COPY

1	Daniel M. Hutchinson (Bar No. 239458)	
2	Lin Y. Chan (Bar No. 255027) Yaman Salahi (Bar No. 288752)	
3	LIEFF CABRASER HEIMANN & BERNST 275 Battery Street, 29th Floor	Sign of the state of
4	San Francisco, CA 94111-3339 Telephone: 415.956.1000	SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SONOMA
5	Facsimile: 415.956.1008	COUNTY OF SONOWA
6	Bree A. Ullman (State Bar No. 288764) LAW OFFICE OF BREE A. ULLMAN	
. 7	4410 Edgewood Ave, Suite B Oakland, CA 94602 Telephones (425) 318, 0708	
8	Telephone: (425) 318-0708	· ·
9	Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Putative Clas	"S
10	SUPERIOR COURT OF	THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11	COUNT	Y OF SONOMA
12	UNLIMITED JURISDICTION	
13	GABRIEL MARTIN and JACOB	Case No. SV 258731
14	HORVAT on behalf of themselves and others similarly situated,	Case 140. 3. 003 0 73 7
15	Plaintiffs,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:
16	r minums,	(1) UNPAID WAGES
17	vs.	(LABOR CODE §§ 221, 1194 ET SEQ.); (2) UNPAID OVERTIME
18	BOHEMIAN CLUB,	(CAL. WAGE ORDER NO. 4-2001; LABOR CODE §§ 510, 1194); (3) WAITING TIME PENALTIES
19	Defendant.	(Cal. Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 256);
20		(4) RECORD-KEEPING VIOLATIONS (CAL. LABOR CODE §§ 226, 226.3);
21		(5) UNTIMELY WAGE PENALTIES (CAL. LABOR CODE §§ 204, 210);
22		(6) MEAL AND REST BREAK VIOLATIONS
23		(Cal. Wage Order No. 4-2001; Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512);
24		(7) UNLAWFUL BUSINESS PRACTICES (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.);
25		AND (8) CIVIL PENALTIES AND PRIVATE
26		ATTORNEY GENERAL ACT (PAGA) AMOUNT DEMANDED EXCEEDS \$10,000
27		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
28		ZAMINI I CALUUMI IMMI
	1291157.6	-1

Plaintiffs Gabriel Martin and Jacob Horvat (collectively, "Plaintiffs") allege, on behalf of themselves and a class of those similarly situated, as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Defendant Bohemian Club is a registered California corporation which owns and operates a 2,700-acre retreat center in Monte Rio, California known as the Bohemian Grove (hereinafter, "the Grove"). The Bohemian Club serves a membership of approximately 2,500 men. It holds annual events called Spring Jinks and Encampment at the Grove. Spring Jinks occurs the last weekend of May, beginning on Friday and ending on Sunday. Encampment is a two to three-week event in July that kicks off the weekend following the Fourth of July. The Bohemian Club also holds its one-day Fall and Spring Picnics at the Grove.
- 2. During the Bohemian Club's retreats, club members and guests attend 120 theme camps at the Grove. Members sleep overnight in their camps, host social events and parties for other members and their guests, and eat meals.
- 3. The Bohemian Club employs valets as seasonal workers at Spring Jinks,

 Encampment, and the Spring and Fall Picnics. Valets serve the needs of event participants,
 primarily through manual labor in the Camps during these events. Valet job duties include cleanup, set-up, personal service work, including moving wine cases, chairs, tables, beer kegs,
 firewood, and luggage; building fires; cooking meals; stocking refrigerators; delivering
 newspapers; making coffee; serving cocktails; washing dishes; scrubbing floors; doing laundry;
 making beds; and cleaning showers and campgrounds.
- 4. Plaintiffs GABRIEL MARTIN and JACOB HORVAT ("Plaintiffs") are former valets.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

5. Plaintiffs performed work at the Camps as valets while classified as independent contractors when they should have been classified as non-exempt employees. The valets satisfied all applicable legal tests for employment status. Accordingly, Defendant was obligated, but willfully refused, to pay the valets for all overtime hours worked and failed to afford them required meal and rest breaks. Defendant has also failed to keep legally required time records.

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

6	Defendant's practices violate the state laws pled herein. Plaintiffs, on behalf of the
class, all	ge claims for (1) unpaid wages; (2) unpaid overtime; (3) waiting time penalties;
(4) recor	l-keeping violations under Labor Code sections 226 and 226.3; (5) untimely wage
penalties	under Labor Code sections 204 and 210; (6) meal and rest break violations; (7) unlawful
business	practices; and (8) civil penalties under the Private Attorney Generals Act ("PAGA").
Plaintiffs	also seek liquidated and/or other damages and penalties as permitted by applicable law,
and attor	ney's fees and costs.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has jurisdiction under Article 6, section 10 of the California Constitution, and Section 410.10 of the California Code of Civil Procedure because Defendant conducts business and holds its offices in the State of California.
- 8. This Court has venue under Section 395.5 of the California Code of Civil Procedure because Defendant's Camps are located in this county, Defendant employed Plaintiffs and putative Class members in this county, and the legal obligations and liabilities arose in this county.

III. THE PARTIES

- 9. Plaintiff Gabriel Martin is a resident of Oakland, California and worked at the Camps as a valet every summer from in or around May 2008 until in or around May 2013.
- 10. Plaintiff Jacob Horvat is a resident of San Francisco, California and worked at the Camps as a valet in July 2011 and July 2014.
- 11. Defendant Bohemian Club is a registered California corporation with an office at 624 Taylor St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

I. Valets' Work

A. Generally

12. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of all current and former individuals who provided services to the Camps at the Bohemian Grove as valets ("the Class") at any time

1291157.6

27

- 6 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1291157.6

- 41. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting the Class in that the questions of fact are common amongst the Class and the questions of law, the law's application, and what remedy is necessary to compensate and protect the Class are common among the Class members. These questions of law and fact predominate over questions that affect only individual Class members in that the Class members' matters have been dealt with and they have been damaged by the Defendant in a closely similar fashion to Plaintiffs' own. The claims of the representative Plaintiffs are typical of those of the Class and the representative Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class.
- 42. There is no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy other than by maintenance of this class action, since the damage to each Plaintiff may be relatively small, making it economically unfeasible to pursue remedies other than by a class action. Consequently, there would be a failure of justice but for the maintenance of the present class action.
- 43. The prosecution of individual remedies by members of the Class would tend to establish inconsistent standards of conduct for the Defendant and result in the impairment of Class members' rights and the disposition of their interests through actions to which they are not parties. It would also result in the unnecessary duplication of effort and expense.
- 44. Finally, Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief, allowing for broader provision of the class action form of relief.
 - 45. Class Requirements:
- a. **Numerosity** The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that during the Class Period, at least 644 persons who satisfy the definition of a California class have been employed at the Camps.
- b. **Common Questions Predominate** Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and those questions clearly predominate over any questions which might affect members individually. These common questions of law and fact include, for example:

- 47. **Adequacy** The Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of Class members.
- 48. Adequacy of counsel The Plaintiffs have retained counsel competent in complex class actions, and state labor and employment litigation. Plaintiffs' counsel intends to commit the necessary resources to prosecute this action vigorously for the benefit of all Class members.
- 49. Superiority Class certification is appropriate because a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation. Defendant's common and uniform policies and practices unlawfully treat Class members as independent contractors exempt from overtime pay requirements. The damages suffered by individual Class members are small compared to the expense and burden of individual prosecution of this litigation. In addition, class certification is superior because it will obviate the need for unduly duplicative litigation that might result in inconsistent judgments about Defendant's practices.
- 50. Plaintiffs and the Class have incurred and, during the pendency of this action, will incur expenses for attorney's fees and costs herein. Such attorney's fees and costs are necessary for the prosecution of this action and will result in a benefit to each of the members of the Class.

UNENFORCEABLE WAIVERS OF CLAIMS

- 51. Plaintiffs have not entered into any contract with the Bohemian Club that contains any waiver of claims.
- 52. However, on information and belief, the Bohemian Club has imposed a take-it-or-leave-it waiver on certain Class Members purporting to extinguish their right to seek damages for "all claims and causes of action" against the Bohemian Club or the camps. Specifically, on the afternoon of the last day of the 2014 Encampment, Camp captains offered then-working Class Members cash payments of between \$250 and \$1500, in exchange for their signature on a waiver.
 - 53. Any purported waiver is not enforceable or applicable to the claims at issue here.
- 54. The California Labor Code prohibits employers from coercing "an employee to settle claims against the employer by conditioning the payment of amounts due to the employee upon execution of a settlement agreement." *Aguilar v. Zep Inc.*, No. 13–cv–00563–WHO, 2014 WL 1900460, at *3 (N.D. Cal. May 12, 2014) (citing *Reid v. Overland Machined Prods.*, 55 Cal.

2d 203, 207 (1961)). While an employee may release disputed wage claims, there must be "a good faith dispute as to whether they are owed." *Chindarah v. Pick Up Stix, Inc.*, 171 Cal. App. 4th 796, 802 (2009) (citation omitted). Here, the waivers are not enforceable because there was no good faith dispute that the valets were misclassified as independent contractors at the time they signed the waivers.

55. The waivers are also procedurally and substantively unconscionable. *Armendariz* v. Found. Health Pyschcare Servs., Inc., 24 Cal. 4th 83, 114 (2000). The waivers are one-sided contracts of adhesion in that they are standardized forms, imposed and drafted by the Bohemian Club, which is a party of vastly superior bargaining strength, and only relegate to the Class Member the opportunity to adhere to them or reject the agreements in their entirety.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Unpaid Wages, Cal. Labor Code §§ 221, 1194 et seq.)

- 56. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference each of the preceding paragraphs as fully set forth herein.
- 57. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 221, "It shall be unlawful for any employer to collect or receive from an employee any part of wages theretofore paid by said employer to said employee."
- 58. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 1194, "Notwithstanding any agreement to work for a lesser wage, any employee receiving less than the legal minimum wage or the legal overtime compensation applicable to the employee is entitled to recover in a civil action the unpaid balance of the full amount of this minimum wage or overtime compensation, including interest thereon, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs of suit."
- 59. Defendant's conduct as alleged above constitutes a violation of California Labor Code §§ 221 and 1194, because some valets received as little as \$100 per day and worked in excess of twelve hours per day. These valets were not paid for all hours worked and/or did not receive California's minimum wage.
- 60. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unlawful conduct, as set forth herein, Plaintiffs and Class members have sustained damages in an amount to be established at

1	trial, prejudgment interest, and costs and attorney's fees, pursuant to statute and other applicable
2	law.
3	SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF
4	(Overtime Pay, Cal. Wage Order No. 4-2001; Cal. Labor Code §§ 510, 1194)
5	61. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference each of the preceding paragraphs as fully set
6	forth herein.
7	62. California law requires an employer to pay overtime compensation to all non-
8	exempt employees for all hours worked over forty per week, or over eight per day.
9	63. Under California law, Plaintiffs and Class members are non-exempt employees
10	entitled to be paid overtime compensation for all overtime hours worked.
11	64. During the Class Period, Plaintiffs and Class members worked in excess of eight
12	hours in a workday and/or forty hours in a workweek. Certain Class members also worked in
13	excess of twelve hours in a workday.
14	65. During the Class Period, Defendant misclassified Plaintiffs and Class members as
15	independent contractors, exempt from overtime pay entitlement, and failed and refused to pay
16	them overtime premium pay for their overtime hours worked.
17	66. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unlawful conduct, as set forth
18	herein, Plaintiffs and Class members have sustained damages, including loss of earnings for hour
19	of overtime worked on behalf of Defendant in an amount to be established at trial, prejudgment
20	interest, and costs and attorney's fees, pursuant to statute and other applicable law.
21	THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF
22	(Wage Payment Provisions, Cal. Labor Code §§ 201, 202, & 203)
23	67. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference each of the preceding paragraphs as fully set
24	forth herein.
25	68. California Labor Code sections 201 and 202 require employers to pay their
26	employees all wages due within the time specified by law. California Labor Code section 203
27	provides that if an employer willfully fails to timely pay such wages, the employer must continue
28	

to pay the subject employees' wages until the back wages are paid in full or an action is commenced, up to a maximum of thirty days of wages.

- 69. The Plaintiffs and all California Class members who ceased employment are entitled to unpaid compensation, but to date have not received such compensation.
- 70. More than thirty days have passed since Plaintiffs and certain California Class members left Defendant's employ.
- 71. As a consequence of Defendant's willful conduct in not paying compensation for all hours worked, Plaintiffs and Class members whose employment ended during the Class Period are entitled to thirty days' wages under Labor Code section 203, together with interest thereon and attorney's fees and costs.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Record-Keeping Provisions, Cal. Wage Order No. 4-2001; Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 1174, & 1174.5)

- 72. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference each of the preceding paragraphs as fully set forth herein.
- 73. Defendant knowingly and intentionally failed to provide timely, accurate, itemized wage statements including, *inter alia*, hours worked, to Plaintiffs and Class members in accordance with Labor Code section 226(a) and the IWC Wage Orders. Such failure caused injury to Plaintiffs and Class members, by, among other things, impeding them from knowing the amount of wages to which they are and were entitled. At all times relevant herein, Defendant has failed to maintain records of hours worked by Plaintiffs and Class members as required under Labor Code section 1174(d).
- 74. Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to and seek injunctive relief requiring Defendant to comply with Labor Code sections 226(a) and 1174(d), and further seek the amount provided under Labor Code sections 226(e) and 1174.5, including the greater of all actual damages or fifty dollars (\$50) for the initial pay period in which a violation occurred and one hundred dollars (\$100) per employee for each violation in a subsequent pay period.

Plaintiffs and Class members for one hour of additional pay at the regular rate of compensation

- 14 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1291157.6

- 15 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1291157.6

1	general to rec	over penalties for an employer's violations of the California Labor Code and IWC
2	Wage Orders	. These civil penalties are in addition to any other relief available under the
3	California La	bor Code, and must be allocated 75% to California's Labor and Workforce
4	Development Agency ("LWDA") and 25% to the aggrieved employee, pursuant to California	
5	Labor Code §	2699.
6	94.	Plaintiffs Martin and Horvat allege, on behalf of themselves and all aggrieved
7	employees, as	s well as the general public, that Defendant has violated the following provisions of
8	the California	Labor Code and the following provisions of the IWC Wage Orders that are
9	actionable thr	rough the California Labor Code and PAGA, as previously alleged herein: Cal. Lab.
10	Code §§ 201-	03, 218.5, 226, 226.7, 226.8, 510, 512, 1174, 1174.5, and 1194, and IWC Wage
11	Order No. 4-2001. Each of these violations entitles Plaintiffs Martin and Horvat, as private	
12	attorneys general, to recover the applicable civil penalties on their own behalf, on behalf of all	
13	aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public.	
14	95.	California Labor Code § 2699(a), which is part of PAGA, provides in pertinent
15	part:	
16		Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any provision of this
17		code that provides for a civil penalty to be assessed and collected by the Labor and Workforce Development Agency or any of its
18		departments, divisions, commissions, boards, agencies, or employees, for a violation of this code, may, as an alternative, be
19		recovered through a civil action brought by an aggrieved employee on behalf of themselves or themselves and other current or former
20		employees pursuant to the procedures specified in § 2699.3.
21	96.	California Labor Code § 2699(f), which is part of PAGA, provides in pertinent
22	part:	
23		For all provisions of this code except those for which a civil penalty
24		is specifically provided, there is established a civil penalty for a violation of these provisions, as follows: (2) If, at the time of
25		the alleged violation, the person employs one or more employees, the civil penalty is one hundred dollars (\$100) for each aggrieved
26		employee per pay period for the initial violation and two hundred dollars (\$200) for each aggrieved employee per pay period for each subsequent violation
27		subsequent violation.
28		
	1291157 6	16

1	H. An award of damages, liquidated damages, and restitution to be paid by	
2	Defendant according to proof;	
3 -	I. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, as provided by law;	
4	J. Such other injunctive and equitable relief as the Court may deem just and	
5	proper; and	
6	K. Attorney's fees and costs of suit, including expert fees and costs.	
7	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED	
8	Plaintiffs request trial by jury on all claims so triable.	
9		
10	Dated: April 28, 2016 Respectfully submitted,	
11	Θ Ω Γ Γ	
12	By: Aniel Kut	
13	Daniel W. Hatelinison	
14	Daniel M. Hutchinson, Bar No. 239458 Lin Y. Chan, Bar No. 255027	
15	Yaman Salahi, Bar No. 288752 LIEFF CABRASER HEIMANN & BERNSTEIN, LLP	
16	275 Battery Street, 29th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111-3339	
17	Telephone: 415.956.1000 Facsimile: 415.956.1008	
18		
19	Bree A. Ullman (State Bar No. 288764) LAW OFFICE OF BREE A. ULLMAN	
20 21	4410 Edgewood Ave, Suite B Oakland, CA 94602	
22	Telephone: (425) 318-0708	
23	Attorney for Plaintiffs and the Putative Class	
24		
25		
26		
27	·	
28		
	1291157.5	