate of pay.

Labor Code section 510, subdivision (a), states in relevant part:

"Eight hours of labor constitutes a day's work. Any work in excess of eight hours in one workday and any work in excess of 40 hours in any one workweek and the first eight hours worked on the seventh day of work in any one workweek shall be compensated at the rate of no less than one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for an employee. Any work in excess of 12 hours in one day shall be compensated at the rate of no less than twice the regular rate of pay for an employee. In addition, any

work in excess of eight hours on any seventh day of a workweek shall be compensated at the rate of no less than twice the regular rate of pay of an employee.”

Further, Labor Code section 1198 provides,

The maximum hours of work and the standard conditions of labor fixed by the commission shall be the maximum hours of work and the standard conditions of labor for employees. The employment of any employee for longer hours than those fixed by the order or under conditions of labor prohibited by the order is unlawful.

Labor Code section 1194 provides, “...any employee receiving less than the legal minimum wage or the legal overtime compensation applicable to the employee is entitled to recover in a civil action the unpaid balance of the full amount of this minimum wage or overtime compensation, including interest thereon, reasonable attorney’s fees, and costs of suit.”

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to pay him and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees overtime wages for overtime hours worked due to Employer’s policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not limited to:

- Requiring Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to answer daily, off-the-clock phone calls regarding work assignments and scheduling without being paid for that time.

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

Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees were not paid for this time resulting in Employers’ failure to pay minimum wage for all the hours Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees worked.

Employer’s aforementioned policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in time each day in which Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees were subject to the control of Employer without being compensated for that time. To the extent that the foregoing unpaid time resulted from Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees being subject to the control of Employer when they worked more than eight (8) hours in a workday, more than forty (40) hours in a workweek, and/or seven (7) days in a workweek, Employer failed to pay them at their overtime rate of pay for all the overtime hours they worked.

Employer’s foregoing policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in Employer failing to pay Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt

employees at their overtime rate of pay for all overtime hours worked, in violation of Labor Code sections 510, 1194, 1198, and the Wage Order.

Based on these violations, Employee intends to seek civil penalties pursuant to PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, under Labor Code sections 2699(f)(2) and 558, subdivisions (a)(1)-(2) on behalf of LWDA against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California. As a derivative claim of Employer's failure to pay overtime wages at the lawful overtime rate for all overtime hours worked, Employee will also seek civil penalties for Defendant's violations of Labor Code section 226(a) under Labor Code sections 226.3 and/or 2699(f)(2) because the failure to pay such overtime wages for all overtime hours worked rendered Employee's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees' pay calculations inaccurate and resulted in their wage statements being inaccurate with respect to gross wages earned, total hours worked, net wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate, in violation of Labor Code sections 226(a)(1, 2, 5 & 9).

3. *Failure to Authorize or Permit Meal Periods and/or Failure to Pay Meal Period Premiums in Violation of Labor Code Sections 512 and 226.7*

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to authorize or permit all legally required and compliant meal periods and/or pay meal period premiums. California law requires an employer to provide an employee an uninterrupted meal period of no less than thirty (30) minutes in which the employee is relieved of all duties and the employer relinquishes control over the employee's activities prior to the employee's sixth hour of work. Labor Code §§226.7, 512; Wage Order 5, §11; *Brinker Rest. Corp. v. Super Ct. (Hohnbaum)* (2012) 53 Cal.4th 1004. An employer may not employ an employee for a work period of more than ten (10) hours per day without providing the employee with a second such meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the eleventh hour of work. *Id.* If the employer requires the employee to remain at the work site or facility during the meal period, the meal period must be paid. This is true even where the employee is relieved of all work duties during the meal period. *Bono Enterprises, Inc. v. Bradshaw* (1995) 32 Cal.App.4th 968. If an employer fails to provide an employee a meal period in accordance with the law, the employer must pay the employee one (1) hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a legally required and compliant meal period was not provided. Labor Code §226.7; Wage Order 5, §11.

Employee alleges that Employer failed to authorize or permit him and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to take all legally required and compliant meal periods due to Employer's policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not limited to, the following:

- Failing to provide Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees with a second uninterrupted duty-free meal period of no less than thirty (30) minutes for each workday that Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees work shifts over ten (10) hours.

Employee and other Aggrieved Employees personally suffered these violations. Employee is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Employer's conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Additionally, Employee alleges that Employer maintained a policy, practice, and/or procedure whereby they failed to pay Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees a meal period premium wage of one (1) additional hour of pay at their regular rate of compensation for each workday that they did not receive all legally required and compliant meal periods, in violation of Labor Code section 226.7 and Wage Order 5 at § 11.

Based on these violations, Employee intends to seek civil penalties pursuant to PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, under Labor Code sections 558 and/or Labor Code section 2699(f)(2) on behalf of LWDA against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California. As a derivative claim of Employer's failure to authorize or permit all legally required and compliant meal periods and/or failure to pay meal period premium wages, Employee will also seek civil penalties for Defendant's violations of Labor Code section 226(a) under Labor Code sections 226.3 and/or 2699(f)(2) because the failure to pay meal period premiums and/or pay meal period premiums at the proper regular rate of pay rendered Employee's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees' pay calculations inaccurate and resulted in their wage statements being inaccurate with respect to gross and net wages earned, in violation of Labor Code sections 226(a)(1 & 5).

4. *Failure to Authorize or Permit Rest Periods and/or Failure to Pay Rest Period Premiums in Violation of Labor Code Section 226.7*

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to authorize or permit all legally required and compliant rest periods and/or failed to pay rest period premiums. California law requires that "[e]very employer shall authorize and permit all employees to take rest periods, which insofar as practicable shall be in the middle of each work period. The authorized rest period time shall be based on the total hours worked daily at the rate of ten (10) minutes net rest time per four (4) hours or major fraction thereof..." Wage Order 5, § 12. "Employees are entitled to 10 minutes' rest for shifts from three and one-half to six hours in length, 20 minutes for shifts of more than six hours up to 10 hours, 30 minutes for shifts of more than 10 hours up to 14 hours, and so on." *Brinker Restaurant Corp. v. Sup. Ct. (Hohnbaum)* (2012) 53 Cal.4th 1004, 1029; Labor Code §226.7. Additionally, the rest period requirement "obligates employers to permit – and authorizes employees to take – off-duty rest periods." *Augustus v. ABM Security Services, Inc.* (2016) 2 Cal.5th 257, 269. That is, during rest periods an employer must relieve employees of all duties and relinquish control over how employees spend their time. *Id.* If the employer fails to authorize or permit a required rest period, the employer must pay the employee one (1) hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of pay for each workday the employer did not authorize or permit a legally required rest period. Labor Code section 226.7; Wage Order 5 at § 12.

Employee alleges that Employer failed to authorize or permit him and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to take all legally required and compliant rest periods due to Employer's policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not limited to, the following:

- Failing to provide Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees with net ten (10) minute rest breaks for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof; and
- Failing to provide Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees with a third uninterrupted duty-free rest period of no less than ten (10) net minutes on each workday that Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees work shifts over ten (10) hours.

Employee and other Aggrieved Employees personally suffered these violations. Employee is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Employer's conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Additionally, Employee alleges that Employer maintained a policy, practice, and/or procedure whereby they failed to pay Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees a rest period premium wage of one (1) additional hour of pay at their regular rate of compensation for each workday that they did not receive all legally required and compliant rest periods, in violation of Labor Code section 226.7 and Wage Order 5 at § 12.

Based on these violations, Employee intends to seek civil penalties pursuant to PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, under Labor Code section 2699(f)(2), on behalf of LWDA against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California. As a derivative claim of Employer's failure to authorize or permit all legally required and compliant rest periods and/or failure to pay rest period premium wages, Employee will also seek civil penalties for Defendant's violations of Labor Code section 226(a) under Labor Code sections 226.3 and/or 2699(f)(2) because the failure to pay rest period premiums and/or pay rest period premiums at the proper regular rate of pay rendered Employee's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees' pay calculations inaccurate and resulted in their wage statements being inaccurate with respect to gross and net wages earned, in violation of Labor Code sections 226(a)(1 & 5).

5. *Failure to Produce Requested Records in Violation of Labor Code Sections 226 and 1198.5*

Employee alleges that Employer failed to provide him and, on information and belief, other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt drivers with their employment records in response to their written requests.

An employer must afford current and former employees the right to inspect or receive a copy of records pertaining to their employment, upon reasonable request to the employer. Labor Code §226(b). An employer who receives a request to inspect or receive a copy of records pertaining to a current or former employee must comply with the request as soon as practicable,

but no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date of the request. Labor Code §226(c). Additionally, every current and former employee, or his or her representative, has the right to inspect and receive a copy of the personnel records that the employer maintains relating to the employee's performance or to any grievance concerning the employee. Labor Code §1198.5(a). Upon written request from a current or former employee or his or her representative, an employer must make the contents of those personnel records available for inspection or provide a copy of the personnel records to the current or former employee, or his or her representative, not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date the employer receives the written request, subject to some limited exceptions. Labor Code §1198.5(b)(1). Failure to comply with these requests allows for a civil penalty of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750), pursuant to Labor Code sections 1198.5(k) and 226(f).

On July 2, 2026, Employee sent a written request through his counsel to Employer for his payroll records, timecards, and personnel records pursuant to Labor Code sections 226 and 1198.5. However, Employer failed to timely produce the requested employment records, in violation of Labor Code section 226 and 1198.5. Employee is informed and believes and thereon alleges that other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees also sent written requests for their employment records, but Employer failed to timely produce the requested employment records, in violation of Labor Code sections 226 and 1198.5. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Based on these violations, Employee will seek civil penalties under Labor Code section 226.3 and under PAGA, Labor Code section 2698, *et seq.*, on behalf of LWDA, against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California.

6. *Failure to Indemnify Employees for Employment-Related Expenditures in Violation of Labor Code Section 2802*

Employees allege that during their employment, Employers failed to indemnify them and other current and former California-based employees for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by them in the discharge of their duties. Labor Code section 2802(a) states, "An employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer..."

Employees allege that during their employment, Employers failed to indemnify them and other current and former California-based employees for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by them in the discharge of their duties due to Employers' policies, practices, and/or procedures including, but not limited to, the following:

- Requiring Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees the use of their personal cell phone (including both telephone use and cellular data use) for work-related purposes - without reimbursing Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees for such use;
- Requiring Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based

hourly non-exempt employees to purchase uniform for work-related purposes - without reimbursing Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees for such use; and

- Requiring Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees to purchase pens for work-related purposes - without reimbursing Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees for such use.

Employee and other Aggrieved Employees personally suffered these violations. Employee is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Employer's conduct above that gave rise to such violations was malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Employers' aforementioned policies, practices, and/or procedures resulted in Employees and other current and former aggrieved California-based employees not receiving indemnification for employment-related expenditures, in violation of Labor Code 2802.

Based on this violation, Employees will seek both restitution for themselves and other current and former aggrieved California-based employees for Employers' violations of Labor Code section 2802 and will seek civil penalties under PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, on behalf of the LWDA against Employers if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California.

7. *Failure to Timely Pay Earned Wages During Employment in Violation of Labor Code Section 204*

Employee alleges that during his employment, Employer failed to timely pay Employee's and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees' earned wages. In California, wages must be paid at least twice during each calendar month on days designated in advance by the employer as regular paydays, subject to some exceptions. Labor Code §204(a). Wages earned between the 1st and 15th days, inclusive, of any calendar month must be paid between the 16th and the 26th day of that month and wages earned between the 16th and the last day, inclusive, of any calendar month must be paid between the 1st and 10th day of the following month. *Id.* Other payroll periods such as those that are weekly, biweekly, or semimonthly, must be paid within seven (7) calendar days following the close of the payroll period in which wages were earned. Labor Code §204(d).

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

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

Based on these violations, Employee intends to seek civil penalties pursuant to PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, on behalf of LWDA against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California.

8. *Secret Payment of Wages Lower Than Designated by Statute, in Violation of Labor Code Section 223*

Labor Code section 223 provides that, where any statute or contract requires an employer to maintain the designated wage scale, it shall be unlawful to secretly pay a lower wage while purporting to pay the wage designated by statute or contract. By engaging in the unlawful conduct alleged herein, including by failing to pay wages no less than the applicable legal minimum and overtime wages, and also meal and rest break premiums, as established by Labor Code sections 226.7, 510, 1194, 1197 and sections 11 and 12 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders, as incorporated by Labor Code section 1198, the Employer secretly paid a lower wage than designated by statute while purporting to pay the wages designated by statute, in violation of Labor Code section 223. The Employee with therefore pursue the civil penalties established by Labor Code section 225.5 for all such violations of Labor Code section 223, on behalf of the LWDA and against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

9. *Failure to Provide Complete and Accurate Wage Statements in Violation of Labor Code 226*

Labor Code section 226(a) states that “[a]n employer, semimonthly or at the time of each payment of wages, shall furnish to his or her employee...an accurate itemized statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked by the employee...(3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and 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....”

Employee alleges that as a derivative of Employee’s claims above, Employer failed to provide accurate wage and hour statements to Employee and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees who were subject to Employer’s control for uncompensated time and who did not receive all their earned wages (including minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and/or rest period premium wages), as such failures rendered Employee’s and other current and former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees’ pay calculations inaccurate and resulted in their wage statements being inaccurate with

respect to gross wages earned, total hours worked, net wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate, in violation of Labor Code sections 226(a)(1, 2, 5 & 9). Plaintiff believes these failures were willful and intentional. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Based on these violations, Employee will seek civil penalties pursuant to PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, under Labor Code section 226.3 and/or Labor Code section 2699(f)(2) on behalf of LWDA, against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California.

10. Failure to Timely Pay all Earned Wages and Final Wages due at Time of Separation of Employment in Violation of Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203

Labor Code section 201(a) states that “[i]f an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable immediately.” Labor Code section 202(a) continues, “[i]f an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours thereafter....” Finally, Labor Code section 203(a) provides, “[i]f an employer willfully fails to pay...any wages of an employee who is discharged or who quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than 30 days....”

As a result of the aforementioned violations of the Labor Code, Employee alleges that he was not paid his final wages in a timely manner as required by Labor Code section 203. Earned wages (including minimum wages, overtime wages, meal period premium wages, and/or rest period premium wages) (all described above), were not paid at the time of Employee’s separation of employment. Employee is informed and believes and thereon alleges that former aggrieved California-based hourly non-exempt employees who separated from Employer, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, were not paid all wages due in a timely manner, as required by Labor Code sections 201, 202, and 203. Plaintiff believes these failures were willful and intentional. Plaintiff also believes these failures were malicious, fraudulent, or oppressive. Employer would further be liable for civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(f)(2)(B)(ii).

Based on these violations, Employee will seek civil penalties pursuant to PAGA, Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.*, under Labor Code section 2699(f)(2) on behalf of LWDA, against Employer if authorized to file a representative action on behalf of the State of California.

Labor & Workforce Development Agency
Re: *RAMIREZ v. THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.*
September 8, 2026
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CONCLUSION

Our client intends to file a representative action pursuant to PAGA concerning his wage claims as warranted by Employer's violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 223, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197, 1198, 1198.5, 2802 and sections 3, 4, 11 and 12 of the applicable IWC Wage Orders. This letter is being sent to you as an inquiry into whether LWDA wishes to investigate my client's claims for civil penalties associated with Employer's violations of the Labor Code, as alleged herein. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the above-listed information.

Very truly yours,
LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP



Vincent C. Granberry, Esq.

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PS Form 3800, January 2023 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

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☐ Signature Confirmation

Restricted Delivery

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

USPS TRACKING #



9590 9402 9910 5335 3005 10



First-Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
USPS
Permit No. G-10

United States
Postal Service

• Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4® in this box•

LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
8889 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Ramirez v. The Cheesecake Factory Restaurants, Inc.
(PABA) (PABA Letter) UL/V6/JW/KR

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

**THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.**

Registered Agent for Process of Service
c/o CSC- Lawyers Incorporating Service
2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N
Sacramento, California 95833

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 94

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

☐ Agent
☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

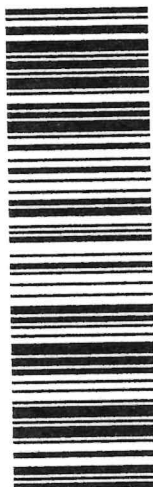
3. Service Type

☐ Adult Signature
☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
☒ Certified Mail®
☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
☐ Collect on Delivery
☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
☐ Mail
☐ Mail Restricted Delivery (00)

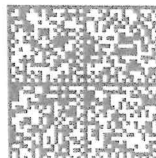
☐ Priority Mail Express®
☐ Registered Mail™
☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
☒ Signature Confirmation™
☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

I & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
V. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
everly Hills, CA 90211

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 94



FIRST-CLASS



US POSTAGE
PITNEY BOWES
ZIP 90211
02 7H
0006127620
SEP 08 2026
\$012.76

**THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.**

Registered Agent for Process of Service
c/o CSC- Lawyers Incorporating Service
2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N
Sacramento, California 95833

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Sacramento, California 95833

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 94

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

B. Received by (Printed Name)

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes ☐ No ☐

If YES, enter delivery address below:

C. Date of Delivery
☐ Agent
☐ Addressee

- 3. Service Type
☐ Adult Signature
☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
☐ Certified Mail®
☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
☐ Collect on Delivery
☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
☐ Mail
☐ Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Signature Confirmation™
☐ Registered Mail™
☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
☐ Priority Mail Express®

U.S. Postal Service™
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT
Domestic Mail Only

For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com®.

OFFICIAL USE

Certified Mail Fee
 \$ _____

Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate)

☐ Return Receipt (hardcopy) \$ _____

☐ Return Receipt (electronic) \$ _____

☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$ _____

Postmark
Here

THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.
 Attention: Legal Department
 26901 Malibu Hills Road, Suite 123
 Calabasas, California 91301

Street and Apt. No., or P.O. Box No. _____

City, State, ZIP+4® _____

PS Form 3800, January 2023 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. ■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.	A. Signature X ☐ Agent ☐ Addressee B. Received by (Printed Name) _____ C. Date of Delivery _____ D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No
1. Article Addressed to: <u>THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY</u> <u>RESTAURANTS, INC.</u> Attention: Legal Department 26901 Malibu Hills Road, Suite 123 Calabasas, California 91301	3. Service Type ☐ Adult Signature ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery ☒ Certified Mail® ☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery ☐ Mail Restricted Delivery (00) ☐ Priority Mail Express® ☐ Registered Mail™ ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery ☒ Signature Confirmation™ ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery
2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 87	PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053 Domestic Return Receipt

USPS TRACKING #



9590 9402 9910 5335 3005 03



First-Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
USPS
Permit No. G-10

United States
Postal Service

• Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4® in this box •

LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
8889 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Ramirez v. The Cheesecake Factory Restaurants, Inc.
(PABA Letter) (PABA) DL/VB/JW/KR

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
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- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.

Attention: Legal Department
26901 Malibu Hills Road, Suite 123
Calabasas, California 91301

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 87

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

☐ Agent
☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

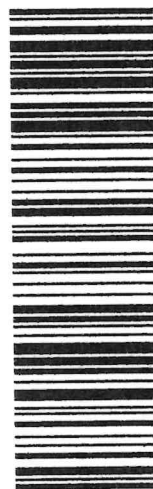
- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Adult Signature | ☐ Priority Mail Express® |
| ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery | ☐ Registered Mail™ |
| ☒ Certified Mail® | ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery |
| ☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery | ☒ Signature Confirmation™ |
| ☐ Collect on Delivery | ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery |
| ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery | |
| ☐ Mail | |
| ☐ Mail Restricted Delivery | |

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

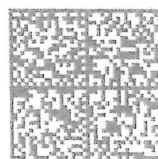
VI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
3 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 87



**THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.**
Attention: Legal Department
26901 Malibu Hills Road, Suite 123
Calabasas, California 91301

FIRST-CLASS



US POSTAGE
Eagles
\$012.76
ZIP 90211
02 7H
0006127620 SEP 08 2026

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	
1. Article Addressed to: ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. ■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.	
2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 87	
3. Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® ☐ Registered Mail™ ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery ☐ Certified Mail® ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery ☐ Certified Mail® ☐ Collect on Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery ☐ Mail Restricted Delivery	
4. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
5. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery	
6. Signature X Agent ☐ Addressee ☐	
7. COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053
Domestic Return Receipt

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 70

U.S. Postal Service™
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT
Domestic Mail Only

For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com®.

OFFICIAL USE

Certified Mail Fee

\$

Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate)

☐ Return Receipt (hardcopy) \$

☐ Return Receipt (electronic) \$

☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$

Postmark
Here

THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.

Attention: Legal Department
 395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 305
 Santa Monica, California 90401

Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No.

City, State, ZIP+4®

PS Form 3800, January 2023 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
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1. Article Addressed to:

THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.

Attention: Legal Department
 395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 305
 Santa Monica, California 90401

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 70

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

☐ Agent

☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes
 If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

☐ Adult Signature

☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery

☒ Certified Mail®

☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery

☐ Collect on Delivery

☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery

☐ Mail
 Mail Restricted Delivery
 30)

☐ Priority Mail Express®

☐ Registered Mail™

☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery

☒ Signature Confirmation™

☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

USPS TRACKING #



9590 9402 9910 5335 3004 97



First-Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
USPS
Permit No. G-10

United States
Postal Service

• Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4® in this box•

LAVI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
8889 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Ramirez v. The Cheesecake Factory Restaurants, Inc.
(PABA Letter) (PABA) JL/VB/JW/KR

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RESTAURANTS, INC.

Attention: Legal Department
395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 305
Santa Monica, California 90401

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 70

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

☐ Agent

☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

- ☐ Adult Signature
- ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- ☒ Certified Mail®
- ☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery

- ☐ Priority Mail Express®
- ☐ Registered Mail™
- ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☒ Signature Confirmation™
- ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

Mail
Mail Restricted Delivery
(30)

PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

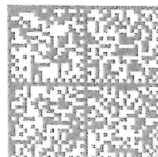
VI & EBRAHIMIAN, LLP
9 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

9589 0710 5270 3947 8227 70



**THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY
RESTAURANTS, INC.**
Attention: Legal Department
395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 305
Santa Monica, California 90401

FIRST-CLASS



US POSTAGE
EIMPTNEY BOWES
ZIP 90211
02 7H
00061 27620 SEP 08 2026
\$ 012.76

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

1. Article Addressed to:
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395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 305
Santa Monica, California 90401

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COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

□ Agent

□ Addressee

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? □ Yes □ No

If YES, enter delivery address below:

3. Service Type

- Priority Mail Express®
□ Registered Mail™
□ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
□ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
■ Certified Mail®
■ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
□ Signature Confirmation™
□ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery
□ Collect on Delivery
□ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
□ Mail Restricted Delivery

Domestic Return Receipt