

1
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
27
28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

AMIE HOLAK, individually, and on behalf of other members of the general public similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

K MART CORPORATION, a Michigan Corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:12-cv-00304-AWI-MJS

ORDER ADOPTING IN PART THE MAGISTRATE JUDGE’S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (ECF No. 129)

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT’S MOTION TO STRIKE, GRANTING IN PART PLAINTIFF’S MOTION TO STRIKE, DENYING PLAINTIFF’S MOTION TO MODIFY THE COURT’S SCHEDULING ORDER, AND DENYING PLAINTIFF’S MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION (ECF Nos. 82, 95, 104, 113, 129, 130.)

I.

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff Amie Holak (“Plaintiff”) filed a motion for class certification pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure against Kmart Corporation (“Defendant”). (ECF No. 85.) The action was set before a United States Magistrate Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and Local Rule 302. Bother parties filed cross-motions to strike declarations provided in support and in opposition to the certification motion. (ECF Nos. 95, 104.) Plaintiff also filed a motion to modify the scheduling order in order to permit Plaintiff to conduct rebuttal discovery regarding the declarations submitted by Defendant in opposition to Plaintiff’s

1 certification motion.

2 On June 6, 2014, the Magistrate Judge filed a findings and recommendations (“F&R”)
3 which was served on the parties and which contained notice that any objections to the F&R were
4 to be filed within fourteen days. Any response was to be filed within fourteen days of the
5 objection. Each party filed objections to the F&R within fourteen days then a response to the
6 other’s objections within fourteen days.

7 The Court has the power to “accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the findings or
8 recommendations made by the magistrate” whether objections have been filed or not. See Britt
9 v. Simi Valley Unified School Dist., 708 F.2d 452, 454 (9th Cir. 1983). In accordance with the
10 provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b) the Court has conducted a *de novo* review of this case. Plaintiff
11 made four objections: (1) the first recommendation (striking the declarations of six putative class
12 members) is based on the erroneous finding that Defendant was prejudiced by Plaintiff’s failure
13 to disclose the identities of the declarants prior to the discovery cut-off¹; (2) the second
14 recommendation (striking, *inter alia*, the declarations of the non-exempt employees other than
15 those at the Coalinga store) is based in part on the erroneous finding that Defendant made a
16 timely disclosure of the identities and contact information Coalinga employees; (3) the second
17 (refusing to strike the declarations of the assistant manager employees (“ASMs”)) and third
18 (denying modification of the scheduling order) recommendations are erroneous because they
19 erroneously assume that Plaintiff could have deposed the ASMs without their declarations which
20 were not provided until the filing of Defendant’s opposition to the class certification motion; (4)
21 the fourth recommendation (denying class certification) is erroneous because the Magistrate
22 Judge (a) misconstrued Plaintiff’s allegations regarding the policy creating commonality as to the
23 off-the-clock subclass, (b) improperly drew inferences from the evidence in Defendant’s favor
24 and made determinations on the merits, (c) gave improper weight to Defendant’s declarations,
25 (d) inconsistently determined that, although any individualized inquiry required for
26 determination of correctness of wage rate statements would not defeat certification, Plaintiff was

27
28 ¹ Plaintiff also objects to the Magistrate Judge setting the discovery cut-off four months before the deadline to file a motion for class certification.

1 not entitled to certification because she did not bear her burden of establishing that inaccurate
2 wage statements are common to the putative class. The Court finds Plaintiff’s second objection
3 persuasive. Otherwise, the Court will overrule Plaintiff’s objections.

4 Defendant has also made four objections: (1) the portion of the second recommendation
5 striking non-Coalinga, non-exempt employees is erroneous because (a) Defendants disclosed the
6 declarants contact information within the disclosure deadline, rendering its disclosures “*per se*
7 timely” (ECF. No. 132 at 3)(emphasis original), (b) assuming the disclosure was untimely, the
8 delay was harmless, and (c) the Magistrate Judge erroneously determined that the timing of
9 Defendant’s disclosures were not substantially justified; (2) the Magistrate Judge erroneously
10 recommended that Defendant’s evidentiary objection’s to Plaintiff’s declaration should be
11 overruled; (3) the Magistrate Judge erroneously considered certification on Plaintiff’s unpled
12 wage statement claim; (4) the Magistrate Judge erroneously found that a “minimal injury,” in
13 this case an inaccurate overtime rate reported but accurate rate actually paid, could constitute
14 redressable injury under California Labor Code section 226(e)(2)(B).

15 Having carefully reviewed the entire file, the Court will adopt the F&R with the
16 clarifications made, infra.

17 II.

18 ANALYSIS

19 A. The certification discovery deadline and Plaintiff’s non-compliance therewith

20 Plaintiff objects to the Magistrate Judge’s setting of the discovery cut-off for class
21 certification related discovery four months prior to the deadline for filing of a class certification
22 motion. The Plaintiff brought suit in January of 2012 and began discovery on July 12, 2012.
23 (ECF. No. 33.) The Magistrate Judge entered a scheduling order on March 29, 2013, requiring all
24 class certification related discovery to be completed on or before October 10, 2013; warning
25 therein that any “information [or] documents discovered or produced after that date shall not be
26 included in or considered by the Court in ruling on the [class certification] [m]otion.” (ECF. No.
27 70 at 2.) Beyond that warning, the Magistrate Judge cautioned that the duty to provide
28 supplemental disclosures would be “strictly enforced.” (Id.) In total, the “parties had nearly

1 fifteen months to conduct certification discovery.” (ECF. No. 129 at 7.) Plaintiff made no
2 objection to the scheduling ordered entered by the Magistrate Judge, made no request to extend
3 discovery, and made no request to compel discovery prior to the instant objection to the close of
4 discovery and the filing of her motion for class certification. Plaintiff has far overplayed her hand
5 in alleging that the Magistrate Judge abused his authority when he set a certification discovery
6 deadline four months before the deadline for the motion for class certification deadline. (ECF.
7 No. 133 at 12-13.)

8 Districts Courts must enter scheduling orders in actions to “limit the time to join other
9 parties, amend the pleadings, complete discovery, and file motions.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(3).
10 Once entered by the court, a scheduling order “controls the course of the action unless the court
11 modifies it.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(d). Scheduling orders are intended to alleviate case management
12 problems. Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc., 975 F.2d 604, 610 (9th Cir. 1992). As such,
13 a scheduling order is “the heart of case management.” Koplove v. Ford Motor Co., 795 F.2d 15,
14 18 (3rd Cir.1986).

15 Rule 16 “recognizes the inherent power of the district court to enforce its pretrial orders
16 through sanctions, Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f), and the discretion of the district judge to apply an
17 appropriate level of supervision as dictated by the issues raised by each individual case.” In re
18 Arizona, 528 F.3d 652, 657 (9th Cir. 2009) (citing e.g., Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(c)(2)), cert. denied,
19 --- U.S. ----, 129 S. Ct. 2852, 174 L. Ed.2d 551 (2009). A “scheduling conference order is not
20 a frivolous piece of paper, idly entered, which can be cavalierly disregarded without peril.”
21 Johnson, 975 F.2d at 610. The Ninth Circuit has clarified why the Rule 16 deadlines should be
22 taken seriously:

23 In these days of heavy caseloads, trial courts in both the federal and state systems
24 routinely set schedules and establish deadlines to foster the efficient treatment and
25 resolution of cases. Those efforts will be successful only if the deadlines are taken
26 seriously by the parties, and the best way to encourage that is to enforce the
27 deadlines. Parties must understand that they will pay a price for failure to comply
28 strictly with scheduling and other orders, and that failure to do so may properly
support severe sanctions and exclusions of evidence.

Wong v. Regents of the Univ. of Cal., 410 F.3d 1052, 1060 (9th Cir. 2005); see also, Singh v.

1 Arrow Truck Sales, Inc., 2006 WL 1867540, at *2 (E.D. Cal., July 5, 2006) (“Rules are rules –
2 and the parties must play by them. In the final analysis, the judicial process depends heavily on
3 the judge's credibility. To ensure such credibility, a district judge must often be firm in managing
4 crowded dockets and demanding adherence to announced deadlines. If he or she sets a
5 reasonable due date, parties should not be allowed casually to flout it or painlessly to escape the
6 foreseeable consequences of noncompliance”), citing Legault v. Zambrano, 105 F.3d 24, 28-29
7 (1st Cir. 1997).

8 The Ninth Circuit is protective of this particular rule, as it deems Rule 16 to be an
9 essential tool in controlling heavy trial court dockets by recognizing the importance of a “district
10 court's ability to control its docket by enforcing a discovery termination date, even in the face of
11 requested supplemental discovery that might have revealed highly probative evidence, when the
12 [party's] prior discovery efforts were not diligent.” Cornwell v. Electra Central Credit Union,
13 439 F.3d 1018, 1027 (9th Cir. 2006). “The use of orders establishing a firm discovery cutoff date
14 is commonplace, and has impacts generally helpful to the orderly progress of litigation, so that
15 the enforcement of such an order should come as a surprise to no one.” Id. As the Ninth Circuit
16 has emphasized, “[d]istrict courts have wide latitude in controlling discovery, and [their] rulings
17 will not be overturned in the absence of a clear abuse of discretion.” Id. (citation and internal
18 quotation marks omitted).

19 The Magistrate Judge was well within his discretion to set a discovery deadline that
20 required the close of class certification discovery four months prior to the deadline for the class
21 certification motion. The limitation of the scope of the discovery to the Coalinga store was also
22 within the Magistrate Judge’s discretion since he correctly determined that in order to require
23 Defendant to provide statewide class discovery Plaintiff must make a *prima facie* showing that
24 class action requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 are satisfied or that discovery is
25 likely to produce substantiation of class allegations; absent such a showing, the Court’s refusal to
26 allow class discovery is not an abuse of discretion. See Mantolete v. Bolger, 767 F.2d 1416,
27 1424 (9th Cir. 1985).

28 Plaintiff also contends that the Magistrate Judge’s scheduling order only required that

1 “information and documents,” but not witnesses be disclosed by October 10, 2013. As the F&Rs
2 competently discuss, the Scheduling Order clarified that “information and documents discovered
3 or produced after [October 10, 2013] shall not be ... considered by the Court.” (ECF. No. 129 at
4 8-9; ECF No. 70 at 2.) In order to be timely disclosed, the name and contact information of any
5 witness whose testimony was to be relied upon in a certification motion was required to be
6 submitted by October 10, 2013.²

7 Plaintiff contends that the Magistrate Judge erred concluding that Plaintiff’s failure to
8 disclose witnesses was neither justified nor harmless. See Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 37(c)(1). (“If a party
9 fails to provide information or identify a witness as required by Rule 26(a) or (e), the party is not
10 allowed to use that information or witness to supply evidence on a motion ... unless the failure
11 was substantially justified or harmless.”); see also R & R Sails, Inc. v. Ins. Co. of Penn., 673
12 F.3d 1240, 1246 (9th Cir.2012) (“The party facing sanctions bears the burden of proving that its
13 failure to disclose the required information was substantially justified or is harmless.”). This
14 Court finds that the Magistrate Judge’s analysis and finding in that regard are without error.
15 Plaintiff’s offer to provide Defendant access to her witnesses ten days before the due date for
16 Defendant’s opposition to the certification motion does not render harmless her failure to
17 disclose those witnesses in a timely manner.

18 After having conducted its own de novo review of this section, this Court will adopt the
19 Magistrate Judge’s recommendation to grant Defendant’s motion to strike the undisclosed
20 declarations submitted along with Plaintiff’s motion for certification.

21 B. Defendant’s hourly associate employee declarations.

22 Plaintiff contends that the Magistrate Judge refused to strike the declarations of the
23 Coalinga hourly employees based on the erroneous factual finding that the names and contact
24 information for those employees were timely disclosed. Defendant contends that because all of
25 the disclosures required under Rules 26(a) and 26(e) were within the discovery period set by the
26 Magistrate Judge that its disclosures were timely, therefore its declarations should not be

27 ² Plaintiff’s reference to Rule 26(e) for the proposition that her disclosures were not required before the court-
28 imposed deadline is inapposite because Rule 26(e) specifically provides for the Court to order its own discovery
timetable. FRCP 26(e)(1)(a-b).

1 stricken. This Court agrees with Plaintiff and will sustain her objection.

2 The Magistrate Judge struck the declarations of all of the hourly associate employees --
3 other than those who worked at the Coalinga store -- because the Defendant waited until the last
4 day of the discovery period, October 10, 2013, to supplement its disclosures even though it
5 obtained the majority of the declarations in May and June of 2013. (ECF. No. 129 at 13.) The
6 Magistrate Judge differentiated between the Coalinga and non-Coalinga groups based on the
7 incorrect understanding that the Coalinga employee names and contact information were
8 disclosed prior to the names of the other non-exempt employees. Rather, Defendant disclosed the
9 names of all of its hourly employees on the last day of the class discovery period. (ECF No. 135
10 at 11; ECF No. 114 at 1.)

11 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26 requires that potential witnesses be identified and
12 their contact information and subjects of the relevant information that they possess provided,
13 either in initial or supplemental disclosures. As the Ninth Circuit recently explained: “[o]rderly
14 procedure requires timely disclosure” to ensure the smooth progression of the litigation. Ollier v.
15 Sweetwater Union High Sch. Dist., --- F.3d ----, 2014 WL 4654472, *12 (9th Cir. Sept. 19,
16 2014). “The late disclosure of witnesses throws a wrench into [that] machinery. A party might be
17 able to scramble to make up for the delay, but last-minute discovery may disrupt other plans.
18 And if the discovery cutoff has passed, the party cannot conduct discovery without a court order
19 permitting extension. This in turn ... impairs the ability of every trial court to manage its
20 docket.” Ollier, 2014 WL 4654472, at *12. In light of that consideration and the potential for
21 unfair surprise to the opposing party, district courts enjoy “wide discretion in controlling
22 discovery.” Ollier, 2014 WL 4654472, at *12 (citing Jeff D. v. Otter, 643 F.3d 278, 289 (9th Cir.
23 2011)). The Ninth Circuit has noted, that discretion is “particularly wide” in the context of
24 excluding witnesses under Rule 37(c)(1). Yeti by Molly, Ltd. v. Deckers Outdoor Corp., 259
25 F.3d 1101, 1106 (9th Cir 2001).

26 This Court now holds that all of the declarations by Defendant’s hourly associates are
27 appropriately stricken for failure to make timely supplemental disclosures as required by Rule
28 26(e). See Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 37(c)(1). Without considering the declarations by Defendant’s

1 hourly associates, rather, looking only at the parties' remaining evidence, this Court would still
2 adopt the Magistrate Judge's conclusion with regard to Plaintiff's failure to prove commonality
3 as to her "off-the-clock" subclass, as explained in Section II(E), infra.³

4 After having conducted its own de novo review of this section, this Court will adopt the
5 Magistrate Judge's recommendation to grant Plaintiff's motion to strike the declarations of the
6 non-Coalinga hourly employees. This Court will respectfully refuse to adopt the Magistrate
7 Judge's recommendation to deny Plaintiff's motion to strike the declarations of the Coalinga
8 hourly employees; those declarations will be stricken.

9 C. Defendant's assistant manager employee declarations

10 Plaintiff objects to the Magistrate Judge's recommendation that the declarations of the
11 assistant manager employees not be stricken. The Defendant's disclosure of the identities,
12 contact information, and topic of testimony of the assistant manager employees was timely
13 because those depositions were taken in late September and early October, 2013, and disclosed
14 to Plaintiff on October 10, 2013. (ECF No. 129 at 12; see Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 26(e).)

15 Plaintiff further contends that the Magistrate Judge's order erroneously assumed that she
16 could have deposed all of the potential assistant manager employees without first having
17 received their declarations from Defendant. (ECF No. 133 at 18.) The Magistrate Judge
18 addressed this argument in his F&R, finding that

19 Plaintiff's argument is without merit. The assistant manager witnesses were timely
20 disclosed, albeit at the end of the discovery period. Furthermore, Defendant did
21 not have a duty to provide Plaintiff the witness declarations. "The Federal Rules
22 of Civil Procedure do not require a party who has disclosed potential witnesses to
23 reveal the declarations signed by said witnesses for use in an impending summary
24 judgment motion." *Joseph v. Las Vegas Metro. Police Dep't*, 2011 U.S. Dist.
LEXIS 63954 (D. Nev. June 10, 2011) "Such declarations are considered work
product up until the moment they are filed." *Id.* (citing *Intel Corp v. Via*
Technologies, 204 F.R.D. 450, 451-2 (N.D. Cal. 2001).

25 (ECF No. 129 at 16.) This Court agrees with the Magistrate Judge's reasoning and conclusion;
26 the Defendant was required to disclose no more than it did regarding the assistant manager

27 ³ Although the declarations of the Coalinga hourly employees do tend to further negate Plaintiff's proof of
28 commonality, it is Plaintiff's burden to establish the requisites of Rule 23(a). This Court is unsatisfied with her
showing.

1 employees.

2 After having conducted its own de novo review of this section, this Court will adopt the
3 Magistrate Judge's recommendation to deny Plaintiff's motion to strike the declarations of the
4 assistant manager employees.

5 D. Modification of the Scheduling Order

6 Plaintiff filed a motion to modify the Magistrate Judge's Scheduling Order after the
7 Defendant filed declarations in support of its opposition to the class certification motion. In
8 support of her motion, Plaintiff contends that Defendant's failure to provide declarations at an
9 earlier date made the possibility that responsive depositions could be taken of those employees
10 unworkable. The Magistrate Judge recommends denial of Plaintiff's motion to modify the
11 scheduling order. This recommendation took into account that Defendant did not identify its
12 witnesses until the final day of the discovery period. At that point, a diligent Plaintiff would have
13 filed a motion to modify the scheduling order or entered into a stipulation with Defendant
14 providing for the taking of depositions after the close of the discovery period. Rather, Plaintiff
15 simply waited until Defendant filed its opposition and included declarations from the potential
16 witnesses identified on the final day of the discovery period. The Magistrate Judge reasoned that
17 Plaintiff had over a year to conduct discovery regarding class certification. Her failure to engage
18 in discovery, file a motion to compel, or file a motion to reopen discovery after the close of the
19 period are all indications of her lack of diligence.

20 This Court has reviewed the relevant authorities and agrees with the Magistrate Judge
21 that Plaintiff's explanation that she did not seek to depose Defendant's potential witnesses at an
22 earlier date because the transcripts were not available is unpersuasive.

23 After having conducted its own de novo review of this section, this Court will adopt the
24 Magistrate Judge's recommendation to deny Plaintiff's motion to modify the scheduling order.

25 E. Certification of off-the-clock work class

26 The Magistrate Judge outlined the Rule 23(a) requirements for class certification and
27 found that Plaintiff failed to meet her burden of satisfying the commonality requirement for her
28 off-the-clock work putative class. See Walmart Stores, Inc. v. Dukes, 131 S.Ct. 2541, 2551

1 (2011) (“A party seeking class certification must affirmatively demonstrate” “the capacity of a
2 classwide proceeding to generate common answers apt to drive the resolution of the litigation.”
3 “[C]ertification is proper only if the trial court is satisfied, after a rigorous analysis, that the
4 prerequisites of Rule 23(a) have been satisfied.”). In making that determination the Magistrate
5 Judge considered the Coalinga hourly associate employee declarations which this Court has
6 excluded. Considering Plaintiff’s declaration (ECF No. 130-2), excerpts from her deposition
7 (ECF No. 130-1 (“Perez Decl.”) at Exh. B; ECF No. 128 (“Wohl Decl.”) at Exh. E), the Kmart
8 opening and closing checklist (Perez Decl. at Exh. A), excerpts of the deposition of Aimee
9 Grabau, Format Leader of Human Resources for Kmart (Perez Decl. at Exh. C), the declaration
10 of Aimee Grabau (ECF No. 90), the accompanying Associate Handbooks and Addenda (ECF
11 No. 90-1 at pp. 1-16), time punch audit reports (id. at pp. 17-62), and the declaration of William
12 Watts, store manager for the Coalinga Kmart (ECF No. 91-2 at 173-178), Plaintiff has failed in
13 her burden to establish commonality. (For summary see generally, ECF No. 129 at 23-29.)

14 Plaintiff’s evidence, at best, tends to indicate that Kmart has allowed a flexible policy
15 whereby managers are permitted “to establish their own closing procedures or routine for
16 performing required closing tasks,” (ECF 109 at 1) that Plaintiff on several occasions worked
17 after she clocked out (in violation of the stated Kmart policy), (Perez Decl. at Exh. B; Perez
18 Decl. at Exh. D; Grabau Decl. at Exh. C) that when Plaintiff remained in the store after she
19 clocked out that she saw other employees but did not know if they clocked out, (Wohl Decl. at
20 Exh. C) and that Plaintiff never sought permission from her supervisors to clock back in
21 compliance with Kmart policy because she “just wanted to get out of there.” (Id.) This evidence
22 falls far short of satisfying the Court that the commonality requirement of Rule 23(a) has been
23 met.⁴

24 _____
25 ⁴ Plaintiff’s contention that the absence of a uniform policy requiring management employees to release hourly
26 associates immediately after they clock out would necessarily results in common answers to whether putative class
27 members engaged in unpaid work is unavailing. Plaintiff’s argument seeks to establish commonality assuming that
28 other putative class members (across the state) violate the Kmart policy requiring all work to be recorded even if it
was not previously authorized. (See ECF No. 130-1 at Exh. D; see also Walmart, 131 S.Ct. 2554-2555 (denying
class certification on commonality grounds where the alleged policy was “allowing discretion” to local managers)
Plaintiff’s own declaration makes clear that she did not know if this was the case even within the Coalinga Kmart.
(ECF No. 128 at 50-51.)

1 After having conducted its own de novo review of this section, this Court will adopt the
2 Magistrate Judge’s recommendation to deny certification of the off-the-clock work putative
3 subclass.

4 F. Certification of an inaccurate wage statement class

5 Plaintiff provided wage statements paid by Kmart which reflect an overtime rate of pay
6 below the rate that Plaintiff was owed and actually paid. (ECF No. 82-2) From the wage
7 statement it could be easily determined that the rate reported was not the rate actually paid. The
8 Magistrate Judge considered Plaintiff’s declaration and wage statements (Id.) in recommending
9 that the putative inaccurate wage statement class not be certified – despite the minimal injury
10 arising from the inaccurately reported rate being adequate to satisfy California Labor Code
11 section 226(e)(2)(b) – because Plaintiff failed to establish the requisite Rule 23(a) commonality.

12 Both parties object to the Magistrate Judge’s recommendation as to this section. This
13 Court has conducted a de novo review of this section and finds Defendant’s fourth objection –
14 Plaintiff failed to view her wage statements during her employment thus she did not suffer any
15 damage and cannot be a typical or adequate class representative as to that claim -- meritorious.
16 The other objections made by each party were reviewed but do not merit further discussion.

17 This Court agrees with the Magistrate Judge’s finding that Plaintiff failed to establish the
18 required commonality for certification of this subclass. Plaintiff’s only evidence of incorrect
19 wage statements is her declaration and accompanying wage statements. Neither of those
20 documents provides any indication that inaccuracy of the wage statements was common to the
21 class, only that plaintiff received inaccurate wage statements. For that reason, this Court will
22 adopt the Magistrate Judge’s recommendation as to this section.

23 Next, it is undisputed that Plaintiff did not view her wage statement. (ECF No. 128 at 51-
24 53.) Because Plaintiff did not view her wage statements (even though the injury required to find
25 a violation of California Labor Code section 226 is minimal) (see Seckler v. Kindred HealthCare
26 Operating Group, Inc., 2013 WL 812656, *12 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 5, 2013)) the minimal injury
27 requirement is not met. In order for a Plaintiff to have suffered an injury cognizable under
28 section 226 the Plaintiff must have been unable to quickly verify earnings when looking at the

1 wage statements. Nguyen v. Baxter Healthcare Corp., 2011 WL 6018284, *9 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 28,
2 2011); see Price v. Starbucks Corp., 192 Cal.App.4th 1136, 1142 (2nd Dist. 2011); see also
3 Seckler, 2013 WL 812656, at *11 (citing, inter alia, Wang v. Chinese Daily News, Inc., 435
4 F.Supp.2d. 1042, 1050-1051 (C.D. Cal. 2006) (injury requires at least “default and expense ... in
5 reconstructing time,” “confusion over whether they received wages owed to them,” or “forcing
6 employees to make mathematical computations.”). Without having ever looked at the wage
7 statements Plaintiff cannot meet this minimal injury standard. Without having suffered the
8 requisite injury, even if a class were otherwise cognizable, Plaintiff would not be a typical
9 representative of it. See Hanlon v. Chrysler Corp., 150 F.3d 1011, 1020-1021 (9th Cir. 1998)
10 (outlining the requirement of typicality).

11 After having conducted its own de novo review of this section, this Court will adopt the
12 Magistrate Judge’s recommendation to deny certification of the inaccurate wage statement
13 putative subclass, with the clarifications made, supra.

14 III.

15 CONCLUSION AND ORDER

16 In accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C), this Court has conducted
17 a de novo review of this case. Having carefully reviewed the entire file, the Court finds the
18 Findings and Recommendations (ECF No. 129), with the exceptions noted supra, to be supported
19 by the record and by proper analysis.

20 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 21 1. Defendant’s motion to strike (ECF No. 95) is GRANTED and the declarations of the
22 six putative class members provided by Plaintiff are STRICKEN;
- 23 2. Plaintiff’s motion to strike (ECF No. 104) is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN
24 PART;
 - 25 a. The declarations of the hourly associate employees provided by Defendant are
26 STRICKEN;
 - 27 b. The declarations of the associate manager employees provided by Defendant
28 are not stricken and were appropriately considered herein;

- 1 3. Plaintiff's motion to modify the scheduling order (ECF No. 113) is DENIED; and
2 4. Plaintiff's motion for class certification (ECF No. 82, 130) is DENIED.

3
4 IT IS SO ORDERED.

5 Dated: September 30, 2014


6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE