FILED BY E-DELIVERY ALAMEDA COUNTY January 28, 2011 1 DAVID A. ROSENFELD, Bar No. 058163 CAREN P. SENCER, Bar No. 233488 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT LISL R. DUNCAN, Bar No. 261875 2 By Rosanne Case, Deputy WEINBERG, ROGER & ROSENFELD A Professional Corporation CASE NUMBER: 1001 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 200 RG08379099 Alameda, California 94501-1091 Telephone 510.337.1001 5 Fax 510.337.1023 6 Attorneys for Plaintiffs LAVON GODFREY and GARY GILBERT 7 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 9 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 10 LAVON GODFREY and GARY GILBERT, on) Case No. RG08379099 11 behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, 12 PLAINTIFFS' COMPLEX CASE Plaintiffs, MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 13 STATEMENT 14 v. OAKLAND PORT SERVICES CORP. d/b/a Date: February 4, 2011 15 AB TRUCKING, and DOES 1 through 20, Time: 11:00 a.m. Judge: Robert B. Freedman 16 inclusive, Dept.: 20 Defendants. 17 18 19 Plaintiffs LAVON GODFREY and GARY GILBERT (hereinafter "GODFREY and/or GILBERT," collectively "Plaintiffs") and Defendant OAKLAND PORT SERVICES CORP. d/b/a 20 21 AB TRUCKING (hereinafter "AB Trucking") submit this Joint Complex Case Management 22 Statement in preparation for the complex case management conference scheduled for February 4. 2011 at 11:00 a.m. 23 24 A. FACTUAL SUMMARY 25 This is a wage and hour class action suit brought by two former drivers of Defendant AB Trucking. Plaintiffs allege unfair business practices, violations of the California Labor Code and 26 27 violations of the Port of Oakland's Living Wage Ordinance (Oakland City Charter, Section 728) ("OLW"). Plaintiffs seek to recover all wages alleged to be due and alleged applicable penalties

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on behalf of themselves and the Class. Plaintiffs also seek the difference between the Living Wage and the lower wage rate alleged to have been paid for the four (4) years prior to the filing of the Complaint, for themselves and the Class. Plaintiffs request treble damages pursuant to the OLW, costs of litigation and attorneys' fees.

AB Trucking denies all of Plaintiffs' allegations.

B. <u>PARTIES</u>

The two individual Plaintiffs are truck drivers who allege to have worked for Defendant and are representatives of the Class and Subclasses. Plaintiffs and the Class are represented by the law firm Weinberg, Roger and Rosenfeld, 1001 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 200, Alameda, CA 94501.

Defendant is a small trucking company and is represented by the Law Office of Jay Ian Aboudi, 1855 Olympic Boulevard, Suite 210, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

C. <u>DEADLINES AND LIMITS ON JOINDER AND AMENDED PLEADINGS</u>

The parties do not intend to join any additional parties.

D <u>CLASS DISCOVERY AND CLASS CERTIFICATION</u>

Plaintiffs have filed their class certification motion. The Court granted Plaintiffs' motion for class certification on December 3, 2010.

The parties submitted a proposed class notice to the Court, which the Court denied without prejudice on January 11, 2011. The parties intend to submit a modified proposed class notice to the Court as soon as possible. The parties propose the approved Class Notice be sent to the Class in late February 2011.

E. PROPOSED LITIGATION SCHEDULE

1. **Merits Discovery Prior to Trial**: The parties intend to conduct limited additional discovery. Plaintiffs intend to conduct a half day deposition of the person most knowledgeable at the Oakland Port to authenticate and explain certain documents already in Plaintiffs' possession. Plaintiffs anticipate noticing this deposition for late March 2011.

Defendant intends to conduct additional depositions of unnamed class members anticipated to last no more than a half day respectively. Defendant anticipates noticing these depositions for

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2. **Contemplated dispositive motions**: The parties intend to file dispositive motions. Plaintiffs intend to file a motion for summary judgment and adjudication in April 2011.

Defendant intends to file a motion to decertify the class. In addition, Defendant anticipates filing a motion for summary judgment and adjudication. Defendant intends to file both motions between April and June 2011.

3. **Trial date**: The parties are unable to come to an agreement on the trial date and respectfully request the Court to make the determination.

PLAINTIFFS' POSITION: Based on the foregoing, Plaintiffs request the Court for a trial date in early September 2011.

DEFENDANT'S POSITION: Based on the foregoing, Defendant requests the Court for a trial date in early January 2012.

- 4. Timeline for trial: Plaintiffs propose bifurcation of liability and damage issues at trial to increase efficiency. Plaintiffs anticipate the liability stage of the trial to take 3-4 days. Depending on the number of claims, if any, for which Defendant is found liable, Plaintiffs predict the damages portion of the trial will take 1-3 days. Defendant is amenable to any possible bifurcation of liability and damage issues but believes that this question should be addressed after the Court rules on the contemplated dispositive motions above. Defendant anticipates the trial will take, at a minimum, 7 days.
 - 5. Separation of issues between Court and jury:

Defendant believes that it is premature to determine if any issues should be separated between Court and Jury.

Plaintiffs withdraw their original request for a jury trial. Plaintiffs wish to proceed on all issues before the Court. Plaintiffs only recently notified Defendant of this change during the meet and confer process for this CMC. Plaintiffs propose that, should a jury trial occur, for any reason presently unknown to the parties, the legal issues presented below should be decided by the Court and the factual issues presented below should be decided by the jury. If no jury trial occurs, the Court should decide all issues below.

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Defendant does not concur with Plaintiffs' current presentation of the factual and legal issues, set forth below. Furthermore, Defendant proposes that the question of separation of issues between Court and jury be addressed after the Court rules on the contemplated dispositive motions above.

Again, Defendant denies all Plaintiffs' claims, including those characterized by Plaintiffs below. Plaintiffs separate the legal and factual issues as follows:

a) All hours worked. For the reasons explained in Plaintiffs' memorandum of points and authorities in support of its motion for class certification at p. 9, the inquiries necessary to address this claim overlap with claims: (b) the misclassified/received no wages claim and (e) the meal and rest periods claim, discussed below.

The additional legal questions presented by this claim include: whether the time, if any, subclass members were misclassified and received no wages is time for which they must be paid; whether the time, if any, subclass members did not receive meal and rest periods was time they worked and time for which they must be paid; and corresponding jury instructions, if relevant.

The factual questions presented by this claim include: how many hours, if any, did subclass members work for which they were not paid, and the amount of compensation, if any, that should be awarded as a result.

b) Misclassified/received no wages. The legal questions presented by this claim include: what is the appropriate jury instruction to be applied, if relevant, to determine whether drivers in this subclass were "employees" of Defendant.

The factual issues presented by this claim include: whether members of this subclass were employees or non-employee trainees, whether subclass members were not in fact paid, the number of hours, if any, for which these members were not paid, and the amount of compensation, if any, that should be awarded as a result.

c) Overtime wages. The legal questions presented by this claim include: do DOT regulations apply and/or does the "spotter" exemption to DOT regulations apply.

The factual questions presented include: whether the members of this subclass are "spotters," whether subclass members were not in fact paid overtime, the number of hours, if any,

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d) Oakland Living Wage. The legal questions presented by this claim include: does the OLW apply.

The factual questions presented include: whether subclass members were not in fact paid the OLW, the number of hours, if any, for which these members were not paid at the OLW rate, and the amount of compensation, if any, that should be awarded as a result.

e) <u>Meal and rest periods</u>. The legal questions presented by this claim include: what is required by the applicable statute and what is the appropriate jury instruction, if relevant, regarding what constitutes a sufficient meal period and rest period.

The factual questions presented include: whether subclass members did not in fact receive meal periods, whether members did not in fact receive rest periods, the number of meal periods, if any, not received, the number of rest periods, if any, not received, and the amount of compensation, if any, that should be awarded as a result.

The Court would then determine the legal question of whether premium pay should be awarded (a different consideration than payment for all hours worked discussed above in (a).)

f) Payment of Wages After Discharge or Quit. The legal questions presented by this claim include: what is required by the applicable statute and what is the appropriate jury instruction, if relevant, regarding what constitutes compliance with the statute.

The factual questions presented include: whether correct payment was fully received, and the amount of compensation, if any, that should be awarded as a result.

The Court would then determine the legal question of whether the corresponding penalty should be awarded.

g) <u>Inaccurate Wage Statements</u>. The legal questions presented by this claim include: what is the appropriate jury instruction, if relevant, regarding what constitutes compliance with the statute.

The factual questions presented include: whether subclass members in fact received accurate wage statements, and the amount of compensation, if any, that should be awarded as a

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The Court would then determine the legal question of whether the corresponding penalty should be awarded.

h) Attorneys' fees and costs. This determination would be made in a fee motion immediately following the disposition of all legal and factual issues tried at the trial.

F. TRIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The parties are still meeting and conferring on this issue.

G. POTENTIAL EVIDENTIARY ISSUES

There are no potential evidentiary issues identified at this time, although some may arise as the result of additional discovery, dispositive motions and/or bifurcation of the liability and damages issues at trial.

H. PROCEDURAL POSTURE

- 1. Unserved Parties: All named Defendants have been served.
- 2. Unserved/Unfiled Cross-Complaints: None known.
- 3. Related Actions: None known.
- 4. **Jurisdictional or Venue Issues:** None known or anticipated.
- 5. **Discovery Status:** The parties continue to engage in the meet and confer process regarding the discovery outlined above.
- 6. Unresolved Law and Motion Matters: The parties will set dates for the dispositive motions as outlined above.
- 7. **ADR Proceedings:** Plaintiffs believe it would be in the best interest of the parties to participate in mediation as soon as possible. Plaintiffs propose mediation occur as early as late February 2011, but in any event no later than thirty (30) days prior to trial. Defendant does not believe at this present time that this is an appropriate case for ADR.
- 8. **Severance of Issues for Trial:** There are currently no known issues that should be severed for trial purposes, other than bifurcation of liability and damage issues as suggested above.

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