

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

SEA WEST SERVICES LLC, a California limited liability company; and DOES 1-50, Inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

JOSE RUELAS, an individual, on behalf of himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

FOR COURT USE ONLY
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Alameda
07/17/2023

Chad Finke, Executive Officer / Clerk of the Court
By: S. Ashby-Anderson Deputy

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **¡AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:

(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Alameda Superior Court

Rene C. Davidson Courthouse - 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612

CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso):

23CV038585

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Jean-Claude Lapuyade, Esq. T: (619)599-8292 JCL Law Firm, APC - 5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600, San Diego, CA 92121

DATE: 07/17/2023

(Fecha)

Chad Finke, Executive Officer / Clerk of the Court

Clerk, by

(Secretario)

S. Ashby-Anderson

, Deputy

(Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

[SEAL]



NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. ☐ as an individual defendant.
2. ☐ as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
3. ☐ on behalf of (specify):
under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation) ☐ CCP 416.60 (minor)
☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) ☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) ☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
☐ other (specify):
4. ☐ by personal delivery on (date):

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

JOSE RUELAS, an individual, on behalf of
himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

SEA WEST SERVICES LLC, a California
limited liability company; and DOES 1-50,
Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No: **23CV038585**

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:

- 1) UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION
OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §17200 *et*
seq;
- 2) FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN
VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§
1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
- 3) FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES
IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§
510, *et seq*;
- 4) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF
CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND
THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
- 5) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED
REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL.
LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE
APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;

- 1 6) FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE
2 ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN
3 VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226;
4 7) FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN
5 DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB.
6 CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203;
7 8) FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES
8 FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN
9 VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802;
10 9) UNPAID SICK PAY IN VIOLATION OF
11 CAL. LAB. CODE § 246.
12 10) VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE
13 ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT [LABOR
14 CODE §§ 2698 ET SEQ.

15 **DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL**

16 PLAINTIFF JOSE RUELAS (“PLAINTIFF”), an individual, on behalf of himself and all
17 other similarly situated current and former employees, alleges on information and belief, except for
18 his own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge, the following:

19 **PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS**

20 1. Defendant SEA WEST SERVICES LLC (“DEFENDANT” and/or
21 “DEFENDANTS”) is a California limited liability company that at all relevant times mentioned
22 herein conducted and continues to conduct substantial and regular business throughout California.

23 2. DEFENDANT provides banking services in the state of California, including in
24 the county of Alameda, where PLAINTIFF worked.

25 3. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANTS in California in August of 2021 to
26 January of 2023 as a non-exempt employee, paid in part on an hourly basis and in part on a salary
27 basis, and entitled to the legally required meal and rest periods and payment of minimum and
28 overtime wages due for all time worked.

4. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a California class,
defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and
classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time employed during
the period beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as

determined by the Court (the “CLASS PERIOD”). The amount in controversy for the aggregate claim of the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is under five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00).

5. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their losses incurred during the CLASS PERIOD caused by DEFENDANTS’ uniform policy and practice which failed to lawfully compensate these employees. DEFENDANTS’ uniform policy and practice alleged herein was an unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practice whereby DEFENDANTS retained and continue to retain wages due PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANTS in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who have been economically injured by DEFENDANTS’ past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable relief.

6. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, subsidiary, partnership, associate or otherwise of DEFENDANTS DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are presently unknown to PLAINTIFFS who therefore sues these DEFENDANTS by such fictitious names pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 474. PLAINTIFFS will seek leave to amend this Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of Does 1 through 50, inclusive, when they are ascertained. PLAINTIFFS is informed and believes, and based upon that information and belief alleges, that the DEFENDANTS named in this Complaint, including DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, are responsible in some manner for one or more of the events and happenings that proximately caused the injuries and damages hereinafter alleged.

7. The agents, servants and/or employees of the Defendants and each of them acting on behalf of the Defendants acted within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as the agent, servant and/or employee of the Defendants, and personally participated in the conduct alleged herein on behalf of the Defendants with respect to the conduct alleged herein. Consequently, the acts of each Defendant are legally attributable to the other Defendants and all Defendants are jointly and severally liable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the

1 CALIFORNIA CLASS, for the loss sustained as a proximate result of the conduct of the
2 Defendants' agents, servants and/or employees.

3 8. DEFENDANTS were PLAINTIFF's employers or persons acting on behalf of the
4 PLAINTIFF's employer, within the meaning of California Labor Code § 558, who violated or
5 caused to be violated, a section of Part 2, Chapter 1 of the California Labor Code or any provision
6 regulating hours and days of work in any order of the Industrial Welfare Commission and, as
7 such, are subject to civil penalties for each underpaid employee, as set forth in Labor Code § 558,
8 at all relevant times.

9 9. DEFENDANTS were PLAINTIFF's employers or persons acting on behalf of
10 PLAINTIFF's employer either individually or as an officer, agent, or employee of another person,
11 within the meaning of California Labor Code § 1197.1, who paid or caused to be paid to any
12 employee a wage less than the minimum fixed by California state law, and as such, are subject to
13 civil penalties for each underpaid employee.

14 10. DEFENDANTS' uniform policies and practices alleged herein were unlawful,
15 unfair, and deceptive business practices whereby DEFENDANTS retained and continue to retain
16 wages due to PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

17 11. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS seek an injunction
18 enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANTS in the future, relief for the named PLAINTIFF and
19 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who has been economically injured by
20 DEFENDANTS' past and current unlawful conduct, and all other appropriate legal and equitable
21 relief.

22 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

23 12. This Court has jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to California Code of Civil
24 Procedure, Section 410.10 and California Business & Professions Code, Section 17203. This
25 action is brought as a Class Action on behalf of PLAINTIFF and similarly situated employees of
26 DEFENDANT pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382.

27 13. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure,
28 Sections 395 and 395.5, because DEFENDANTS operate in locations across California, employ

1 the CALIFORNIA CLASS across California, including in this County, and committed the
2 wrongful conduct herein alleged in this County against the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

3 **THE CONDUCT**

4 14. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the
5 requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission (“IWC”) Wage Order, DEFENDANTS as a
6 matter of company policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally, knowingly, and systematically
7 failed to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods, failed to accurately compensate
8 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for missed meal and rest
9 periods, failed to pay PLAINTIFFS and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all
10 time worked, failed compensate PLAINTIFF for off-the-clock work, failed to pay PLAINTIFF
11 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS overtime at the correct regular rate of pay,
12 failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS meal and rest
13 premiums at the regular rate of pay, failed to pay PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
14 Members redeemed sick pay at the regular rate of pay, failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and other
15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for business expenses, and failed to issue to PLAINTIFF and
16 the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with accurate itemized wage statements showing,
17 among other things, all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay periods and the
18 corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate. DEFENDANTS’ uniform policies and
19 practices are intended to purposefully avoid the accurate and full payment for all time worked as
20 required by California law which allows DEFENDANTS to illegally profit and gain an unfair
21 advantage over competitors who comply with the law. To the extent equitable tolling operates to
22 toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS against DEFENDANTS, the CLASS PERIOD should
23 be adjusted accordingly.

24 **A. Meal Period Violations**

25 15. Pursuant to the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, DEFENDANTS
26 were required to pay PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all their time worked,
27 meaning the time during which an employee is subject to the control of an employer, including
28 all the time the employee is suffered or permitted to work. From time to time during the CLASS

1 PERIOD, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to work
2 without paying them for all the time they were under DEFENDANTS' control. Specifically,
3 DEFENDANTS required PLAINTIFF to work while clocked out during what was supposed to
4 be PLAINTIFF's off-duty meal break. Indeed, there were many days where PLAINTIFF did not
5 even receive a partial lunch. As a result, the PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
6 Members forfeited minimum wage and overtime compensation by regularly working without their
7 time being accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable minimum wage and
8 overtime rates. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice not to pay PLAINTIFF and other
9 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all time worked is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business
10 records.

11 16. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, as a result of their rigorous work
12 schedules and DEFENDANTS' inadequate staffing practices, PLAINTIFF and other
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are from time to time unable to take thirty (30) minute off duty
14 meal breaks and were not fully relieved of duty for their meal periods. PLAINTIFF and other
15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for
16 more than five (5) hours during some shifts without receiving a meal break. Further,
17 DEFENDANTS failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with a
18 second off-duty meal period for some workdays in which these employees are required by
19 DEFENDANTS to work ten (10) hours of work. The nature of the work performed by
20 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members does not qualify for the limited and
21 narrowly construed "on-duty" meal period exception. When they were provided with meal
22 periods, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were, from time to time,
23 required to remain on duty and on call. Further, DEFENDANTS from time to time required
24 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to maintain cordless communication
25 devices in order to receive and respond to work-related communications during what was
26 supposed to be their off-duty meal breaks. DEFENDANTS' failure to provide PLAINTIFF and
27 the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with legally required meal breaks is evidenced by
28 DEFENDANTS' business records. As a result of their rigorous work schedules and

1 DEFENDANTS' inadequate staffing, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA
2 CLASS therefore forfeit meal breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with
3 DEFENDANTS' strict corporate policy and practice.

4 **B. Rest Period Violations**

5 17. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other
6 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also required to work in excess of four (4) hours without
7 being provided ten (10) minute rest periods as a result of their rigorous work requirements and
8 DEFENDANTS' inadequate staffing. Further, for the same reasons, these employees were denied
9 their first rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of at least two (2) to four
10 (4) hours from time to time, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some
11 shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours from time to time, and a first, second and
12 third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more from
13 time to time. When they were provided with rest breaks, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
14 CLASS Members were, from time to time, required to on duty and/or on call. Further,
15 DEFENDANTS from time to time required PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
16 Members to maintain cordless communication devices in order to receive and respond to work-
17 related communications during what was supposed to be their off-duty rest breaks. PLAINTIFF
18 and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also not provided with one-hour wages *in lieu*
19 thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules and DEFENDANTS' inadequate staffing,
20 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were from time to time denied their
21 proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and DEFENDANTS' managers.

22 **C. Unreimbursed Business Expenses**

23 18. DEFENDANTS as a matter of corporate policy, practice, and procedure,
24 intentionally, knowingly, and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify the PLAINTIFF
25 and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business expenses incurred by the
26 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members in direct consequence of discharging
27 their duties on behalf of DEFENDANTS. Under California Labor Code Section 2802, employers
28 are required to indemnify employees for all expenses incurred in the course and scope of their

1 employment. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 expressly states that "an employer shall indemnify his or
2 her employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct
3 consequence of the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of
4 the employer, even though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions,
5 believed them to be unlawful."

6 19. In the course of their employment, DEFENDANTS required PLAINTIFF and
7 other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to incur personal expenses for the use of their personal
8 cell phones as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and
9 other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to use their personal cell in order to
10 perform work related tasks. However, DEFENDANTS unlawfully failed to reimburse
11 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the use of their personal cell phones.
12 As a result, in the course of their employment with DEFENDANTS, the PLAINTIFF and other
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incurred unreimbursed business expenses that included, but
14 were not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cell phones, all on behalf of and for
15 the benefit of DEFENDANT.

16 **D. Wage Statement Violations**

17 20. California Labor Code Section 226 required an employer to furnish its employees
18 and accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours
19 worked, (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece-rate, (4) all deductions,
20 (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the
21 name of the employee and only the last four digits of the employee's social security number or an
22 employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of
23 the legal entity that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay
24 period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

25 21. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, when PLAINTIFF and other
26 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurately for
27 missed meal and rest period premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANTS
28 also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and

1 accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, all deductions, the total hours
2 worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding
3 amount of time worked at each hourly rate, correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed
4 meal and rest periods.

5 22. Further, DEFENDANT from time to time, failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other
6 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with itemized wage statements that provided the name and
7 address of the legal entity that is the employer, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a)(8).

8 23. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANTS, from time to time, failed to provide
9 PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with wage statements that comply with
10 Cal. Lab. Code § 226.

11 24. As a result, DEFENDANTS issued PLAINTIFF and other members of the
12 CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements that violate Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further,
13 DEFENDANTS' violations are knowing and intentional, were not isolated due to an unintentional
14 payroll error due to clerical or inadvertent mistake.

15 **E. Off-the-Clock Work Resulting in Minimum Wage and Overtime Violations**

16 25. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANTS failed and
17 continues to fail to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
18 for all hours worked.

19 26. During the CLASS PERIOD, from time-to-time DEFENDANTS required
20 PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to perform pre-shift or post-shift
21 work. This resulted in PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to have to
22 work while off-the-clock.

23 27. DEFENDANTS directed and directly benefited from the undercompensated off-
24 the-clock work performed by PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

25 28. DEFENDANTS controlled the work schedules, duties, and protocols, applications,
26 assignments, and employment conditions of PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
27 CALIFORNIA CLASS.

28 ///

1 29. DEFENDANTS were able to track the amount of time PLAINTIFF and the other
2 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS spent working; however, DEFENDANTS failed to
3 document, track, or pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS all
4 wages earned and owed for all the work they performed.

5 30. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were non-
6 exempt employees, subject to the requirements of the California Labor Code.

7 31. DEFENDANTS' policies and practices deprived PLAINTIFF and the other
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members of all minimum regular, overtime, and double time wages owed
9 for the off-the-clock work activities. Because PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
10 CALIFORNIA CLASS typically worked over forty (40) hours in a workweek, and more than
11 eight (8) hours per day, DEFENDANTS' policies and practices also deprived them of overtime
12 pay.

13 32. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
14 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS off-the-clock work was compensable under the law.

15 33. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
16 forfeited wages due to them for all hours worked at DEFENDANTS' direction, control, and
17 benefit for the time spent working while off-the-clock. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and
18 practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all
19 hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business
20 records.

21 **F. Regular Rate Violation – Overtime, Double Time, Meal and Rest Period Premiums,**
22 **and Redeemed Sick Pay**

23 34. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed and
24 continues to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS
25 Members for their overtime and double time hours worked, meal and rest period premiums, and
26 redeemed sick pay. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
27 forfeited wages due to them for working overtime without compensation at the correct overtime
28 and double time rates, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed sick pay rates.

1 DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice not to pay the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at
2 the correct rate for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and sick
3 pay in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business records.

4 35. State law provides that employees must be paid overtime at one-and-one-half times
5 their "regular rate of pay." PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were
6 compensated at an hourly rate plus incentive pay that was tied to specific elements of an
7 employee's performance.

8 36. The second component of PLAINTIFF'S and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
9 Members' compensation was DEFENDANTS' non-discretionary incentive program that paid
10 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incentive wages based on their
11 performance for DEFENDANTS. The non-discretionary bonus program provided all employees
12 paid on an hourly basis with bonus compensation when the employees met the various
13 performance goals set by DEFENDANTS.

14 37. However, from time to time, when calculating the regular rate of pay in those pay
15 periods where PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members worked overtime, double
16 time, paid meal and rest period premium payments, and/or redeemed sick pay, and earned non-
17 discretionary bonuses, DEFENDANTS failed to accurately include the non-discretionary bonus
18 compensation as part of the employee's "regular rate of pay" and/or calculated all hours worked
19 rather than just all non-overtime hours worked. Management and supervisors described the
20 incentive/bonus program to potential and new employees as part of the compensation package.
21 As a matter of law, the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
22 CLASS Members must be included in the "regular rate of pay." The failure to do so has resulted
23 in a systematic underpayment of overtime and double time compensation, meal and rest period
24 premium payments, and redeemed sick pay to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
25 Members by DEFENDANTS. Specifically, California Labor Code Section 246 mandates that
26 paid sick time for non-exempt employees shall be calculated in the same manner as the regular
27 rate of pay for the workweek in which the non-exempt employee uses paid sick time, whether or
28 not the employee actually works overtime in that workweek. DEFENDANTS' conduct, as

1 articulated herein, by failing to include the incentive compensation as part of the “regular rate of
2 pay” for purposes of sick pay compensation was in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 246 the
3 underpayment of which is recoverable under Cal. Lab. Code Sections 201, 202, 203, and/or 204.

4 38. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the
5 requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission (“IWC”) Wage Order, DEFENDANTS as a
6 matter of company policy, practice, and procedure, intentionally and knowingly failed to
7 compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS at the correct rate
8 of pay for all overtime and double time worked, meal and rest period premiums, and redeemed
9 sick pay as required by California law which allowed DEFENDANTS to illegally profit and gain
10 an unfair advantage over competitors who complied with the law. To the extent equitable tolling
11 operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members against DEFENDANTS, the
12 CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

13 **G. Unlawful Deductions**

14 39. DEFENDANTS, from time-to-time unlawfully deducted wages from PLAINTIFF
15 and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members’ pay without explanations and without authorization to do
16 so or notice to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. As a result,
17 DEFENDANTS violated Labor Code § 221.

18 **H. Timekeeping Manipulation**

19 40. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS, from time-to-time, did not have an
20 immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other members of
21 the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the actual time PLAINTIFF and other members of the
22 CALIFORNIA CLASS worked each day, including regular time, overtime hours, sick pay, meal
23 and rest breaks. As a result, DEFENDANT was able to and did in fact, unlawfully, and
24 unilaterally alter the time recorded in DEFENDANTS’ timekeeping system for PLAINTIFF and
25 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these employees for all
26 hours worked, applicable overtime compensation, applicable sick pay, missed meal breaks and
27 missed rest breaks.

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1 41. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, from
2 time-to-time, forfeited time worked by working without their time being accurately recorded and
3 without compensation at the applicable pay rates.

4 42. The mutability of the timekeeping system also allowed DEFENDANTS to alter
5 employee time records by recording fictitious thirty (30) minute meal breaks in DEFENDANTS'
6 timekeeping system so as to create the appearance that PLAINTIFF and other members of the
7 CALIFORNIA CLASS clocked out for thirty (30) minute meal break when in fact the employees
8 were not at all times provided an off-duty meal break. This practice is a direct result of
9 DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice of denying employees uninterrupted thirty (30)
10 minute off-duty meal breaks each day or otherwise compensate them for missed meal breaks.

11 43. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
12 forfeited wages due them for all hours worked at DEFENDANTS' direction, control and benefit
13 for the time the timekeeping system was inoperable. DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and
14 practice to not pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS wages for all
15 hours worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business
16 records.

17 **I. Unlawful Rounding Practices**

18 44. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS did not have in
19 place an immutable timekeeping system to accurately record and pay PLAINTIFFS and other
20 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for the actual time these employees worked each day,
21 including overtime hours. Specifically, DEFENDANTS had in place an unlawful rounding
22 policy and practice that resulted in PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members being
23 undercompensated for all of their time worked. As a result, DEFENDANTS were able to and did
24 in fact unlawfully, and unilaterally round the time recorded in DEFENDANTS' timekeeping
25 system for PLAINTIFFS and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying
26 these employees for all their time worked, including the applicable overtime compensation for
27 overtime worked. As a result, PLAINTIFFS and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, from
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1 time to time, forfeited compensation for their time worked by working without their time being
2 accurately recorded and without compensation at the applicable overtime rates.

3 45. Further, the mutability of DEFENDANTS' timekeeping system and unlawful
4 rounding policy and practice resulted in PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members'
5 time being inaccurately recorded. As a result, from time to time, DEFENDANTS' unlawful
6 rounding policy and practice caused PLAINTIFFS and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members to
7 perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5) hours during a shift without
8 receiving an off-duty meal break.

9 **J. Violations for Untimely Payment of Wages**

10 46. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 204, PLAINTIFF and the
11 CALIFORNIA CLASS members were entitled to timely payment of wages during their
12 employment. PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, from time to time, did not
13 receive payment of all wages, including, but not limited to, overtime wages, minimum wages,
14 meal period premium wages, and rest period premium wages within permissible time period.

15 47. Specifically, as to PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF was from time to time unable to take
16 off duty meal and rest breaks and was not fully relieved of duty for his rest and meal periods.
17 PLAINTIFF was required to perform work as ordered by DEFENDANTS for more than five (5)
18 hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty meal break. Further, DEFENDANTS failed to
19 provide PLAINTIFF with a second off-duty meal period each workday in which he was required
20 by DEFENDANTS to work ten (10) hours of work. When DEFENDANTS provided
21 PLAINTIFF with a rest break, they required PLAINTIFF to remain on-duty and on-call for the
22 rest break. DEFENDANTS policy caused PLAINTIFF to remain on-call and on-duty during
23 what was supposed to be his off-duty meal periods. PLAINTIFF therefore forfeited meal and
24 rest breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANTS' strict
25 corporate policy and practice. Moreover, DEFENDANTS also provided PLAINTIFF with
26 paystubs that failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226. Further, DEFENDANTS also failed
27 to reimburse PLAINTIFF for required business expenses related to the personal expenses
28 incurred for the use of their personal cell phone, on behalf of and in furtherance of his

1 employment with DEFENDANTS. To date, DEFENDANTS have not fully paid PLAINTIFF
2 the minimum, overtime and double time compensation still owed to him or any penalty wages
3 owed to him under Cal. Lab. Code § 203. The amount in controversy for PLAINTIFF
4 individually does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000.

5 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

6 48. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself, and a California class
7 defined as all persons who are or previously were employed by DEFENDANT in California and
8 classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time during the period
9 beginning four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as determined
10 by the Court (the “CLASS PERIOD”).

11 49. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have uniformly been
12 deprived of wages and penalties from unpaid wages earned and due, including but not limited to
13 unpaid minimum wages, unpaid overtime compensation, unpaid meal and rest period premiums,
14 illegal meal and rest period policies, failed to reimburse for business expenses, failed compensate
15 for off-the-clock work, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain
16 required records, and interest, statutory and civil penalties, attorney’s fees, costs, and expenses.

17 50. The members of the class are so numerous that joinder of all class members is
18 impractical.

19 51. Common questions of law and fact regarding DEFENDANTS’ conduct, including
20 but not limited to, off-the-clock work, unpaid meal and rest period premiums, failure to accurately
21 calculate the regular rate of pay for overtime compensation, failure to accurately calculate the
22 regular rate of compensation for missed meal and rest period premiums, failing to provide legally
23 compliant meal and rest periods, failure to reimburse for business expenses, failure to provide
24 accurate itemized wage statements accurate, and failure to ensure they are paid at least minimum
25 wage and overtime, exist as to all members of the class and predominate over any questions
26 affecting solely any individual members of the class. Among the questions of law and fact
27 common to the class are:

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- a. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant meal period policies and practices;
- b. Whether DEFENDANT maintained legally compliant rest period policies and practices;
- c. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members accurate premium payments for missed meal and rest periods;
- d. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members accurate overtime wages;
- e. Whether DEFENDANT failed to pay PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at least minimum wage for all hours worked;
- f. Whether DEFENDANT failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business expenses;
- g. Whether DEFENDANT issued legally compliant wage statements;
- h. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically failing to record and pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked;
- i. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition by systematically failing to record all meal and rest breaks missed by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit of this work, required employees to perform this work and permits or suffers to permit this work;
- j. Whether DEFENDANT committed an act of unfair competition in violation of the UCL, by failing to provide the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with the legally required meal and rest periods.

52. PLAINTIFF is a member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and suffered damages as a result of DEFENDANTS' conduct and actions alleged herein.

53. PLAINTIFF'S claims are typical of the claims of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, and PLAINTIFF has the same interests as the other members of the class.

1 54. PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

3 55. PLAINTIFF retained able class counsel with extensive experience in class action
4 litigation.

5 56. Further, PLAINTIFF's interests are coincident with, and not antagonistic to, the
6 interest of the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

7 57. There is a strong community of interest among PLAINTIFF and the members of
8 the CALIFORNIA CLASS to, inter alia, ensure that the combined assets of DEFENDANTS are
9 sufficient to adequately compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the injuries
10 sustained.

11 58. The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
12 predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, including legal and factual
13 issues relating to liability and damages.

14 59. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient
15 adjudication of this controversy because joinder of all class members is impractical. Moreover,
16 since the damages suffered by individual members of the class may be relatively small, the
17 expense and burden of individual litigation makes it practically impossible for the members of
18 the class individually to redress the wrongs done to them. Without class certification and
19 determination of declaratory, injunctive, statutory, and other legal questions within the class
20 format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS will
21 create the risk of:

- 22 a. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the
23 CALIFORNIA CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of conduct
24 for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and/or,
25 b. Adjudication with respect to individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
26 which would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of the other
27 members not party to the adjudication or substantially impair or impeded their
28 ability to protect their interests.

60. Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring an efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour related claims arising out of the conduct of DEFENDANT.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Unlawful Business Practices

(Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*)

(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)

61. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

62. DEFENDANT is a “person” as that term is defined under Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code § 17021.

63. California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* (the “UCL”) defines unfair competition as any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice. Section 17203 authorizes injunctive, declaratory, and/or other equitable relief with respect to unfair competition as follows:

Any person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition may be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. The court may make such orders or judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be necessary to prevent the use or employment by any person of any practice which constitutes unfair competition, as defined in this chapter, or as may be necessary to restore to any person in interest any money or property, real or personal, which may have been acquired by means of such unfair competition. (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203).

64. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANTS have engaged and continue to engage in a business practice which violates California law, including but not limited to, the applicable Wage Order(s), the California Code of Regulations and the California Labor Code including Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and 2802, for which this Court should issue declaratory and other equitable relief pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203 as may be necessary to prevent and remedy the conduct held to constitute unfair competition, including restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

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1 65. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANTS' practices were unlawful and
2 unfair in that these practices violated public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive
3 unscrupulous or substantially injurious to employees, and were without valid justification or
4 utility for which this Court should issue equitable and injunctive relief pursuant to Section 17203
5 of the California Business & Professions Code, including restitution of wages wrongfully
6 withheld.

7 66. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANTS' practices were deceptive and
8 fraudulent in that DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice failed to provide the legally
9 mandated meal and rest periods and the required amount of compensation for missed meal and
10 rest periods, failed to pay minimum and overtime wages owed, and failed to reimburse all
11 necessary business expenses incurred, due to a systematic business practice that cannot be
12 justified, pursuant to the applicable Cal. Lab. Code, and Industrial Welfare Commission
13 requirements in violation of Cal. Bus. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and for which this Court should
14 issue injunctive and equitable relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including
15 restitution of wages wrongfully withheld.

16 67. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANTS' practices were also unlawful,
17 unfair, and deceptive in that DEFENDANTS' employment practices caused PLAINTIFF and the
18 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS to be underpaid during their employment with
19 DEFENDANTS.

20 68. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANTS' practices were also unfair and
21 deceptive in that DEFENDANTS' uniform policies, practices and procedures failed to provide
22 mandatory meal and/or rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members as
23 required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512.

24 69. Therefore, PLAINTIFF demands on behalf of himself and on behalf of each
25 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off-duty meal
26 period was not timely provided for each five (5) hours of work, and/or one (1) hour of pay for
27 each workday in which a second off-duty meal period was not timely provided for each ten (10)
28 hours of work.

1 70. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of himself and on behalf of each
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a rest period was
3 not timely provided as required by law.

4 71. By and through the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein,
5 DEFENDANTS have obtained valuable property, money and services from PLAINTIFF and the
6 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, including earned wages for all time worked, and
7 has deprived them of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed by law and contract, all to the
8 detriment of these employees and to the benefit of DEFENDANTS so as to allow DEFENDANTS
9 to unfairly compete against competitors who comply with the law.

10 72. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the Industrial
11 Welfare Commission Wage Orders, the California Code of Regulations, and the California Labor
12 Code, were unlawful and in violation of public policy, were immoral, unethical, oppressive, and
13 unscrupulous, were deceptive, and thereby constitute unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business
14 practices in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

15 73. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are entitled to,
16 and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to restore to them the money and property which
17 DEFENDANTS have acquired, or of which PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
18 CALIFORNIA CLASS have been deprived, by means of the above described unlawful and unfair
19 business practices, including earned but unpaid wages for all time worked.

20 74. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are further
21 entitled to, and do, seek a declaration that the described business practices are unlawful, unfair,
22 and deceptive, and that injunctive relief should be issued restraining DEFENDANTS from
23 engaging in any unlawful and unfair business practices in the future.

24 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have no plain, speedy
25 and/or adequate remedy at law that will end the unlawful and unfair business practices of
26 DEFENDANT. Further, the practices herein alleged presently continue to occur unabated. As a
27 result of the unlawful and unfair business practices described herein, PLAINTIFF and the other
28 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable legal

1 and economic harm unless DEFENDANTS are restrained from continuing to engage in these
2 unlawful and unfair business practices.

3 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

4 **Failure To Pay Minimum Wages**

5 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 and 1197.1)**

6 **Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)**

7 75. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
8 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
9 Complaint.

10 76. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim
11 for DEFENDANTS' willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the
12 Industrial Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANTS' failure to accurately calculate
13 and pay minimum wages to PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members.

14 77. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
15 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.

16 78. Cal. Lab. Code § 1197 provides the minimum wage for employees fixed by the
17 commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a less wage than
18 the minimum so fixed is unlawful.

19 79. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages,
20 including minimum wage compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of suit.

21 80. DEFENDANTS maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF and
22 the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS without regard to the correct amount of time
23 they work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANTS' uniform policy and practice was to unlawfully
24 and intentionally deny timely payment of wages due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of
25 the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

26 81. DEFENDANTS' uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested,
27 without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of
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1 implementing a uniform policy and practice that denies accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF
2 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in regard to minimum wage pay.

3 82. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANTS
4 inaccurately calculated the correct time worked and consequently underpaid the actual time
5 worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. DEFENDANTS acted
6 in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of
7 the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable
8 laws and regulations.

9 83. As a direct result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful wage practices as alleged herein,
10 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct
11 minimum wage compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANTS.

12 84. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for time worked that they were entitled to, constituting a
14 failure to pay all earned wages.

15 85. By virtue of DEFENDANTS' unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned
16 compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true
17 time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have
18 suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown
19 to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

20 86. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
21 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were under-compensated for their time worked.
22 DEFENDANTS systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross
23 nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice
24 and procedure, and DEFENDANTS perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay
25 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct minimum wages
26 for their time worked.

27 87. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor
28 laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked

1 and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANTS acted and continues to act
2 intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
3 CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the
4 consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal
5 rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of
6 these employees.

7 88. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore request
8 recovery of all unpaid wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
9 assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANTS, in a sum as provided by the
10 California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent minimum wage
11 compensation is determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have
12 terminated their employment, DEFENDANTS' conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or
13 202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab.
14 Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these CALIFORNIA CLASS
15 Members. DEFENDANTS' conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and not in good
16 faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are entitled to seek and
17 recover statutory costs.

18 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

19 **Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation**

20 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 510, 1194 and 1198)**

21 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against ALL Defendants)**

22 89. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
23 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
24 Complaint.

25 90. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS bring a claim
26 for DEFENDANTS' willful and intentional violations of the California Labor Code and the
27 Industrial Welfare Commission requirements for DEFENDANTS' failure to pay these employees
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1 for all overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday,
2 and/or twelve (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

3 91. Pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 204, other applicable laws and regulations, and public
4 policy, an employer must timely pay its employees for all hours worked.

5 92. Cal. Lab. Code § 510 provides that employees in California shall not be employed
6 more than eight (8) hours per workday and/or more than forty (40) hours per workweek unless
7 they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in amounts specified by law.

8 93. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 establishes an employee's right to recover unpaid wages,
9 including minimum and overtime compensation and interest thereon, together with the costs of
10 suit. Cal. Lab. Code § 1198 further states that the employment of an employee for longer hours
11 than those fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission is unlawful.

12 94. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
13 were required by DEFENDANTS to work for DEFENDANTS and were not paid for all the time
14 they worked, including overtime work.

15 95. DEFENDANTS' uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices manifested,
16 without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole, as a result of
17 implementing a uniform policy and practice that failed to accurately record overtime worked by
18 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members and denied accurate compensation to
19 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for overtime worked,
20 including, the overtime work performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday, and/or twelve
21 (12) hours in a workday, and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

22 96. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code, DEFENDANTS
23 inaccurately recorded overtime worked and consequently underpaid the overtime worked by
24 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. DEFENDANTS acted in an illegal
25 attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of the California
26 Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable laws and
27 regulations.

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1 97. As a direct result of DEFENDANTS' unlawful wage practices as alleged herein,
2 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS did not receive the correct
3 overtime compensation for their time worked for DEFENDANTS.

4 98. Cal. Lab. Code § 515 sets out various categories of employees who are exempt
5 from the overtime requirements of the law. None of these exemptions are applicable to
6 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. Further, PLAINTIFF and the
7 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are not subject to a valid collective bargaining
8 agreement that would preclude the causes of action contained herein this Complaint. Rather,
9 PLAINTIFF brings this Action on behalf of himself and the CALIFORNIA CLASS based on
10 DEFENDANTS' violations of non-negotiable, non-waivable rights provided by the State of
11 California.

12 99. During the CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS were paid less for overtime worked that they were entitled to, constituting
14 a failure to pay all earned wages.

15 100. DEFENDANTS failed to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of
16 the CALIFORNIA CLASS overtime wages for the time they worked which was in excess of the
17 maximum hours permissible by law as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, 1194, & 1198, even
18 though PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were regularly required
19 to work, and did in fact work overtime, and did in fact work overtime as to which DEFENDANTS
20 failed to accurately record and pay as evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business records and
21 witnessed by employees.

22 101. By virtue of DEFENDANTS' unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned
23 compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the true
24 amount of overtime they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
25 CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer an economic injury in amounts which are
26 presently unknown to them, and which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

27 102. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
28 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were undercompensated for their time worked.

1 DEFENDANTS systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross
2 nonfeasance, to not pay them for their labor as a matter of uniform company policy, practice and
3 procedure, and DEFENDANTS perpetrated this systematic scheme by refusing to pay
4 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct overtime wages for
5 their overtime worked.

6 103. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of California labor
7 laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked
8 and provide them with the requisite compensation, DEFENDANTS acted and continue to act
9 intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
10 CALIFORNIA CLASS with a conscious of and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the
11 consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property and legal
12 rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits at the expense of
13 these employees.

14 104. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
15 request recovery of overtime wages, according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the
16 assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANTS, in a sum as provided by the
17 California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent overtime compensation is
18 determined to be owed to the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who have terminated their
19 employment, DEFENDANTS' conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or 202, and therefore
20 these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which
21 penalties are sought herein. DEFENDANTS' conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional,
22 and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members are
23 entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

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1 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **Failure To Provide Required Meal Periods**

3 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)**

4 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)**

5 105. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
6 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
7 Complaint.

8 106. During the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS failed to provide all the legally
9 required off-duty meal breaks to PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members as
10 required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. The nature of the work performed by
11 PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members did not prevent these employees from being
12 relieved of all of their duties for the legally required off-duty meal periods. As a result of their
13 rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were often not
14 fully relieved of duty by DEFENDANTS for their meal periods. Additionally, DEFENDANTS'
15 failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with legally required
16 meal breaks prior to their fifth (5th) hour of work is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business
17 records. Further, DEFENDANTS failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS
18 Members with a second off-duty meal period in some workdays in which these employees were
19 required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. As a result, PLAINTIFF and other
20 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited meal breaks without additional compensation
21 and in accordance with DEFENDANTS' strict corporate policy and practice.

22 107. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the
23 applicable IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS
24 Members who were not provided a meal period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order,
25 one additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that
26 a meal period was not provided.

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108. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure To Provide Required Rest Periods

(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512)

(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)

109. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

110. From time to time, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods. Further, these employees were denied their first rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of at least two (2) to four (4) hours, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, and a first, second and third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also not provided with one-hour wages *in lieu* thereof. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were periodically denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS' managers. In addition, DEFENDANTS failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for their rest periods as required by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. As a result, DEFENDANTS' failure to provide PLAINTIFFS and the CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with all the legally required paid rest periods is evidenced by DEFENDANTS' business records.

111. DEFENDANTS further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA CLASS Members who were not provided a rest period, in accordance with the applicable Wage Order,

1 one additional hour of compensation at each employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that
2 rest period was not provided.

3 112. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at trial,
5 and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties, expenses and costs of suit.

6 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

7 **Failure To Provide Accurate Itemized Statements**

8 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 226)**

9 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)**

10 113. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
11 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
12 Complaint.

13 114. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an
14 "accurate itemized" statement in writing showing:

- 15 a. Gross wages earned,
- 16 b. (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose
17 compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of
18 overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the
19 Industrial Welfare Commission,
- 20 c. the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee
21 is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- 22 d. all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee
23 may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- 24 e. net wages earned,
- 25 f. the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- 26 g. the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by
27 January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number of an
28

employee identification number other than social security number may be shown on the itemized statement,

h. the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and

i. all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

115. When DEFENDANTS did not accurately record PLAINTIFF'S and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members' missed meal and rest breaks, or were paid inaccurate missed meal and rest break premiums, or were not paid for all hours worked, DEFENDANTS violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226 in that DEFENDANTS failed to provide PLAINTIFFS and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with complete and accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, all deductions, the accurate gross wages earned, net wages earned, the total hours worked and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate, and correct rates of pay for penalty payments or missed meal and rest periods.

116. Further, DEFENDANT from time to time, failed to provide PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members with itemized wage statements that provided the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a)(8).

117. In addition to the foregoing, DEFENDANTS failed to provide itemized wage statements to PLAINTIFF and members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS that complied with the requirements of California Labor Code Section 226.

118. DEFENDANTS knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Cal. Lab. Code § 226, causing injury and damages to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. These damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended calculating the correct wages for all missed meal and rest breaks and the amount of employment taxes which were not properly paid to state and federal tax authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS may elect to recover liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the violation occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent pay period

1 pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial (but in no
2 event more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for PLAINTIFF and each respective member
3 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS herein).

4 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

5 **Failure To Pay Wages When Due**

6 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 203)**

7 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)**

8 119. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
9 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
10 Complaint.

11 120. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:

12 As used in this article:

- 13 (d) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every
14 description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time,
15 task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.
16 (e) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under
17 contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the to be
18 paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.

19 121. Cal. Lab. Code § 201 provides, in relevant part, that "If an employer discharges
20 an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of discharge are due and payable
21 immediately."

22 122. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:

23 If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her
24 employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours
25 thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her intention
26 to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the time of quitting.
27 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee who quits without providing a
28 72-hour notice shall be entitled to receive payment by mail if he or she so requests and
designates a mailing address. The date of the mailing shall constitute the date of payment
for purposes of the requirement to provide payment within 72 hours of the notice of
quitting.

123. There was no definite term in PLAINTIFFS' or any CALIFORNIA CLASS
Members' employment contract.

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1 124. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides:

2 If an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with
3 Sections 201, 201.5, 202, and 205.5, any wages of an employee who is discharged or who
4 quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from the due date thereof at
5 the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but the wages shall not
6 continue for more than 30 days.

7 125. The employment of PLAINTIFF and many CALIFORNIA CLASS Members
8 terminated, and DEFENDANTS have not tendered payment of wages to these employees who
9 missed meal and rest breaks, as required by law.

10 126. Therefore, as provided by Cal Lab. Code § 203, on behalf of themselves and the
11 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS whose employment has, PLAINTIFF demands up to
12 thirty (30) days of pay as penalty for not paying all wages due at time of termination for all
13 employees who terminated employment during the CLASS PERIOD and demand an accounting
14 and payment of all wages due, plus interest and statutory costs as allowed by law.

15 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

16 **Failure To Reimburse Employees for Required Expenses**

17 **(Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2802)**

18 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS against all Defendants)**

19 127. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
20 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
21 Complaint.

22 128. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 provides, in relevant part, that:

23 An employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary expenditures or
24 losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of his or her
25 duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer, even though
26 unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed them
27 to be unlawful.

28 129. From time to time during the CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANTS violated Cal. Lab.
Code § 2802, by failing to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
members for required expenses incurred in the discharge of their job duties for DEFENDANTS'
benefit. DEFENDANTS failed to reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS
members for expenses which included, but were not limited to, the use of their personal cell

1 phones, all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANTS. Specifically, PLAINTIFF and
2 other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required by DEFENDANTS to use their personal
3 cell phones to execute their essential job duties on behalf of DEFENDANTS. DEFENDANTS'
4 uniform policy, practice and procedure was to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
5 CLASS members for expenses resulting from the use of their personal cell phones within the
6 course and scope of their employment for DEFENDANTS. These expenses were necessary to
7 complete their principal job duties. DEFENDANTS are estopped by DEFENDANTS' conduct
8 to assert any waiver of this expectation. Although these expenses were necessary expenses
9 incurred by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, DEFENDANTS failed to
10 indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members for these
11 expenses as an employer is required to do under the laws and regulations of California.

12 130. PLAINTIFF therefore demand reimbursement for expenditures or losses incurred
13 by him and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members in the discharge of their job duties for
14 DEFENDANTS, or their obedience to the directions of DEFENDANTS, with interest at the
15 statutory rate and costs under Cal. Lab. Code § 2802.

16 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

17 **UNPAID SICK PAY**

18 **(Cal. Lab. Code § 246, *et seq.*)**

19 **(Alleged by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and against all DEFENDANT)**

20 131. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
21 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this
22 Complaint.

23 132. Cal. Labor Code Sections 246(I)(1) mandates that “[p]aid sick time for nonexempt
24 employees shall be calculated in the same manner as the regular rate of pay for the workweek in
25 which the employee uses paid sick time, whether or not the employee actually works overtime in
26 that workweek.”

27 133. From time-to-time, during the PLAINTIFF and other members of the
28 CALIFORNIA CLASS were compensated at an hourly rate plus either non-discretionary incentive

1 pay. As a matter of law, the non-discretionary incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF
2 and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS must be included in the “regular rate of pay.”

3 134. From time-to-time during the CLASS PERIOD, in those pay periods where
4 PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS earned hourly compensation and
5 either non-discretionary incentive compensation, and took paid sick time, DEFENDANT failed to
6 properly calculate the regular rate of pay for purposes of compensating paid sick time by omitting
7 non-discretionary incentive pay from the regular rate of pay.

8 135. DEFENDANT’s uniform policy and practice of omitting non-discretionary
9 incentive pay and/or piece-rate pay from the regular rate of pay for purposes of paying paid sick
10 pay, resulted in the underpayment of sick pay wages to PLAINTIFF and other members of the
11 CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS therefore
12 request recovery of all unpaid wages, including sick pay wages, according to proof, interest,
13 statutory costs, as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties against DEFENDANT, in a
14 sum as provided by the California Labor Code and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent
15 overtime compensation is determined to be owed to other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
16 who have terminated their employment, DEFENDANT’s conduct also violates Labor Code §§
17 201 and/or 202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under
18 Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of other members of the
19 CALIFORNIA CLASS. DEFENDANT’S conduct as alleged herein was willful, intentional and
20 not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are
21 entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

22 136. Cal. Lab. Code § 246(i) provides that:

23 An employer shall provide an employee with written notice that sets forth the
24 amount of paid sick leave available, or paid time off leave an employer provides in
25 lieu of sick leave, for use on either the employee’s itemized wage statement
26 described in Section 226 or in a separate writing provided on the designated pay
27 date with the employee’s payment of wages. If an employer provides unlimited paid
28 sick leave or unlimited paid time off to an employee, the employer may satisfy this
section by indicating on the notice or the employee’s itemized wage statement
“unlimited.”

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137. From time to time, DEFENDANT failed to furnish PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with written wage statements setting forth the amount of paid sick leave available to them, as required under Cal. Lab. Code §§ 246, *et seq.* As a result, PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are entitled to seek and recover statutory costs.

TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT

(Cal. Lab. Code §§2698 et seq.)

(Alleged by PLAINTIFF against all Defendants)

138. PLAINTIFF realleges and incorporates by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

139. PAGA is a mechanism by which the State of California itself can enforce state labor laws through the employee suing under the PAGA who does so as the proxy or agent of the state's labor law enforcement agencies. An action to recover civil penalties under PAGA is fundamentally a law enforcement action designed to protect the public and not to benefit private parties. The purpose of the PAGA is not to recover damages or restitution, but to create a means of "deputizing" citizens as private attorneys general to enforce the Labor Code. In enacting PAGA, the California Legislature specified that "it was ... in the public interest to allow aggrieved employees, acting as private attorneys general to recover civil penalties for Labor Code violations ..." (Stats. 2003, ch. 906, § 1). Accordingly, PAGA claims cannot be subject to arbitration.

140. PLAINTIFF, and such persons that may be added from time to time who satisfy the requirements and exhaust the administrative procedures under the Private Attorney General Act, bring this Representative Action on behalf of the State of California with respect to himself and all non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the time period of May 12, 2022 until the present (the "AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES").

141. On May 12, 2023, PLAINTIFF gave written notice by certified mail to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (the "Agency") and the employer of the specific provisions of this code alleged to have been violated as required by Labor Code § 2699.3. See

1 Exhibit #1, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference herein. The statutory waiting period
2 for Plaintiff to add these allegations to the Complaint has expired. As a result, pursuant to Section
3 2699.3, Plaintiff may now commence a representative civil action under PAGA pursuant to Section
4 2699 as the proxy of the State of California with respect to all AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES as
5 herein defined.

6 142. The policies, acts and practices heretofore described were and are an unlawful
7 business act or practice because DEFENDANTS (a) failed to pay AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES
8 minimum wages and overtime wages, (b) failed to provide AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES legally
9 required meal and rest breaks, (c) failed to pay AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES at the correct regular
10 rate of pay, (d) failed to pay AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES for all time worked, and (e) failed to
11 timely pay wages, all in violation of the applicable Labor Code sections listed in Labor Code
12 §2699.5, including but not limited to Labor Code §§ 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5, 218.6,
13 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.14,
14 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2802, 2804, and the applicable Industrial Wage Order(s), and thereby gives
15 rise to statutory penalties as a result of such conduct. PLAINTIFF hereby seeks recovery of civil
16 penalties as prescribed by the Labor Code Private Attorney General Act of 2004 as the
17 representative of the State of California for the illegal conduct perpetrated on PLAINTIFF and the
18 other AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES.

19 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

20 WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF prays for a judgment against each Defendant, jointly and
21 severally, as follows:

22 1. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

- 23 a. That the Court certify the First Cause of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA
24 CLASS as a class action pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;
25 b. An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining
26 DEFENDANTS from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as set forth herein;
27 c. An order requiring DEFENDANTS to pay all overtime wages and all sums
28 unlawfully withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members

1 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and

2 d. Restitutionary disgorgement of DEFENDANTS' ill-gotten gains into a fluid fund
3 for restitution of the sums incidental to DEFENDANTS' violations due to
4 PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

5 2. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

6 a. That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and
7 Ninth Causes of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a class action
8 pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 382;

9 b. Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial, including compensatory
10 damages for overtime compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of
11 the CALIFORNIA CLASS, during the applicable CLASS PERIOD plus interest
12 thereon at the statutory rate;

13 c. Meal and rest period compensation pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512 and
14 the applicable IWC Wage Order;

15 d. The greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period in
16 which a violation occurs and one hundred dollars (\$100) per each member of the
17 CALIFORNIA CLASS for each violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding
18 an aggregate penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), and an award of costs for
19 violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226

20 e. The wages of all terminated employees from the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a
21 penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action
22 therefore is commenced, in accordance with Cal. Lab. Code § 203.

23 f. The amount of the expenses PLAINTIFF and each member of the CALIFORNIA
24 CLASS incurred in the course of their job duties, plus interest, and costs of suit.

25 3. On behalf of the State of California and with respect to all AGGRIEVED
26 EMPLOYEES: Recovery of civil penalties as prescribe by the Labor Code Private
27 Attorneys General Act of 2004;

28 ///

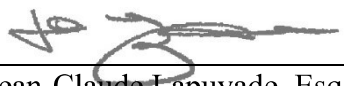
1 4. On all claims:

- 2 a. An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;
- 3 b. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and
- 4 c. An award of penalties, attorneys' fees, and costs of suit, as allowable under the law,
- 5 including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code § 218.5, § 226, § 246 and/or
- 6 § 1194.

7

8 DATED: July 17, 2023

JCL LAW FIRM, APC

9 By: 
10 Jean-Claude Lapuyade, Esq.
11 Attorney for PLAINTIFFS

12 **DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL**

13 PLAINTIFFS demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.

14

15 DATED: July 17, 2023

JCL LAW FIRM, APC

16 By: 
17 Jean-Claude Lapuyade, Esq.
18 Attorney for PLAINTIFFS

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EXHIBIT 1



Client # 62001

May 12, 2023

Via Online Filing to LWDA and Certified Mail to Defendant
Labor and Workforce Development Agency
Online Filing

SEA WEST SERVICES LLC

c/o Michael Kenny
8750 Mountain Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94605

Via Certified U.S. Mail with Return Receipt No. 9589 0710 5270 0114 2241 39

Re: Notice of Violations of California Labor Code Sections 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.14, 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2802, and 2804, Violation of Applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and Pursuant to California Labor Code Section 2699.5

Dear Sir/Madam:

Our offices represent Plaintiff JOSE RUELAS ("Plaintiff"), and other aggrieved employees in a proposed lawsuit against Defendant SEA WEST SERVICES LLC ("Defendant"). Plaintiff was employed by Defendant from August of 2021 to January of 2023, as a non-exempt employee, paid on an hourly basis, and entitled to payment of all wages and the legally required meal and rest breaks. Defendant, however, unlawfully failed to record and pay Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees for all of their time worked, and for all of their meal breaks and rest breaks. Further, Defendant failed to timely pay Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees for earned wages.

As a consequence of the aforementioned violations, Plaintiff further contends that Defendant failed to provide accurate wage statements to him and other aggrieved employees, which among other violations of California Labor Code section 226(a). Said conduct, in addition to the foregoing Labor Code §§ 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.14, 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2802, and 2804, violates the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and is therefore actionable under California Labor Code section 2699.3.

Plaintiff seeks to represent a group of aggrieved employees defined as all non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the relevant claim period.

A true and correct copy of the proposed Complaint by Plaintiff against Defendant, which (1) identifies the alleged violations, (2) details the facts and theories which support the alleged violations, (3) details the specific work performed by Plaintiff, (4) sets forth the people/entities, dates, classifications, violations, events, and actions which are at issue to the extent known to Plaintiff, and (5) sets forth the illegal practices used by Defendant, is attached hereto. This

information provides notice to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency of the facts and theories supporting the alleged violations for the agency's reference. Plaintiff therefore incorporates the allegations of the attached Complaint into this letter as if fully set forth herein. If the agency needs any further information, please do not hesitate to ask.

To the extent that entities and/or individuals are named and charged with violations of the Labor Code—making them liable on an individual basis as permitted by numerous Labor Code Sections including, but not limited to 558, 558.1, and 1197.1—Plaintiff reserves any and all rights to add, substitute, or change the name of employer entities and/or individuals responsible for the violations at issue.

Any further amendments and changes to this notice shall relate back to the date of this notice. Consequently, Defendant is on notice that Plaintiff continues his investigation, with the full intent to amend and/or change this notice, to add any undiscovered violations of any of the provisions of the California Labor Code—to the extent that are applicable to this case—and to change and/or add the identities of any entities and/or individuals responsible for the violations contained herein.

This notice is provided to enable Plaintiff to proceed with the Complaint against Defendant as authorized by California Labor Code section 2695, *et seq.* The lawsuit consists of other aggrieved employees. As counsel, our intention is to vigorously prosecute the claims as alleged in the Complaint, and to procure civil penalties as provided by the Private Attorney General Statute of 2004 on behalf of Plaintiff and all aggrieved California employees.

Your earliest response to this notice is appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above number and address.

Sincerely,



Shani O. Zakay

Attorney for Plaintiff