	Case 2:23-cv-04482	Document 1	Filed 06/07/23	Page 1 of 440	Page ID #:1
1 2 3 4	DANA S. MARTI dmartinez@bushge BUSH GOTTLIEE 801 North Brand E Glendale, Californ Telephone: (818) 9 Facsimile: (818) 9	ottlieb.com 3, A Law Cor Boulevard, Su ia 91203-126 073-3200	poration ite 950		
5 6 7 8 9	LAUREN MCDEF lobpowell@gmail. ARTHUR R. TRA atraynor@mooney MOONEY, GREE MURPHY & WEI 1920 L. Street, NW Washington, DC 2 Telephone: (202) 7 Facsimile: (202) 78	com YNOR (<i>Pro</i> green.com N, SAINDOI CH, P.C. V, Suite 400 0036 '83-0010	<i>Hac Vice</i> to b	be Submitted) e Submitted)	
10	Attorneys for Plain				
11 12		UNITED	STATES DIS	TRICT COURT	- -
13	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA		A		
14	NICHOLAS ACE	DO, DANIEI		Case No. 2:23-0	ev-04482
15 16 17	AGUILAR, JACK ANDERSON, MA ANDRES ARAMI ARELLANO, AN' MIGUEL ARROY ASHBURN, CHR	ALBERT, C RK ANDER 3ULA, ANT THONY ARI O, JEFFREY ISTOPHER A	EORGE SON, HONY RIAGA, ASHLEY,		FOR RY JUDGMENT, ION AND OTHER
18 19 20	BRIAN AVILA H ANDREW BAKE GEOFF BALCHO BANDA, GREGO KENNETH BARC	R, TIMOTH WSKY, MIC RY BARBEI	Ý BAKER, CHAEL RA,		
21	BARBERA, AMA KYLE BAUERLE	NTÉ BARTO IN, JESSE B	DLOME, ECK,		
22	ADRIAN BEIGH- BELTRAN, CHAI	D BENDÂN T	ΓI,		
23	MATTHEW BER BERNARD, ROB NICHOLAS BIRN	ERT BETAN	COURT,		
24	BLOUNT, MICHA BOJORQUEZ, JIN	AEL BOCHE	Y, JOEY		
25	KYLE BOUDREA BOWDEN, CORY	AU, DAMON ' BOWER, B	RIAN		
26	BOYD, DÁVID B BRINNON, EVAN	NBRÓOKS,	ANDRE		
27 28	BROWN, DREON BROWN, RYAN I BUEHLER, ETHA	BROWN, BR	SIAN		
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801 North Brand Boulevard, Suite 950 Glendale, California 91203-1260 BUSH GOTTLIEB

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	JOSE CARREON, JOHN CARTON,
4	ALICIA CASTRO-ROHRER, GORDON
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15	DE LA TORRE, MIKE DENNIS, DOUGLAS DEYOUNG, . NICHOLAS
_	DIEZ, MAX DINO, BRYAN DOMINGUEZ, CHASE DOUGHTY,
16	TOWNER DOUGLAS, DAYVION
17	TOWNER DOUGLAS, DAYVION DRUMWRIGHT, ROBERT DUBARRY, CASEY DUNN, CHRISTIAN ERAZO,
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19	MATTHEW EVISON, THADDEUS FARMON, MATTHEW FARRIS,
20	DEREK FARROW, CURTIS
21	FAULKNER, MICHAEL FINGER, VINCENT FOSTER, JONATHAN FOWLED, TIMOTHY EDEEMAN ID
22	FOWLER, TIMOTHY FREEMAN JR., OMAR FUENTES, RYAN FUETTE,
23	TONY GAJ, ARTÚRO GALLARDÓ, RAYMOND GALLEGOS, JORDAN
24	GAMMON, FELIX-EDMÚND GAPUZAN, STEPHEN GARIBAY,
25	CHRISTIAŃ GASSLER, QUINCY GATEWOOD, ADAM GATICA,
26	RANDALI GALII CHRISTOPHER
20	GELINAS, KEVIN GELINAS, CHRIS GENTRY, SEVAN GERARD, JACOB GIBSON, JOSHUA GILBERT, ROBERT GILMER, MATTHEW GODBY, FRANK
	GILMER, MATTHEW GODBY, FRANK GOMEZ, PABLO GOMEZ, ALFONSO
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16	JANSEN, ALLEN JANZEN, PAUL
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	ARMANDO JURADO, KRISTIAN
18	KALEV, JASON KEENER, JOHN KELLERS II, ADONIS KELLY,
19	CHARLES KELLY, CASEY KETELSLEGER, EHUD KIM, SAMUEL
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21	KUZMICZ, JONATHAN KURIPLA, EDGAR LAGUNAS, JUSTIN LAHR,
22	DAVID LAKE, DAVID LANDON, LYNDSEY LANTZ, SERGIO LARA
23	JARA, NATHAN LARGEN, RYAN LARSON, JASON LAWRENCE,
24	HASSAON LAWS, SCOTT LAZAR, DENVER LEAMY, EDWIN LEANO,
25	MATTHEW LEBLANC, MICHAEL
26	BRENDON LEW, GREGORY LEWIS,
27	NICHOLAS LIFFERS, DOMINIC LILE, FERNANDO LINARES, DARREN
28	LLOYD, ANDREW LOERA, BRIAN LOMELI. LONNIE LOPEZ. JR JACOB
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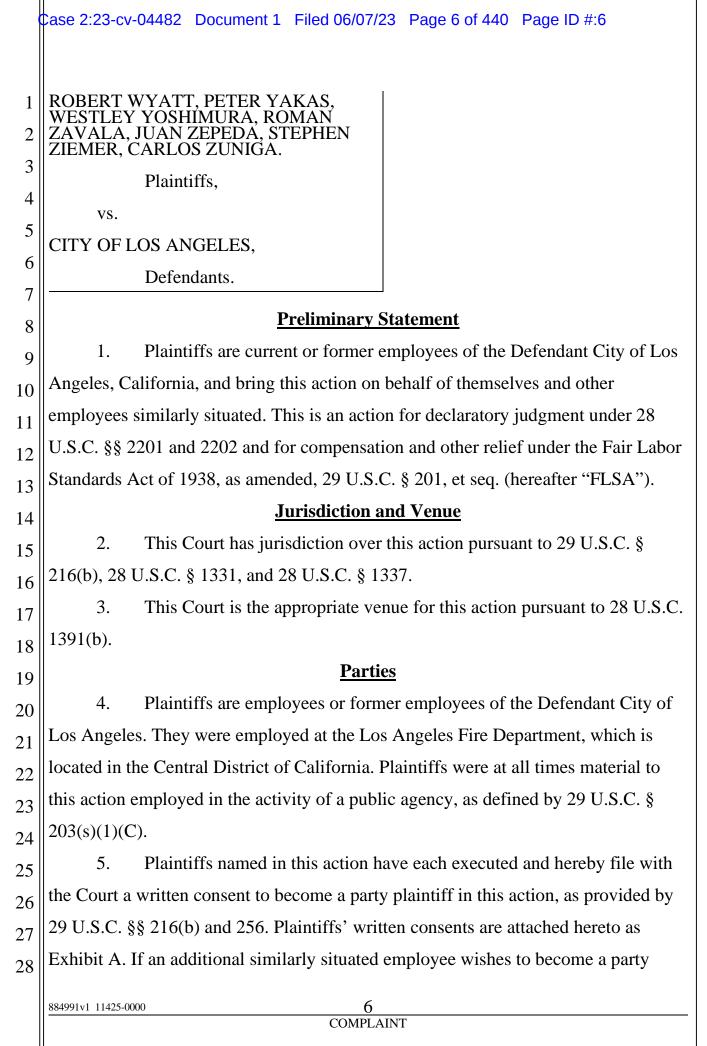
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	MARSEY, ADAM MÁRTIN, TIMOTHY
5	MARTIN, ERIC MARTINEZ, FRANCISCO MARTINEZ, STEVEN
6	MARTINEZ, JASON MASS, JOHN MCCORD, MICHAEL MCGRADY,
7	PETER MCKINNEY, BRYAN MEDINA, CHASE MENDENHALL, MORCUS
8	MESSIHA, DAVID METCHIKOFF, HILARION MEZA, DEREK MILLER,
9	TYLAR MILLER, ANDREW MOLINAR, DONTA MONTGOMERY, MATTHEW
10	MOON, DANIEL MOORE, DAVID
11	MORALES, GABRIEL MORENO, JUSTIN D. MORGAN, JUSTIN DA. MORGAN, NUMA MORTAZAVI
12	MORGAN, NIMA MORTAZAVI, ANDREW MOTT, ROBERT MULLER,
13	TISA MURPHY, JACOB MURRELL, MATTHEW NAVARRO, ERIC
14	NEVAREZ, JOHN NGO, JABARI NICHOLS, ALEXANDER NIELSEN,
15	JOHN NORTON, MARIO NUNEZ, ADAM OCAMPIAN, JEFFERY
16	OCHOA,MICHAEL OESER, JESUS OROZCO, ERNEST ORRANTE, DAVID
17	OSEGUERA, JESUS PADILLA, IAN PALLARES, JOSEPH PAMBIANCO,
18	SERGIO PÁRRA, ZACHARY PATTÓN, DAVID PAULS, JOSE PAZ, BLAKE
10	PEARSON, MICHAEL PELLEGRINI, JOSHUA PERELLI-MINETTI,
	EDUARDO PEREZ, JOSE PEREZ,
20	LUKE PETERMAN, TIMOTHY PIDO, SCOTT PIKE, ANGELO PITILLO,
21	JAMES PITILLO, LEV POLESCHYK, CHRISTOPHER POLGAR, GARRET
22	POTTER, COLEMAN PRICHARD, ALEXANDER PRINCE, MICHAEL
23	PUGLIESE, TYLER PUGMIRE, CHADWICK QUALLEY, BRYAN
24	QUICK, RYAN QUIGLEY, CHRISTOPHER QUINLAN, BRIAN
25	RANKIN, MATTHEW RAPOZA, TAYLOR RAPPAPORT, JASON
26	REKHOPF, JEREMY RÉNNIE, CHAD
27	REYES, ERICK REYES, ZACH REYNOLDS, LOUIS RICHARD, LAVIED DIVED A DANDY DIVED A
28	JAVIER RIVERA, RANDY RIVERA, JOE ROBLES. RUDY ROCHA. DAVID
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1	RODRIGUEZ, DENNIS RODRIGUEZ,
2	JEFFERY RODRIGUEZ, RAYMOND RODRIGUEZ, TOM RODRIGUEZ,
3	MICHAEL ROMO, DON ROPRIGHT, JAMES ROWE, ROGER RUBIO, ADAM
4	RUSSO SHANNON SAFFO MICHAEL
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6	MICHAEL SANDOVAL, JASON SCHMITZ, PAUL SCHORI, JONATHAN SCULLY, MICHAEL SEERS, JASON
7	SCULLY, MICHAEL SEERS, JASON
	SHELTON, JON SHIBUYA, CRAIG SHUBSDA, BRIAN SIMON, JULIAN
8	SINGELAKIS, AUSTIN SMITH, BRANDON SMITH, DANIEL SMITH, JEFFREY SMITH, BENJAMIN
9	SPEAKMAN, MATTHEW SPENCE,
10	SPEAKMAN, MATTHEW SPENCE, WILLIE SPENCER, SETH SPRINGER, NATHAN STANTON, TREVOR
11	STEPAN, ERIC STEPHENS, STEVEN STERN, MARK STEVENSON, EDWIN STILES, CRAIG STUDENKA, KEITH
12	STILES, CRAIG STUDENKA, KEITH
13	SZALONEK, HUGO TADEO, ANDREW TALLEY, PATRICK TAMRAZIAN, MARIO TARGONI, JUSTIN TAYLOR, EDUARDO TELLEZ, ANTHONY
14	EDUARDO TELLEZ, ANTHONY TEMPLE, THEK, BRIAN THIEBOLD,
15	EDDIE TIBURCIO, KONGRIT
16	TIENGERD, FALO TIUMALU, RHONIE TOPINIO, ADRIAN TORRES, PHIL TRAN, DOUGLAS TRINIDAD,
17	MANVEL TRTRYAN, ANTHONY
18	TUBBS, CLINT TULL, DANIEL VALDES, MACKENZIE
19	VANDERGEEST, VAN GERPEN, SAMANTHA VANHOOSER,
20	JONATHAN VARGAS, RICÁRDO VASQUEZ AGUILAR, MICHAEL
21	VAVŘIN, PETE VEGÁ, OMAR VELASQUEZ, ANTHONY VERDECIA,
22	ROBERT VILLA, JON PATRICK VILLAPANDO, JASON
23	VILLEGGIANTE, MICHAEL VINEYARD, VOELKER, JARED
24	VOELTZ, NÁTHAN VONDERHARR, PRESTON VOWELS, MICHAEL
25	WALTON, CHRISTOPHER WAN, MATTHEW WASCHAK, MITCHELL
	WASSERMAN, CHRISTOPHER WATSON, THOMAS WENG, JAMES
26	WESTLAND, BRANDON WILE,
27	STEVEN WILLIAMS, KENNETH WILSON, SCOTT WISCHNACK, SCOTT WISE, JEROME WOODCOCK.
28	SCOTT WISE, JEKOME WOODCOCK.
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BUSH GOTTLIEB 801 North Brand Boulevard, Suite 950 Glendale, California 91203-1260 1 plaintiff, his or her consent will be filed with this Court.

6. Defendant is the City of Los Angeles, California, which has a principal
place of business in the Central District of California. Defendant City of Los Angeles
is an "employer," as defined by 29 U.S.C. §203(d), an "enterprise" as defined by 29
U.S.C. §203(r), and a "public agency," as defined by 29 U.S.C. §203(x).

6

Facts

7 7. Each Plaintiff is or was employed by the Defendant at the Los Angeles
8 Fire Department ("LAFD") as a rotational dual trained fire fighter/paramedic or dual
9 trained fire fighter/Emergency Medical Technician ("EMT").

10 8. As rotational fire fighters, Plaintiffs are assigned on a shift-by-shift
11 basis to either a fire engine or ambulance.

12 9. At all times material to this action, each Plaintiff is or was assigned to13 work shifts on an ambulance.

14 10. At all times material to this action, the majority of Plaintiffs primarily
15 worked on an ambulance and are or were infrequently assigned to work on a fire
16 engine.

 a) By way of example, in the last three years at least one Plaintiff has worked full time for over six months assigned to an ambulance and was never in that time assigned to work on a fire engine.

b) By way of another example, in the last three years at least one
Plaintiff has worked full time for over six months assigned to
work on an ambulance for all but the two and one-half shifts he
was assigned to a fire engine.

c) Upon information and belief, the majority of Plaintiffs work no more than (and frequently fewer than) two shifts assigned to a fire engine in any given 27-day period and for the remainder of the shifts is assigned to work on an ambulance.

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d)

Upon information and belief, all Plaintiffs have been restricted to serving only on an ambulance for the two years immediately following their acquisition of a paramedic certification.

4 11. Upon information and belief, at all times material to this action each
5 Plaintiff is or was assigned to platoon duty when assigned to work on an ambulance,
6 whereby he or she is assigned to one of three shifts: A, B, or C. During the course of
7 a nine (9) day period, Plaintiffs are assigned a day on, followed by a day off,
8 followed by a day on, followed by a day off, followed by a day on, followed by four
9 days off. The schedule is repeated every nine (9) days and routinely causes Plaintiffs
10 to work over 40 hours in a workweek.

12. At all times material to this action, when assigned to work on an ambulance Plaintiffs do not engage in fire suppression or other fire protection activities as defined by Section 203(y) of the FLSA and 29 C.F.R. § 553.210.

14 13. Defendant applies a 27-day work period under section 207(k) of the
15 FLSA to Plaintiffs when calculating their FLSA overtime pay. 29 U.S.C. § 207(k).

16 14. At all times material to this action, Defendant has failed and refused to
17 provide Plaintiffs with overtime compensation for time worked above 40 hours in a
18 workweek, thereby violating 29 U.S.C. §207(a) of the FLSA.

19 15. Upon information and belief, Defendant and its agents are aware of the
20 requirements of the FLSA and are further aware that the 207(k) exemption does not
21 apply to exempt hours an employee works on an ambulance, during which time the
22 employee has no responsibility to engage in fire suppression.

23 Failure to Pay Overtime for All Hours Worked In Excess of Forty Hours in a 24 Workweek in Violation of the FLSA

25 16. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference paragraphs one (1) through
26 fifteen (15) in their entirety as if restated herein.

27 17. Employees covered by the FLSA are entitled to overtime compensation28 at the rate of one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in

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1 excess of the maximum hours set forth in 29 U.S.C. § 207.

18. At all times material to this action, Plaintiffs have worked hours in
excess of the hourly levels specified in the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 207(a). As a result, at
all times material to this action, the Plaintiffs were entitled to overtime compensation
at a rate of not less than one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for the hours
they have worked in excess of 40 hours per workweek. 29 U.S.C. § 207(a).

7 19. At all times material to this action, Defendant has failed and refused to
8 provide Plaintiffs with overtime compensation at a rate of one and one-half times
9 their regular rate of pay for the hours they have worked in excess of 40 hours per
10 workweek, thereby violating 29 U.S.C. § 207(a).

20. Specifically, in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 207(a), Defendant has paid the Plaintiffs based on its erroneous classification of Plaintiffs as employees invariably engaged in fire protection activities under 29 U.S.C. § 207(k) and 29 C.F.R. Part 533, even for shifts they are assigned to an ambulance.

15 21. Defendant employs firefighter/paramedic employees who, unlike
16 Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees, work exclusively on ambulances. At all
17 times material to this action, Defendant has not classified such employees as engaged
18 in fire protection activities under 29 U.S.C. § 2017(k) and 29 C.F.R. Part 553 and has
19 paid and continues to pay them overtime compensation for all hours worked in
20 excess of forty (40) hours in a workweek.

21 22. Defendant's failure and refusal to provide Plaintiffs overtime pay at the
22 proper rate for the hours they have worked in excess of 40 hours per workweek for
23 shifts worked on an ambulance, as required by the FLSA, wrongly deprives them of
24 the overtime compensation that has been due to them at all times material to this
25 action.

26 23. As a result of Defendant's willful violation of the FLSA, overtime
27 compensation has been unlawfully withheld by Defendant from Plaintiffs for which
28 Defendant is liable pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §§ 216(b) and 255, together with an

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additional amount as liquidated damages, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees, and the
 costs of this action.

3 24. As a result of Defendant's willful and purposeful violation of the FLSA, 4 there have become due and owing to Plaintiffs an amount that has not yet been 5 precisely determined. The employment and work records for the Plaintiffs are in the 6 exclusive possession, custody and control of Defendants and the Plaintiffs are unable 7 to state at this time the exact amount owing to them. Defendant is under a duty 8 imposed by the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 211(c), and the regulations of the United States 9 Department of Labor, to maintain and preserve payroll and other employment 10 records with respect to Plaintiffs and other employees similarly situated from which the amount of Defendant's liability can be ascertained. 11

Prayer for Relief

WHEREFORE, each Plaintiff requests from the Court the following relief:

A A declaratory judgment declaring that the Defendant has willfully,
recklessly, unreasonably, wrongfully, and with lack of good faith, violated its statutory
and legal obligations, and deprived each Plaintiff of his or her rights, protections and
entitlements under federal law, as alleged herein;

18 B. An order for a complete and accurate accounting of all the compensation
19 to which each Plaintiff is entitled;

C Judgment against Defendant awarding each Plaintiff monetary damages
in the form of back pay compensation, liquidated damages equal to his or her unpaid
compensation, plus pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;

- D Reasonable attorneys' fees and the costs and disbursement of this action;
 and
 - E. Such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.
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10 COMPLAINT

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1	Demand for a Jury Duty			
2	Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs hereby			
3	respectfully request a trial by jury on all claims presented in this Complaint.			
4				
5	DATED: June 7, 2023 LAUREN MCDERMOTT (<i>Pro Hac Vice</i> to be Submitted)			
6	ARTHUR R. TRAYNOR			
7	(<i>Pro Hac Vice</i> to be Submitted)			
8	MOONEY, GREEN, SAIDON, MURPHY & WELCH, P.C.			
9				
10				
11	By: /s/ Lauren McDermott LAUREN MCDERMOTT			
12	Attorneys for Plaintiffs			
13				
14	DATED: June 7, 2023 DANA S. MARTINEZ			
15	BUSH GOTTLIEB, A Law Corporation			
16				
17				
18	By: <u>/s/ Dana S. Martinez</u> DANA S. MARTINEZ			
19	Attorneys for Plaintiffs			
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