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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

NELSON RAMIREZ,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
HV GLOBAL MANAGEMENT  
CORPORATION, et al.,  
Defendants.

Case No. 21-cv-09955-BLF

**ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND  
DENYING MOTION TO DISMISS  
FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT**

[Re: ECF No. 21]

Plaintiff Nelson Ramirez filed this case against Defendants HV Global Management Corporation and HV Global Group, Inc., alleging violations of California Labor Code and Business & Professions Code. Now before the Court is Defendants’ motion to dismiss the First Amended Complaint. ECF No. 21 (“MTD”); *see also* ECF No. 24 (“Reply”). Defendants argue that none of Plaintiffs’ claims is sufficiently pled under Rule 12(b)(6) and that there is no personal jurisdiction over HV Global Group, Inc. under Rule 12(b)(1). Plaintiffs oppose the motion. ECF No. 22 (“Opp.”). The Court previously found this motion suitable for disposition without oral argument and vacated the hearing. ECF No. 41; Civ. L.R. 7-1(b). For the following reasons, the Court GRANTS IN PART and DENIES IN PART the motion to dismiss the First Amended Complaint.

**I. BACKGROUND**

As alleged in the First Amended Complaint, Defendants employed Ramirez as a non-exempt employee from September 2010 to September 2019 and during that time failed to compensate him for hours he worked and missed meal periods and rest breaks. ECF No. 17 (“FAC”) ¶¶ 19, 27. Ramirez alleges that he was paid \$8.00 per hour from 2010 to 2016 and \$10–\$12 per hour from approximately 2016 through September 2019. *Id.* ¶ 20. Ramirez seeks to

1 represent a class of all current and former hourly-paid and non-exempt employees who worked for  
2 Defendants in California in the last four years. *Id.* ¶ 14. Ramirez brings seven claims under the  
3 California Labor Code and one claim under California’s Unfair Competition Law. *See id.* ¶¶ 51–  
4 113.

5 **II. MOTION TO DISMISS – RULE 12(B)(6)**

6 **A. Legal Standard**

7 “A motion to dismiss under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6) for failure to state a  
8 claim upon which relief can be granted ‘tests the legal sufficiency of a claim.’” *Conservation*  
9 *Force v. Salazar*, 646 F.3d 1240, 1241–42 (9th Cir. 2011) (quoting *Navarro v. Block*, 250 F.3d  
10 729, 732 (9th Cir. 2001)). When determining whether a claim has been stated, the Court accepts  
11 as true all well-pled factual allegations and construes them in the light most favorable to the  
12 plaintiff. *Reese v. BP Expl. (Alaska) Inc.*, 643 F.3d 681, 690 (9th Cir. 2011). However, the Court  
13 need not “accept as true allegations that contradict matters properly subject to judicial notice” or  
14 “allegations that are merely conclusory, unwarranted deductions of fact, or unreasonable  
15 inferences.” *In re Gilead Scis. Sec. Litig.*, 536 F.3d 1049, 1055 (9th Cir. 2008) (internal quotation  
16 marks and citations omitted). While a complaint need not contain detailed factual allegations, it  
17 “must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to ‘state a claim to relief that is plausible  
18 on its face.’” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*,  
19 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is facially plausible when it “allows the court to draw the  
20 reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” *Id.* On a motion to  
21 dismiss, the Court’s review is limited to the face of the complaint and matters judicially  
22 noticeable. *MGIC Indem. Corp. v. Weisman*, 803 F.2d 500, 504 (9th Cir. 1986); *N. Star Int’l v.*  
23 *Ariz. Corp. Comm’n*, 720 F.2d 578, 581 (9th Cir. 1983).

24 **B. Analysis**

25 Defendants urge the Court to dismiss all of Ramirez’s claims under Rule 12(b)(6). Each of  
26 their arguments falls in the same vein: that there are no factual allegations that support Ramirez’s  
27 claims that Defendants violated California labor law. *See, e.g.*, MTD at 13 (as to meal period  
28 claims, Ramirez does not allege “anything about how these alleged meal break violations

1 happened, when and where they happened, who was responsible, or how often they occurred”); *id.*  
2 at 16–17 (as to unpaid wages and overtime claims, Ramirez “fails to allege that, during any actual  
3 identified work week, he and/or any putative class members were entitled to either minimum wage  
4 or overtime compensation, but did not receive it”). In response to these arguments, in addition to  
5 defending the allegations supporting each cause of action, Ramirez claims that Defendants are  
6 holding him to an improperly high pleading standard because “[t]he standards for ‘plausibility’ are  
7 different in the context of wage-and-hour cases than they are for other cases.” *Opp.* at 5. The  
8 Court first considers the applicable pleading standard before analyzing the allegations supporting  
9 each cause of action.

10 **i. Pleading Standard for Wage-and-Hour Claims**

11 The parties dispute the applicable pleading standard to the wage-and-hour claims in this  
12 case. Ramirez asserts that “[t]he standards for ‘plausibility’ are different in the context of wage-  
13 and-hour cases” than for other cases and that all that is necessary to state claims is to “allege that  
14 earned wages were denied.” *Opp.* at 5. Ramirez points to other “so-called ‘skeletal’ wage-and-  
15 hour pleadings” allegedly similar to his own that survived motions to dismiss. *Id.* Defendants  
16 argue that multiple courts have rejected Ramirez’s argument that a lower pleading standard applies  
17 to wage-and-hour claims, and that the Ninth Circuit’s decision in *Landers v. Quality Commc’ns,*  
18 *Inc.*, 771 F.3d 638 (9th Cir. 2014), establishes what is required. *Reply* at 7–8.

19 The Court agrees with Defendants. Multiple courts have rejected Ramirez’s assertion that  
20 “skeletal” wage-and-hour complaints can survive Rule 12(b)(6) motions. For example, in  
21 *Ritenour v. Carrington Mortg. Servs. LLC*, 228 F. Supp. 3d 1025, 1033 (C.D. Cal. 2017), the court  
22 found this exact argument to run headlong into *Landers*. “Although . . . detailed factual  
23 allegations regarding the number of overtime hours worked are not required to state a plausible  
24 claim, we do not agree that conclusory allegations that merely recite the statutory language are  
25 adequate.” *Id.* (quoting *Landers*, 771 F.3d at 644). To allow conclusory allegations to suffice  
26 would “run[] afoul of the Supreme Court’s pronouncement in *Iqbal* that a [p]laintiff’s pleading  
27 burden cannot be discharged by ‘[a] pleading that offers labels and conclusions or a formulaic  
28 recitation of the elements of a cause of action.’” *Landers*, 771 F.3d at 645 (quoting *Iqbal*, 556

1 U.S. at 678).<sup>1</sup> Under *Landers*, a plaintiff “may establish a plausible claim by estimating the length  
2 of her average workweek during the applicable period and the average rate at which she was paid,  
3 the amount of overtime wages she believes she is owed, or any other facts that will permit the  
4 court to find plausibility.” *Id.* Ramirez’s position that some lower pleading standard applies is  
5 thus “inaccurate and unsupported by the case law.” *Byrd v. Masonite Corp.*, 2016 WL 756523, at  
6 \*4 n.16 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 25, 2016); *see also Alvarado v. Amazon*, 2022 WL 899850, at \*2 (N.D.  
7 Cal. Mar. 28, 2022) (dismissing wage-and-hour claims under *Landers*).

8 And this isn’t the first time Ramirez’s counsel has been admonished by a court for filing a  
9 boilerplate complaint. *See FEAO v. UFP Riverside, LLC*, 2017 WL 2836207, at \*10 (C.D. Cal.  
10 Jun. 29, 2017) (imposing Rule 11 sanctions). As a blatant example of the boilerplate nature of the  
11 operative complaint, the Court notes that Ramirez didn’t even bother to replace the jurisdictional  
12 allegations pertaining to “The Superior Court for the County of Monterey,” FAC ¶¶ 2–4, with the  
13 correct allegations regarding federal jurisdiction and venue. Such a correction was required even  
14 though a motion to remand was pending under CAFA’s amount-in-controversy requirement.

15 **ii. Ramirez’s Claims**

16 The Court now examines each of Ramirez’s eight causes of action. In light of the pleading  
17 standard articulated in *Landers* and applied in numerous cases throughout the Circuit, Ramirez has  
18 not adequately pled any of his claims.

19 Claims 1, 4 – Unpaid Wages and Overtime Wages. Ramirez’s first claim is for failure to  
20 pay overtime wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 510, 1198, FAC ¶¶ 51–59; and his  
21 fourth claim is for failure to pay minimum wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194,  
22 1197, 1197.1. FAC ¶¶ 83–88. Defendants argue that these claims must be dismissed because  
23 Ramirez has failed to allege when he worked in excessive of forty hours and was not paid  
24 overtime, or when he was not paid minimum wages. *See* MTD at 16–19. Ramirez argues that his  
25 allegations meet the requirements in *Landers* because he has identified tasks for which he was not  
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27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 <sup>1</sup> Although *Landers* considered only federal Fair Labor Standards Act claims, numerous courts  
have applied *Landers* to claims brought in federal court under the California Labor Code. *See*,  
*e.g., Haralson v. United Airlines, Inc.*, 224 F. Supp. 3d 928, 942 (N.D. Cal. 2016).

1 paid and alleged that he regularly worked in excess of eight hours per day and forty hours per  
2 week. Opp. at 8–10.

3 The Court finds that Ramirez has not adequately pled his claims for unpaid wages and  
4 overtime as required by *Landers*. *Landers* made quite clear what was required. Absent from the  
5 complaint in *Landers* “was any detail regarding a given workweek when Landers worked in  
6 excess of forty hours and was not paid overtime for that given workweek and/or was not paid  
7 minimum wages.” 771 F.3d at 646. The Ninth Circuit held that “[a]lthough plaintiffs in these  
8 types of cases cannot be expected to allege ‘with mathematical precision’ the amount of overtime  
9 compensation owed by the employer, they should be able to allege facts demonstrating there was  
10 at least one workweek in which they worked in excess of forty hours and were not paid overtime  
11 wages.” *Id.* (quoting *Dejesus v. H.F. Mgmt. Servs., LLC*, 726 F.3d 85, 89 (2d Cir. 2013)).  
12 Landers’ allegations also failed to provide “sufficient detail about the length and frequency of [his]  
13 unpaid work to support a reasonable inference that [he] worked more than forty hours in a given  
14 week.” *Id.* (citing *Nakahata v. New York–Presbyterian Healthcare Sys., Inc.*, 723 F.3d 192 (2d  
15 Cir. 2013)).

16 Ramirez has failed to satisfy these standards. The First Amended Complaint is devoid of  
17 any factual allegations substantiating Ramirez’s claims. Ramirez does not allege a “given  
18 workweek” when he worked in excess of forty hours and wasn’t paid overtime, or was not paid  
19 minimum wages. *Landers*, 771 F.3d at 646. Nor does Ramirez provide any detail about “the  
20 length and frequency” of that unpaid work. *Id.* The Court acknowledges that Ramirez has alleged  
21 his pay rate range throughout the covered period, and that Ramirez says that he worked additional  
22 hours “providing customer service” to clients. See FAC ¶¶ 20, 28. But providing “customer  
23 service” to clients is a far too generic allegation (1) to establish that there was at least one  
24 workweek in which Ramirez was not compensated for regular- or overtime or (2) to provide  
25 sufficient detail about the length and frequency of unpaid work. See *Bush v. Vaco*, 2018 WL  
26 2047807, at \*8–9 (insufficient facts pled to support inference that unpaid work occurred where  
27 plaintiff alleged that she “regularly” worked more than statutory requirements).

28 Ramirez’s allegations thus “raise the possibility of undercompensation,” but “a possibility

1 is not the same as plausibility.” *Landers*, 771 F.3d at 646 (quoting *Nakahata*, 723 F.3d at 201).  
2 To be clear, the Court is not requiring Ramirez to identify a calendar week or particular instance  
3 where he was denied wages, but only to plead specific facts that raise a plausible inference that  
4 such an instance actually occurred. He has not done that in the operative pleading. These two  
5 claims are thus DISMISSED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND.

6 Claims 2–3 – Meal and Rest Breaks. Ramirez’s second and third claims are for failure to  
7 provide meal and rest breaks in violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512(a). FAC ¶¶ 60–  
8 82. Defendants argue that these claims must be dismissed because the allegations merely parrot  
9 the statutory language and do not state at least one occasion on which Ramirez or putative class  
10 members were prevented from taking a meal or rest break. MTD at 12–16. Ramirez says that he  
11 has pointed to a specific example and that nothing in the California Labor Code requires him to  
12 plead “every violation” that Defendants committed. Opp. at 6–8.

13 The Court agrees with Defendants that these claims must be dismissed as pled. To state a  
14 claim for failure to provide required rest or meal periods, Ramirez must at least allege either a  
15 specific corporate policy prohibiting those breaks or a specific instance or instances in which he  
16 was denied a required break. *Alvarado*, 2022 WL 899850, at \*2; *see also Wright v. Frontier*  
17 *Mgmt. LLC*, 2021 WL 2210739, at \*2–3 (E.D. Cal. Jun. 1, 2021) (no allegation of specific  
18 instance in which defendants interfered with meal or rest breaks); *Guerrero v. Halliburton Energy*  
19 *Servs.*, 2016 WL 6494296, at \*6 (E.D. Cal. Nov. 2, 2016) (same). Ramirez has failed to do so  
20 here. Ramirez points to only one purported example in each claim:

21 By way of example, Plaintiff was required to serve food and  
22 beverages at events that lasted at least six hours. Often times when  
23 Plaintiff was working these events, he was not authorized or permitted  
to take a full, uninterrupted, and timely thirty (30) minute meal break.

24 FAC ¶ 67; *see also id.* ¶ 78 (same, except Ramirez allegedly not allowed to take “a full,  
25 uninterrupted, timely and off-duty rest period”). But this allegation still does not allege a “specific  
26 instance or instances” in which Ramirez was denied a rest or meal break. The example Ramirez  
27 provides is not “specific”—instead, it says that he generally was required to serve food and  
28 beverages at six-hour events. But there is no allegation of any specific event at which he worked

1 for longer than six hours and was denied a rest or meal break. Alleging generally that Ramirez  
2 worked “events that lasted at least six hours” does not put Defendants on notice of any specific  
3 instance of this happening. Neither has Ramirez alleged that this “example” is representative of a  
4 corporate policy of Defendants that more generally denied or interfered with meal or rest breaks.  
5 The case that Ramirez cites that denied a motion to dismiss a complaint with similar allegations  
6 predates *Landers* and is thus not instructive on what is required to state claims for meal or rest  
7 break violations. *See* Opp. at 7–8 (citing *Ambriz v. Coca Cola Co.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS  
8 158513 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 5, 2013)). Ramirez also says that the California Labor Code does not  
9 require him to state these details about his claim, Opp. at 7, but these requirements are imposed by  
10 federal pleading standards as articulated in *Landers*, not by the California Labor Code.

11 These two claims are thus DISMISSED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND.

12 Claims 5–6 – Wages for Terminated/Resigned Employees and Wage Statements.

13 Ramirez’s fifth claim is for failure to pay wages for terminated or resigned employees in violation  
14 of California Labor Code §§ 201, 202, FAC ¶¶ 89–96, and his sixth claim is for failure to provide  
15 accurate wage statements in violation of California Labor Code §§ 226(a), FAC ¶¶ 97–101. These  
16 claims are derivative of the wage, meal period, and rest break claims. *See Bush*, 2018 WL  
17 2047807, at \*10 (dismissing wage statement and terminated/resigned employee wage claims  
18 where predicate claims of failure to pay regular and overtime wages were not adequately pled);  
19 *accord Alvarado*, 2022 WL 899850, at \*2. Because the Court has determined that the predicate  
20 claims are not adequately pled, these claims are also DISMISSED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND.  
21 The Court need not consider Defendants’ other arguments for dismissing these claims.

22 Claim 7 – Reimbursements. Ramirez’s seventh claim is for failure to reimburse business  
23 expenses in violation of California Labor Code §§ 2800, 2802. FAC ¶¶ 102–106. Defendants  
24 argue that this claim must be dismissed because Ramirez has failed to allege (1) how any  
25 unreimbursed cell phone use was for business matters or (2) how his clothing purchases amounted  
26 to a special “uniform” for which he should have been reimbursed. MTD at 22–23. Ramirez  
27 defends the allegations in his First Amended Complaint. Opp. at 12–13.

28 The Court finds that the claim is not adequately pled. To state a claim for failure to

1 reimburse business expenses, a plaintiff must allege a specific instance in which he was not  
2 reimbursed for expenses that were within his job duties. *Alvarado*, 2022 WL 899850, at \*2 (citing  
3 *Reed v. AutoNation, Inc.*, 2017 WL 6940519, at \*6 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 20, 2017)). Ramirez alleges  
4 that he incurred costs for “the use of personal phones for business-related purposes” and “to  
5 purchase clothing in order to comply with Defendants’ dress code.” FAC ¶ 104. Neither  
6 allegation is sufficient. As to the use of a personal phone, Ramirez has failed to allege any  
7 supporting details about his phone use, such as “whether [he] incurred any actual expenses related  
8 to the use of [his] cell phone[]; whether [he] requested Defendants reimburse [him] for those  
9 expenses; or that Defendants refused to tender any requested reimbursements.” *Wright*, 2021 WL  
10 2210739, at \*4. And as to his claim related to the purchase of clothing, Ramirez fails to allege  
11 facts supporting the inference that the clothing was more than basic wardrobe items to which he  
12 would not be entitled to reimbursement. *See, e.g., Townley v. BJ’s Restaurants, Inc.*, 37 Cal. App.  
13 5th 179, 185 (2019) (slip-resistant shoes not a “necessary expenditure” under Section 2802 such  
14 that employee needed to be reimbursed for cost because they were generally usable in the industry  
15 and thus not a “uniform”).

16 Ramirez’s claim for failure to reimburse business expenses is thus DISMISSED WITH  
17 LEAVE TO AMEND.

18 Claim 8 – UCL. Ramirez’s final claim is for violation of the unlawful prong<sup>2</sup> of  
19 California’s Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 *et seq.* FAC ¶¶ 107–113.  
20 A UCL unlawful claim fails where no predicate violation of the California Labor Code is plausibly  
21 pled. *See Yang v. Francesca’s Collections, Inc.*, 2018 WL 984637, at \*8 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 20, 2018  
22 (dismissing UCL unlawful claim as derivative of other failed claims for Labor Code violations);  
23 *accord Alvarado*, 2022 WL 899850, at \*2. Because the Court has dismissed all of Ramirez’s  
24 California Labor Code claims, the UCL claim must also be DISMISSED WITH LEAVE TO

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26 <sup>2</sup> Ramirez does in passing characterize Defendants’ conduct as “unfair” in his UCL claim. *See*  
27 FAC ¶ 108 (Defendants’ conduct is “unfair, unlawful and harmful” to him and the class). The  
28 remainder of the UCL claim makes clear that it is brought under the unlawful prong only. *See,*  
*e.g., id.* ¶ 110 (listing violations of law and stating that a violation of the UCL “may be predicated  
on the violation of any state or federal law”). Ramirez does not contend in opposition to the  
motion to dismiss that he is attempting to state a claim under the “unfair” prong of the UCL.



1 AMEND.

2 **iii. Joint Employers**

3 Defendants also move to dismiss Defendant HV Global Group, Inc. from the case because  
4 the First Amended Complaint fails to allege facts to support Ramirez’s claim that both Defendants  
5 are his joint employers. MTD at 26; Reply at 16–18. Ramirez says that he has adequately alleged  
6 that the Defendants are joint employers. Opp. at 14–16.

7 The Court finds that the First Amended Complaint does not adequately distinguish  
8 between the two Defendants. Courts dismiss complaints that make “undifferentiated allegations”  
9 against multiple defendants because those allegations “fail to individually describe the amount of  
10 control exerted by each alleged joint employer.” *Holtegaard v. Howroyd-Wright Emp. Agency,*  
11 *Inc.*, 2020 WL 6051328, at \*3 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 11, 2020); *see also Manukyan v. Cach, LLC*, 2012  
12 WL 6199938, at \*3 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 11, 2012). That is the case with the First Amended Complaint  
13 here. Other than individually naming the Defendants in separate paragraphs in the “Parties”  
14 section of the First Amended Complaint, *see* FAC ¶¶ 6–9, the First Amended Complaint refers to  
15 HV Global Management Corporation and HV Global Group, Inc. collectively as “Defendants.”  
16 *Id.* ¶ 11. This is not sufficient to state specific facts as to “each alleged joint employer.”  
17 *Holtegaard*, 2020 WL 6051328, at \*3. The allegations to which Ramirez points in opposition  
18 simply refer to the “Defendants” and thus do not differentiate between either entity. *See* Opp. at  
19 15–16. In an amended complaint, Ramirez must either dismiss one of the Defendants or provide  
20 sufficient allegations to individually describe the control exerted by each Defendant.

21 **iv. Class Member Allegations**

22 Defendants also argue that the Court should dismiss Ramirez’s class allegations because  
23 Ramirez has failed to allege sufficient facts regarding any putative class members. *See* MTD at  
24 14–15; Reply at 18–19. Because the Court has found that the none of the claims in the First  
25 Amended Complaint is adequately pled, the Court need not consider whether the claims are  
26 adequately pled as to putative class members. In amending his complaint, however, Ramirez  
27 should consider Defendants’ arguments regarding the plausibility of his allegations that the  
28 putative class members had similar work experiences to those that he alleges he encountered.

1                   **v.    Leave to Amend**

2                   Defendants urge the Court to deny leave to amend because Ramirez has already amended  
3 his complaint. *See* MTD at 27. Ramirez, however, amended as of right in response to  
4 Defendants’ original motion to dismiss, so this is the first time that Ramirez has received the  
5 Court’s guidance as to the sufficiency of his complaint. Because amendment would not be futile,  
6 the dismissal of the claims in the First Amended Complaint is with leave to amend.

7                   **III.    MOTION TO DISMISS – RULE 12(B)(2)**

8                   **A.    Legal Standard**

9                   “Federal courts ordinarily follow state law in determining the bounds of their jurisdiction  
10 over persons.” *Walden v. Fiore*, 571 U.S. 277, 283 (2014) (quoting *Daimler AG v. Bauman*, 571  
11 U.S. 117, 125 (2014)). California’s long-arm statute is coextensive with federal due process  
12 requirements. *See Schwarzenegger v. Fred Martin Motor Co.*, 374 F.3d 797, 800–01 (9th Cir.  
13 2004). “Although a nonresident’s physical presence within the territorial jurisdiction of the court  
14 is not required, the nonresident generally must have ‘certain minimum contacts . . . such that the  
15 maintenance of the suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.’”  
16 *Walden*, 571 U.S. at 283 (quoting *Int’l Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 316 (1945)).

17                   When a defendant raises a challenge to personal jurisdiction, the plaintiff bears the burden  
18 of establishing that jurisdiction is proper. *See Ranza v. Nike, Inc.*, 793 F.3d 1059, 1068 (9th Cir.  
19 2015). “Where, as here, the defendant’s motion is based on written materials rather than an  
20 evidentiary hearing, the plaintiff need only make a *prima facie* showing of jurisdictional facts to  
21 withstand the motion to dismiss.” *Id.* “[T]he plaintiff cannot simply rest on the bare allegations of  
22 its complaint,” but the uncontroverted allegations in the complaint must be accepted as true.  
23 *Schwarzenegger*, 374 F.3d at 800 (quotation marks and citation omitted). Factual disputes created  
24 by conflicting affidavits must be resolved in the plaintiff’s favor. *Id.*

25                   Personal jurisdiction may be either general or specific. General personal jurisdiction exists  
26 when the defendant’s contacts “are so continuous and systematic as to render [it] essentially at  
27 home in the forum State.” *Daimler AG v. Bauman*, 571 U.S. 117, 127 (2014) (quotation marks  
28 and citation omitted). Specific personal jurisdiction exists when the defendant’s contacts with the

1 forum state are more limited but the plaintiff’s claims arise out of or relate to those contacts. *Id.* at  
2 127–28.

3 **B. Analysis**

4 Defendants raise the personal jurisdiction issue in a footnote in their motion. *See* MTD at  
5 26 n.2. While Defendants are correct that a plaintiff bears the burden of demonstrating  
6 jurisdiction over a defendant after defendant moves to dismiss for lack of personal jurisdiction, *see*  
7 *Pebble Beach Co. v. Caddy*, 453 F.3d 1151 (9th Cir. 2006), the Court declines to reach this issue.  
8 “Arguments raised only in footnotes, or only on reply, are generally deemed waived and need not  
9 be considered.” *Holley v. Gilead Scis., Inc.*, 379 F. Supp. 3d 809, 834 (N.D. Cal. 2019) (quoting  
10 *Estate of Saunders v. Comm’r*, 745 F.3d 953, 962 n.8 (9th Cir. 2014)). The motion to dismiss for  
11 lack of personal jurisdiction is thus DENIED. Because the Court does not consider the personal  
12 jurisdiction issue, Ramirez’s corresponding request for judicial notice is DENIED AS MOOT.  
13 This ruling is made without prejudice to Defendants reasserting the argument of lack of personal  
14 jurisdiction in the event Ramirez files a Second Amended Complaint.

15 **IV. ORDER**

16 For the foregoing reasons, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 17 • Defendants’ motion to dismiss the first and fourth claims for failure to pay  
18 minimum wage and overtime wages is GRANTED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND;
- 19 • Defendants’ motion to dismiss the second and third claims for meal and rest break  
20 violations is GRANTED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND;
- 21 • Defendants’ motion to dismiss the fifth and six claims for wage statement  
22 violations and failure to pay wages for terminated or resigned employees is  
23 GRANTED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND;
- 24 • Defendants’ motion to dismiss the seventh claim for failure to pay reimbursements  
25 is GRANTED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND;
- 26 • Defendants’ motion to dismiss the eighth claim for violation of the unlawful prong  
27 of the UCL is GRANTED WITH LEAVE TO AMEND;
- 28 • Defendants’ motion to dismiss for failure to allege facts to establish that

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Defendants are joint employers is GRANTED;

- Defendants’ motion to dismiss the class allegations is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE; and
- Defendants’ motion to dismiss HVGG for lack of personal jurisdiction is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Ramirez SHALL file an amended complaint **no later than 30 days following this Order**. Failure to meet the deadline to file an amended complaint or failure to cure the deficiencies identified in this Order will result in a dismissal of Ramirez’s claims with prejudice. Leave to amend is limited to the defects addressed in this Order. Ramirez may not add new claims or parties absent express leave of Court.

Dated: June 14, 2022

  
BETH LABSON FREEMAN  
United States District Judge