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CONFORMED COPY ORIGINAL FILED John, M. Kennedy, Esq. (SBN 156009) Superior Court of California ikennedy@fortislaw.com 2 FORTIS LLP AUG 08 2019 650 Town Center Drive, Suite 1530 3 Costa Mesa, CA 92626 Sherri K. Garter, Exegrater Officer/Clerk of Court Telephone: (714) 839-3800 4 Facsimile: (714) 795-2995 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff ADRIANA HERNANDEZ, Individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated 6 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 9 ADRIANA HERNANDEZ, individually, and Case No.: 19STCV16831 on behalf of all others similarly situated, 10 **CLASS ACTION** Plaintiffs, 11 FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR: 12 ٧. (1) Failure to Provide Meal Breaks in 13 Violation of Labor Code § 226.7; 2523 E. ANAHEIM, INC. dba XS (2) Failure to Provide Rest Breaks in 14 Violation of Labor Code § 512; AFTERHOURS GENTLEMENS CLUB, a (3) Failure to Pay Wages in Violation of California corporation; and DOES 1 through 15 Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194; 100, inclusive, (4) Failure to Pay All Wages Upon 16 Separation of Employment in Violation Defendants. 17 of Labor Code § 203; (5) Failure to Provide Complete and 18 **Accurate Wage Statements in Violation** of Labor Code § 226; 19 (6) Failure to Provide Reimbursement of 20 Expenses in Violation of Labor Code § 2802: 21 (7) Failure to Keep Accurate Payroll Records in Violation of Labor Code § 22 1198.5 et seg.; 23 (8) Violation of Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.; 24 (9) Failure to Maintain Workers **Compensation Insurance Coverage in** 25 Violation of Labor Code § 3700 et seq. 26 (10) Violation of Labor Code § 2698, et 27 28 DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff ADRIANA HERNANDEZ (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), hereby, brings this Class Action Complaint for Damages ("COMPLAINT") against Defendant 2523 E. ANAHEIM, INC. dba XS AFTERHOURS GENTLEMEN'S CLUB, a California corporation (hereinafter "Defendant" and/or "XS") and DOES 1-100, inclusive, on behalf of herself, other current and former aggrieved employees of Defendant, and the Class of other similarly situated current and former employees of Defendant, for, *inter alia*, meal period and rest break wages, minimum and overtime wages, failure to have workers compensation insurance coverage and damages as follows:

### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. This class/representative action is brought pursuant to violations of California Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.2, 226.7, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 351, 510, 511, 512(a), 558, 1185, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1198.5, 2802, 3700; the California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 11000 et seq.; provisions of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC) Wage Order(s); and California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq. (Unfair Competition Law ("UCL")); and Labor Code § 2698 et seq. (the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA")).
- 2. This Complaint challenges Defendant's systemic illegal employment practices resulting in violations of the stated provisions of the Labor Code and corresponding IWC Wage Order against the putative class of independent contractor dancers (collectively, "dancers" or "Plaintiffs").
- 3. Under *Dynamex Operations W v. Superior Court*, 4 Cal.5th 903, 935, 416 P.3d 1, 20 (2018), *reh'g denied* (June 20, 2018) the California Supreme Court held that workers are considered employees "unless the hiring entity establishes (A) that the worker is free from the control and direction of the hiring entity in connection with the performance of the work, both under the contract for the performance of the work and in fact, (B) that the worker performs work that is outside the usual course of the hiring entity's business, and (C) that the worker is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, or business."

- 4. The first part of the <u>Dynamex</u> test cannot be met by Defendant. Defendant has complete control over the Exotic Dancers. For example, Exotic Dancers who are classified by Defendant as Independent Contractors:
  - a. Have a set price for the dances they perform that is dictated by the employer.
  - b. Must participate in promotions, sales, and other contests and policies set by the employer.
  - c. Must perform for a minimum number of hours each week or they will be fired.
  - d. Have a strict set of rules regarding dress, hygiene, work hours, promotion participation and other rules which if not followed result in termination of employment.
- 5. The second and third parts of the <u>Dynamex</u> test cannot be met by Defendant as well. The employer owns and operates strip clubs. The strip clubs cannot function without exotic dancers. The usual course of the employer's business is providing adult entertainment to patrons of their clubs. In fact, the employer sets "prices" for the adult entertainment. The most significant revenue generated by the employer is based off the work performed by the exotic dancers. Therefore, even if there was no control over the exotic dancers, the work performed by them is in the middle of the usual course of the hiring entities business.
- 6. Therefore because at least one, if not all three, of the <u>Dynamex</u> factors cannot be met by Defendant, the exotic dancers are being improperly misclassified as independent contractors.
- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges Defendant acted intentionally and with deliberate indifference and conscious disregard to the rights of all dancers for reasons including but not limited to: (1) by misclassifying them as independent contractors; (2) by failing to pay them all meal period wages and rest break wages; (3) by failing to pay them all minimum and overtime wages; (4) by failing to pay them all wages due and owing upon termination of employment; (5) by failing to provide them accurate wage statements; (6) by failing to reimburse business expenses; (7) failing to have and maintain workers compensation insurance coverage; and (8) by engaging in unfair business practices.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. This class action is brought pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382.
- 9. The monetary damages sought by Plaintiff exceed the minimal jurisdictional limits of the Superior Court and will be established according to proof at trial.
- 10. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the California Constitution, Article VI, Section 10, which grants the Superior Court original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other courts. The statutes under which this action is brought do not specify any other basis for jurisdiction.
- 11. This Court has jurisdiction over the violations of PAGA, *Labor Code* §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.2, 226.7, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 351, 510, 511, 512(a), 558, 1185, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1198.5, 2802, 3700 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 11000 *et seq.*; provisions of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC) Wage Order(s); and California <u>Business & Professions Code</u> § 17200 *et seq.*
- 12. This Court has jurisdiction over all Defendants because, on information and belief, each party has sufficient minimum contacts in California, or otherwise intentionally avails itself of California law so as to render the exercise of jurisdiction over it by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.
- 13. Venue is proper in this Court because, upon information and belief, the named Defendant transacts business and/or has offices in this county, and the acts and omissions alleged herein took place in this county.

#### **PARTIES**

14. Plaintiff is an individual residing in the State of California, County of Los Angeles. Defendant employed Plaintiff as an independent contractor dancer during the Class Period. ("Class Period" as defined herein means May 13, 2015 through the date of preliminary approval.)

15. Defendant is a California corporation, with its principal place of business located in the County of Los Angeles at 2523 E. Anaheim Street, Wilmington, California 90774.

- 16. The true names and capacities of Defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 100, inclusive are unknown to Plaintiff at this time, but Plaintiff will amend this Complaint if and when the true names of said Defendants become known to her. Upon information and belief, each of the Defendants sued herein as a Doe is legally responsible in some manner for the events and happenings referred to herein; and any reference to "Defendant" or "Defendants" shall mean "Defendants and each of them."
- 17. Defendants are individually, jointly, and severally liable for the wrongful conduct alleged herein because each Defendant directly or indirectly, or through an agent or any other person, has exercised control over one another. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that at all relevant times, each Defendant has been the agent and employee of its Co-Defendants, and in doing the things alleged in this Complaint has been acting within the course and scope of that agency and employment.
- 18. As such, and based upon all the Complaints and circumstances incident to Defendants' business in California, all Defendants are subject to PAGA and *Labor Code* §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.2, 226.7, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 351, 510, 511, 512(a), 558, 1185, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1198.5, 2802, 3700 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 11000 *et seq.*; provisions of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC) Wage Order(s); and California *Business & Professions Code* § 17200 *et seq.*

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 19. Defendant operates one or more adult entertainment clubs in Los AngelesCounty.
- 20. Dancers are misclassified by Defendant as "independent contractors" when they are in fact Defendant's "employees" under California and Federal law.
  - 21. Defendant has directly and/or indirectly exercised extensive control over the

manner in which dancers perform their jobs and conduct themselves while working at XS, including but not necessarily limited to the following: Defendant retains the right to terminate dancers at-will, and specifically for failure to maintain certain appearance and grooming standards and failures to meet "dance performance minimums" (i.e. minimum hours of performing per week); dancers are required to, upon request, participate in Defendant's promotional activities in venues of Defendant's choosing; dancers' rates of pay are unilaterally set by Defendant; dancers are prohibited from engaging in numerous acts while performing; dancers are required to have their hair styled in a certain manner, and are required to wear bikini attire and high heels; dancers are required to offer special promotions in connection with lap dances, and are required to attempt to sell company merchandise; dancers are required to check in at the beginning of their shifts and check out at the end of their shifts; and dancers are required to perform on stages of Defendant's choosing, regardless of whether one stage or another was more profitable.

- 22. Defendant is in the business of providing adult entertainment to their patrons. Dancers perform services in the usual course of the Defendant's businesses, and without dancers' services, Defendant would have no business.
- 23. Dancers are not required to have any particular level of education to work as dancers at XS.
- 24. In order to perform their jobs, dancers are required to pay significant "house fees" to Defendant.
- 25. Dancers have not received wages from Defendant. Instead, any compensation dancers receive comes directly from patrons in the form of gratuities or tips. Out of these gratuities or tips, dancers are required to pay a portion back to Defendant, as well as share their tips with other employees who are not eligible to share in tips, including managers and non-service employees (such as disc jockeys).
- 26. Even if payments from patrons were deemed to be dancers' "wages," dancers have not been permitted to retain the full amount of these wages, since Defendant has subtracted various fines, charges, and fees from these amounts (as well as requiring dancers to

share them with other of Defendant's employees).

- 27. Based on their misclassification as independent contractors, dancers have been required to bear expenses of their employment, including expenses for wardrobe, foot wear, make-up and grooming that meets Defendant's requirements.
- 28. Defendant has failed to provide dancers with itemized wage statements showing their hours worked, total wages earned, all deductions from wages, and all other information required Labor Code § 226(a).
- 29. Defendant has also failed to keep dancers' records as required by Labor Code § 1174.5.
- 30. Defendant has failed to have and maintain workers compensation insurance under Labor Code § 3700.
- 31. As a result of their failure to pay class members minimum wage, Defendant has also failed to pay dancers their wages when due.
- 32. On or about May 13, 2019 Plaintiff provided Notice to the PAGA Administrator *via* online submission and certified mail and having received no response from the Attorney General of the State of California Plaintiff is proceeding as a deputized attorney general to pursue this action.

### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 33. **Definition:** Plaintiff seeks class certification pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 of all current and former dancers of Defendant who worked in California and were classified as non-exempt employees and/or independent contractors at any time during the Class Period, including the following Subclasses:
  - (a) Meal Period Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked one or more shifts in excess of six (6) hours in California at any time during the Class Period;

    As an alternative to Subclass (a): (a)(1) all Defendant's dancers who worked one or more shifts in excess of six (6) hours in California who were not provided a 30-minute break during which they were relieved of all duties, at any time during the Class Period;

- **(b) Rest Break Subclass:** all Defendant's dancers who worked one or more shifts of three and one-half (3.5) hours or more in California at any time during the Class Period;
  - **As an alternative to Subclass (b):** (b)(1) all Defendant's dancers who worked one or more shifts of three and one-half (3.5) hours or more in California who were not provided a paid 10-minute break during which they were relieved of all duties, at any time during the Class Period;
- (c) Overtime Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a workweek in California at any time during the Class Period;
- (d) Minimum Wage Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked in California and were not properly paid all minimum wages at any time during the Class Period;
- (e) Terminated Employee Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked in California at any time during the Class Period, and who were not properly paid all wages pursuant to Labor Code 201, 202 & 203;
- (f) Wage Statement Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked in California and did not receive a wage statement at any time during the Class Period;
- (g) Reimbursement Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked in California and who were not reimbursed for business expenses incurred on Defendant's behalf;
- (h) Workers Compensation Subclass: all Defendant's dancers who worked in California and who were not covered by workers compensation insurance coverage.
- 34. **Ascertainability:** It is administratively feasible to determine the members of the putative class through Defendant's records, because Defendant maintains class members' relevant information, including contact information and certain pay records.
  - 35. **Numerosity:** The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all

members would be impractical, if not impossible. The identities of the members of the Class are readily ascertainable by review of Defendant's records, including payroll records.

- 36. **Adequacy of Representation:** Plaintiff is fully prepared to take all necessary steps to represent fairly and adequately the interests of the Class defined above. Plaintiff's attorneys are ready, willing and able to fully and adequately represent the Class and individual Plaintiff. Plaintiff's attorneys have prosecuted and settled wage-and-hour class actions in the past.
- 37. Defendant uniformly administered a corporate policy, practice and/or procedure (1) by misclassifying all dancers as independent contractors, (2) by failing to pay them all meal period wages and rest break wages, (3) by failing to pay them all minimum and overtime wages, (4) by failing to pay them all wages due and owing upon termination of employment, (5) by failing to provide them accurate wage statements, (6) by failing to reimburse business expenses, (7) by failing to have and maintain workers compensation insurance coverage, and (8) by engaging in unfair business practices. Plaintiff alleges this corporate conduct has been accomplished with the advance knowledge and designed with intent to willfully withhold appropriate wages for work performed by members of the Class.
- 38. **Common Questions of Law and Fact:** There are predominant common questions of law and Complaint and a community of interest amongst Plaintiff and the claims of the Class concerning whether Defendant's policies and practices regularly denied Class Members meal and rest break wages, minimum and overtime wages, accurate wage statements, all wages due and owing upon termination of employment, failing to have and maintain workers compensation coverage and business expense reimbursements.
- 39. **Typicality:** Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of all members of the Class. Plaintiff is a member of the Class and has suffered the alleged violations of *Labor Code* §§ 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226(a), 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 351, 510, 511, 512(a), 558, 1185, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1198, 1198.5, 2802, 3700 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 11000 *et seq.*; provisions of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC) Wage Order(s); and California Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*

- 40. The Labor Code upon which Plaintiff bases her claims is broadly remedial in nature. These laws and labor standards serve an important public interest in establishing minimum working conditions and standards in California. These laws and labor standards protect the average working employee from exploitation by employers who may seek to take advantage of superior economic and bargaining power in setting onerous terms and conditions of employment.
- 41. The nature of this action and the format of laws available to Plaintiff and members of the Class identified herein make the class action format a particularly efficient and appropriate procedure to redress the wrongs alleged herein. If each employee were required to file an individual lawsuit, Defendant would necessarily gain an unconscionable advantage since it would be able to exploit and overwhelm the limited resources of each individual plaintiff with its vastly superior financial and legal resources. Requiring each Class Member to pursue an individual remedy would also discourage the assertion of lawful claims by employees who would be disinclined to file an action against their former and/or current employer for real and justifiable fear of retaliation and permanent damage to their careers at subsequent employment.
- 42. The prosecution of separate actions by the individual Class Members, even if possible, would create a substantial risk of (a) inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual Class Members against the Defendant and would establish potentially incompatible standards of conduct for the Defendant, and/or (b) adjudications with respect to individual Class Members which would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interest of the other Class Members not parties to the adjudications or which would substantially impair or impede the ability of the Class Members to protect their interests. Further, the claims of the individual members of the Class are not sufficiently large to warrant vigorous individual prosecution considering all of the concomitant costs and expenses.
- 43. Such a pattern, practice and uniform administration of corporate policy regarding illegal employee compensation described herein is unlawful and creates an entitlement to recovery by the Plaintiff and the Class identified herein, in a civil action, for the

unpaid balance of the full amount of meal period and rest break wages, minimum and overtime wages, failing to have and maintain workers compensation insurance coverage for employees, including interest thereon, attorneys' fees and costs of suit, as well as consequential damages.

- 44. Proof of a common business practice or pattern, which Plaintiff experienced and is representative of, will establish the right of each Class Member to recovery on the causes of action alleged herein.
- 45. The Class is commonly entitled to a specific fund with respect to the compensation illegally and unfairly retained by Defendant. This action is brought for the benefit of the entirety of all Class and will result in the creation of a common fund.

### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

### (Failure to Provide Meal Breaks in Violation of Labor Code § 226.7)

- 46. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 45 as though fully set forth herein.
- 47. In accordance with the mandates of Labor Code § 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order, Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) had the right to take a 10-minute rest break for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof, and a 30-minute meal period for every five (5) hours worked.
- 48. As a pattern and practice, Defendant did not provide dancers with meal periods and rest breaks and did not provide proper compensation for this failure.
- 49. Defendant's policy of failing to provide Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) with legally mandated meal periods and rest breaks is a violation of California law.
- 50. Such a pattern, practice and uniform administration of corporate policy as described herein is unlawful and creates an entitlement to recovery by the Plaintiff and the Class Members identified herein, in a civil action, for the balance of the unpaid premium compensation pursuant to Labor Code § 226.7 and the applicable IWC Wage Order, including interest thereon.

51. Defendant's willful failure to provide Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) the wages due and owing them upon separation from employment results in continuation of wages up to thirty (30) days from the time the wages were due. Therefore, Plaintiff and Class Members who have separated from employment are entitled to compensation pursuant to Labor Code § 203.

### **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

### (Failure to Provide Rest Breaks in Violation of Labor Code § 512)

- 52. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 51 as though fully set forth herein.
- 53. In accordance with the mandates of Labor Code § 512, and the applicable IWC Wage Order, Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) had the right to take a 10-minute rest break for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof, and a 30-minute meal period for every five (5) hours worked.
- 54. As a pattern and practice, Defendant did not provide dancers with meal periods and rest breaks and did not provide proper compensation for this failure.
- 55. Defendant's policy of failing to provide Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) with legally mandated meal periods and rest breaks is a violation of California law.
- 56. Such a pattern, practice and uniform administration of corporate policy as described herein is unlawful and creates an entitlement to recovery by the Plaintiff and the Class Members identified herein, in a civil action, for the balance of the unpaid premium compensation pursuant to Labor Code § 512, and the applicable IWC Wage Order, including interest thereon.
- 57. Defendant's willful failure to provide Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) the wages due and owing them upon separation from employment results in continuation of wages up to thirty (30) days from the time the wages were due. Therefore, Plaintiff and Class Members who have separated from employment are entitled to compensation pursuant to Labor Code § 512.

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### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

### (Failure to Pay Wages in Violation of Labor Code §§ 510 and 1194)

- 58. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 57 as though fully set forth herein.
- 59. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to compensate its dancers for all hours worked and overtime wages for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a workweek.
- 60. As a pattern and practice, Defendant failed to compensate its dancers for all hours worked, resulting in a failure to pay minimum wages and overtime wages, where applicable. For example, Defendant regularly required dancers to pay "house fees" that resulted in Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) receiving total wages in an amount less than minimum wage.
- 61. Such a pattern, practice and uniform administration of corporate policy regarding illegal employee compensation as described herein is unlawful and creates an entitlement to recovery by Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), in a civil action, for the unpaid balance of the full amount of minimum and overtime wages owing, including liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees, and costs of suit according to the mandate of California Labor Code § 1194.
- 62. Defendant's willful failure to provide Plaintiff and the Class Subclasses (d), (e), (f), and (g) the wages due and owing them upon separation from employment results in continuation of wages up to thirty (30) days from the time the wages were due. Therefore, Plaintiff and Class Members who have separated from employment are entitled to compensation pursuant to Labor Code § 203.

### **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

# (Failure to Pay All Wages Upon Separation of Employment in Violation of Labor Code § 203)

63. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 62 as though fully set forth herein.

6	54.	At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to pay its dancers all wages
owed in	a time	ely fashion at the end of employment pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 201
to 204.		

- 65. As a result of Defendant's alleged Labor Code violations alleged above, Defendant regularly failed to pay Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) their final wages pursuant to Labor Code §§ 201 to 204 and accordingly owe waiting time penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 203.
- 66. The conduct of Defendant and its agents and employees as described herein was willfully done in violation of Plaintiff and Class Members' rights, and done by managerial employees of Defendant.
- 67. Defendant's willful failure to provide Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) the wages due and owing them upon separation from employment results in a continuation of wages up to thirty (30) days from the time the wages were due. Therefore, Plaintiff and Class Members who have separated from employment are entitled to compensation pursuant to Labor Code § 203.

### FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

# (Failure to Provide Complete and Accurate Wage Statements in Violation of Labor Code § 226)

- 68. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 67 as though fully set forth herein.
- 69. In violation of Labor Code § 226, Defendants failed in their affirmative obligation to keep *accurate* records regarding the rates of pay for their non-exempt California dancers. For example, as a result of Defendants' various Labor Code violations, Defendants failed to keep accurate records of Plaintiff and Class Members' gross wages earned, total hours worked, all deductions, net wages earned, and all applicable hourly rates and the number of hours worked at each hourly rate.
- 70. Such a pattern, practice and uniform administration of corporate policy as described herein is unlawful and creates an entitlement to recovery by the Plaintiff and the

78. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's failure to maintain accurate payroll records, Plaintiff and the class have suffered actual economic harm as they have been precluded from accurately monitoring the number of hours worked and thus seek all accrued minimum wage and overtime pay.

### **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

### (Violation of Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.)

- 79. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 78 as though fully set forth herein.
- 80. Defendant has engaged and continues to engage in unfair and unlawful business practices in California by practicing, employing and utilizing the employment practices outlined above, inclusive, to wit, by knowingly denying dancers: (1) all meal period wages and rest break wages, (2) all overtime wages and minimum wages, (3) all wages due and owing upon termination of employment, and (4) accurate wage statements.
- 81. Defendant's utilization of such business practices constitutes unfair, unlawful competition and provides an unfair advantage over Defendant's competitors.
- 82. Plaintiff seeks, on her own behalf, and on behalf of other members of the Class and Subclasses who are similarly situated, full restitution of monies, as necessary and according to proof, to restore any and all monies withheld, acquired and/or converted by the Defendant by means of the unfair practices complained of herein.
- 83. The acts complained of herein occurred within the last four years preceding the filing of the Complaint in this action.
- 84. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that at all times herein mentioned Defendant has engaged in unlawful, deceptive and unfair business practices, as proscribed by Business and Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.*, including those set forth above, thereby depriving Plaintiff and the Class and Subclasses the minimum working condition standards and conditions due to them under the California laws and IWC Wage Orders as specifically described therein.

### NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

## (Failure to Maintain Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage in

**Violation of Labor Code § 3700, et seq.)** 

- 85. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 84 as though fully set forth herein.
- 86. Defendant has violated California Labor Code § 3700, *et seq.* by willfully failing to have and maintain required workers compensation insurance coverage to protect Plaintiff and the class.
- 87. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's failure to have and maintain required workers compensation insurance coverage to protect Plaintiff and the class, Plaintiff and the class have suffered actual economic harm as they have been precluded from receiving the benfits of protection of required workers compensation insurance coverage.

### **TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

### (Violation of Labor Code § 2698, et seq.)

- 88. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 87 as though fully set forth herein.
- 89. PAGA expressly establishes that any provision of the California Labor Code which provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by the LWDA, or any of its departments, divisions, commissions, boards, agencies or employees for a violation of the California Labor Code, may be recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or herself, and other current or former employees.
- 90. Plaintiff provided written notice to the LWDA and Defendant of the specific provisions of the Labor Code she contends were violated, and the theories supporting her contentions. To date, she has not received a response.
- 91. Plaintiff and other misclassified dancers are "aggrieved employees" as defined by Labor Code § 2699(c) in that they are all current or former employees of Defendant, and one or more of the alleged violations was committed against them.

### **Failure to Pay Minimum and Overtime Wages**

- 92. Defendant has failed to pay dancers minimum wages for all hours worked and overtime wages for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a workweek, pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, 1197, and 1198.
- 93. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to compensate their dancers at a rate of one and one-half times their respective regular rates of pay for the first eight hours worked on the seventh workday in a workweek, and twice the respective regular rates of pay for any work in excess of eight hours on the seventh workday in a workweek, pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code §§ 510 and 1198.
- 94. As a pattern and practice, Defendant failed to compensate Plaintiff and other aggrieved current and former dancers for all hours worked, resulting in a failure to pay all minimum wages and overtime wages, where applicable.
- 95. As a pattern and practice, Defendant failed to compensate Plaintiff and other aggrieved current and former dancers the required premium pay for hours worked on the seventh workday in a workweek.

### Failure to Provide Meal Periods and Rest Breaks

- 96. In accordance with the mandates of Labor Code § 226.7, and 512, Defendant was required to authorize and permit its dancers to take a 10-minute rest break for every four (4) hours worked or major fraction thereof, and was further required to provide its non-exempt employees with a 30-minute meal period for every five (5) hours worked.
- 97. As a pattern and practice, Defendant failed to provide Plaintiff and other aggrieved current and former dancers with legally-mandated meal periods and rest breaks and failed to pay proper compensation for this failure.

### **Failure to Timely Pay Wages During Employment**

98. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to pay its dancers within a specified time period pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code § 204.

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aggrieved current and former dancers all wages due and owing them within the required time period.

As a pattern and practice, Defendant regularly failed to pay Plaintiff and other

### Failure to Timely Pay Wages Upon Termination

- 100. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to pay its dancers all wages owed in a timely fashion at the end of employment pursuant to California Labor Code §§ 201 to 204.
- 101. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, Defendant failed to pay Plaintiff and other aggrieved current and former dancers their final wages pursuant to Labor Code §§ 201 to 204 and accordingly owe waiting time penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 203.

### Failure to Provide Complete and Accurate Wage Statements

- 102. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to keep accurate records regarding its California dancers pursuant to the mandate of Labor Code §§ 226 and 1174(d).
- 103. As a result of Defendant's various Labor Code violations, Defendant failed to keep accurate records regarding Plaintiff and other aggrieved current and former dancers. For example, Defendant failed in its affirmative obligation to keep accurate records regarding Plaintiff and other aggrieved current and former employees' gross wages earned, total hours worked, all deductions, net wages earned, and all applicable hourly rates and the number of hours worked at each hourly rate.

### **Failure to Provide Business Expense Reimbursements**

- 104. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to reimburse its dancers for all necessary business-related expenses and costs which they incurred for or on behalf of Defendant.
- 105. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, Defendant failed to reimburse Plaintiff and the other class members for all necessary business-related expenses and costs for which Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled to reimbursement.

### Failure to Comply with Labor Code § 2810.05

- 106. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was required to provide notice to dancers, complying with California's Wage Theft and Prevention Act of 2011, as set forth in Labor Code § 2810.5. With regard to its dancers, Defendant failed to comply with Section 2810.5 both "[a]t the time of hiring" and "within seven calendar days" after the time of any changes to the notice information.
- 107. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, Defendant failed to provide required notice to Plaintiff and the other class members, and thus they are entitled to seek civil penalties under PAGA.

### **Illegal Tip Pooling**

- 108. At all times relevant herein, Defendant compelled dancers to participate in unlawful tip pooling arrangements in violation of Labor Code §§ 350, 351, 353, 354, and 356.
- 109. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, dancers were deprived of tips and/or wages to which Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled.

### Violation of Labor Code § 432, Et. Seq.

- 110. At all times relevant herein, Defendant compelled dancers, as a condition of employment, to sign documents that contained terms and conditions which Defendant knew violated California law. By virtue of forcing its dancers to sign these documents, Defendant violation Labor Code §§ 432, 432.5, and 433.
- 111. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled to seek civil penalties under PAGA.

#### **Failure to Maintain Records**

- 112. At all times relevant herein, Defendant failed to maintain employment records of dancers, including, but not limited to, personnel files and payroll records in violation of Labor Code §§ 1174, 1174.5, and 1175.
- 113. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled to seek civil penalties under PAGA.

### Failure to Provide Workers Compensation

- 114. At all times relevant herein, Defendant failed to maintain workers compensation insurance to cover dancers.
- 115. As a result of Defendant's Labor Code violations alleged above, Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled to seek civil penalties under PAGA.

#### **PAGA Relief**

- 116. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699, Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of other current and former aggrieved dancers, request and are entitled to recover from Defendant unpaid wages, civil penalties, interest, attorneys' fees and costs pursuant, as well as all statutory penalties against Defendant, including but not limited to:
- 1) Penalties under Labor Code § 2699 in the amount of a hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for the initial violation, and two hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for each subsequent violation;
- 2) Penalties under Code of Regulations Title 8 § 11040 in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for the initial violation, and one hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for each subsequent violation;
- 3) Penalties under Labor Code § 210 in addition to, and entirely independent and apart from, any other penalty provided in the Labor Code in the amount of a hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for the initial violation, and two hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for each subsequent violation;
- 4) Penalties under Labor Code § 1197.1 in the amount of a hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for the initial violation, and two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each aggrieved dancer per pay period for each subsequent violation;
  - 5) An amount sufficient to recover unpaid wages under Labor Code § 558;
  - 6) An amount sufficient to recover unpaid wages under Labor Code § 1197.1;
- 7) Any and all additional penalties and sums as provided by the Labor Code and/or other statutes; and

8) Attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code §§ 210, 1194, and 2699, and any other applicable statute.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment for herself and all others on whose behalf this suit is brought against Defendants, jointly and severally, as follows:

- 1. For an order certifying the proposed Class;
- 2. For an order appointing Plaintiff as representative of the Class as described herein:
- 3. For an order appointing counsel for Plaintiff as class counsel;
- 4. Upon the First Cause of Action, for all meal period premiums owed;
- 5. Upon the Second Cause of Action, for all rest period premiums owed;
- 6. Upon the Third Cause of Action, for all minimum wages owed and overtime wages owed, and for waiting time wages according to proof pursuant to California Labor Code §203, and for costs and attorneys' fees;
- 7. Upon the Fourth Cause of Action, for waiting time penalities according to proof pursuant to California Labor Code § 203 and for costs;
- 8. Upon the Fifth Cause of Action, for damages or penalties pursuant to statute as set forth in California Labor Code § 226, and for costs and attorneys' fees;
- 9. Upon the Sixth Cause of Action, for reimbursement pursuant to statute as set forth in California Labor Code § 2802, and for costs and attorneys' fees;
- 10. Upon the Seventh Cause of Action, for compensation damages in an amount to be proven at trial;
- 11. Upon the Eighth Cause of Action, for restitution to Plaintiff and other similarly affected members of the general public of all funds unlawfully acquired by Defendants by means of any acts or practices declared by this Court to be in violation of Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.;
- 12. Upon the Ninth Cause of Action, for compensation damages in an amount to be proven at trial;

- 13. Upon the Tenth Cause of Action, for civil penalties and wages pursuant to statute as set forth in Labor Code § 2698 et seq., for Defendant's violations of Labor Code §§ 201, 201.5, 202, 203, 204, 204b, 210, 215, 216, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 223, 225, 225.5, 226, 226(a), 226.2, 226.3, 226.6, 226.7, 350, 351, 353, 354, 356, 432, 432.5, 433, 510, 512(a), 558, 558.1, 1174, 1174(d), 1174.5, 1175, 1182.12, 1194. 1194.2, 1194.3, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.2, 1198, 1198, and 2802, and the applicable IWC Wage Orders; and
- 14. On all Causes of Action, for attorneys' fees, interest, and costs as provided by California Labor Code §§ 210, 218.6, 226, 1194, Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, and any other applicable statute; and for such other further relief the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: August 7, 2019

**FORTIS** 

John M. Kennedy Attorneys for Plaintiff

ADRIANA HERNANDEZ, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated

### DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff, for herself and the Class and Subclasses, hereby demands a jury trial as provided by California law.

Dated: August 7, 2019

FORTIS LLP

John M. Kennedy

Attorneys for Plaintiff

ADRIANA HERNANDEZ, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated

### PROOF OF SERVICE

1 2 I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 650 Town Center Drive, Suite 1530, 3 Costa Mesa, California 92626. On August 7, 2019, I served the within document(s) described 4 PLAINTIFF ADRIANA HERNANDEZ'S FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION 5 COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES 6 on the interested parties in this action as stated below: 7 Attorneys for Defendant 2523 E. Anaheim, Inc. dba XS Afterhours Gentlemens Club: 8 Andrea Cook, Esq. 9 Andrea Cook & Associates 555 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 430 10 Long Beach, CA 90802 Tel: (562) 951-9135 11 Fax: (562) 951-9126 12 alcook@alcooklaw.com 13 BY FACSIMILE: I transmitted the attached document(s) by facsimile transmission from a facsimile machine whose telephone number is (714) 795-2995 to the fax numbers listed 14 above on August 7, 2019. The transmission report was complete and without error. 15 BY MAIL: By placing a true copy of the foregoing document(s) in a sealed envelope X addressed as set forth above. I am readily familiar with this firm's practice for collection 16 and processing of correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid in the 17 ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day 18 after date of deposit for mailing contained in affidavit. 19 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. 20 Executed on August 7, 2019, at Costa Mesa, California. 21 22 Lisa Dancel 23 (Type or print name) (Signature) 24

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