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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

VICTOR VELASQUEZ, an individual, on behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SUN-MAID GROWERS OF CALIFORNIA, a California Corporation; and Does 1 through 50, Inclusive;

Defendants.

Case No. _____

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:

1. UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, *et seq.*;
2. FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 510, *et seq.*;
3. FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
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;
6. FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226;
7. FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802;
8. FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203; and
9. FAILURE TO PAY STRAIGHT AND OVERTIME COMPENSATION IN VIOLATION OF 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.*

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiff Victor Velasquez (“PLAINTIFF”), an individual, on behalf of himself
2 and all other similarly situated current and former employees, alleges on information and
3 belief, except for his own acts and knowledge which are based on personal knowledge,
4 the following:

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6 **THE PARTIES**

7 1. Defendant Sun-Maid Growers of California (“DEFENDANT”) is a
8 California corporation that at all relevant times mentioned herein conducted and
9 continues to conduct substantial and regular business throughout California.

10 2. DEFENDANT operates a raisin and dried fruit processing plant. Since
11 1912, DEFENDANT has been headquartered in the San Joaquin Valley.

12 3. PLAINTIFF was employed by DEFENDANT in California as a non-
13 exempt employee entitled to overtime pay, minimum wages and meal and rest periods
14 from September of 2016 to March of 2020. PLAINTIFF was at all times relevant
15 mentioned herein classified by DEFENDANT as a non-exempt employee paid in whole
16 or in part on an hourly basis and received additional compensation from DEFENDANT
17 in the form of non-discretionary incentive wages.

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

24 5. PLAINTIFF brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and a
25 CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to fully compensate the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their
26 losses incurred during the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD caused by DEFENDANT’s
27 uniform policy and practice which failed to lawfully compensate these employees for
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1 all their overtime worked. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice alleged herein
2 is an unlawful, unfair and deceptive business practice whereby DEFENDANT retained
3 and continues to retain wages due PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
5 CLASS seek an injunction enjoining such conduct by DEFENDANT in the future, relief
6 for the named PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who
7 have been economically injured by DEFENDANT's past and current unlawful conduct,
8 and all other appropriate legal and equitable relief.

9 6. The agents, servants and/or employees of the Defendants and each of them
10 acting on behalf of the Defendants acted within the course and scope of his, her or its
11 authority as the agent, servant and/or employee of the Defendants, and personally
12 participated in the conduct alleged herein on behalf of the Defendants with respect to
13 the conduct alleged herein. Consequently, the acts of each Defendant are legally
14 attributable to the other Defendants and all Defendants are jointly and severally liable
15 to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, for the loss
16 sustained as a proximate result of the conduct of the Defendants' agents, servants and/or
17 employees.

18 19 **THE CONDUCT**

20 7. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed and
21 continues to fail to accurately calculate and pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of
22 the CALIFORNIA CLASS for their overtime worked. DEFENDANT unlawfully and
23 unilaterally failed to accurately calculate wages for overtime worked by PLAINTIFF
24 and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in order to avoid paying these
25 employees the correct overtime compensation. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other
26 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS forfeited wages due them for working overtime
27 without compensation at the correct overtime rates. DEFENDANT's uniform policy and
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1 practice to not pay the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS the correct overtime rate
2 for all overtime worked in accordance with applicable law is evidenced by
3 DEFENDANT's business records. This uniform policy and practice of DEFENDANT
4 was intended to purposefully avoid the payment of the correct California overtime and
5 federal overtime compensation as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act which
6 allowed DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an unfair advantage over competitors
7 who complied with the law.

8 8. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT failed to
9 accurately record and pay PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for
10 the actual amount of time these employees worked. Pursuant to the Industrial Welfare
11 Commission Wage Orders, DEFENDANT is required to pay PLAINTIFF and other
12 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for all time worked, meaning the time during which
13 an employee was subject to the control of an employer, including all the time the
14 employee was permitted or suffered to permit this work. DEFENDANT required these
15 employees to work off the clock without paying them for all the time they were under
16 DEFENDANT's control. Specifically, DEFENDANT required PLAINTIFF to work
17 while clocked out during what was supposed to be PLAINTIFF's off-duty meal break.
18 PLAINTIFF was from time to time interrupted by work assignments. Indeed there were
19 many days where PLAINTIFF did not even receive a partial lunch. As a result,
20 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members forfeited minimum wage and
21 overtime compensation by regularly working without their time being accurately
22 recorded and without compensation at the applicable minimum wage and overtime rates.
23 To the extent that the time worked off the clock did not qualify for overtime premium
24 payment, DEFENDANT failed to pay minimum wages for the time worked off-the-clock
25 in violation of Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197, and 1197.1. Further, PLAINTIFF and
26 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS from time to time were not paid wages for
27 all time worked, including overtime wages, such that in the aggregate employees were
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1 underpaid wages as a result of DEFENDANT's pattern and practice of unevenly
2 rounding time worked by its employees.

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

7 10. The second component of PLAINTIFF's and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
8 Members' compensation was DEFENDANT's non-discretionary incentive program that
9 paid PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members incentive wages based on
10 their performance for DEFENDANT. The non-discretionary incentive program
11 provided all employees paid on an hourly basis with incentive compensation when the
12 employees met the various performance goals set by DEFENDANT. However, when
13 calculating the regular rate of pay in order to pay overtime to PLAINTIFF and other
14 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, DEFENDANT failed to include the incentive
15 compensation as part of the employees' "regular rate of pay" for purposes of calculating
16 overtime pay. Management and supervisors described the incentive program to
17 potential and new employees as part of the compensation package. As a matter of law,
18 the incentive compensation received by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS
19 Members must be included in the "regular rate of pay." DEFENDANT also underpaid
20 sick pay wages to PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members by failing to
21 pay such wages at the regular rate of pay. Specifically, PLAINTIFFS and other
22 non-exempt employees regularly earn non-discretionary remuneration, including but not
23 limited to, incentives, shift differential pay, and bonuses. Rather than pay sick pay at
24 the regular rate of pay, DEFENDANT underpaid sick pay to PLAINTIFFS and other
25 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members at their base rates of pay. The failure to do so has
26 resulted in a systematic underpayment of overtime compensation to PLAINTIFF and
27 other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members by DEFENDANT.

1 11. In violation of the applicable sections of the California Labor Code and the
2 requirements of the Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order,
3 DEFENDANT as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure, intentionally and
4 knowingly failed to compensate PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
5 CALIFORNIA CLASS at the correct rate of pay for all overtime worked. This uniform
6 policy and practice of DEFENDANT is intended to purposefully avoid the payment of
7 the correct overtime compensation as required by California law which allowed
8 DEFENDANT to illegally profit and gain an unfair advantage over competitors who
9 complied with the law. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the
10 CALIFORNIA CLASS against DEFENDANT, the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD
11 should be adjusted accordingly.

12 12. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also from time to time unable to take off duty
14 meal breaks and were not fully relieved of duty for meal periods. PLAINTIFF and other
15 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were required to perform work as ordered by
16 DEFENDANT for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty
17 meal break. Further, DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA
18 CLASS Members with a second off-duty meal period from time to time in which these
19 employees were required by DEFENDANT to work ten (10) hours of work. PLAINTIFF
20 and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members therefore forfeited meal breaks without
21 additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict corporate policy
22 and practice.

23 13. During the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF and other
24 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were from time to time also required to work in excess
25 of four (4) hours without being provided ten (10) minute rest periods. Further, these
26 employees were denied their first rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts
27 worked of at least two (2) to four (4) hours, a first and second rest period of at least ten
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1 (10) minutes for some shifts worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, and a first,
2 second and third rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten
3 (10) hours or more. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were also
4 not provided with one hour wages in lieu thereof. As a result of their rigorous work
5 schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members were periodically
6 denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT's managers.
7 Additionally, the applicable California Wage Order requires employers to provide
8 employees with off-duty rest periods, which the California Supreme Court defined as
9 time during which an employee is relieved from all work related duties and free from
10 employer control. In so doing, the Court held that the requirement under California law
11 that employers authorize and permit all employees to take rest period means that
12 employers must relieve employees of all duties and relinquish control over how
13 employees spend their time which includes control over the locations where employees
14 may take their rest period. Employers cannot impose controls that prohibit an employee
15 from taking a brief walk - five minutes out, five minutes back. Here, DEFENDANT's
16 uniform policy restricted PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members from
17 unconstrained walks and was unlawful based on Defendant's rule which stated
18 PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members could not leave the work
19 premises during their rest period.

20 14. DEFENDANT as a matter of corporate policy, practice and procedure,
21 intentionally, knowingly and systematically failed to reimburse and indemnify
22 PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members for required business
23 expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members in direct
24 consequence of discharging their duties on behalf of DEFENDANT. Under California
25 Labor Code Section 2802, employers are required to indemnify employees for all
26 expenses incurred in the course and scope of their employment. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802
27 expressly states that "an employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary
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1 expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge
2 of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the directions of the employer, even
3 though unlawful, unless the employee, at the time of obeying the directions, believed
4 them to be unlawful."

5 15. In the course of their employment PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA
6 CLASS Members as a business expense, are required by DEFENDANT to use their own
7 personal cellular phones as a result of and in furtherance of their job duties as
8 employees for DEFENDANT but are not reimbursed or indemnified by DEFENDANT
9 for the cost associated with the use of their personal cellular phones and personal
10 vehicles, including gas money, for DEFENDANT's benefit. As a result, in the course
11 of their employment with DEFENDANT, PLAINTIFF and other members of the
12 CALIFORNIA CLASS incurred unreimbursed business expenses which include, but are
13 not limited to, costs related to the use of their personal cellular phones and personal
14 vehicles all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT.

15 16. From time to time, DEFENDANT also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and
16 the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with complete and accurate wage
17 statements which failed to show, among other things, the correct overtime rate for
18 overtime worked, the correct gross wages earned, including, wages for work performed
19 in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek, and
20 the correct penalty payments for missed meal and rest periods. Cal. Lab. Code § 226
21 provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees with an accurate
22 itemized wage statement in writing showing, among other things, gross wages earned
23 and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding
24 amount of time worked at each hourly rate. Specifically, DEFENDANT violated Section
25 226 by failing to identify the correct rates of pay and number of hours worked, including
26 for the "Other Earnings," item of pay. Aside, from the violations listed above in this
27 paragraph, DEFENDANT failed to issue to PLAINTIFF an itemized wage statement
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1 that lists all the requirements under California Labor Code 226 *et seq.* As a result, from
2 time to time DEFENDANT provided PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
3 CALIFORNIA CLASS with wage statements which violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226.

4 17. Cal. Lab. Code § 204 provides that “[a]ll wages. . . earned by any person in
5 any employment are due and payable twice during each calendar month, on days
6 designated in advance by the employer as the regular paydays.” Further, Cal. Lab. Code
7 § 204(d) expressly requires employers to pay employees all wages owed within seven
8 (7) days of the close of the payroll period. DEFENDANT from time to time failed to
9 pay PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members all wages owed to them
10 within seven (7) days of the close of the payroll period.

11 18. By reason of this uniform conduct applicable to PLAINTIFF and all
12 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, DEFENDANT committed acts of unfair competition
13 in violation of the California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
14 17200, *et seq.* (the “UCL”), by engaging in a company-wide policy and procedure which
15 failed to accurately calculate and record the correct overtime rate for the overtime
16 worked by PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members. The proper
17 calculation of these employees’ overtime rates is the DEFENDANT’s burden. As a
18 result of DEFENDANT’s intentional disregard of the obligation to meet this burden,
19 DEFENDANT failed to properly calculate and/or pay all required overtime
20 compensation for work performed by the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and
21 violated the California Labor Code and regulations promulgated thereunder as herein
22 alleged.

23 19. Specifically as to PLAINTIFF’s pay, DEFENDANT provided
24 compensation to him in the form of two components. One component of PLAINTIFF’s
25 compensation was a base hourly wage. The second component of PLAINTIFF’s
26 compensation were non-discretionary incentive wages. DEFENDANT paid the
27 incentive wages, so long as PLAINTIFF met certain predefined performance
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1 requirements. PLAINTIFF met DEFENDANT's predefined eligibility performance
2 requirements in various pay periods throughout his employment with DEFENDANT
3 and DEFENDANT paid PLAINTIFF the non-discretionary incentive wages. During
4 these pay periods in which PLAINTIFF was paid the non-discretionary incentive wages
5 by DEFENDANT, PLAINTIFF also worked overtime for DEFENDANT, but
6 DEFENDANT never included the incentive compensation in PLAINTIFF's regular rate
7 of pay for the purposes of calculating what should have been PLAINTIFF's accurate
8 overtime rate and thereby underpaid PLAINTIFF for overtime worked throughout his
9 employment with DEFENDANT. The incentive compensation paid by DEFENDANT
10 constituted wages within the meaning of the California Labor Code and thereby should
11 have been part of PLAINTIFF's "regular rate of pay." PLAINTIFF was also from time
12 to time unable to take off duty meal and rest breaks and was not fully relieved of duty
13 for his meal periods. PLAINTIFF was required to perform work as ordered by
14 DEFENDANT for more than five (5) hours during a shift without receiving an off-duty
15 meal break. Further, DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF with a second off-
16 duty meal period from time to time in which he was required by DEFENDANT to work
17 ten (10) hours of work. PLAINTIFF therefore forfeited meal and rest breaks without
18 additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict corporate policy
19 and practice. DEFENDANT also provided PLAINTIFF with a pay stub that failed to
20 accurately display PLAINTIFF's correct rates of overtime pay and payments for missed
21 meal and rest periods for certain pay periods in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226(a).
22 To date, DEFENDANT has not fully paid PLAINTIFF the overtime compensation,
23 minimum wage pay, and meal and rest break premium wages still owed to him or any
24 penalties owed to his under Cal. Lab. Code § 203.

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

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2 20. This action is brought as a Class Action on behalf of PLAINTIFF and
3 similarly situated employees of DEFENDANT pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc.
4 23(b)(2) and/or (3). Defendant is subject to Jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§
5 1331, 1337, see The Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”), 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

6 21. Venue is proper in this Court and judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
7 § 1391 because (i) DEFENDANT conducts and conducted substantial business
8 within this judicial district and maintains offices in this judicial district, (ii) the
9 causes of action alleged herein arise in whole or in part in this judicial district, and
10 (iii) DEFENDANT committed wrongful conduct against members of this class in
11 this district.

12
13 **THE CALIFORNIA CLASS**

14 22. PLAINTIFF brings the First Cause of Action for Unfair, Unlawful and
15 Deceptive Business Practices pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*
16 (the "UCL") as a Class Action, pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3), on
17 behalf of a California class, defined as all individuals who are or previously were
18 employed by DEFENDANT in California and classified as non-exempt employees
19 (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS”) at any time during the period beginning on the date
20 four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date as
21 determined by the Court (the “CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD”).

22 23. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the
23 CALIFORNIA CLASS against DEFENDANT, the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD
24 should be adjusted accordingly.

25 24. The California Legislature has commanded that “all wages... ..earned
26 by any person in any employment are due and payable twice during each calendar
27 month, on days designated in advance by the employer as the regular paydays”, and
28 further that “[a]ny work in excess of eight hours in one workday and any work in

1 excess of 40 hours in any one workweek . . . shall be compensated at the rate of no
2 less than one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for an employee.” (Lab. Code
3 § 204 and § 510(a).) The Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC), however, is
4 statutorily authorized to “establish exemptions from the requirement that an overtime
5 rate of compensation be paid... ..for executive, administrative, and professional
6 employees, provided [inter alia] that the employee is primarily engaged in duties that
7 meet the test of the exemption, [and] customarily and regularly exercises discretion
8 and independent judgment in performing those duties...” (Lab. Code § 510(a).)
9 Neither the PLAINTIFF nor the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and/or
10 the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS qualify for exemption from the above
11 requirements.

12 25. DEFENDANT, as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure,
13 and in violation of the applicable Labor Code, Industrial Welfare Commission
14 (“IWC”) Wage Order requirements, and the applicable provisions of California law,
15 intentionally, knowingly, and wilfully, engaged in a practice whereby DEFENDANT
16 systematically failed to correctly calculate and record overtime compensation for
17 overtime worked by PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
18 CLASS, even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit of this work, required
19 employees to perform this work and permitted or suffered to permit this overtime
20 work.

21 26. DEFENDANT has the legal burden to establish that each and every
22 CALIFORNIA CLASS Member is paid the applicable rate for all overtime worked
23 and to accurately calculate the “regular rate of pay” by including the incentive
24 compensation that PLAINTIFF and members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were
25 awarded by DEFENDANT. DEFENDANT, however, as a matter of uniform and
26 systematic policy and procedure failed to have in place during the CALIFORNIA
27 CLASS PERIOD and still fails to have in place a policy or practice to ensure that
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1 each and every CALIFORNIA CLASS Member is paid the applicable overtime rate
2 for all overtime worked, so as to satisfy their burden. This common business
3 practice applicable to each and every CALIFORNIA CLASS Member can be
4 adjudicated on a class-wide basis as unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive under Cal.
5 Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* (the “UCL”) as causation, damages,
6 and reliance are not elements of this claim.

7 27. At no time during the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD was the
8 compensation for any member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS properly recalculated so
9 as to compensate the employee for all overtime worked at the applicable rate, as
10 required by California Labor Code §§ 204 and 510, *et seq.* At no time during the
11 CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD was the overtime compensation for any member of
12 the CALIFORNIA CLASS properly recalculated so as to include all earnings in the
13 overtime compensation calculation as required by California Labor Code §§ 510, *et*
14 *seq.*

15 28. The CALIFORNIA CLASS, is so numerous that joinder of all
16 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members is impracticable.

17 29. DEFENDANT uniformly violated the rights of the CALIFORNIA
18 CLASS under California law by:

- 19 (a) Violating the California Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. &
20 Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, by unlawfully, unfairly and/or
21 deceptively having in place company policies, practices and
22 procedures that failed to pay all minimum and overtime wages
23 due the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all time worked, and failed to
24 accurately record the applicable rates of all overtime worked by
25 the CALIFORNIA CLASS;
- 26 (b) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the
27 California Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
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1 17200, *et seq.*, by unlawfully, unfairly, and/or deceptively having
2 in place a company policy, practice and procedure that failed to
3 correctly calculate overtime compensation due to PLAINTIFF
4 and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS;

5 (c) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the
6 California Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
7 17200, *et seq.*, by violating the Fair Labor Standards Act
8 (“FLSA”), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.*, by failing to pay the correct
9 federal overtime wages to the PLAINTIFF and the members of
10 the CALIFORNIA CLASS as legally required by the FLSA, and
11 retaining the unpaid federal overtime to the benefit of
12 DEFENDANT.;

13 (d) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the
14 California Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
15 17200 *et seq.*, by violating Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 by failing to
16 reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members
17 with necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their job
18 duties;

19 (e) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the
20 California Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
21 17200, *et seq.*, by failing to provide mandatory meal and/or rest
22 breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS members;
23 and,

24 (f) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the
25 California Unfair Competition Laws, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
26 17200, *et seq.*, by violating the Fair Labor Standards Act
27 (“FLSA”), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.*, by failing to pay the correct
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1 overtime wages to the PLAINTIFF and the members of the
2 CALIFORNIA CLASS as legally required by the FLSA, and
3 retaining the unpaid overtime to the benefit of DEFENDANT.

4 30. This Class Action meets the statutory prerequisites for the maintenance
5 of a Class Action pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3), in that:

6 (a) The persons who comprise the CALIFORNIA CLASS are so
7 numerous that the joinder of all such persons is impracticable and
8 the disposition of their claims as a class will benefit the parties
9 and the Court;

10 (b) Nearly all factual, legal, statutory, declaratory and injunctive
11 relief issues that are raised in this Complaint are common to the
12 CALIFORNIA CLASS will apply uniformly to every member of
13 the CALIFORNIA CLASS;

14 (c) The claims of the representative PLAINTIFF are typical of the
15 claims of each member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
16 PLAINTIFF, like all the other members of the CALIFORNIA
17 CLASS, was subjected to the uniform employment practices of
18 DEFENDANT and was a non-exempt employee paid on an
19 hourly basis and paid additional non-discretionary incentive
20 wages who was subjected to the DEFENDANT's practice and
21 policy which fails to pay the correct rate of overtime wages due to
22 the CALIFORNIA CLASS for all overtime worked by the
23 CALIFORNIA CLASS and thereby systematically underpays
24 overtime compensation to the CALIFORNIA CLASS.
25 PLAINTIFF sustained economic injury as a result of
26 DEFENDANT's employment practices. PLAINTIFF and the
27 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS were and are similarly or
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1 identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair and
2 pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by DEFENDANT;
3 and,

4 (d) The representative PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately
5 represent and protect the interest of the CALIFORNIA CLASS,
6 and has retained counsel who are competent and experienced in
7 Class Action litigation. There are no material conflicts between
8 the claims of the representative PLAINTIFF and the members of
9 the CALIFORNIA CLASS that would make class certification
10 inappropriate. Counsel for the CALIFORNIA CLASS will
11 vigorously assert the claims of all CALIFORNIA CLASS
12 Members.

13 31. In addition to meeting the statutory prerequisites to a Class Action, this
14 action is properly maintained as a Class Action pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc.
15 23(b)(2) and/or (3), in that:

16 (a) Without class certification and determination of declaratory,
17 injunctive, statutory and other legal questions within the class
18 format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of
19 the CALIFORNIA CLASS will create the risk of:

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

2 (b) The parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS have acted or
3 refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS, making appropriate class-wide relief with
5 respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole in that
6 DEFENDANT uniformly failed to pay all wages due. Including
7 the correct overtime rate, for all worked by the members of the
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS as required by law;

9 1) With respect to the First Cause of Action, the final relief on
10 behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS sought does not relate
11 exclusively to restitution because through this claim
12 PLAINTIFF seeks declaratory relief holding that the
13 DEFENDANT's policy and practices constitute unfair
14 competition, along with declaratory relief, injunctive
15 relief, and incidental equitable relief as may be necessary to
16 prevent and remedy the conduct declared to constitute
17 unfair competition;

18 (c) Common questions of law and fact exist as to the members of the
19 CALIFORNIA CLASS, with respect to the practices and
20 violations of California law as listed above, and predominate over
21 any question affecting only individual CALIFORNIA CLASS
22 Members, and a Class Action is superior to other available
23 methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy,
24 including consideration of:

25 1) The interests of the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
26 in individually controlling the prosecution or defense of
27 separate actions in that the substantial expense of
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1 individual actions will be avoided to recover the relatively
2 small amount of economic losses sustained by the
3 individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members when
4 compared to the substantial expense and burden of
5 individual prosecution of this litigation;

6 2) Class certification will obviate the need for unduly
7 duplicative litigation that would create the risk of:

8 A. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to
9 individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS,
10 which would establish incompatible standards of
11 conduct for the DEFENDANT; and/or,

12 B. Adjudications with respect to individual members of
13 the CALIFORNIA CLASS would as a practical
14 matter be dispositive of the interests of the other
15 members not parties to the adjudication or
16 substantially impair or impede their ability to protect
17 their interests;

18 3) In the context of wage litigation because a substantial
19 number of individual CALIFORNIA CLASS Members will
20 avoid asserting their legal rights out of fear of retaliation by
21 DEFENDANT, which may adversely affect an individual's
22 job with DEFENDANT or with a subsequent employer, the
23 Class Action is the only means to assert their claims
24 through a representative; and,

25 4) A class action is superior to other available methods for the
26 fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation because
27 class treatment will obviate the need for unduly and
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1 unnecessary duplicative litigation that is likely to result in
2 the absence of certification of this action pursuant to Fed
3 R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3).

4 32. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a Class Action
5 pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3) because:

- 6 (a) The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA
7 CLASS predominate over any question affecting only individual
8 CALIFORNIA CLASS Members because the DEFENDANT's
9 employment practices are uniform and systematically applied
10 with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS;
- 11 (b) A Class Action is superior to any other available method for the
12 fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the
13 CALIFORNIA CLASS because in the context of employment
14 litigation a substantial number of individual CALIFORNIA
15 CLASS Members will avoid asserting their rights individually out
16 of fear of retaliation or adverse impact on their employment;
- 17 (c) The members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are so numerous that
18 it is impractical to bring all members of the CALIFORNIA
19 CLASS before the Court;
- 20 (d) PLAINTIFF, and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS Members, will
21 not be able to obtain effective and economic legal redress unless
22 the action is maintained as a Class Action;
- 23 (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal
24 and equitable relief for the acts of unfair competition, statutory
25 violations and other improprieties, and in obtaining adequate
26 compensation for the damages and injuries which
27 DEFENDANT's actions have inflicted upon the CALIFORNIA
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CLASS;

- (f) There is a community of interest in ensuring that the combined assets of DEFENDANT are sufficient to adequately compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the injuries sustained;
- (g) DEFENDANT has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS, thereby making final class-wide relief appropriate with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole;
- (h) The members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are readily ascertainable from the business records of DEFENDANT; and,
- (i) Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring a efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour related claims arising out of the conduct of DEFENDANT as to the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

33. DEFENDANT maintains records from which the Court can ascertain and identify by job title each of DEFENDANT’s employees who as have been systematically, intentionally and uniformly subjected to DEFENDANT’s company policy, practices and procedures as herein alleged. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend the Complaint to include any additional job titles of similarly situated employees when they have been identified.

THE CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS

34. PLAINTIFF further brings the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth causes of Action on behalf of a California sub-class, defined as all members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS classified as non-exempt employees (the “CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS”) at any time during the period beginning on

1 the date three (3) years prior to the filing of the complaint and ending on the date as
2 determined by the Court (the “CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD”)
3 pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3).

4 35. DEFENDANT, as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure,
5 and in violation of the applicable Labor Code, Industrial Welfare Commission
6 (“IWC”) Wage Order requirements, and the applicable provisions of California law,
7 intentionally, knowingly, and wilfully, engaged in a practice whereby DEFENDANT
8 failed to correctly calculate overtime compensation for the overtime worked by
9 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS,
10 even though DEFENDANT enjoyed the benefit of this work, required employees to
11 perform this work and permitted or suffered to permit this overtime work.

12 DEFENDANT has uniformly denied these CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
13 Members overtime wages at the correct amount to which these employees are
14 entitled in order to unfairly cheat the competition and unlawfully profit. To the
15 extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
16 CLASS against DEFENDANT, the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD
17 should be adjusted accordingly.

18 36. DEFENDANT maintains records from which the Court can ascertain
19 and identify by name and job title, each of DEFENDANT’s employees who have
20 been systematically, intentionally and uniformly subjected to DEFENDANT’s
21 company policy, practices and procedures as herein alleged. PLAINTIFF will seek
22 leave to amend the complaint to include any additional job titles of similarly situated
23 employees when they have been identified.

24 37. The CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS is so numerous that joinder
25 of all CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members is impracticable.

26 38. Common questions of law and fact exist as to members of the
27 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, including, but not limited, to the following:
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- 1 (a) Whether DEFENDANT unlawfully failed to correctly calculate
2 and pay overtime compensation to members of the CALIFORNIA
3 LABOR SUB-CLASS in violation of the California Labor Code
4 and California regulations and the applicable California Wage
5 Order;
- 6 (b) Whether the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
7 CLASS are entitled to overtime compensation for overtime
8 worked under the overtime pay requirements of California law;
- 9 (c) Whether DEFENDANT failed to accurately record the applicable
10 overtime rates for all overtime worked PLAINTIFF and the other
11 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS;
- 12 (d) Whether DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and the
13 other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS with
14 legally required uninterrupted thirty (30) minute meal breaks and
15 rest periods;
- 16 (e) Whether DEFENDANT failed to provide PLAINTIFF and the
17 other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS with
18 accurate itemized wage statements;
- 19 (f) Whether DEFENDANT has engaged in unfair competition by the
20 above-listed conduct;
- 21 (g) The proper measure of damages and penalties owed to the
22 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS; and,
- 23 (h) Whether DEFENDANT's conduct was willful.

24 39. DEFENDANT, as a matter of company policy, practice and procedure,
25 failed to accurately calculate overtime compensation for the CALIFORNIA LABOR
26 SUB-CLASS Members and failed to provide accurate records of the applicable
27 overtime rates for the overtime worked by these employees. All of the

1 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members, including PLAINTIFF, were non-
2 exempt employees who were paid on an hourly basis by DEFENDANT according to
3 uniform and systematic company procedures as alleged herein above. This business
4 practice was uniformly applied to each and every member of the CALIFORNIA
5 LABOR SUB-CLASS, and therefore, the propriety of this conduct can be
6 adjudicated on a class-wide basis.

7 40. DEFENDANT violated the rights of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
8 CLASS under California law by:

- 9 (a) Violating Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, *et seq.*, by failing to accurately
10 pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
11 SUB-CLASS the correct overtime pay for which DEFENDANT
12 is liable pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 & § 1198;
- 13 (b) Violating Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1 *et seq.*, by
14 failing to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the
15 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS the correct minimum wage
16 pay for which DEFENDANT is liable pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code
17 §§ 1194 and 1197;
- 18 (c) Violating Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 and 512, by failing to provide
19 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
20 LABOR SUB-CLASS with all legally required off-duty,
21 uninterrupted thirty (30) minute meal breaks and the legally
22 required rest breaks;
- 23 (d) Violating Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 by failing to reimburse
24 PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
25 members with necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of
26 their job duties.
- 27 (e) Violating Cal. Lab. Code § 226, by failing to provide
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1 PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
2 SUB-CLASS with an accurate itemized statement in writing
3 showing all accurate and applicable overtime rates in effect
4 during the pay period and the corresponding amount of time
5 worked at each overtime rate by the employee; and,

- 6 (f) Violating Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201, 202 and/or 203, which provides
7 that when an employee is discharged or quits from employment,
8 the employer must pay the employee all wages due without
9 abatement, by failing to tender full payment and/or restitution of
10 wages owed or in the manner required by California law to the
11 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS who have
12 terminated their employment.

13 41. This Class Action meets the statutory prerequisites for the maintenance
14 of a Class Action pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3), in that:

- 15 (a) The persons who comprise the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
16 CLASS are so numerous that the joinder of all CALIFORNIA
17 LABOR SUB-CLASS Members is impracticable and the
18 disposition of their claims as a class will benefit the parties and
19 the Court;
- 20 (b) Nearly all factual, legal, statutory, declaratory and injunctive
21 relief issues that are raised in this Complaint are common to the
22 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and will apply uniformly to
23 every member of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS;
- 24 (c) The claims of the representative PLAINTIFF are typical of the
25 claims of each member of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
26 CLASS. PLAINTIFF, like all the other members of the
27 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, was a non-exempt
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1 employee paid on an hourly basis and paid additional non-
2 discretionary incentive wages who was subjected to the
3 DEFENDANT's practice and policy which failed to pay the
4 correct rate of overtime wages due to the CALIFORNIA LABOR
5 SUB-CLASS for all overtime worked. PLAINTIFF sustained
6 economic injury as a result of DEFENDANT's employment
7 practices. PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA
8 LABOR SUB-CLASS were and are similarly or identically
9 harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair and pervasive
10 pattern of misconduct engaged in by DEFENDANT; and,

11 (d) The representative PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately
12 represent and protect the interest of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
13 SUB-CLASS, and has retained counsel who are competent and
14 experienced in Class Action litigation. There are no material
15 conflicts between the claims of the representative PLAINTIFF
16 and the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
17 that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the
18 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS will vigorously assert the
19 claims of all CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members.

20 42. In addition to meeting the statutory prerequisites to a Class Action, this
21 action is properly maintained as a Class Action pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc.
22 23(b)(2) and/or (3), in that:

23 (a) Without class certification and determination of declaratory,
24 injunctive, statutory and other legal questions within the class
25 format, prosecution of separate actions by individual members of
26 the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS will create the risk of:

27 1) Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to
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1 individual members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
2 CLASS which would establish incompatible standards of
3 conduct for the parties opposing the CALIFORNIA
4 LABOR SUB-CLASS; or,

5 2) Adjudication with respect to individual members of the
6 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS which would as a
7 practical matter be dispositive of interests of the other
8 members not party to the adjudication or substantially
9 impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.

10 (b) The parties opposing the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
11 have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to
12 the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, making appropriate
13 class-wide relief with respect to the CALIFORNIA LABOR
14 SUB-CLASS as a whole in that DEFENDANT uniformly failed
15 to pay all wages due. Including the correct overtime rate, for all
16 overtime worked by the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
17 SUB-CLASS as required by law;

18 (c) Common questions of law and fact predominate as to the
19 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, with
20 respect to the practices and violations of California Law as listed
21 above, and predominate over any question affecting only
22 individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members, and a
23 Class Action is superior to other available methods for the fair
24 and efficient adjudication of the controversy, including
25 consideration of:

26 1) The interests of the members of the CALIFORNIA
27 LABOR SUB-CLASS in individually controlling the
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1 prosecution or defense of separate actions in that the
2 substantial expense of individual actions will be avoided to
3 recover the relatively small amount of economic losses
4 sustained by the individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
5 CLASS Members when compared to the substantial
6 expense and burden of individual prosecution of this
7 litigation;

8 2) Class certification will obviate the need for undue
9 duplicative litigation that would create the risk of:

10 A. Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to
11 individual members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
12 SUB-CLASS, which would establish incompatible
13 standards of conduct for the DEFENDANT; and/or,

14 B. Adjudications with respect to individual members of
15 the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS would as a
16 practical matter be dispositive of the interests of the
17 other members not parties to the adjudication or
18 substantially impair or impede their ability to protect
19 their interests;

20 3) In the context of wage litigation because a substantial
21 number of individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
22 Members will avoid asserting their legal rights out of fear
23 of retaliation by DEFENDANT, which may adversely
24 affect an individual's job with DEFENDANT or with a
25 subsequent employer, the Class Action is the only means to
26 assert their claims through a representative; and,

27 4) A class action is superior to other available methods for the
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1 fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation because
2 class treatment will obviate the need for unduly and
3 unnecessary duplicative litigation that is likely to result in
4 the absence of certification of this action pursuant to Fed
5 R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3).

6 43. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a Class Action
7 pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or (3) because:

- 8 (a) The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA
9 LABOR SUB-CLASS predominate over any question affecting
10 only individual CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members;
- 11 (b) A Class Action is superior to any other available method for the
12 fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the
13 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS because in the context of
14 employment litigation a substantial number of individual
15 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members will avoid
16 asserting their rights individually out of fear of retaliation or
17 adverse impact on their employment;
- 18 (c) The members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS are so
19 numerous that it is impractical to bring all members of the
20 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS before the Court;
- 21 (d) PLAINTIFF, and the other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
22 Members, will not be able to obtain effective and economic legal
23 redress unless the action is maintained as a Class Action;
- 24 (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal
25 and equitable relief for the acts of unfair competition, statutory
26 violations and other improprieties, and in obtaining adequate
27 compensation for the damages and injuries which
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DEFENDANT's actions have inflicted upon the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS;

(f) There is a community of interest in ensuring that the combined assets of DEFENDANT are sufficient to adequately compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for the injuries sustained;

(g) DEFENDANT has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS, thereby making final class-wide relief appropriate with respect to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS as a whole;

(h) The members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS are readily ascertainable from the business records of DEFENDANT. The CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS consists of all CALIFORNIA CLASS Members classified as non-exempt employees during the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD; and,

(i) Class treatment provides manageable judicial treatment calculated to bring a efficient and rapid conclusion to all litigation of all wage and hour related claims arising out of the conduct of DEFENDANT as to the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS.

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FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

For Unlawful Business Practices

[Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and Against All Defendants)

44. 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.

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

46. 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.

47. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT has engaged and continues 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 204, 210, 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802, the FLSA, and the Code of Federal Regulations, The Fair Labor Standards Act and federal regulations promulgated thereunder, 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.

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

7 49. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were deceptive
8 and fraudulent in that DEFENDANT's uniform policy and practice failed to pay
9 PLAINTIFF, and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, wages due for overtime
10 worked, failed to accurately to record the applicable rate of all overtime worked, and
11 failed to provide the required amount of overtime compensation due to a systematic
12 miscalculation of the overtime rate that cannot be justified, pursuant to the applicable
13 Cal. Lab. Code, and Industrial Welfare Commission requirements in violation of Cal.
14 Bus. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and for which this Court should issue injunctive and
15 equitable relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including restitution of
16 wages wrongfully withheld.

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

21 51. By the conduct alleged herein, DEFENDANT's practices were also unfair
22 and deceptive in that DEFENDANT's uniform policies, practices and procedures failed
23 to provide mandatory meal and/or rest breaks to PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
24 CLASS members.

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

3 53. PLAINTIFF further demands on behalf of himself and on behalf of each
4 CALIFORNIA CLASS member, one (1) hour of pay for each workday in which an off
5 duty paid rest period was not timely provided as required by law.

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

13 55. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the
14 Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, the California Code of Regulations, and
15 the California Labor Code, were unlawful and in violation of public policy, were
16 immoral, unethical, oppressive and unscrupulous, were deceptive, and thereby constitute
17 unlawful, unfair and deceptive business practices in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code
18 §§ 17200, *et seq.*

19 56. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are
20 entitled to, and do, seek such relief as may be necessary to restore to them the money
21 and property which DEFENDANT has acquired, or of which PLAINTIFF and the other
22 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have been deprived, by means of the above
23 described unlawful and unfair business practices, including earned but unpaid wages for
24 all overtime worked.

25 57. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are
26 further entitled to, and do, seek a declaration that the described business practices are
27 unlawful, unfair and deceptive, and that injunctive relief should be issued restraining
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1 DEFENDANT from engaging in any unlawful and unfair business practices in the
2 future.

3 58. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS have no
4 plain, speedy and/or adequate remedy at law that will end the unlawful and unfair
5 business practices of DEFENDANT. Further, the practices herein alleged presently
6 continue to occur unabated. As a result of the unlawful and unfair business practices
7 described herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
8 have suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable legal and economic harm unless
9 DEFENDANT is restrained from continuing to engage in these unlawful and unfair
10 business practices.

11 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

12 **For Failure To Pay Overtime Compensation**

13 **[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 510, 1194 and 1198]**

14 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All**
15 **Defendants)**

16 59. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
17 CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the
18 prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

19 60. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
20 CLASS bring a claim for DEFENDANT's willful and intentional violations of the
21 California Labor Code and the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements for
22 DEFENDANT's failure to accurately calculate the applicable rates for all overtime
23 worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
24 and DEFENDANT's failure to properly compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA
25 LABOR SUB-CLASS for overtime worked, including, work performed in excess of
26 eight (8) hours in a workday and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

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

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

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

10 64. DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF
11 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS without regard to
12 the correct amount of overtime worked and correct applicable overtime rate for the
13 amount of overtime they worked. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT's uniform policy
14 and practice was to unlawfully and intentionally deny timely payment of wages due for
15 the overtime worked by PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
16 LABOR SUB-CLASS, and DEFENDANT in fact failed to pay these employees the
17 correct applicable overtime wages for all overtime worked.

18 65. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices
19 manifested, without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
20 as a whole, as a result of implementing a uniform policy and practice that denied
21 accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
22 LABOR SUB-CLASS for all overtime worked, including, the work performed in excess
23 of eight (8) hours in a workday and/or forty (40) hours in any workweek.

24 65. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF
25 and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were required, permitted or
26 suffered by DEFENDANT to work for DEFENDANT and were not paid for all the time
27 they worked including overtime work.

1 66. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code,
2 DEFENDANT inaccurately calculated the amount of overtime worked and the
3 applicable overtime rates and consequently underpaid the actual time worked by
4 PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS.
5 DEFENDANT acted in an illegal attempt to avoid the payment of all earned wages, and
6 other benefits in violation of the California Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare
7 Commission requirements and other applicable laws and regulations.

8 67. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged
9 herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
10 did not receive full compensation for all overtime worked.

11 68. Cal. Lab. Code § 515 sets out various categories of employees who are
12 exempt from the overtime requirements of the law. None of these exemptions are
13 applicable to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
14 CLASS. Further, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
15 SUB-CLASS are not subject to a valid collective bargaining agreement that would
16 preclude the causes of action contained herein this Complaint. Rather, the PLAINTIFF
17 brings this Action on behalf of himself and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
18 based on DEFENDANT's violations of non-negotiable, non-waiveable rights provided
19 by the State of California.

20 69. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, PLAINTIFF
21 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were paid less for
22 time worked that they were entitled to, constituting a failure to pay all earned wages.

23 70. DEFENDANT failed to accurately pay PLAINTIFF and the other members
24 of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS overtime wages for the time they worked
25 which was in excess of the maximum hours permissible by law as required by Cal. Lab.
26 Code §§ 510, 1194 & 1198, even though PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
27 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were required to work, and did in fact work,
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1 overtime as to which DEFENDANT failed to accurately record and pay using the
2 applicable overtime rate as evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records and
3 witnessed by employees.

4 71. By virtue of DEFENDANT's unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned
5 compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
6 SUB-CLASS for the true time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
7 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer an
8 economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown to them and which will be
9 ascertained according to proof at trial.

10 72. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
11 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS are under compensated for their
12 overtime worked. DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional
13 malfeasance or gross nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of
14 uniform company policy, practice and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this
15 systematic scheme by refusing to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
16 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS the applicable overtime rate.

17 73. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of
18 California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA
19 LABOR SUB-CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite overtime
20 compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act intentionally, oppressively, and
21 maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
22 SUB-CLASS with a conscious of and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the
23 consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property
24 and legal rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits
25 at the expense of these employees.

26 74. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
27 CLASS therefore request recovery of all unpaid wages, including overtime wages,
28

1 according to proof, interest, statutory costs, as well as the assessment of any statutory
2 penalties against DEFENDANT, in a sum as provided by the California Labor Code
3 and/or other applicable statutes. To the extent overtime compensation is determined to
4 be owed to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members who have terminated
5 their employment, DEFENDANT’S conduct also violates Labor Code §§ 201 and/or
6 202, and therefore these individuals are also be entitled to waiting time penalties under
7 Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which penalties are sought herein on behalf of these
8 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members. DEFENDANT’s conduct as alleged
9 herein was willful, intentional and not in good faith. Further, PLAINTIFF and other
10 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members are entitled to seek and recover
11 statutory costs.

12 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **For Failure To Pay Minimum Wages**

14 **[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 and 1197.1]**

15 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS**
16 **and Against All Defendants)**

17 75. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
18 CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the
19 prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

20 76. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
21 CLASS bring a claim for DEFENDANT’S willful and intentional violations of the
22 California Labor Code and the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements for
23 DEFENDANT’S failure to accurately calculate and pay minimum and reporting time
24 wages to PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members.

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

27 78. Cal. Lab. Code § 1197 provides the minimum wage for employees fixed
28

1 by the commission is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of
2 a less wage than the minimum so fixed in unlawful.

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

6 80. DEFENDANT maintained a uniform wage practice of paying PLAINTIFF
7 and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS without regard to
8 the correct amount of time they work. As set forth herein, DEFENDANT's uniform
9 policy and practice was to unlawfully and intentionally deny timely payment of wages
10 due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS.

11 81. DEFENDANT's uniform pattern of unlawful wage and hour practices
12 manifested, without limitation, applicable to the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
13 as a whole, as a result of implementing a uniform policy and practice that denies
14 accurate compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA
15 LABOR SUB-CLASS in regards to minimum wage pay.

16 82. In committing these violations of the California Labor Code,
17 DEFENDANT inaccurately calculated the correct time worked and consequently
18 underpaid the actual time worked by PLAINTIFF and other members of the
19 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. DEFENDANT acted in an illegal attempt to
20 avoid the payment of all earned wages, and other benefits in violation of the California
21 Labor Code, the Industrial Welfare Commission requirements and other applicable laws
22 and regulations.

23 83. As a direct result of DEFENDANT's unlawful wage practices as alleged
24 herein, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
25 did not receive the correct minimum wage compensation for their time worked for
26 DEFENDANT.

27 84. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, DEFENDANT
28

1 required, permitted or suffered PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS
2 members to work without paying them for all the time they were under DEFENDANT’S
3 control. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
4 CLASS were paid less for time worked that they were entitled to, constituting a failure
5 to pay all earned wages.

6 85. By virtue of DEFENDANT’S unlawful failure to accurately pay all earned
7 compensation to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
8 SUB-CLASS for the true time they worked, PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
9 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS have suffered and will continue to suffer an
10 economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown to them and which will be
11 ascertained according to proof at trial.

12 86. DEFENDANT knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF and the other
13 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS were under compensated for their
14 time worked. DEFENDANT systematically elected, either through intentional
15 malfeasance or gross nonfeasance, to not pay employees for their labor as a matter of
16 uniform company policy, practice and procedure, and DEFENDANT perpetrated this
17 systematic scheme by refusing to pay PLAINTIFF and the other members of the
18 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS the correct minimum wages for their time
19 worked.

20 87. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of
21 California labor laws, and refusing to compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA
22 LABOR SUB-CLASS for all time worked and provide them with the requisite
23 compensation, DEFENDANT acted and continues to act intentionally, oppressively, and
24 maliciously toward PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
25 SUB-CLASS with a conscious and utter disregard for their legal rights, or the
26 consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their property
27 and legal rights, and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase company profits
28

1 at the expense of these employees.

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

14
15 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

16 **For Failure to Provide Required Meal Periods**

17 **[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512]**

18 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All**
19 **Defendants)**

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

23 90. During the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, from time to
24 time, DEFENDANT failed to provide all the legally required off-duty meal breaks to
25 PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members as required
26 by the applicable Wage Order and Labor Code. The nature of the work performed by
27 PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS MEMBERS did not prevent

1 these employees from being relieved of all of their duties for the legally required off-
2 duty meal periods. As a result of their rigorous work schedules, PLAINTIFF and other
3 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were from time to time not fully
4 relieved of duty by DEFENDANT for their meal periods. Additionally,
5 DEFENDANT's failure to provide PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
6 CLASS Members with legally required meal breaks prior to their fifth (5th) hour of
7 work is evidenced by DEFENDANT's business records. As a result, PLAINTIFF and
8 other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS therefore forfeited meal
9 breaks without additional compensation and in accordance with DEFENDANT's strict
10 corporate policy and practice.

11 91. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the
12 applicable IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA
13 LABOR SUB-CLASS Members who were not provided a meal period, in accordance
14 with the applicable Wage Order, one additional hour of compensation at each
15 employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that a meal period was not provided.

16 92. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, PLAINTIFF and
17 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members have been damaged in an amount
18 according to proof at trial, and seek all wages earned and due, interest, penalties,
19

20 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

21 **For Failure to Provide Required Rest Periods**

22 **[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512]**

23 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All**
24 **Defendants)**

25 93. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
26 CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the
27 prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

1 94. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members
2 were from time to time required to work in excess of four (4) hours without being
3 provided ten (10) minute rest periods. Further, these employees were denied their first
4 rest periods of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of at least two (2) to four
5 (4) hours, a first and second rest period of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts
6 worked of between six (6) and eight (8) hours, and a first, second and third rest period
7 of at least ten (10) minutes for some shifts worked of ten (10) hours or more from time
8 to time. PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were
9 also not provided with one hour wages in lieu thereof. As a result of their rigorous work
10 schedules, PLAINTIFF and other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members were
11 periodically denied their proper rest periods by DEFENDANT and DEFENDANT's
12 managers. DEFENDANT's uniform policy restricted PLAINTIFF and other
13 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members from unconstrained walks and was
14 unlawful based on DEFENDANT'S rule which stated PLAINTIFF and other
15 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS Members could not leave the work premises
16 during their rest period.

17 95. DEFENDANT further violated California Labor Code §§ 226.7 and the
18 applicable IWC Wage Order by failing to compensate PLAINTIFF and CALIFORNIA
19 LABOR SUB-CLASS Members who were not provided a rest period, in accordance
20 with the applicable Wage Order, one additional hour of compensation at each
21 employee's regular rate of pay for each workday that rest period was not provided.

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

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SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

For Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Statements

[Cal. Lab. Code § 226]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All Defendants)

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

98. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an “accurate itemized” statement in writing showing:

- (1) gross wages earned,
- (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the Industrial Welfare Commission,
- (3) the number of piecerate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- (5) net wages earned,
- (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- (7) the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number may be shown on the itemized statement,
- (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and
- (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the

1 corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

2 99. From time to time, DEFENDANT also failed to provide PLAINTIFF and
3 the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS with complete and
4 accurate wage statements which failed to show, among other things, the correct overtime
5 rate for overtime worked, the correct gross wages earned, including, wages for work
6 performed in excess of eight (8) hours in a workday and/or forty (40) hours in any
7 workweek, and the correct penalty payments for missed meal and rest periods. Cal. Lab.
8 Code § 226 provides that every employer shall furnish each of his or her employees with
9 an accurate itemized wage statement in writing showing, among other things, gross
10 wages earned and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the
11 corresponding amount of time worked at each hourly rate. Specifically, DEFENDANT
12 violated Section 226 by failing to identify the correct rates of pay and number of hours
13 worked, including for the “Other Earnings,” item of pay. Aside, from the violations
14 listed above in this paragraph, DEFENDANT failed to issue to PLAINTIFF an itemized
15 wage statement that lists all the requirements under California Labor Code 226 *et seq.*
16 As a result, from time to time DEFENDANT provided PLAINTIFF and the other
17 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS with wage statements which
18 violated Cal. Lab. Code § 226.

19 100. DEFENDANT knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Cal.
20 Labor Code § 226, causing injury and damages to the PLAINTIFF and the other
21 members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS. These damages include, but are
22 not limited to, costs expended calculating the correct rates for the overtime worked and
23 the amount of employment taxes which were not properly paid to state and federal tax
24 authorities. These damages are difficult to estimate. Therefore, PLAINTIFF and the
25 other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS may elect to recover
26 liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the initial pay period in which the
27 violation occurred, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation in a subsequent
28

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

5
6 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

7 **For Failure to Reimburse Employees for Required Expenses**

8 **[Cal. Lab. Code § 2802]**

9 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All**
10 **Defendants)**

11 101. PLAINTIFF and the other CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members
12 reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior
13 paragraphs of this Complaint.

14 102. Cal. Lab. Code § 2802 provides, in relevant part, that:

15 An employer shall indemnify his or her employee for all necessary
16 expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of
17 the discharge of his or her duties, or of his or her obedience to the
18 directions of the employer, even though unlawful, unless the employee, at
19 the time of obeying the directions, believed them to be unlawful.

20 103. At all relevant times herein, DEFENDANT violated Cal. Lab. Code § 2802,
21 by failing to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR
22 SUB-CLASS members for required expenses incurred in the discharge of their job
23 duties for DEFENDANT's benefit. DEFENDANT fails to reimburse PLAINTIFF and
24 the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members for expenses which include, but are
25 not limited to, costs related to using their personal cellular phones and personal vehicles
26 all on behalf of and for the benefit of DEFENDANT. DEFENDANT's uniform policy,
27 practice and procedure is to not reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR
28 SUB-CLASS members for expenses resulting from using their personal cellular phones
and personal vehicles for DEFENDANT within the course and scope of their

1 employment for DEFENDANT. These expenses are necessary to complete their
2 principal job duties. DEFENDANT is estopped by DEFENDANT's conduct to assert
3 any waiver of this expectation. Although these expenses are necessary expenses
4 incurred by PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members,
5 DEFENDANT fails to indemnify and reimburse PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA
6 LABOR SUB-CLASS members for these expenses as an employer is required to do
7 under the laws and regulations of California.

8 104. PLAINTIFF therefore demands reimbursement for expenditures or losses
9 incurred by her and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS members in the discharge
10 of their job duties for DEFENDANT, or their obedience to the directions of
11 DEFENDANT, with interest at the statutory rate and costs under Cal. Lab. Code § 2802.

12
13 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

14 **For Failure to Pay Wages When Due**

15 **[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201, 202, 203]**

16 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS and Against All**
17 **Defendants)**

18 105. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
19 CLASS, reallege and incorporate by reference, as though fully set forth herein, the prior
20 paragraphs of this Complaint.

21 106. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:

22 As used in this article:

23 (a) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of
24 every description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the
25 standard of time, task, piece, Commission basis, or other method of calculation.

26 (b) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed
27 under contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement
28 if the labor to be paid for is performed personally by the person demanding
payment.

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

1 and payable immediately.”

2 108. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:

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

13 109. There was no definite term in PLAINTIFF’s or any CALIFORNIA LABOR
14 SUB-CLASS Members’ employment contract.

15 110. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides:

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

22 111. The employment of PLAINTIFF and many CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
23 CLASS Members terminated and DEFENDANT has not tendered payment of overtime
24 wages, to these employees who actually worked overtime, as required by law.

25 112. Therefore, as provided by Cal Lab. Code § 203, on behalf of himself and
26 the members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS whose employment has,
27 PLAINTIFF demands up to thirty days of pay as penalty for not paying all wages due
28 at time of termination for all employees who terminated employment during the
CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS PERIOD, and demands an accounting and
payment of all wages due, plus interest and statutory costs as allowed by law.

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NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.* ("FLSA")

(By PLAINTIFF and the COLLECTIVE CLASS against DEFENDANT)

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

114. DEFENDANT is engaged in communication, business, and transmission between the states, and is, therefore, engaged in commerce within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 203(b).

115. The PLAINTIFF further brings the Ninth Cause of Action on behalf of a COLLECTIVE CLASS in accordance with 29 U.S.C. § 216 defined as all persons who are or were previously employed by DEFENDANT in the United States and classified as non-exempt employees (the "COLLECTIVE CLASS") at any time during the period three (3) years prior to the filing of the Complaint and ending on the date as determined by the Court (the "COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD").

116. 29 U.S.C. § 255 provides that a three-year statute of limitations applies to willful violations of the FLSA.

117. 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1) provides in pertinent part:

Except as otherwise provided in this section, no employer shall employ any of his employees who in any workweek is engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, or is employed in an enterprise engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, for a workweek longer than forty hours unless such employee receives compensation for his employment in excess of the hours above specified at a rate not less than one and one-half times the regular rate at which he is employed.

118. For purposes of calculating overtime pay, 29 U.S.C. § 207(e) provides, in relevant part, that the "regular rate" of pay shall not include:

(1) sums paid as gifts; payments in the nature of gifts made at

1 Christmas time or on other special occasions, as a reward for
2 service, the amounts of which are not measured by or dependent on
3 hours worked, production, or efficiency;

4 (2) payments made for occasional periods when no work is
5 performed due to vacation, holiday, illness, failure of the employer
6 to provide sufficient work, or other similar cause; reasonable
7 payments for traveling expenses, or other expenses, incurred by an
8 employee in the furtherance of his employer's interests and properly
9 reimbursable by the employer; and other similar payments to an
10 employee which are not made as compensation for his hours of
11 employment;

12 (3) Sums paid in recognition of services performed during a given
13 period if either, (a) both the fact that payment is to be made and the
14 amount of the payment are determined at the sole discretion of the
15 employer at or near the end of the period and not pursuant to any
16 prior contract, agreement, or promise causing the employee to
17 expect such payments regularly; or (b) the payments are made
18 pursuant to a bona fide profit-sharing plan or trust or bona fide thrift
19 or savings plan, meeting the requirements of the Administrator set
20 forth in appropriate regulations which he shall issue, having due
21 regard among other relevant factors, to the extent to which the
22 amounts paid to the employee are determined without regard to
23 hours of work, production, or efficiency; or (c) the payments are
24 talent fees (as such talent fees are defined and delimited by
25 regulations of the Administrator) paid to performers, including
26 announcers, on radio and television programs;

15 119. The bonus compensation awarded to the PLAINTIFF and other
16 members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS was not a gift given as a reward for the
17 PLAINTIFF's and COLLECTIVE CLASS Members' service to DEFENDANT that
18 was not measured on their production, was not a payment made to PLAINTIFF and
19 other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS during a period in which these
20 employees performed no work, and was not a sum paid to the PLAINTIFF and other
21 members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS at the sole discretion of DEFENDANT as to
22 the timing of the payment and as to the amount to which the payment totaled.
23 Instead, the bonus compensation awarded to PLAINTIFF and other members of the
24 COLLECTIVE CLASS was a non-discretionary wage that was directly proportional
25 to the work performed by these employees for DEFENDANT and was announced to
26 the PLAINTIFF and COLLECTIVE CLASS Members to encourage these employees
27 to work more efficiently and was awarded based on these employees' production

1 during the applicable bonus pay period. As a result, the bonus wage awarded to
2 PLAINTIFF and other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS must be included in
3 the regular rate of pay for the purposes of calculating the correct overtime rate due to
4 the PLAINTIFF and other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS.

5 120. DEFENDANT failed and still fails to include the bonus compensation
6 as part of the PLAINTIFF's and other COLLECTIVE CLASS Members' "regular
7 rate of pay" for the purposes of calculating overtime pay due to these employees.
8 For the reasons set forth herein, the bonus compensation received by the PLAINTIFF
9 and members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS should be included in their "regular rate
10 of pay." The failure to do so resulted in a systematic and illegal underpayment of
11 overtime compensation to PLAINTIFF and other members of the COLLECTIVE
12 CLASS.

13 121. Pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.*, the
14 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS are entitled to
15 overtime compensation for all overtime hours actually worked, at a rate not less than
16 one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of
17 forty (40) hours in any workweek. In addition, PLAINTIFF and other
18 COLLECTIVE CLASS Members were required to work off the clock in order to
19 meet DEFENDANT 's work requirements, this work included but was not limited to,
20 pulling work orders and preparing pallets to be ready for loading onto trucks in order
21 to be ready to work the second his work shift started. DEFENDANT knew or should
22 have known PLAINTIFF was working off the clock and DEFENDANT failed to pay
23 PLAINTIFF for this off the clock work. DEFENDANTS' failure to correctly
24 calculate overtime wages as required by federal law was willful and not in good
25 faith.

26 122. During the COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD, the PLAINTIFF, and other
27 members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS, worked more than forty (40) hours in a
28

1 workweek.

2 123. At all relevant times, DEFENDANT failed to include the bonus
3 compensation in the regular rate of pay for the PLAINTIFF and the COLLECTIVE
4 CLASS resulting in an illegal underpayment of overtime compensation during the
5 COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD. Thus, DEFENDANT failed to pay the
6 PLAINTIFF, and other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS, overtime
7 compensation for the hours they have worked in excess of the maximum hours
8 permissible by law as required by § 207 of the FLSA, even though the PLAINTIFF,
9 and the other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS, were regularly required to
10 work, and did in fact work, overtime hours.

11 124. For purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the employment
12 practices of DEFENDANT were and are uniform throughout the United States in all
13 respects material to the claims asserted in this Complaint.

14 125. As a result of DEFENDANT's failure to pay the correct overtime
15 compensation at the applicable overtime rate for overtime hours worked, as required
16 by the FLSA, the PLAINTIFF and the members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS were
17 damaged in an amount to be proved at trial.

18 126. Therefore, the PLAINTIFF demands that he and the members of the
19 COLLECTIVE CLASS be paid the correct overtime compensation as required by the
20 FLSA for every hour of overtime worked in any workweek for which the bonus
21 wage was awarded, plus interest and statutory costs as provided by law.

22
23 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

24 WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF prays for judgment against each Defendant,
25 jointly and severally, as follows:

26 1. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA CLASS:

- 27 A) That the Court certify the First Cause of Action asserted by the
28 CALIFORNIA CLASS as a class action pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc.

- 1 23(b)(2) and/or (3);
- 2 B) An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and
- 3 restraining DEFENDANT from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as
- 4 set forth herein;
- 5 C) An order requiring DEFENDANT to pay all wages and all sums
- 6 unlawfully withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the
- 7 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS; and,
- 8 D) Restitutionary disgorgement of DEFENDANT's ill-gotten gains into a
- 9 fluid fund for restitution of the sums incidental to DEFENDANT's
- 10 violations due to PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the
- 11 CALIFORNIA CLASS.
- 12 2. On behalf of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS:
- 13 A) That the Court certify the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh
- 14 and Eighth Causes of Action asserted by the CALIFORNIA LABOR
- 15 SUB-CLASS as a class action pursuant to Fed R. Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2)
- 16 and/or (3);
- 17 B) Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial, including
- 18 compensatory damages for minimum wage and overtime compensation
- 19 due PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA LABOR
- 20 SUB-CLASS, during the applicable CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-
- 21 CLASS PERIOD plus interest thereon at the statutory rate;
- 22 C) Meal and rest period compensation pursuant to California Labor Code
- 23 Section 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order;
- 24 D) The greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay
- 25 period in which a violation occurs and one hundred dollars (\$100) per
- 26 each member of the CALIFORNIA LABOR SUB-CLASS for each
- 27 violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding an aggregate
- 28

- 1 penalty of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), and an award of costs for
2 violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 226;
- 3 E) For liquidated damages pursuant to California Labor Code Sections
4 1194.2 and 1197;
- 5 F) The amount of the expenses PLAINTIFF and each member of the
6 CALIFORNIA LABOR SUBCLASS incurred in the course of their job
7 duties, plus interest, and costs of suit; and,
- 8 G) The wages of all terminated employees from the CALIFORNIA
9 LABOR SUB-CLASS as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same
10 rate until paid or until an action therefore is commenced, in accordance
11 with Cal. Lab. Code § 203.
- 12 3. On behalf of the COLLECTIVE CLASS:
- 13 A) That the Court certify the Ninth Cause of Action asserted by the
14 COLLECTIVE CLASS as an opt-in Class Action under 29 U.S.C. §
15 216(b);
- 16 B) Issue a declaratory finding that DEFENDANT's acts, policies, practices
17 and procedures complained of herein violated provisions of the Fair
18 Labor Standards Act; and,
- 19 C) That the PLAINTIFF and the COLLECTIVE CLASS members recover
20 compensatory damages and an equal amount of liquidated damages as
21 provided under the law and in 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).
- 22 4. On all claims:
- 23 A) An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;
- 24 B) Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable; and,
- 25 C) An award of penalties, attorneys' fees and cost of suit, as allowable
26 under the law, including, but not limited to, pursuant to Labor Code
27 §226, §1194 and/or §2802.
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Dated: February 15, 2021 BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOWMIK DE
BLOUW LLP

/s/ Norman Blumenthal
By: _____
Norman B. Blumenthal
Attorneys for Plaintiff

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DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

PLAINTIFF demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.

Dated: February 15, 2021, BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOWMIK
DE BLOUW LLP

/s/ Norman Blumenthal
By: _____
Norman B. Blumenthal
Attorneys for Plaintiff

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Sun-Maid Growers of California Hit with Wage and Hour Class Action](#)
