ELECTRONICALLY FILED Superior Court of California, 1 County of San Diego 01/04/2021 at 03:50:00 PM 2 Clerk of the Superior Court By Connie Hines Deputy Clerk 3 4 5 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO 10 ANDRES GARCIA, individually and on Case No. 37-2019-00021268-CU-OE-CTL 11 behalf of all others similarly situated, Assigned For All Purposes to the: 12 Plaintiff. Hon. Katherine A. Bacal *Dept.* 69 VS. 13 14 UNION CITY HOTEL MANAGEMENT [PROPOSED] ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE CORPORATION, a New Mexico ACTIONS FOR ALL PURPOSES 15 corporation; PACIFIC PEARL HOTELS LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 16 APMC HOTEL MANAGEMENT LLC, a New Mexico limited liability company; and 17 DOES 1 through 20, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 Case No. 37-2019-00021559-CU-OE-CTL 20 DIANA VINALAY, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Assigned for all purposes to: 21 Hon. Judge Eddie C. Sturgeon 22 *Dept: C-67* Plaintiff, 23 VS. 24 UNION CITY HOTEL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION; and DOES 1 through 20, 25 inclusive, Defendants. 26 27 28

[PROPOSED] ORDER The Court, having reviewed the Parties' stipulation, and finding good cause therefore, **GRANTS** the Parties' request. The Garcia Action (Case No. 37-2019-00021268-CU-OE-CTL) and the Vinalay Action (Case No. 30-2019-00021559-CU-OE-CTL) are hereby consolidated for all purposes. Plaintiffs' counsel will serve as co-lead counsel following consolidation of the actions... The Clerk of the Court is directed to file a copy of this Order in Case Nos. Case No. 37-2019-00021268-CU-OE-CTL and Case No. 30-2019-00021559-CU-OE-CTL, but no further documents or copies thereof need to be filed in those actions. The Consolidated Complaint, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby deemed filed as of the date the Court signs this Order. Defendant's responsive pleading is due within 30 days of the date the Court signs this Order. IT IS SO ORDERED. 1/4/2021 Dated:_ Hon. Katherine A. Bacal JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

EXHIBIT A

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14	Attorneys for Plaintiffs ANDRES GARCIA, DI				
15	individually, and on behalf of all others similarly	y situated			
16	SUPERIOR COURT OF T	HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
17	FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO				
18					
19	ANDRES GARCIA, DIANA VINALAY, individually and on behalf of all others	Case No. 37-2019-00021268-CU-OE-CTL			
20	similarly situated,	(Consolidated with Case No. 37-2019-00021559-CU-OE-CTL)			
21	Plaintiffs,	*			
22	v.	Assigned for All Purposes to the Hon. Katherine A. Bacal, Dept. 69			
23	UNION CITY HOTEL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION, a New Mexico corporation;	CLASS ACTION			
24	PACIFIC PEARL HOTELS LLC, a Delaware				
25	limited liability company; APMC HOTEL MANAGEMENT LLC, a New Mexico limited liability company; and DOES 1 through 10,	CONSOLIDATED CLASS AND REPRESENTATIVE ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:			
26	inclusive,	1. FAILURE TO PAY ALL WAGES			
27	Defendants.	(LABOR CODE §§ 510, 1194, 1197, 1198; IWC WAGE ORDER 5-2001)			
28		2. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REST PERIODS OR COMPENSATION IN LIEU			

1	THEREOF (LABOR CODE § 226.7; IWC WAGE ORDER 5-2001)			
2	3. FAILURE TO PROVIDE MEAL			
3	PERIODS OR COMPENSATION IN LIEU THEREOF (LABOR CODE §§ 226.7, 512;			
4	IWC WAGE ORDER 5-2001)			
5	4. KNOWING AND INTENTIONAL FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH			
6	ITEMIZED EMPLOYEE WAGE			
7	STATEMENT PROVISIONS (LABOR CODE § 226(a), (e), (h))			
8	5. FAILURE TO TIMELY PAY WAGES			
9	DUE AT SEPARATION OF EMPLOYMENT (LABOR CODE §§ 201-			
10	203)			
	6. FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEE EXPENSES (LABOR CODE			
11	§ 2802)			
12	7. VIOLATION OF BUSINESS AND			
13	PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200, ET SEQ			
14	8. PENALTIES PURSUANT TO LABOR CODE § 2699(f) FOR VIOLATIONS OF			
15	LABOR CODE			
16	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			
17	Action Filed: April 24, 2019			
18				
19	Digintiffs ANDDES CADCIA ("Compie") and DIANA VINALAY ("Vinaley") (together			
20	Plaintiffs ANDRES GARCIA ("Garcia") and DIANA VINALAY ("Vinalay") (together,			
21	"Plaintiffs"), individually and on behalf of all similarly situated individuals (the "Class" or "Plaintif			
22	Class"), on behalf of the general public, and as "aggrieved employees" under the Labor Code Private			
23	Attorneys General Act of 2004, complain of Defendants UNION CITY HOTEL MANAGEMENT			
24	CORPORATION, a New Mexico corporation, PACIFIC PEARL HOTELS LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and APMC HOTEL MANAGEMENT LLC, a New Mexico limited liability			
company, and/or any subsidiaries or affiliated companies (hereinafter referred to as "Defend as follows:				
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INTRODUCTION AND FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 1. This is a Class Action and Representative Action, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 382 and Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*, on behalf of Plaintiffs and certain individuals who currently work or formerly worked for Defendants within the State of California.
- 2. From April 24, 2015 and continuing to the present (the "liability period"), Defendants have had a consistent policy of failing to pay all minimum and overtime wages due and owing to Plaintiffs and Class Members (as defined below) during the course of their employment; failing to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods or compensation in lieu thereof to Class Members; failing to provide accurately itemized wage statements to Class Members; failing to reimburse business expenses to Class Members; and failing to timely pay wages upon separation of employment to Class Members.
- 3. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and members of the Class, bring this action pursuant to Labor Code §§ 201-203, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, and 2802 for all unpaid wages and premium wages, reimbursement of business expenses, civil and statutory penalties, interest, injunctive and other equitable relief, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
- 4. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and members of the Class and pursuant to Business & Professions Code §§ 17200-17208, also seek injunctive relief, restitution, and disgorgement of all benefits Defendants enjoyed from their failure to pay all wages and failure to reimburse business expenses to Class Members.
- 5. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all aggrieved employees pursuant to Labor Code §§ 2698 *et seq.*, seeks civil penalties for Defendants' various violations of the California Labor Code.
- 6. Venue is proper in this judicial district, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 395. The Labor Code violations alleged against each Defendants herein arose in San Diego County, California.

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II.

PARTIES

- 7. Plaintiff ANDRES GARCIA was employed by Defendants from July 2018 through November 2018 as a non-exempt employee in San Diego County, California.
- 8. Plaintiff DIANA VINALAY worked for Defendants from June 2011 through September 2018 as a non-exempt employee in San Diego County, California
 - 9. During their work with Defendants, Plaintiffs were:
 - a. Willfully denied the payment of all minimum and overtime wages due;
 - b. Willfully denied meal and rest breaks or compensation in lieu thereof;
 - c. Willfully denied accurately itemized wage statements;
 - d. Willfully denied the reimbursement of expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties and
 - e. Denied the timely payment of wages upon separation of their employment.

B. Defendants

- 10. Defendant UNION CITY HOTEL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION is a New Mexico corporation. Defendant UNION CITY HOTEL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION employed Plaintiffs and Class Members throughout the State of California, including San Diego County, California.
- 11. Defendant PACIFIC PEARL HOTELS LLC is a Delaware limited liability company. Defendant PACIFIC PEARL HOTELS LLC employed Plaintiffs and Class Members throughout the State of California, including San Diego County, California.
- 12. Defendant APMC HOTEL MANAGEMENT LLC is a New Mexico limited liability company. Defendant APMC HOTEL MANAGEMENT LLC employed Plaintiffs and Class Members throughout the State of California, including San Diego County, California.
- 13. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of Defendants sued herein as DOES 1 to 10, inclusive, are currently unknown to Plaintiffs, who therefore sues Defendants by such fictitious names under Code of Civil Procedure § 474. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that each of the Defendants designated herein as

a DOE is legally responsible in some manner for the unlawful acts referred to herein. Plaintiffs will seek leave of court to amend this Complaint to reflect the true names and capacities of the Defendants designated hereinafter as DOES when such identities become known.

- 14. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that each Defendant acted in all respects pertinent to this action as the agent of the other Defendants, carried out a joint scheme, business plan or policy in all respects pertinent hereto, and the acts of each Defendant are legally attributable to the other Defendants.
- 15. The Defendants named herein as DOE 1 through DOE 10 are and were persons acting on behalf of, or acting jointly with, Defendants, who violated, or caused to be violated, one or more provisions of the California Labor Code as alleged herein.

III.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

16. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated as a Class Action pursuant to § 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Plaintiffs seek to represent the following class composed of and defined as follows (hereinafter, "Class Members"):

THE CLASS

All California citizens currently or formerly employed by Defendants as non-exempt employees in the State of California from April 24, 2015 to the date the class is certified ("Class").

- 17. Plaintiffs reserve the right under Rule 3.765, California Rules of Court, to amend or modify these class descriptions with greater specificity or further division into subclasses or limitation to particular issues.
- 19. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained as a class action under the provisions of § 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure because there is a well-defined community of interest in the litigation and the proposed Class is easily ascertainable.

A. <u>Numerosity</u>

20. The potential members of the Class as defined are so numerous that joinder of all the members the Class is impracticable. While the precise number of members of the Class has not been

ascertained at this time, Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants currently employ, and during the relevant time periods employed, over 300 persons in the State of California who fall within the Class definition.

21. Accounting for employee turnover during the relevant period necessarily increases this number. Plaintiffs allege Defendants' employment records would provide information as to the number and location of members of the Class. Joinder of members of the Class is not practicable.

B. Commonality

- 22. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members. These common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:
 - a. Whether Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs and Class Members all minimum and overtime wages due and owing during the course of their employment, in violation of Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194;
 - b. Whether Defendants failed to properly provide rest periods or compensation in lieu thereof to Plaintiffs and Class Members, in violation of Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001;
 - c. Whether Defendants failed to properly provide meal periods or compensation in lieu thereof to Plaintiffs and Class Members, in violation of Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001;
 - d. Whether Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs and Class Members with accurately itemized wage statements, in accordance with Labor Code § 226(a) and (e);
 - e. Whether Defendants failed to timely pay Plaintiffs and members of the Class all wages due and owing at the separation of their employment, in violation of Labor Code §§ 201-203; and
 - f. Whether Plaintiffs and Class Members are entitled to equitable relief pursuant to Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq.

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C. <u>Typicality</u>

23. The claims of the named Plaintiffs are typical of the claims of members of the Class. Plaintiffs and members of the Class sustained injuries and damages arising out of and caused by Defendants' common course of conduct in violation of laws, regulations that have the force and effect of law, and statutes as alleged herein.

D. Adequacy of Representation

24. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of members of the Class. Counsel who represents Plaintiffs are competent and experienced in litigating large employment class actions.

E. Superiority of Class Action

- 25. A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. Individual joinder of all proposed members of the Class is not practicable, and questions of law and fact common to the proposed Class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the proposed Class. Each member of the proposed Class has been damaged and is entitled to recovery by reason of Defendants' illegal policies and/or practices.
- 26. Class action treatment will allow those similarly situated persons to litigate their claims in the manner that is most efficient and economical for the parties and the judicial system. Plaintiffs are unaware of any difficulties that are likely to be encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

IV.

CAUSES OF ACTION

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FAILURE TO PAY ALL MINUMUM AND OVERTIME WAGES (LABOR CODE §§ 510, 1194, 1197, 1198 AND IWC WAGE ORDER 5-2001)

27. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 26 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

- 28. Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1197 provide that the minimum wage for employees fixed by the IWC is the minimum wage to be paid to employees, and the payment of a lesser wage than the minimum so fixed is unlawful.
- 29. Labor Code § 1198 and the applicable IWC Wage Order provide that it is unlawful to employ persons without compensating them at a rate of pay either one and one-half (1½) or two (2) times the person's regular rate of pay, depending on the number of hours or days worked by the person on a daily or weekly basis.
- 30. California Labor Code § 510 codifies the right to overtime compensation at one and one-half (1½) times the regular hourly rate for hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a week and for the first eight (8) hours worked on the seventh consecutive day of work, and overtime compensation at twice the regular hourly rate for hours worked in excess of twelve (12) hours in a day or in excess of eight (8) hours in a day on the seventh day of work in a workweek.
- 31. During the relevant time period, Defendants paid Plaintiffs and Class Members less than minimum wages when they failed to pay proper compensation for all hours worked, including time worked performed off-the-clock during meal periods. As such, Plaintiff and Class Members were not paid wages for all hours worked.
- 32. During the liability period, Defendants rounded down the hours reflected on Plaintiffs' and Class Members' time records to pay fewer hours than were actually worked. On a weekly basis, this rounding deprived them of significant hours worked. As such, they are not properly compensated for all hours worked and/or overtime hours worked over eight (8) in one workday and over forty (40) in one workweek.
- 33. As a result of the unlawful acts of Defendants in willfully failing to pay all minimum and overtime wages, Plaintiffs and members of the Class have been deprived of wages in amounts to be determined at trial, and are entitled to restitution and recovery of such amounts, plus interest thereon, attorneys' fees, and costs pursuant to Labor Code § 1194.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the Class they seek to represent request relief as described below.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FAILURE TO PROVIDE REST PERIODS OR COMPENSATION IN LIEU THEREOF (LABOR CODE § 226.7 AND IWC WAGE ORDER 5-2001)

- 34. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 33 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 35. Plaintiffs and Class Members are entitled to one hour of pay for each day that Defendants failed to properly provide one or more rest periods as set forth in Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001.
- 35. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs and Class Members proper rest periods, or compensation in lieu thereof, in violation of Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001. Due to the busy nature of their work schedules, Plaintiffs and Class Members were unable to always take, and not authorized to take, 10-minute rest periods for every four hours of work or major fraction thereof. When Plaintiffs and Class Members were able to take a rest period, they were oftentimes cut short due to the busy nature of their jobs. Plaintiffs and Class Members were also required to carry a two-way radio and respond to any calls during their rest periods and were unable to leave the work premises during their rest periods. This resulted in on-duty rest periods.
- 33. Pursuant to Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001, Plaintiffs seek the payment of all rest period compensation which they and Class Members are owed for four years preceding the filing of this Action, according to proof.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the Class they seek to represent request relief as described below.

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VI.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FAILURE TO PROVIDE MEAL PERIODS OR COMPENSATION IN LIEU THEREOF (LABOR CODE § 226.7 AND 512 AND IWC WAGE ORDER 5-2001)

- 34. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 33 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 35. Plaintiffs and Class Members are entitled to one hour of pay for each day that Defendants failed to properly provide one or more meal periods as set forth in Labor Code § 226.7 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001.
- 36. Labor Code § 512(a) provides that an employer may not require, cause, or permit an employee to work for a period of more than five (5) hours per day without providing the employee with an uninterrupted meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes, except that if the total work period per day of the employee is not more than six (6) hours, the meal period may be waived by mutual consent of both the employer and the employee.
- 37. Labor Code § 512(a) also provides that an employer may not employ an employee for a work period of more than ten (10) hours per day without providing the employee with a second meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes, except that if the total hours worked is no more than twelve (12) hours, the second meal period may be waived by mutual consent of the employer and the employee only if the first meal period was not waived.
- 38. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs and Class Members proper meal periods, or compensation in lieu thereof, in violation of Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001. Plaintiffs and Class Members were routinely denied, and not authorized to take, an uninterrupted, 30-minute meal period for every shift worked that exceeded five hours in duration, and a second meal period when they worked shifts greater than ten hours, but were not paid premium wages of one hour's pay for each missed meal period. When Plaintiffs and Class Members were able to take their meal period, they were oftentimes late or cut short due to the busy nature of their jobs. Defendants also required Plaintiffs and Class Members to carry a two-way radio and respond to any

calls during their meal periods, resulting in an on-duty meal period. This violates Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512.

39. Pursuant to Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512 and IWC Wage Order 5-2001, Plaintiffs seek the payment of all meal period compensation which they and Class Members are owed for four years preceding the filing of this Action, according to proof.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the Class they seek to represent request relief as described below.

VII.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS KNOWING AND INTENTIONAL FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ITEMIZED EMPLOYEE WAGE STATEMENT PROVISIONS

(LABOR CODE § 226(a), (e), (h))

- 40. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 39 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 41. Section 226(a) of the California Labor Code requires Defendants to provide wage statements to employees. In those wage statements, Defendants must provide an accurate itemized statement in writing showing (1) gross wages earned, (2) total hours worked by the employee..., (3) the number of piece-rate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item, (5) net wages earned, (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid, (7) the name of the employee and only the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number, (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer..., and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee. Defendants have knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Labor Code § 226(a).
- 42. As stated above, Plaintiffs and Class Members were not paid all wages due, including premium wages for unauthorized meal and rest periods, and minimum and overtime wages due, as

stated above. As such, the wage statements provided by Defendants failed to accurately state all gross wages earned, in violation of Labor Code § 226(a)(1), total hours worked, in violation of Labor Code § 226(a)(2), net wages earned, in violation of Labor Code § 226(a)(5), and all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each rate, in violation of Labor Code § 226(a)(9). Separately, the wage statements issued to Plaintiffs and Class Members failed to set forth a rate for overtime rate, in violation of Labor Code § 226(a)(9). This information is not present on their wage statements. Also, separately, some of the wage statements issued to Plaintiffs and Class Members incorrectly list "Union City Hotel Mgmt Corp Double Tree Hotel San Diego Downtown" as the employing entity in violation of Labor Code § 226(a)(8).

43. As a consequence of Defendants' willful conduct in failing to provide Class Members with accurate itemized wage statements, Plaintiffs and members of the Class have been injured because they have not been paid all wages due and/or were issued wage statements which do not reflect, and fail to state, all information required by Labor Code § 226(a). The missing information cannot be discerned at all from the face of the wage statements themselves. As a result, Plaintiffs and Class Members are entitled to penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 226(e) to recover the greater of all actual damages or \$50 for the initial pay period in which a violation occurs and \$100 per employee for each violation in a subsequent pay period, not exceeding an aggregate penalty of \$4,000 per employee, and are entitled to an award of costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Labor Code § 226(h).

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the Class they seek to represent request relief as described below.

VIII.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FAILURE TO TIMELY PAY WAGES UPON SEPARATION EMPLOYMENT (LABOR CODE §§ 201-203)

44. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 43 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

- 45. Labor Code § 201 and § 202 require Defendants to pay employees all wages due within 72 hours after resignation of employment or the day of termination of employment. Labor Code § 203 provides that if an employer willfully fails to timely pay such wages, the employer must, as a penalty, continue to pay the subject employee's daily wages until the back wages are paid in full or an action is commenced. The penalty cannot exceed 30 days of wages.
- 46. Defendants paid Plaintiffs and Class Members their final wages beyond the time frames set forth in Labor Code §§ 201 and 202, in violation of Labor Code § 203. Plaintiffs and Class Members were not paid all wages due, including minimum and overtime wages, and meal and rest period premium wages due and owing throughout the course of their employment, as detailed herein. Consequently, at the time of their separation from employment with Defendants, they were not paid all final wages due and owing for the entirety of their employment.
- 47. More than 30 days have passed since Plaintiffs and certain Class Members have left Defendants' employ.
- 48. As a consequence of Defendants' willful conduct in not paying wages owed timely upon separation of employment, Plaintiffs and certain members of the Class are entitled to up to 30 days' wages as a penalty under Labor Code § 203 for Defendants' failure to timely pay legal wages at separation of employment.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the Class they seek to represent request relief as described below.

IX.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EXPENSES (LABOR CODE § 2802)

- 49. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 48 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 50. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 2802, Defendants are required to fully reimburse Plaintiffs and Class members for all out-of-pocket expenses incurred by them in the performance of their job duties.

- 51. Plaintiffs and Class Members were required to use their personal cellular phones to do tasks for Defendants, but were not fully reimbursed by Defendants for this expense.
- 52. As a proximate result of the aforementioned violations, Plaintiffs and Class Members have been damaged in an amount according to proof at the time of trial.
- 53. Pursuant to Labor Code § 2802, Plaintiffs and Class Members are entitled to recover from Defendants the full amount of the expenses they incurred in the performance of their job duties that have not been reimbursed, plus interest, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs of suit.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the Class they seek to represent request relief as described below

X.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND THE CLASS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS UNFAIR COMPETITION PURSUANT TO BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.

- 54. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 53 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 55. This is a Class Action for Unfair Business Practices. Plaintiffs, on their own behalf and on behalf of the general public, and on behalf of others similarly situated, bring this claim pursuant to Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq*. The conduct of all Defendants as alleged in this Complaint has been and continues to be unfair, unlawful, and harmful to Plaintiffs, the general public, and members of the Class. Plaintiffs seek to enforce important rights affecting the public interest within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.
- 56. Plaintiffs are "persons" within the meaning of Business & Professions Code § 17204, and therefore has standing to bring this cause of action for injunctive relief, restitution, and other appropriate equitable relief.
- 57. Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* prohibits unlawful and unfair business practices.

- 58. Wage and hour laws express fundamental public policies. Properly providing employees with all wages due and reimbursement of business expenses are fundamental public policies of this State and of the United States. Labor Code § 90.5(a) articulates the public policies of this State to enforce vigorously minimum labor standards, to ensure that employees are not required or permitted to work under substandard and unlawful conditions, and to protect law-abiding employers and its employees from competitors who lower their costs by failing to comply with minimum labor standards.
- 59. Defendants have violated statutes and public policies. Through the conduct alleged in this Complaint, Defendants, and each of them, have acted contrary to these public policies, have violated specific provisions of the Labor Code, and have engaged in other unlawful and unfair business practices in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* depriving Plaintiffs, and all persons similarly situated, and all interested persons of rights, benefits, and privileges guaranteed to all employees under law.
- 60. Defendants' conduct, as alleged herein, constitutes unfair competition in violation of §17200 *et seq.* of the Business & Professions Code.
- 61. Defendants, by engaging in the conduct herein alleged, either knew or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known that the conduct was unlawful. As such, it is a violation of § 17200 *et seq.* of the Business & Professions Code.
- 62. As a proximate result of the above-mentioned acts of Defendants, Plaintiffs and others similarly situated have been damaged in a sum as may be proven.
- 63. Unless restrained by this Court, Defendants will continue to engage in the unlawful conduct, as alleged above. Pursuant to Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq., this Court should make such orders or judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be necessary to prevent the use or employment, by Defendants, its agents, or employees, of any unlawful or deceptive practice prohibited by the Business & Professions Code, and/or, including but not limited to, disgorgement of profits which may be necessary to restore Plaintiffs and Class Members to the money Defendants have unlawfully failed to pay.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS AND ALL AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEES AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS PENALTIES PURSUANT TO LABOR CODE § 2698, ET SEQ.

- 64. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1 through 63 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 65. As a result of the acts alleged above, including the Labor Code violations set forth herein, Plaintiffs seek penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 2698 *et seq*.

Pursuant to Labor Code § 2699(a), any provision of the Labor Code that provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") or any of its departments, divisions, commissions, boards, agencies or employees for violation of the code may, as an alternative, be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or herself and other current or former employees pursuant to the procedures specified in Labor Code § 2699.3.

- 66. For all provisions of the Labor Code except those for which a civil penalty is specifically provided, Labor Code § 2699(f) imposes upon Defendant a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for the initial violation and two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent pay period in which Defendant violated these provisions of the Labor Code.
- 67. Defendants' conduct violates numerous Labor Code sections, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - (a) Violation of Labor Code §§ 201-204, 210, 510, 1194, 1194.2, 1197 and 1198 for failure to timely pay all earned wages (including minimum wages and overtime wages) owed to Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees during employment and upon separation of employment as herein alleged;
 - (b) Violation of Labor Code § 226.7 for failure to permit rest breaks to Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees and failure to pay premium wages for missed rest breaks as herein alleged;

- (c) Violation of Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512 for failure to provide meal periods to Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees and failure to pay premium wages for missed meal periods as herein alleged;
- (d) Violation of Labor Code § 2802 for failure to reimburse all out of pocket expenses as herein alleged;
- (e) Violation of Labor Code § 226 and 226.3 for failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements to Plaintiff and other aggrieved employees as herein alleged; and
- (f) Violation of Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5 for failure to maintain accurate and complete records showing, among other things, the hours worked daily by and the wages paid to aggrieved employees.
- 68. As set forth above, Defendants have violated numerous provisions of the Labor Code regulating hours and days of work as well as the IWC Wage Orders. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek the remedies set forth in Labor Code § 558 for themselves, other aggrieved employees, and the State of California.
- 69. For each such violation, Plaintiffs and all Aggrieved Employees are entitled to penalties and other relief in an amount to be shown at the time of trial subject to the following formula: Pursuant to Labor Code § 2699(f), \$100 for each initial violation and \$200 for each subsequent violation of the Labor Code.
- 70. Penalties recovered will be allocated 75% to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, and 25% to the affected employees.
- 71. On January 23, 2019 and on April 25, 2019, Plaintiffs sent letters, by online submission to the LWDA and by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Defendants setting forth the facts and theories of the violations alleged against Defendants, as prescribed by Labor Code § 2698 et seq. Pursuant to Labor Code § 2699.3(a)(2)(A), no notice was received by Plaintiffs from the LWDA within sixty-five (65) calendar days of January 23, 2019 and April 25, 2019, respectively. Plaintiffs may therefore commence this action to seek civil penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 2698 et seq.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and all Aggrieved Employees they seek to represent request relief as described below.

XII.

RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for the following relief:

- 1. For certification of the proposed Class and Waiting Time Subclass and any other appropriate subclasses under California Code of Civil Procedure § 382;
 - 2. For appointment of Andres Garcia and Diana Vinalay as the class representatives;
- 3. For appointment of Gaines & Gaines, APLC and Aegis Law Firm, PC as co-class counsel for all purposes;
- 4. For compensatory damages pursuant to Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194 in the amount of all unpaid minimum and overtime wages due to Plaintiffs and Class Members;
- 5. For compensatory damages in the amount of one hour of wages for each day on which a rest period was not properly provided to Plaintiffs and Class Members pursuant to Labor Code § 226.7;
- 6. For compensatory damages in the amount of one hour of wages for each day on which a meal period was not properly provided to Plaintiffs and Class Members pursuant to Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512;
 - 7. For penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 226(e) for Plaintiffs and Class Members;
- 8. For penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 203 for Plaintiffs and Class Members who are no longer employed by Defendants;
- 9. An award of prejudgment and post-judgment interest for Plaintiffs and Class Members;
 - 10. For special damages for Plaintiffs and Class Members;
- 10. For restitution of unreimbursed business expenses pursuant to Labor Code § 2802 for Plaintiffs and Class Members;
- 11. For restitution for unfair competition pursuant to Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 *et seq.* for Plaintiffs and Class Members;

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs hereby demands a trial of their claims by jury to the extent authorized by law.

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Dated: December 30, 2020

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Respectfully submitted,

GAINES & GAINES

A Professional Law Corporation

By:

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AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC

By:

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