

United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

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
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BRIAN FOBROY,
Plaintiff,
v.
VIDEO ONLY, INC.,
Defendant.

No. C-13-4083 EMC

**ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND
DENYING IN PART DEFENDANT’S
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT
(Docket No. 40)**

I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff Brian Fobroy brought the instant action alleging that his former employer, Defendant Video Only, Inc., violated various provisions of the California Labor Code. Plaintiff asserts a number of California Labor Code claims and also seeks to represent all aggrieved current and former employees of Defendant under California’s Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”). Pending before the Court is Defendant’s motion for summary judgment or, in the alternative, motion for partial summary judgment. For the following reasons Defendant’s motion for summary judgment is **GRANTED** in part and **DENIED** in part.

II. DISCUSSION

A. Legal Standard

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56(a) provides a court shall grant summary judgment to the moving party “if the movant shows that there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(a). An issue of fact is genuine only if there is sufficient evidence for a reasonable jury to find for the nonmoving party. See

1 *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 242, 248-49 (1986). “The mere existence of a scintilla of
2 evidence . . . will be insufficient; there must be evidence on which the jury could reasonably find
3 for the [nonmoving party].” *Id.* at 252. At the summary judgment stage, evidence must be viewed
4 in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party and all justifiable inferences are to be drawn in
5 the nonmovant’s favor. *See id.* at 255. Where the plaintiff has the ultimate burden of proof, the
6 defendant may prevail on a motion for summary judgment simply by pointing to the plaintiff’s
7 failure “to make a showing sufficient to establish the existence of an element essential to [the
8 plaintiff’s] case.” *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 322 (1986).

9 B. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s Meal and Rest Break Claims Is
10 Denied

11 Plaintiff’s first cause of action alleges that Defendant failed to afford its employees,
12 including Plaintiff, with meal and/or rest breaks in violation of California Labor Code § 226.7 and §
13 512(a). Section 226.7 provides, in relevant part, that an “employer shall not require an employee to
14 work during a meal or rest or recovery period mandated pursuant to an applicable statute, or
15 applicable regulation, standard, or order of the Industrial Welfare Commission.” Cal. Labor Code §
16 226.7(b). If an employer fails to provide an employee with a meal or rest period in accordance with
17 state law, “the employer shall pay the employee one additional hour of pay at the employee’s regular
18 rate of compensation for each workday that the meal or rest or recovery period is not provided.” *Id.*
19 § 226.7(c).

20 Section 512 provides, in relevant part, that an employer “may not employ an employee for a
21 work period of more than five hours per day without providing the employee with a meal period of
22 not less than 30 minutes.” Cal. labor Code § 512(a). Similarly, under applicable wage orders, an
23 employee must “authorize and permit all employees to take rest periods,” and that employees will be
24 paid for such rest periods. *See* 8 Cal. Code of Reg. § 11040, § 12; *see also* *Murphy v. Kenneth Cole*
25 *Productions, Inc.*, 40 Cal. 4th 1094, 1104 (2007) (“[E]mployees are entitled to an unpaid 30-minute,
26 duty-free meal period after working for five hours and a paid 10-minute rest period per four hours of
27 work.”). Employers need not force employees to take these breaks, but rather must “relieve[] its
28 employees of all duty, relinquish[] control over their activities and permit[] them a reasonable

1 opportunity” to take the break and may not “impede or discourage them from doing so.” *Brinker*
2 *Restaurant Corp. v. Superior Court*, 53 Cal. 4th 1004, 1040-41 (2012).

3 Plaintiff has demonstrated the existence of a genuine dispute of material fact as to whether he
4 and his fellow employees were provided with legally compliant meal and rest breaks. First,
5 Defendant’s employee handbook provides that employees receive *unpaid* 10-minute breaks – a
6 provision that conflicts with the applicable wage order. *See* Fobroy Decl., Ex. C (Docket No. 41-2).
7 That Plaintiff was paid for working through his breaks is irrelevant. *See* *Murphy*, 40 Cal. 4th at
8 1104. Second, Plaintiff has testified that employees were unable to take their meal or rest breaks
9 because of Defendant’s busy workload. *See, e.g.*, Fobroy Depo. at 105:9-22. He further testified
10 there were instances where supervisors either expressly or implicitly prevented him from taking his
11 breaks due to the amount of work. *See, e.g., id.* at 106:24 - 107:3; *id.* at 117:8-10. Maintaining a
12 work schedule for employees that makes it difficult or impossible for employees to take a break has
13 been found sufficient to find a violation of the California Labor Code or applicable wage orders.
14 *See, e.g., Davenport v. Wendy’s Co.*, No. 2:14-cv-0931 JAM DAD, 2014 WL 3735611, at *6 (E.D.
15 Cal. July 28, 2014); *Fields v. West Marine Products Inc.*, No. C13-04916, 2014 WL 547502, at *5
16 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 7, 2014).

17 Plaintiff has introduced sufficient evidence from which it can be inferred that Defendant
18 “imped[ed] or discourag[ed]” its employees from taking their meal and rest periods. *Brinker*, 53
19 Cal. 4th at 1041. Accordingly, Defendant’s motion for summary judgment on Plaintiff’s meal and
20 rest break claim is **DENIED**.

21 C. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment as to Plaintiff’s Overtime and Minimum Wage
22 Claims Is Granted

23 Plaintiff’s second and sixth causes of action are based on Defendant’s alleged failure to pay
24 Plaintiff overtime wages to which he was entitled and to pay Plaintiff a minimum wage,
25 respectively. California Labor Code § 510 provides that “[e]ight hours of labor constitutes a day’s
26 work” and that any work in “excess of eight hours in one workday and any work in excess of 40
27 hours in any one workweek and the first eight hours worked on the seventh day of work in any one
28 workweek shall be compensated at the rate of no less than one and one-half times the regular rate of

1 pay for an employee.” Cal. Labor Code § 510(a). Labor Code § 1194 provides that any employee
2 who receives “less than the legal minimum wage or the legal overtime compensation applicable to
3 the employee is entitled to recover in a civil action the unpaid balance of the full amount of this
4 minimum wage or overtime compensation” including interest, costs, and attorney’s fees. *Id.* § 1194.

5 In his opposition to summary judgment, Plaintiff only argues that the claims should survive
6 summary judgment to the same extent his “uniform pay dates” and “itemized wage statement”
7 claims, discussed *infra*, survive. According to Plaintiff, this is because these pay date and wage
8 statement deficiencies resulted in Plaintiff being “unable to accurately tell if he was paid for all
9 hours worked, including for any overtime hours worked above 8 in a day or 40 in a week.” Docket
10 No. 41, at 12. He thus argues that “an employer generally has an obligation to maintain accurate
11 wage records, and where they do not, a presumption of unpaid work exists.” Docket No. 41, at 12-
12 13. Plaintiff, however, cites no authority for the proposition that a “presumption” of unpaid work
13 arises even where an employer fails to designate pay periods or provide accurate wage statements
14 and the Court has found none.

15 Additionally, despite discovery having closed in this case and Plaintiff having access to his
16 time cards and wage statements, Plaintiff has failed to articulate any instance of Defendant even
17 potentially having failed to pay him overtime for work in excess of 8 hours in a single day or 40
18 hours in a single workweek. It seems evident that, for example, that Plaintiff would know if he
19 worked more than 8 hours on any particular day even if his wage statements were unclear or the pay
20 dates not uniform. Accordingly, Defendant’s motion for summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s second
21 and sixth causes of action will be **GRANTED**.

22 D. Defendants Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s § 226(a) Cause of Action Is
23 Granted in Part and Denied in Part

24 Plaintiffs’ third cause of action alleges that Defendant violated California Labor Code § 226
25 by failing to provide accurate itemized wage statements each pay period. Cal. Labor Code § 226(a)
26 requires an employer to provide its employees, at the time of payment, an “accurate itemized
27 statement in writing” that contains specific information. *Id.* Relevant for this action, the itemized
28 wage statement must include “the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid.” *Id.*

1 § 226(a)(6). An employee “suffering injury” as a result of a knowing and intentional failure of the
2 employer to provide this itemized statement may recover a maximum in \$4,000 in statutory damages
3 as well as reasonable costs and attorney’s fees. *Id.* § 226(e)(1). A plaintiff asserting a claim under
4 Labor Code § 226 must demonstrate: “(1) a violation of Section 226(a); (2) that is ‘knowing and
5 intentional’; and (3) a resulting injury.” *Willner v. Manpower Inc.*, — F. Supp. 2d — , 2014 WL
6 1303495, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 31, 2014).

7 Defendant’s motion for summary judgment is granted in part and denied in part. The parties
8 have placed an example of Plaintiffs’ itemized wage statement into the record. *See* Fobroy Decl.,
9 Ex. E. This wage statement includes two separate, inconsistent statements regarding the applicable
10 pay period and, therefore, an employee viewing the wage statement arguably would not be able to
11 properly and easily determine, from the face of the document, the applicable pay period. *Cf.*
12 *Morgan v. United Retail Inc.*, 186 Cal. App. 4th 1136, 1146 (2010) (finding no § 226(a)(2) violation
13 because the employee “could determine the sum of all hours worked without referring to time
14 records or other documents. The employee could simply add together the total regular hours figures
15 and the total overtime hours figure shown on the wage statement to arrive at the sum of hours
16 worked”). Whether Defendant satisfied § 226(a)(6) by providing two inconsistent pay periods on a
17 wage statement is a matter not resolvable by summary judgment.

18 Further, a genuine dispute of material fact exists as to whether Defendant’s violation was
19 “knowing and intentional.” Defendants have stated in their reply that the inconsistent pay periods
20 was the result of a shortcoming in their software such that the check automatically listed the pay
21 period for retail employees, thus requiring Defendant to insert the pay period applicable to
22 warehouse employees in the “message” section of the pay stub. Docket No. 42, at 5 n.1. In light of
23 this explanation, it cannot at this stage that as a matter of law the violation of § 226(a)(6) was the
24 result of an “isolated” or “unintentional” payroll error caused by a “clerical or inadvertent mistake.”
25 *Willner v. Manpower Inc.*, — F. Supp. 2d — 2014 WL 1303495, at *10 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 31, 2014)
26 (quoting Cal. Labor Code § 226(e)(3)).

27 However, for violations occurring prior to January 2013, Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate
28 injury and Defendant is entitled to summary judgment. Prior to January 2013, courts interpreted

1 § 226(e) as requiring a plaintiff to show more than a mere violation of § 226(a) *See, e.g., Price v.*
2 *Starbucks Corp.*, 192 Cal. App. 4th 1136, 1142 (2011). Plaintiff offers no evidence of injury.

3 For violations occurring January 2013 or later, however, Defendant’s motion for summary
4 judgment will be denied. Section 226(e) was amended to provide that after January 1, 2013 an
5 employee will be “deemed to suffer injury” if an employee “cannot promptly and easily determine
6 from the wage statement alone” certain information, including the inclusive dates of the applicable
7 pay period. Cal. Labor Code § 226(e)(2)(B). Accordingly, under the current version of § 226(e),
8 injury is presumed.

9 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant’s motion for summary judgment is **GRANTED** to the
10 extent Plaintiff asserts a claim for a violation of § 226(a)(6) based on pre-January 2013 wage
11 statements and **DENIED** to the extent Plaintiff asserts a claim for a violation of § 226(a)(6) based on
12 wage statements from January 2013 or later.

13 E. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s “Designated Pay Date” Claim Is
14 Granted

15 Plaintiff’s fourth cause of action alleges that Defendant violated California Labor Code
16 sections 204 and 210 by failing to pay Plaintiff on designated pay dates. Labor Code § 204
17 provides, in relevant part, that “[a]ll wages . . . earned by any person in any employment are due and
18 payable twice during each calendar month, on days designated in advance by the employer as the
19 regular paydays.” Cal. Labor Code § 204(a). The purpose of § 204(a) is “to require an employer . . .
20 . to maintain two regular pay days each month, within the dates required in that section.” *In re*
21 *Moffett*, 19 Cal. App. 2d 7, 13 (1937). Labor Code § 210 provides for statutory damages for
22 violations of § 204. *See* Cal. Labor Code § 210(a).

23 Plaintiff argues in opposition to Defendant’s motion for summary judgment that prior to May
24 2013, Defendant “maintained different pay periods and work weeks for different employees instead
25 of creating set established pay dates for all employees.” Docket No. 41, at 10; *see also* Fobroy Decl.
26 ¶ 3 (“Some employee’s pay periods would go from Wednesday to Tuesday, while other employee’s
27 could be from Friday through Thursday.”). Defendants do not dispute that this is, or was, the case
28 and in fact acknowledge that warehouse employees and sales staff had different pay periods. *See*

1 Docket No. 42, at 5 n.1. However, Plaintiff has failed to cite any authority that would require an
2 employer to maintain pay periods or pay dates that are uniform for every employee, and the Court
3 has found none.

4 Further, to the extent that Plaintiff argues that Defendant violated § 204(a) because he had
5 only a single pay day in certain months, his claim is foreclosed by California Labor Code § 204(d)
6 which provides that the requirements of § 204 “shall be deemed satisfied by the payment of wages
7 for weekly, biweekly, or semimonthly payroll if the wages are paid not more than seven calendar
8 days following the close of the payroll period.” Cal. Labor Code § 204(d). The only evidence in the
9 record demonstrates that Defendant paid employees no more than seven days after the close of the
10 relevant semi-monthly pay period. *See Fobroy Decl., Ex. H.* Although some months had three pay
11 dates while others had one, the record contains no evidence that employees were not paid within
12 seven days of the close of each pay period.

13 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant’s motion for summary judgment on Plaintiff’s fourth
14 cause of action asserting a violation of Cal. Labor Code § 204 is **GRANTED**.

15 F. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s Claim for Reimbursement of
16 Business-Related Expenses Is Denied

17 Plaintiff’s fifth cause of action alleges that Defendant violated California Labor Code
18 § 2802 by failing to reimburse Plaintiff for business expenses he incurred as a result of his
19 employment. Section 2802 requires, in relevant part, that an employer “indemnify his or her
20 employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of
21 the discharge of his or her duties.” Cal. Labor Code § 2802(a). “[A]scertaining what was a
22 necessary expenditure will require an inquiry into what was reasonable under the circumstances.”
23 *Grissom v. Vons Companies, Inc.*, 1 Cal. App. 4th 52, 58 (1991).

24 Plaintiff in his deposition testified that he was required to purchase two work shirts from
25 Defendant and also was required to purchase screwdrivers and wire cutters necessary for his job.
26 *See Fobroy Depo.* at 132:25-133:18, 138:21-24. Defendant fails to provide any substantive
27 argument as to why Plaintiff was not entitled to be reimbursed for the costs of these shirts, except to
28 argue that all “significant” business related expenses were reimbursed. Docket No. 40, at 18.

1 However, § 2802 does not have an “insignificant” or “de minimis” exception – rather, the statute
2 requires reimbursement for *all* necessary expenses incurred as a result of an employee’s
3 employment. Further, an issue of fact exists as to whether Plaintiff was required to purchase tools
4 for his job. Plaintiff has stated in his deposition that employees were “required to supply [their] own
5 tools” and that he paid approximately \$15 on screwdrivers Fobroy Depo. at 134:16-17. By
6 contrast, Defendant’s Chief Financial Officer has declared that employees only need screwdrivers
7 and wirecutters and that these “tools are provided by the Company and employees are not required
8 or expected to purchase or use their own tools.” Pro시오 Decl. ¶ 4. The Court cannot resolve this
9 factual dispute at the summary judgment stage.

10 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant’s motion to dismiss Plaintiff’s fifth cause of action
11 asserting a violation of Cal. Labor Code § 2802 is **DENIED**.

12 G. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s Unfair Competition Claim Is
13 Denied

14 Plaintiff’s eighth cause of action asserts that Defendant’s failure to abide by the California
15 Labor Code violations cited in the amended violates the California Unfair Competition Law, Cal.
16 Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200. The unlawful prong of the UCL “incorporates other laws and treats
17 violations of those laws as unlawful business practices independently actionable under state law.”
18 *Smith v. LG Electronics USA, Inc.*, No. C13-4361 PJH, 2014 WL 989742, at *9 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 11,
19 2014). Because the Court has denied Defendant’s motion for summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s
20 claims under Labor Code §§ 226, 226.7, 512, and 2802, Defendant is not entitled to summary
21 judgment as to Plaintiff’s UCL unlawful prong claim.

22 H. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s California PAGA Claim Will Be
23 Granted in Part and Denied in Part

24 Plaintiff’s ninth and final cause of action asserts a claim under the California Private
25 Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) on behalf of “all aggrieved current and former employees of
26 defendant.” FAC at 13. Under PAGA, “any provision of [the Labor Code] that provides for a civil
27 penalty to be assessed and collected by the Labor and Workforce Development Agency . . . may, as
28 an alternative, be recovered by an aggrieved employee on behalf of himself or herself and current or

1 former employees.” Cal. Labor Code § 2699(a). Accordingly, in order to assert a PAGA claim, a
2 plaintiff must properly state a viable Labor Code claim. *See Arias v. Superior Court*, 46 Cal. 4th
3 969, 987 (2009). An “aggrieved employee” is defined by statute as “any person who was employed
4 by the alleged violator and against whom one or more of the alleged violations was committed.” *Id.*
5 § 2699(b).

6 As discussed *supra*, the Court has concluded that Plaintiff’s meal and rest break claims
7 (under Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512(a), accurate wage statement claim (under Labor Code § 226(a)),
8 and reimbursement for necessary business expense claim (under Labor Code § 2802) survive
9 summary judgment. Accordingly, Plaintiff’s PAGA claim based on these alleged violations survive.
10 By contrast, the Court has granted summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s minimum wage and overtime
11 claims and designated pay date claims. Plaintiff may not pursue a PAGA claim based on these
12 alleged violations.

13 The Court now addresses the remaining alleged Labor Code violations which form the basis
14 for Plaintiff’s PAGA claims.

15 1. Plaintiff’s Warehouse Temperature Claim Fails

16 Plaintiff’s FAC generally alleges that Defendant violated the provisions of “the applicable
17 Wage order” by “[f]ailing to maintain adequate temperature because aggrieved employees in the
18 warehouse were forced to endure temperatures that were very hot in the summer and cold in the
19 winter.” FAC ¶ 91. The applicable IWC Wage Order provides that “[t]he temperature maintained in
20 each work area shall provide reasonable comfort consistent with industry-wide standards for the
21 nature of the process and the work performed.” *See* 8 Cal. Code Reg. § 11010, § 15(a); *id.* § 11040,
22 § 15(a).

23 Plaintiff’s only evidence on this claim is his declaration statement that: “Video Only did not
24 maintain an adequate temperature in the warehouse during my employment with the Company. The
25 temperature was often very hot in the summer and cold in the winter.” Fobroy Decl. ¶ 9. He has
26 not, however, attempted to quantify the temperature or otherwise introduce evidence of applicable
27 “industry-wide standards.” *Cf. Jeske v. Maxim Healthcare Servs., Inc.*, No. CV F 11-1838 LJO JLT,
28 2012 WL 78242 (E.D. Cal. Jan. 10, 2012) (dismissing similar claim as plaintiff had failed to explain

1 “how or why the temperature . . . was not at reasonable/acceptable standards or was not consistent
2 with industry-wide standards for the nature of the process and work performed”). Accordingly,
3 Defendant’s motion for summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s PAGA claim is **GRANTED** to the
4 extent it is based on an alleged violation of IWC Wage Order temperature provisions.

5 2. Plaintiff’s Claim Based on Defendant’s Alleged Failure to Pay Commissions Fails

6 Plaintiff alleges that Defendant only paid “commissioned sales persons only once per
7 month” and “delay[ed] their commissions beyond statutory permitted time frames.” FAC ¶ 92.
8 Plaintiff’s opposition to summary judgment merely restates his allegations in his amended complaint
9 without providing any citation to evidence in the record. Accordingly, Plaintiff has failed to
10 demonstrate the existence of a genuine dispute of fact as to this claim, and Defendant’s motion for
11 summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s PAGA claim is **GRANTED** to the extent it is based on alleged
12 violations relating to the payment of sales persons’ commissions.

13 3. Plaintiff’s Claim Based on Defendant’s Alleged Failure to Provide the Name and
14 Location of Place Where Check Could Be Presented Fails

15 Plaintiff next alleges that Defendant violated California Labor Code § 212 by paying
16 aggrieved employees via a corporate account “based at PNC Bank in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.”
17 FAC ¶ 93. California Labor Code § 212 provides, in relevant part:

18 (a) No person . . . shall issue in payment of wages due, or to become
19 due, or as an advance on wages to be earned:

20 (1) Any order, check, draft, note, memorandum, or other
21 acknowledgment of indebtedness, unless it is negotiable and
22 payable in cash, on demand, without discount, at some
established place of business in the state, the name and address
of which must appear on the instrument

23 Cal. Labor Code § 212(a)(1). Subsection (c) provides, however, that “if the drawee is a bank, the
24 bank’s address need not appear on the instrument, and, in that case, the instrument shall be
25 negotiable and payable in cash, on demand, without discount, at any place of business of the drawee
26 chosen by the person entitled to enforce the instrument.” Cal. Labor Code § 212(c).

27 In his opposition, Plaintiff reiterates his assertion that Defendant did not pay employees
28 using a California Bank. Docket No. 41, at 18-19. However, he cites to no evidence in the record to

1 support his claim. Further, Defendant has introduced evidence showing that it paid its employees
2 from an account with U.S. Bank, which has numerous locations in California. *See* Pro시오 Decl.
3 ¶ 13; Declaration of Jeffrey Mann, Ex. 4 (Docket No. 40-2)¹; *see also* *Weston v. FedEx Office &*
4 *Print Servs., Inc.*, 707 F. Supp. 2d 1074, 1079 - 80 (S.D. Cal. 2010) (granting summary judgment on
5 § 212 claim as paycheck was issued from Bank of America – a bank with a number of branches in
6 California). Further, insofar as U.S. Bank is a bank, the plain terms of § 212 do not require that
7 Defendant list the bank’s address on its checks or pay stubs. *See* Cal. Labor Code § 212(c).

8 Accordingly, Plaintiff has failed to introduce evidence demonstrating that Defendant violated
9 Labor Code § 212(c). Accordingly, Defendant’s motion for summary judgment on Plaintiff’s PAGA
10 claim to the extent based on Labor Code § 212 is **GRANTED**.

11 4. Defendant’s Motion for Summary Judgment on Plaintiff’s Direct Deposit Claim Is
12 Denied

13 Plaintiff alleges that Defendant violated California Labor code § 213(d) by requiring Plaintiff
14 and his fellow employees to be paid through direct deposit. FAC ¶ 94. Section 213(d) provides that
15 an employer may deposit wages “in an account in any bank . . . of the employee’s choice with a
16 place of business located in this state, provided that the employee has voluntarily authorized that
17 deposit.” Cal. Labor Code § 213(d). This provision requires that any authorization be voluntary.
18 Thus, in an opinion letter, the DLSE has stated that “direct deposit of wages would not be valid
19 where the employee must, as a condition of employment, agree to the direct deposit.” DLSE, Op.
20 Letter 1997.03.21-2, at 1, *available at* <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/opinions/1997-03-21-2.pdf>; *see*
21 *also* *Sperry v. Securitas Security Services, USA, Inc.*, No. C13-0906 RS, 2014 WL 1664916 (N.D.
22 Cal. Apr. 25, 2014) (“While DLSE letters are not entitled to deference, federal courts in California

24 ¹ Plaintiff objects to the consideration of this exhibit, contending that defense counsel “is not
25 the proper party to authenticate this website information.” Docket No. 41, at 19. Plaintiff’s
26 objection is overruled. Even if defense counsel is not the proper party to authenticate the website
27 printout in question, that U.S. Bank has several locations in the San Francisco Bay Area is a fact
28 properly subject to judicial notice. *See, e.g., Pilchesky v. United States*, No. 3:08-MC-0103, 2008
WL 4452672 (M.D. Pa. Sept. 29, 2008) (“The Court . . . takes judicial notice . . . of the fact that
Wachovia Bank, N.A. has a location at 101 N. Main Street in Scranton, Pennsylvania and that
Community Bank, N.A. & First Liberty Bank Trust has a location at 1300 Wyoming Avenue in
Scranton, Pennsylvania.”).

1 have nonetheless recognized their persuasive value on matters pertaining to Labor Code
2 compliance.”).

3 Defendant contends that Plaintiff authorized Defendant to pay him via direct deposit, citing
4 Plaintiff’s executed direct deposit agreement. *See* Pro시오 Decl., Ex. B. However, Plaintiff has
5 testified that before he signed this agreement, he asked about being paid by check, and his
6 supervisor stated: “No. This [direct deposit] is the only way we pay.” Fobroy Depo. at 75:14-19.
7 This testimony, combined with Defendant’s employee handbook which provided that “[a]s an
8 additional benefit you will receive your pay via **direct deposit** into your checking or savings
9 account,” *see* Fobroy Decl., Ex. F (emphasis in original), is sufficient to create a genuine dispute of
10 material fact as to whether Defendant violated § 212(d).

11 Accordingly, Defendants’ motion for summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s PAGA claim based
12 on alleged violations of § 212(d) is **DENIED**.

13 5. Alleged Credit Report Violations

14 Plaintiff alleges that Defendant violated California Labor Code § 1024.5 by obtaining credit
15 reports of its employees. FAC ¶ 95. Section 1024.5 provides that an “employer or prospective
16 employer shall not use a consumer credit report for employment purposes unless the position of the
17 person for whom the report is sought” is, for example, a managerial position, a law enforcement
18 position, a position requiring access to confidential or proprietary information, and the like. *See* Cal.
19 Labor Code § 1024.5(a). Defendant’s Chief Financial Officer has declared that Defendant never
20 requested or obtained Plaintiff’s credit report. Pro시오 Decl. ¶ 8. Plaintiff does not dispute this, but
21 merely states that he “believe[s] that during my employment Video Only ran my credit report
22 without my permission.” Fobroy Decl. ¶ 9.² Plaintiff’s unsubstantiated belief, devoid of any record
23 support, is insufficient to create a genuine dispute of material fact as to this claim. Accordingly,
24 Defendant’s motion for summary judgment as to Plaintiff’s PAGA claim based on an alleged
25 violation of Labor Code § 1024.5 is **GRANTED**.

26
27
28 ² Plaintiff’s opposition merely restates this “belief” without providing any information or
record support. Docket No. 41, at 18 n.6.

1 6. Alleged Safety Violations

2 Finally, Plaintiff alleges that Defendant has violated multiple safety regulations under
3 California's Occupational Safety and Health Act ("Cal-OSHA"). Specifically, Plaintiff points to:
4 (1) Improperly registered trucks; (2) a truck with a cracked windshield; (3) a truck's gear shifter's
5 locking mechanism being disabled such that it could be knocked into park, neutral or reverse while
6 driving; (4) a truck having a broken weld on the lift gate; (5) quarter inch bolts sticking up from the
7 concrete floor of the warehouse; and (6) failure to provide plaintiffs with safety equipment necessary
8 to service forklift batteries. However, Plaintiff fails to cite any specific OSHA provisions he
9 believes Defendant violated, instead he generally cites "Labor Code section 6300, *et seq.*" Docket
10 No. 41, at 19.

11 The Court declines to sift through the almost 200 sections that comprise Cal-OSHA to
12 determine which, if any, Defendant may have violated based on the record presented by Plaintiff.
13 Plaintiff has failed to allege with any degree of precision which statutory provisions the Defendant
14 violated. Accordingly, Defendant's motion for summary judgment on Plaintiff's PAGA claim to the
15 extent it is based on alleged safety violations is **GRANTED**. *Cf. Nguyen v. McHugh*, No. 13-CV-
16 01847-LHK, 2014 WL 4182694, at *22 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 22, 2014) ("Because Plaintiff fails to
17 specify which specific statutes or regulations Defendant is alleged to have violated, the Court
18 declines to 'scour' the U.S. Code and Federal Registrar for potential issues of triable fact.").

19 **III. CONCLUSION**


20 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant's motion for summary judgment is **GRANTED** in part
21 and **DENIED** in part. Defendant's motion for summary judgment is denied as to Plaintiff's claims
22 based on: (1) meal and rest break violations based on Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512; (2) § 226(a)
23 violations to the extent based on failures to accurately list the applicable pay period on pay stubs
24 after January 1, 2013; and (3) failure to reimburse necessary business expenses in violation of Cal.
25 Labor Code § 2802. Finally, Defendant's motion for summary judgment as to Plaintiff's PAGA
26 claims is denied to the extent this claim is based on the three alleged violations just listed as well as
27 violations of California Labor Code § 212(d).
28

1 Defendant's motion for summary judgment is granted as to the following claims: (1)
2 overtime and minimum wage violations based on Cal. Labor Code § 510 and (2) "designated pay
3 date" violations based on Cal. Labor Code § 204. In addition, Defendant's motion for summary
4 judgment as to Plaintiff's PAGA claim is granted to the extent it is based on these two alleged
5 violations just listed as well as violations based on the alleged warehouse temperature, Defendant's
6 alleged failure to pay commissions, alleged violations of Cal. Labor Code § 212, alleged violations
7 of Cal. Labor Code § 1024,5, or Defendant's alleged safety violations.

8 This order disposes of Docket No. 40.

9
10 IT IS SO ORDERED.

11
12 Dated: November 14, 2014

13 
14 EDWARD M. CHEN
15 United States District Judge
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28