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11	and other individuals similarly situat	10n			
12	1		DISTRICT COURT		
13	NORTHERN DI	STKI	CT OF CALIFORNIA		
14	DENISE DROESCH and	CAS	E NO.		
15	SHAKARA THOMPSON,	CLASS AND COLLECTIVE ACTION			
16	individually, and on behalf of all	CON	MPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF FLSA  STATE LAW		
	others similarly situated				
17	Plaintiffs,	(1)	Violation Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et se		
18	V.	(2)	Violation N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 95-25.6,		
19	WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., a		95-25.7 and 95-25.13		
20	United States Corporation, and DOES 1 – 100, inclusive	(3)	Violation California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194		
21	DOES 1 – 100, inclusive	(4)	Violation California Labor Code §§		
22	Defendants.	(4)	1182.12, 1194, 1197, 1194.2 and 1198		
23		(5)	Violation California Labor Code §§		
24			221-223		
25		(6)	Violation California Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203 and 256		
26		<b>(7)</b>	Violation California Labor Code § 226		
27		(8)	California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq.		
28		DEM	IAND FOR JURY TRIAL		

Plaintiffs Denise Droesch and Shakara Thompson, individually and on behalf of all other similarly situated employees (hereinafter collectively referred to as ("Plaintiffs" or "Representative Plaintiffs"), bring this lawsuit against Defendant Wells Fargo, N.A. ("Wells Fargo" or "Defendants"), and allege as follows:

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

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1. Defendant Wells Fargo employs the telephone-based workers who are the putative class members in this lawsuit.

Plaintiff DROESCH worked as a telephone-dedicated employee in the

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position of Premier Phone Banker at Wells Fargo's California Business Banking Call Center. Plaintiff THOMPSON worked as a telephone-dedicated employee in the

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position of Financial Crimes Specialist III at Wells Fargo's Charlotte, North Carolina

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Fraud Department Call Center.

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3. Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees had to be ready to handle a call at the start of their scheduled shift times. In order to be ready to handle a call, Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees had to first boot up their computers and open various

software programs necessary for handling a call. Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees had to be available to handle calls until the end of their scheduled shift time.

Defendant knowingly required and/or permitted Plaintiffs and other similarly situated telephone-dedicated employees to perform unpaid work before and after their scheduled shift times. This unpaid work includes but is not limited to booting up computers, initializing several software programs, reading company issued emails and instructions at the beginning of their shifts, and completing customer service calls, securing their workstations, locking their desk drawers, and securing any customer or proprietary information at the end of their shifts.

5. Defendant maintained a policy and practice of failing to pay Plaintiffs and Class Members for all hours worked, such as the time engaged in work tasks completed before and after their shift. Plaintiffs and Class Members spent significant time performing this work off the clock and Defendant did not pay them for this time.

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Because much of this time qualifies as overtime within the meaning of applicable federal and state laws, Plaintiffs and Class Members were not paid overtime for this time.

- 6. Defendant's conduct violates the FLSA, which requires non-exempt employees to be compensated for all hours worked including overtime work at a rate of one and one-half times their regular rate of pay. (See 29 U.S.C. § 207(a).)
- 7. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, seeks to recover unpaid wages and other damages owed under (1) the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA") as a 29 U.S.C. § 216 collective action, (2) NCWHA, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 95-25.1 et seq. for failure to pay as promised, (3) California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194 for unpaid overtime compensation as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, (4) California Labor Code §§ 1182.12, 1194, 1197, 1194.2 and 1198 for unpaid minimum wages as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, (5) California Labor Code §§ 221-223 for unpaid regular wages as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, (6) California Labor Code §§201-203, 204 and 256 for failure to timely pay wages and upon termination as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, (7) California Labor Code § 226 for failure to provide accurate wage statements as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and (8) California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq. as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 8. This Court has original jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' FLSA claims in this action under 29 U.S.C. § 1331 and 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).
- 9. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because the state law claim and the federal claim are so closely related that they form part of the same case or controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.

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10. Venue is proper in the Northern District of California because a substantial portion of the events and policies forming the basis of this suit occurred in this district. Wells Fargo is headquartered in San Francisco, California.

#### **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff Denise Droesch is an individual currently residing in 11. Sacramento, California who Defendant employed from approximately December 2019, to approximately March 2020, as an hourly, non-exempt premier phone banker at Business Banking Call Center operated by Wells Fargo located in Sacramento, California. Droesch's written consent form is attached hereto at Exhibit A.
- 12. Plaintiff Shakira Thompson is an individual currently residing in Charlotte, North Carolina who Defendant has employed since approximately October 12, 2015, and currently employs, as an hourly, non-exempt Financial Crimes Specialist III at the Fraud Department Call Center operated by Wells Fargo located in Charlotte, North Carolina. Thompson's written consent form is attached hereto at Exhibit B.
- Wells Fargo is an international bank that offers services related to 13. banking, loans and credit, insurance, investing and wealth management. Wells Fargo operates Fraud Department Call Centers in California, as well as other locations, where telephone-dedicated hourly employees handle phone calls with Wells Fargo customers regarding fraudulent and potentially fraudulent transactions on their accounts.

## **CLASS AND COLLECTIVE DEFINITIONS**

14. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of a proposed nationwide collective of all individuals working in the non-exempt position of "Telephone Banker" from three years prior to the filing of this complaint onward, under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), as set forth in more detail below (the "FLSA Collective"). This definition excludes persons who perform or performed management duties. The FLSA Collective Members are similarly situated to Plaintiffs and to each other. The FLSA Collective also includes a Sub-Class of FLSA Collective Members who did not execute arbitrations agreements during their employment.

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- 15. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of a proposed class action of all individuals working in the non-exempt position of "Telephone Banker" in the State of California from four years prior to the filing of this complaint onward (the "California" Class"). This definition excludes persons who perform or performed management duties. The California Class Members are similarly situated to Plaintiff Droesch and The California Class also includes a Sub-Class of California Class each other. Members whose employment has terminated and a Sub-Class of California Class Members who did not execute arbitrations agreements during their employment.
- 16. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of a proposed class action of all individuals working in the non-exempt position of "Telephone Banker" in the State of North Carolina from three years prior to the filing of this complaint onward (the "North This definition excludes persons who perform or performed Carolina Class"). management duties. The North Carolina Class Members are similarly situated to Plaintiff Thompson and each other. The North Carolina Class also includes a Sub-Class of North Carolina Class Members who did not execute arbitration agreements during their employment.

## FLSA COVERAGE

- At all material times, Defendant has been an employer within the meaning 17. of section 3(d) of the FLSA. 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- At all material times, Defendant has been an enterprise within the meaning 18. of Section 3(r) of the FLSA. 29 U.S.C. § 203(r).
- At all material times, Defendant has been an enterprise in commerce or in 19. the production of goods for commerce within the meaning of section 3(s)(1) of the FLSA because Defendant has had and continues to have employees engaged in commerce. 29 U.S.C. § 203(s)(1).
  - Defendant has an annual gross business volume of not less than \$500,000. 20.
- 21. Defendant controlled the hours to be worked by Plaintiffs and Class Members, provided training to Plaintiffs and Class Members, directed the work of

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Plaintiffs and Class Members, maintained communication with Plaintiffs and Class Members and received updates as to the status of their work, and provided direction on how each assigned task was to be performed by Plaintiffs and Class Members.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

A. Defendant's Practice of Requiring and/or Permitting Telephone-Based
Hourly Employees to Work Before the Start of and After the End of Their
Scheduled Shift Time.

22. Wells Fargo operates and has operated "call centers" across the nation where telephone-dedicated employees similar to Plaintiffs handle phone calls regarding various issues related to Wells Fargo's business.

23. Defendant's policy and practice permits and/or requires telephone-based employees in its Call Centers to be logged into their phones by the employee's scheduled start time.

24. Wells Fargo required Plaintiffs and similarly situated phone-based employees to be ready to handle a call at the start of their scheduled shift time. Wells Fargo maintained similar requirements at all its Call Centers across the nation.

25. In order to be ready to handle a call, Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-dedicated employees had to be logged into Wells Fargo's telephone systems and call queue.

26. In order to be logged into Wells Fargo's telephone systems and call queue, Defendant required and/or permitted Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-based employees to arrive at their work station prior to their scheduled shift time and boot up computers, initialize several software programs, and read company emails and/or instructions.

27. Defendant's policy and practice results in telephone-based employees, including passing through security steps if their computer screen was at Check Point when they logged on. Check Point required Plaintiffs and other similar situated employees to follow key prompts to get an access code or speak to a representative at

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the help desk. Following the Check Point process was a frequent occurrence and could take a few to several minutes each day.

- 28. After accessing their computers, Plaintiffs and other similarly situated employees were required to open and initialize several software programs, such as DAT, Hogan, CIV, Visa, Claims, SOTA, among others. Opening all the necessary programs and systems would take additional time. Plaintiffs and other similarly situated employees sometimes were required to read company emails and instructions prior to their start of their scheduled shift time.
- 29. Only after all the processes are completed and programs started could Plaintiffs and other similarly situated employees log into Soft Phone, which commenced and recorded the paid portion of their workday.
- 30. Defendant's policy and practice disciplines telephone-based employees if they are not logged into their phones and ready to handle calls by the start of their scheduled shift time.
- 31. Defendant did not instruct Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephonebased employees to not log into their computers or telephone, or to not read company emails prior to the start of their scheduled shift time. Rather, Defendant required, permitted and/or allowed Plaintiffs and the putative class members to work prior to and after their scheduled shift time.
- 32. At the end of their shift, Plaintiffs and similarly situated phone-based employees were expected to be available to handle a call until the end of their scheduled shift time. As a result, Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-based employees regularly worked past the end of their scheduled shift times when logged off their software programs and computers and secured their work stations and Wells Fargo's customer and proprietary information pursuant to Wells Fargo's policies and practices.
- 33. Plaintiffs and similarly situated phone-based employees at Wells Fargo's Call Centers had their pre- and/or post-shift work rounded away from their pay and

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were regularly not paid for some or all of their work activities prior to the beginning of their shifts or after the end of their shifts.

- 34. Prior to starting work on the call center floor, Plaintiffs and other similarly situated telephone-based employees were and are interviewed by employees and managers of Wells Fargo.
- 35. Wells Fargo had the power to hire and fire Plaintiffs and other persons similarly situated. Wells Fargo controlled and set the schedules for Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-dedicated workers.

#### В. **Defendant Knew of and Assented to the Unpaid Work.**

- 36. At the Wells Fargo Call Centers managers were on the floor during the workday, managing the work activities of the Plaintiffs and other similarly situated persons.
- 37. Defendant monitored, directed, and controlled the work activities of Plaintiffs and other similarly situated persons, including the unpaid work at issue.
- 38. Wells Fargo's managers and supervisors on the call center floor could and did regularly see with their own eyes that Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephonebased employees arrived at their work stations before the start of their scheduled shift time, logged into Wells Fargo's computers, and began working on their computers prior to the start of their scheduled shift time.
- 39. Wells Fargo's managers and supervisors on the call center floor could and did regularly see with their own eyes that Plaintiff and similarly situated telephonebased employees worked past the end of their scheduled shift time handling phone calls and securing their work stations.
- 40. Despite seeing and knowing that Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-based employees performed work at their work stations prior to and after their scheduled shift times, Defendant and its managers and supervisors on the floor of the call center did not make any effort to stop or otherwise disallow this unpaid work and instead allowed and permitted it to happen.

- 41. Defendant possesses, controls and/or has access to information and electronic data that shows the times Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-based employees logged into and out of their computers each day and the time they logged into and out of their telephone systems each day.
- 42. By possessing, controlling and/or accessing this information, Defendant knew that Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-based employees worked prior to the start and after the end of their scheduled shift time.
- 43. Despite having this information and knowing that Plaintiffs and similarly situated telephone-based employees logged into their computers, initialized necessary software programs, and read company issued emails and instructions prior to the start of their scheduled shift time, and despite requiring and/or allowing them to handle a call up until the end of their scheduled shift time, Defendant did not make any effort to stop or otherwise disallow the pre- or post-shift work and instead allowed and permitted it to happen.
- 44. Defendant knowingly required and/or permitted Plaintiffs and those similarly situated to him to perform unpaid work before and after the start and end times of their shifts, including booting up computers, initializing several software programs, and reading company issued emails and instructions prior to the start of their scheduled shift time, as well as completing customer service calls, closing down the software programs, logging off the system, securing their workstations, locking their desk drawers, and securing any customer or proprietary information after the end of their scheduled shift times.
- C. Defendant's Failure to Pay Minimum, Regular, and Overtime Wages to Its Telephone-Based Hourly Employees.
- 45. Defendant determined the rate of pay for Plaintiffs and other similarly situated persons.
- 46. Defendant's managers and supervisors reviewed and approved Plaintiffs and other similarly situated persons' time records prior to receiving their paychecks.

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- 47. Defendant supervised and controlled the work schedule of Plaintiffs and other similarly situated persons.
- 48. Plaintiffs and those employees similarly situated are individuals who were, or are, employed by Defendant and who had their pre- and/or post-shift work rounded away from their pay and were not paid for some or all of their work activities prior to the beginning of their shifts or after the end of their shifts.
- 49. Plaintiffs and the other employees are also similar because Defendant did not pay them for all time they actually worked.
- 50. The net effect of Defendant's policies and practices, instituted and approved by company managers and supervisors, is that Defendant willfully failed to pay all compensation owed to Plaintiffs and others similarly situated, and willfully failed to keep accurate time records to save payroll costs. Defendant thus enjoyed illgained profits at the expense of its hourly employees.
- 51. Plaintiffs and others similarly situated at times work or worked in excess of forty hours per week for Defendant in a given workweek.
- 52. Defendant's policy and practice of requiring and/or permitting its employees, including Plaintiffs and other non-exempt, hourly employees, to perform work without pay for such work performed, violates the FLSA, the California Labor Code, and the NCWHA.
- 53. Defendant's policy and practice of requiring its employees to perform work without pay in many instances has caused and continues to cause Plaintiffs and certain other similarly situated hourly employees to work in excess of forty hours per week, without being properly compensated at a minimum or regular wage or 1.5 times their respective hourly rate for such work performed.
- Defendant's failure to compensate its non-exempt, hourly call center 54. employees with the full amount of the applicable minimum or regular wage or overtime wage has caused Plaintiffs and other similarly situated non-exempt call center employees to suffer harm.

55. Defendant's non-exempt, call center hourly employees are entitled to compensation for all time they worked without pay in any given workweek.

#### FLSA COLLECTIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 56. Plaintiffs incorporate all other paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 57. Plaintiffs have actual knowledge that the FLSA Class Members have also been denied minimum, regular, and overtime pay for all hours worked. Plaintiffs worked with other FLSA Collective Members, and as such, have personal knowledge of their existence, off the clock work and overtime violations.
- 58. Other FLSA Collective Members worked for Defendant in a similar capacity and were not paid overtime at the rate of one and one-half their regular rate when those hours exceeded forty hours per workweek.
- 59. FLSA Collective Members perform or have performed the same or similar work as Plaintiffs, regularly work or have worked in excess of forty hours during a workweek, and are not exempt from receiving overtime pay at the federally mandated wage rate under the FLSA.
- 60. Plaintiffs estimate that Defendant has employed more than 1000 FLSA Collective Members working throughout the United States during the last three years who were paid an hourly rate.
- 61. Defendant suffered or permitted such workers to work in the last three years and failed to compensate them for all hours worked.
- 62. Defendant's failure to pay minimum, regular, and overtime compensation at the rate required by the FLSA results from generally applicable policies or practices, and does not depend on the personal circumstances of the FLSA Collective Members.
- 63. The experiences of Plaintiffs, with respect to their pay, are typical of the experiences of the FLSA Collective Members.
- 64. The specific job titles or precise job responsibilities of each FLSA Collective Member does not prevent collective treatment.

- 65. All FLSA Collective Members, irrespective of their particular job requirements, are entitled to minimum, regular, and overtime compensation at the rate of time and a half for hours worked in excess of forty during a workweek.
- Although the exact amount of damages may vary among FLSA Collective Members, the damages can be readily calculated by reference to Defendant's records and, if necessary, representative testimony. The claims of all FLSA Collective Members arise from a common nucleus of facts. Liability is based on a systematic course of wrongful conduct by the Defendant that caused harm to all FLSA Collective Members.

#### CALIFORNIA CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 67. Plaintiffs incorporate all other paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 68. Plaintiffs bring this action as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of the "California Class," as defined in above.
- 69. **Numerosity.** Plaintiffs estimate the size of the California Class to be at least 500 individuals. This size makes bringing the claims of each individual member of the class before this Court impracticable. Likewise, joining each individual member of the California Class as a plaintiff in this action is impracticable. The identity of the members of the California Class will be determined from Defendant's records, as will the compensation paid to each of them. As such, a class action is a reasonable and practical means of resolving these claims. To require individual actions would prejudice the California Class and Defendant.
- 70. **Typicality.** Plaintiff Droesch's claims are typical of those of the California Class because like the members of the California Class Members, Plaintiff Droesch was subject to Defendant's uniform policies and practices and was compensated in the same manner as others in the California Class. Defendant failed to pay the California Class Members compensation for all hours worked, permit timely

and compliant meal and rest breaks, pay premium wages, pay timely wages regularly and upon termination, and provide accurate and itemized wage statements.

- 71. Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members have been uncompensated and/or under-compensated as a result of Defendant's common policies and practices, which failed to comply with California law.
- Adequacy. Plaintiff Droesch is a representative party who will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the California Class because it is in her interest to effectively prosecute the claims herein alleged in order to obtain the unpaid wages and penalties required under California law. Plaintiff Droesch has retained attorneys who are competent in both class actions and wage and hour litigation. Plaintiff Droesch does not have any interest which may be contrary to or in conflict with the claims of the California Class she seeks to represent.
- 73. **Commonality.** Common issues of fact and law predominate over any individual questions in this matter. The common issues of fact and law include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Whether Defendant had a policy or practice of requiring Plaintiff Droesch and California class members to perform work off-the-clock;
  - b. Whether Defendant failed to pay Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members minimum, regular, and overtime wages for all hours worked;
  - c. Whether Defendant failed to provide meal and rest breaks to Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members;
  - d. Whether Defendant failed to pay premium wages to Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members;
  - e. Whether Defendant failed to pay Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members all of their wages earned and due regularly and upon the termination of their employment;

- f. Whether Defendant provided Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members timely and accurate wage statements;
- 74. **Superiority**. A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this lawsuit. Even in the event any member of the California Class could afford to pursue individual litigation against companies the size of Defendant, doing so would unduly burden the court system. Individual litigation would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and flood the court system with duplicative lawsuits. Prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the California Class would create the risk of inconsistent or varying judicial results and establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant.
- 75. **Manageability**. A class action, by contrast, presents far fewer management difficulties and affords the benefits of uniform adjudication of the claims, financial economy for the parties, and comprehensive supervision by a single court. By concentrating this litigation in one forum, judicial economy, and parity among the claims of individual California Class Members are promoted. Additionally, class treatment in this matter will provide for judicial consistency. Trial of Plaintiff's class claims will be manageable because Plaintiff can rely on Defendant's records, corporate testimony from Defendant's management, and representative testimony from Class Members.
- 76. Notice of the pendency and any resolution of this action can be provided to the California Class by mail, electronic mail, print, broadcast, internet and/or multimedia publication. The identity of members of the California Class is readily identifiable from Defendant's records.
- 77. This type of case is well-suited for class action treatment because: (1) Defendant's practices, policies, and/or procedures were uniform; (2) the burden is on Defendant to prove that it properly compensated Plaintiff and Class Members; and (3) the burden is on Defendant to accurately record hours worked by employees.

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78. Ultimately, a class action is a superior form to resolve the California claims detailed herein because of the common nucleus of operative facts centered on the continued failure of Defendant to pay Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members according to applicable California laws.

#### NORTH CAROLINA CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 79. Plaintiffs incorporate all other paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 80. Plaintiffs bring this action as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of the "North Carolina Class," as defined above.
- 81. **Numerosity.** Plaintiffs estimate the size of the North Carolina Class to be at least 100 individuals. This size makes bringing the claims of each individual member of the class before this Court impracticable. Likewise, joining each individual member of the North Carolina Class as a plaintiff in this action is impracticable. The identity of the members of the North Carolina Class will be determined from Defendant's records, as will the compensation paid to each of them. As such, a class action is a reasonable and practical means of resolving these claims. To require individual actions would prejudice the North Carolina Class and Defendant.
- **Typicality.** Plaintiffs Thompson's claims are typical of those of the North Carolina Class because like the members of the North Carolina Class Members, Plaintiff Thompson was subject to Defendant's uniform policies and practices and was compensated in the same manner as others in the California Class. Defendant failed to pay the North Carolina Class Members as promised for all hours worked.
- 83. Plaintiff Thompson and the North Carolina Class were paid at hourly rates below the promised rate for hours worked and have not been uncompensated as promised and/or under-compensated as a result of Defendant's common policies and practices, which failed to comply with North Carolina law.
- 84. **Adequacy**. Plaintiff Thompson is a representative party who will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the North Carolina Class because it is in her

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interest to effectively prosecute the claims herein alleged in order to obtain the unpaid wages and penalties required under North Carolina law. Plaintiff Thompson has retained attorneys who are competent in both class actions and wage and hour litigation. Plaintiff Thompson does not have any interest which may be contrary to or in conflict with the claims of the North Carolina Class she seeks to represent.

- 85. **Commonality.** Common issues of fact and law predominate over any individual questions in this matter. The common issues of fact include, but are not limited to whether Plaintiff Thompson were paid as promised.
- 86. The common issues of law include, but are not limited to whether Plaintiff Thompson and the members of the North Carolina Class are entitled to compensatory damages; the proper measure of damages sustained by Plaintiff Thompson and the North Carolina Class; and Whether Defendant's actions were "willful."
- 87. **Superiority**. A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this lawsuit. Even in the event any member of the North Carolina Class could afford to pursue individual litigation against companies the size of Defendant, doing so would unduly burden the court system. Individual litigation would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and flood the court system with duplicative lawsuits. Prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the North Carolina Class would create the risk of inconsistent or varying judicial results and establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant.
- 88. **Manageability**. A class action, by contrast, presents far fewer management difficulties and affords the benefits of uniform adjudication of the claims, financial economy for the parties, and comprehensive supervision by a single court. By concentrating this litigation in one forum, judicial economy and parity among the claims of individual North Carolina Class Members are promoted. Additionally, class treatment in this matter will provide for judicial consistency. Trial of Plaintiffs' class claims will be manageable because Plaintiff can rely on Defendant's records, corporate

On Behalf of Plaintiffs and the FLSA Collective

94. Plaintiffs hereby incorporates by reference each and every one of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as if the same were fully set forth herein Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf and the members of the class assert claims for unpaid minimum, regular, and overtime wages pursuant to the FLSA.

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95. At any and all times relevant hereto, Defendant was an "enterprise 1 engaged in commerce" within the meaning of Section 3(s) of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 3 203(s). 96. At any and all times relevant hereto, Defendant was an "employer" of the 4 Plaintiffs and the members of the class described in paragraph 67 within the meaning of Section 3(d) of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d). 6 97. At any and all times relevant hereto, Plaintiffs and the members of the 7 class described in paragraph 67 were "employees" of Defendant as defined by Section 8 3(e) of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(e). 9 Plaintiffs and the members of the class described in paragraph 67 were 98. 10 not paid for all time worked during the applicable statutory time period, in violation of 11 the provisions of the FLSA, including 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, 207, 216, and 29 C.F.R. 12 13 §778.223 and 778.315. 99. 14 At all times relevant hereto, Defendant's failure to pay Plaintiffs and the members of the class pay for all time worked was willful in that, among other things: (a) Defendant knew that the FLSA required it to pay for all time worked; (b) Defendant failed to maintain true and accurate time records; (c) Defendant encouraged Plaintiffs 17 and other similarly situated employees to not record all time worked; and (d) at times, 18 Defendant changed the times that Plaintiffs worked 19 100. As a direct and proximate result thereof, Plaintiffs and the members of the 20 class described are due unpaid back wages and liquidated damages, interest and 21 statutory costs as provided by law. 22 23 /// 24 /// 25 /// /// 26 27

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**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION** 1 NORTH CAROLINA: Failure to Pay as Promised 2 (N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 95-25.6, 95-25.7 and 95-25.13) 3 On Behalf of Plaintiffs Thompson and the North Carolina Class 4 Plaintiffs hereby incorporates by reference each and every one of the 101. 5 allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as if the same were fully set forth herein. 7 102. This cause of action arises from Defendant's policy and practice of 8 suffering or permitting Plaintiff and/or other similarly situated hourly employees to work without paying promised and earned wages for all hours worked in violation of 10 N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 95-25.6, 95-25.7 and 95-25.13. 11 103. Defendants violated N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 95-25.6 by failing to pay Plaintiff 12 and similarly situated hourly employees all promised and earned wages and overtime 13 payments on the employees' regular payday for all hours worked. For example, Wells 14 Fargo allowed, encouraged, or required Plaintiff and the North Carolina Class Members to clock out during their shifts, including during time opening necessary programs, following instructions, and reading emails. Despite the provisions of North 17 Carolina law, Defendant has willfully failed and refused to pay the North Carolina 18 Class, including Plaintiff Thompson, wages for any of the off-the-clock hours they 19 worked. 20 104. As a direct and proximate result thereof, Plaintiffs and the members of the 21 class described are due unpaid back wages and liquidated damages, interest and 22 23 statutory costs as provided by law. 24 /// /// 25 /// 26 27

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#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

## **CALIFORNIA: Failure to Pay Overtime Wages**

(California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194)

#### On Behalf of Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class

- 105. Plaintiffs hereby incorporates by reference each and every one of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as if the same were fully set forth herein
- 106. At all relevant times, Defendant was required to compensate its nonexempt employees for all hours worked. Since at least four years prior to this lawsuit being filed to the present, Defendant was required to compensate all of its employees for all overtime worked, at one-and-a-half times their regular rates of pay for hours worked in excess of eight hours per day or forty hours per workweek, and double-time for hours worked in excess of twelve (12) hours per day. Defendant was also required to pay one-and-a-half times the regular rate for the first eight hours worked on the seventh day of a workweek.
- 107. Defendant failed to properly record and pay for Plaintiff Droesch's and the California Class Members' hours worked, including overtime. For example, Wells Fargo allowed, encouraged, or required Plaintiff and the California Class Members to clock out during their shifts, including during time opening necessary programs, following instructions, and reading emails. Despite the provisions of California's overtime law, Defendant has willfully failed and refused to pay the California Class, including Plaintiff Droesch, overtime wages for any of the overtime hours they worked.
- 108. The California Class, including Plaintiff Droesch, has been deprived of their rightfully earned overtime wages as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's failure and refusal to pay such compensation.
- 109. Defendant's conduct violates California Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194. Therefore, pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194, the California Class, including Plaintiff Droesch, is entitled to recover, and seeks to recover, damages for the

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nonpayment of overtime wages for all overtime hours worked in excess of eight hours per day, in excess of forty hours per workweek, for the first eight hours worked on the seventh day of a workweek, and double-time pay for the hours worked in excess of twelve in a day in addition to interest on such amounts pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194, plus reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit, and the relief requested below in the Prayer for Relief.

#### FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

# CALIFORNIA: Failure to Pay Minimum Wage (California Labor Code §§ 1182.12, 1194, 1197, 1194.2 and 1198) On Behalf of Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class

- 110. Plaintiffs hereby incorporates by reference each and every one of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as if the same were fully set forth herein.
- 111. At all relevant times, Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members earned "wages" for labor or services rendered to Defendant within the meaning of California Labor Code § 200(a) and/or "hours worked" within the meaning of the applicable Wage Order of the Industrial Wage Commission.
- Defendant failed to properly record and pay for Plaintiff Droesch's and the California Class Members' hours worked. For example, Wells Fargo allowed, encouraged, or required Plaintiff and the California Class Members to clock out during their shifts, including during time opening necessary programs, following instructions, and reading emails. Despite the provisions of California's overtime law, Defendant has willfully failed and refused to pay the California Class, including Plaintiff Droesch, overtime wages for any of the overtime hours they worked.
- 113. Defendant's conduct deprived Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members of full and timely payment for all hours worked in violation of the California Labor Code.

117. At all relevant times, Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members earned "wages" for labor or services rendered to Defendant within the meaning of California Labor Code § 200(a) and/or "hours worked" within the meaning of the

applicable Wage Order of the Industrial Wage Commission.

118. Employers are required to pay their employees for all hours worked. Defendant failed to properly record and pay for Plaintiff Droesch's and the California Class Members' hours worked. For example, Wells Fargo allowed, encouraged, or required Plaintiff and the California Class Members to clock out during their shifts, including during time opening necessary programs, following instructions, and reading emails. Despite the provisions of California's overtime law, Defendant has willfully failed and refused to pay the California Class, including Plaintiff Droesch, overtime wages for any of the overtime hours they worked.

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Wells Fargo is therefore liable to Plaintiff Droesch and members of the

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#### **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

# CALIFORNIA: Unlawful and/or Unfair Competition Law Violations

(California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq.)

#### On Behalf of Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class

- 131. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference each and every one of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as if the same were fully set forth herein.
- 132. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq. prohibits unfair competition in the form of any unlawful, unfair, deceptive, or fraudulent business practices.
- 133. Plaintiff Droesch brings this cause of action individually and as a representative of all others subject to Wells Fargo's unlawful acts and practices.
- During all relevant times, Defendant committed unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent acts as defined by California Business & Professions Code § 17200. Defendant's unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent business practices include, without limitation, failing to pay all wages owed wages, including premium wages, and failing to provide complaint meal and rest breaks.
- 135. As a result of these unlawful and/or unfair and/or fraudulent business practices, Defendant reaped unfair benefits and illegal profits at the expense of Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class. Defendant must disgorge these ill-gotten gains and restore as restitution to Plaintiff Droesch and the California Class Members all wrongfully withheld wages, including, but not limited to minimum, regular, premium, and overtime wages.
- 136. Plaintiff Droesch, individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class, respectfully requests that judgment be awarded to provide restitution and interest, and the relief requested below in the Prayer for Relief, including injunctive relief to correct the practices complained of.

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#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, by and through his attorneys, demands judgment against Defendant and in favor of Plaintiffs and all others similarly situated, for a sum that will properly, adequately and completely compensate them for the nature, extent and duration of their damages, the costs of this action and as follows:

- Certifying that this action may proceed as an FLSA collective action, a a. California class action under Rule 23 and a North Carolina class action under Rule 23;
- Declaring that Defendant Wells Fargo's policies and/or practices of b. failing to pay wages for off-the-clock worked to the FLSA Collective Members violates the FLSA;
- Declaring that Defendant Wells Fargo's policies and/or practices of c. failing to pay overtime wages, to pay minimum wages, to pay regular wages, to provide accurate wage statements, to pay all wages earned regularly and upon termination of employment to the California Class violate the California Labor Code;
- Declaring that Defendant Wells Fargo's policies and/or practices of d. failing to pay for off the clock work violates the NCWHA;
- Declaring that Defendant Wells Fargo's above-mentioned policies and/or practices violate California Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.;
- f. Preliminary, permanent, mandatory injunctive relief prohibiting Wells Fargo, its officers, agents, and all those acting in concert with it, from committing in the future those violations of law herein alleged;
- Awarding damages, liquidated damages, restitution, and/or statutory g. penalties to be paid by Defendant Wells Fargo for the causes of action alleged herein;
- Awarding costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expert fees, pursuant to the FLSA, respective state laws, and as otherwise permitted by law;

1	i. Awarding class representative service	payments to Plaintiffs and all other
2	2 class representatives for their service to the FLSA	Collective Members, the California
3	3 and North Carolina Class Members, and the public	; and
4	j. Ordering such other and further legal a	and equitable relief the Court deems
5	5 just, necessary, and proper.	
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7	11	A HUMPHREY LAW, P.C
8	8 GESSNER	LAW, PLLP
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12	12 Christina A.	Humphrey, Esq.
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**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** Plaintiffs hereby demand trial of Plaintiff's and the members of the putative class claims by jury to the extent authorized by law. DATED: September 28, 2020 CHRISTINA HUMPHREY LAW, P.C **GESSNER LAW, PLLP** Circustera J. Therphey Christina A. Humphrey, Esq. Michelle Gessner, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

# **EXHIBIT A**

#### **Consent to Join Form**

#### Consent to sue under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §216(b)

- 1. I, the undersigned, agree to pursue my minimum wage and overtime claims arising out of work performed as a non-exempt employee of Wells Fargo between the time frame of September 2017 to present ("relevant time period"), in the lawsuit entitled *Denise Droesch et. Al. v. Wells Fargo*, *N.A*, being filed in the United States District Court, Northern District of California.
- 2. I was a non-exempt employee working in a Wells Fargo call center. I performed work for Wells Fargo during the relevant time period and was not paid for all time worked.
- 3. I understand that this lawsuit is brought pursuant to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§201-219, and other relief under state and federal law.
- 4. I consent, agree and opt in to become a plaintiff and to be bound to any judgment by the Court or any settlement of this action.
- 5. I choose to be represented in this action by the named plaintiffs, together with Christina Humphrey Law, P.C. and GessnerLaw, PLLC. ("Plaintiffs' Counsel"). I agree to be bound by their decisions in the litigation and by any adjudication of this action by a court, whether it is favorable or unfavorable. I understand that reasonable costs expended by Plaintiffs' Counsel on my behalf will be deducted from any settlement or judgement amount on a pro-rated basis among all other plaintiffs. I understand that Plaintiffs' Counsel will petition the Court to award them attorneys' fees from any settlement or judgment.

Print Name: Denise Droesch
Denise Droesch
Denise Droesch
OA5C72565980400...

Date: 9/16/2020

# **EXHIBIT B**

#### **Consent to Join Form**

#### Consent to sue under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §216(b)

- 1. I, the undersigned, agree to pursue my minimum wage and overtime claims arising out of work performed as a non-exempt employee of Wells Fargo between the time frame of September 2017 to present ("relevant time period"), in the lawsuit entitled *Denise Droesch et. Al. v. Wells Fargo, N.A*, being filed in the United States District Court, Northern District of California.
- 2. I was a non-exempt employee working in a Wells Fargo call center. I performed work for Wells Fargo during the relevant time period and was not paid for all time worked.
- 3. I understand that this lawsuit is brought pursuant to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§201-219, and other relief under state and federal law.
- 4. I consent, agree and opt in to become a plaintiff and to be bound to any judgment by the Court or any settlement of this action.
- 5. I choose to be represented in this action by the named plaintiffs, together with Christina Humphrey Law, P.C. and GessnerLaw, PLLC. ("Plaintiffs' Counsel"). I agree to be bound by their decisions in the litigation and by any adjudication of this action by a court, whether it is favorable or unfavorable. I understand that reasonable costs expended by Plaintiffs' Counsel on my behalf will be deducted from any settlement or judgement amount on a pro-rated basis among all other plaintiffs. I understand that Plaintiffs' Counsel will petition the Court to award them attorneys' fees from any settlement or judgment.

Print Name	e: Snakara I nompson		
Signature:		Shakara Thompso	n
Date:	09 / 17 / 2020		

# Case 3:20-cv-06751-JSC Document 1-2 Filed 09/28/20 Page 1 of 1 CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

# I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Denise Droesch and Shakara Thompson

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Sacremento County (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Christina Humphrey Law, PC, 8330 Allison Ave., Ste. C, La Mesa, CA 619-488-6400; Gessner Law, PLLP, P.O. Box 78161, Charlotte, NC, 28271 844-437-7634

# **DEFENDANTS**Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

United Sta

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II.	BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box (For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defenda					ox for Plaintiff lant)	
					PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF	
1	U.S. Government Plaintiff × 3	Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		Citizen of This State	x 1	1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	4	4	
2	U.S. Government Defendant 4	Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item 111)		Citizen of Another State	2	2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	5	<b>x</b> 5	
		indicate Cittenship of Latties in Hell III)		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3	3	Foreign Nation	6	6	

NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) CONTRACT **TORTS** OTHER STATUTES FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY 375 False Claims Act 110 Insurance 625 Drug Related Seizure of 422 Appeal 28 USC § 158 PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY Property 21 USC § 881 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 120 Marine 310 Airplane 365 Personal Injury - Product 690 Other \$ 157 § 3729(a)) 130 Miller Act Liability 315 Airplane Product Liability 400 State Reapportionment 367 Health Carel PROPERTY RIGHTS 140 Negotiable Instrument LABOR 320 Assault, Libel & Slander Pharmaceutical Personal 410 Antitrust 150 Recovery of ×710 Fair Labor Standards Act 330 Federal Employers 820 Copyrights Injury Product Liability Overpayment Of 430 Banks and Banking Liability 720 Labor/Management 830 Patent Veteran's Benefits 368 Asbestos Personal Injury 450 Commerce 340 Marine Relations 835 Patent-Abbreviated New Product Liability 151 Medicare Act 460 Deportation 345 Marine Product Liability 740 Railway Labor Act Drug Application PERSONAL PROPERTY 152 Recovery of Defaulted 470 Racketeer Influenced & 350 Motor Vehicle 751 Family and Medical 840 Trademark Student Loans (Excludes 370 Other Fraud Corrupt Organizations Leave Act 355 Motor Vehicle Product Veterans) SOCIAL SECURITY 371 Truth in Lending 480 Consumer Credit Liability 790 Other Labor Litigation 153 Recovery of 380 Other Personal Property 861 HIA (1395ff) 485 Telephone Consumer 360 Other Personal Injury 791 Employee Retirement Overpayment Damage 862 Black Lung (923) Protection Act 362 Personal Injury - Medical Income Security Act of Veteran's Benefits 385 Property Damage Product 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 490 Cable/Sat TV MaInractice IMMIGRATION 160 Stockholders' Suits Liability 850 Securities/Commodities/ 864 SSID Title XVI 190 Other Contract 462 Naturalization **CIVIL RIGHTS** PRISONER PETITIONS 865 RSI (405(g)) Exchange Application 195 Contract Product Liability 890 Other Statutory Actions 440 Other Civil Rights HABEAS CORPUS FEDERAL TAX SUITS 465 Other Inunigration 196 Franchise 891 Agricultural Acts 441 Voting 463 Alien Detainee Actions 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or REAL PROPERTY 893 Environmental Matters 442 Employment 510 Motions to Vacate Defendant) 895 Freedom of Information 210 Land Condemnation 443 Housing/ Sentence 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC Accommodations 220 Foreclosure 530 General § 7609 896 Arbitration 445 Amer. w/Disabilities-230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 535 Death Penalty 899 Administrative Procedure Employment 240 Torts to Land OTHER Act/Review or Appeal of 446 Amer. w/Disabilities--Other 245 Tort Product Liability 540 Mandamus & Other Agency Decision 448 Education 290 All Other Real Property 550 Civil Rights 950 Constitutionality of State 555 Prison Condition Statutes 560 Civil Detainee-Conditions of Confinement V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  $\times 1$ Original Removed from Remanded from 2 Reinstated or 5 Transferred from 6 Multidistrict 8 Multidistrict

	Proceeding	State Court	Appellate Court	Reopened	Another District (specify)	Litigation-Transfer	Litigation-Direct File
VI.	CAUSE OF ACTION	29 U.S.C. Sec. 201, et seq. Brief description of caus			tional statutes unless diversity):		

	Action i	CIOCK				
VII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLACOMPLAINT: UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R.		CHECK IF THIS IS A <b>CLASS ACTION</b> JNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P <sub>4</sub>	<b>DEMAND \$</b> 5,000,000.00	CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: X Yes No		
VIII.	RELATED CASE(S),	JUDGE	DOCKET NUMBER			111111111

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only) × SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND

SAN JOSE

EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

Christia J. Thinghey

IF ANY (See instructions).

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Northern District of California				
Denise Droesch and Shakindividually, and on behalf of situated  Plaintiff(s)  V.  WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Corporation and DOES 1	all others similarly  , a United States	) ) ) ) Civil Action No. ) ) )		
	SUMMONS I	N A CIVIL ACTION		
2	Vells Fargo Bank, N.A. Serice of Process CSC Lawyers Inc 1710 Gateway Oaks Driv Sacramento, CA 95833	ve, Suite 150N		
A lawsuit has been filed	against you.			
are the United States or a United P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must set the Federal Rules of Civil Proced whose name and address are:	States agency, or an offerve on the plaintiff an a lure. The answer or more Christina Humphrey Law 1330 Allison Ave., Ste. Co. 13 Mesa, CA 91942 The Law Offices of Michelle Genner			
If you fail to respond, jud You also must file your answer of		be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.		
		CLERK OF COURT		
Date:	_	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk		

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (1))

	This summons for (n	ame of individual and title, if any		
was red	ceived by me on (date)		•	
	☐ I personally serve	ed the summons on the indiv	vidual at (place)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I left the summon	s at the individual's residen	ace or usual place of abode with (name)	
		, a	a person of suitable age and discretion who res	ides there,
	on (date)	, and mailed a co	opy to the individual's last known address; or	
	☐ I served the sumn	nons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of process of	on behalf of (name of organization)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I returned the sun	nmons unexecuted because		; or
	☐ Other (specify):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under pena	lty of perjury that this infor	mation is true.	
Date:				
			Server's signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Wells Fargo Owes Call Center Workers for Unpaid Pre-, Post-Shift Work, Lawsuit Alleges