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7	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
8	EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA					
9	AARON YOUNG, an individual,	Case No:				
10						
11	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR:				
12	V.	(1) RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT IN VIOLATION OF 42				
13	UNITED PARCEL SERVICE, INC., a corporation; and DOES 1-20, inclusive,	U.S.C. § 1981; (2) RACE DISCRIMINATION UNDER FEHA;				
14 15	Defendants.	(3) HARASSMENT UNDER FEHA; (4) RETALIATION UNDER FEHA;				
16		(5) VIOLATION OF LABOR CODE § 1102.5;				
17		(6) INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS				
18		JURY TRIAL DEMANDED				
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COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES - Case No:

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Plaintiff AARON YOUNG alleges:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiff Aaron Young is an African American male, who was a nine-year supervisory employee of Defendant UPS with a spotless disciplinary record. However, when Plaintiff was transferred to UPS's Rocklin, California facility, where less than 15 out of 500 employees are African American and virtually all employees are Caucasian, Plaintiff was subjected to a racially harassing environment and his complaints were laughed off by company management. Ultimately, Plaintiff was terminated under the pretext that he had ordered some wheels for his son's scooter, even though he had cancelled the order and intended to pay for them. Even setting aside this innocent conduct, not only did Plaintiff's termination run counter to UPS's practice of giving employees a second chance, but UPS had a history of giving much less harsh discipline to non-African-American employees. In reality, Plaintiff was terminated due to his race, and/or in retaliation for Plaintiff reporting harassing and discriminatory conduct or cooperating in a purported sexual harassment investigation.
- 2. Shockingly, shortly after Plaintiff was fired, one or more UPS employees, including on information and belief a company manager, photo-shopped Plaintiff's face onto a racist photograph of a Church's Texas Chicken employee holding fried chicken (Exhibit A) and also photo-shopped the faces of Plaintiff and his former Division Manager onto a racist and homophobic photograph falsely depicting them as working at Dick's Sporting Goods (Exhibit B). These photographs were circulated among various UPS personnel.

THE PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff Aaron Young was employed by Defendant United Parcel Service, Inc. from approximately 2014 through the date of his termination in October 2023. Plaintiff is, and all relevant times herein was, an African-American resident of California.
- 4. Defendant United Parcel Service, Inc. is a multinational shipping and receiving and supply chain management Fortune 500 company. (Defendants United Parcel Service, Inc. and Does 1-10, and each of them, individually and collectively, are hereafter referred to as "UPS"). UPS is the largest courier company in the world by revenue, having more than 500,000

in the State of Georgia.

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5. On information and belief, the true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate or otherwise, of Defendants named herein as Does 1 through 20, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when such have been ascertained. On information and belief, each of the Defendants designated herein as "Doe" is legally responsible for the events and actions alleged herein, and proximately caused or

contributed to the injuries and damages as hereinafter described.

employees worldwide. UPS is an Ohio corporation, with its principal place of business located

6. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each Defendant named in this complaint, and each Doe Defendant, is in some manner responsible for the wrongs and damages alleged below, and in so acting was functioning, at all relevant times, as the agent, servant, partner, alter ego and/or employee of the other Defendants, and in doing the actions described below, was acting within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as such agent, servant, partner, alter ego and/or employee with the permission and consent of each of the other Defendants. All acts herein alleged were approved of and ratified by each and every other Defendant.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This action is based in part on Plaintiff's claims of employment discrimination against Defendants, which arise under the Civil Rights Act of 1866 (42 U.S.C. § 1981). This court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's federal claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 8. This court also has supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff's related state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367. Plaintiff's state law claims arise from the same common nucleus of operative facts as the underlying federal claim. Resolving all state and federal claims in a single action serves the interests of judicial economy, convenience, and fairness to all parties.

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9.	This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)
because the ar	nount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is
between citize	ens of different states

- 10. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant UPS. The acts and omissions of Defendant UPS alleged herein occurred in Defendant UPS's Rocklin, California facility.
- 11. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this District.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Plaintiff's Exemplary Work Record

- 12. Plaintiff began working for UPS in or about 2014. He started out loading airplanes at the Mather facility in Rancho Cordova, California, and in or about May 2016 was promoted to Part Time Supervisor. In or about May 2020, Plaintiff was promoted to Part Time Road Supervisor and transferred to UPS's West Sacramento facility. He reported to and was mentored by Brad Freeburg, Division Manager of UPS's Capitol Division. In or about May 2021, Mr. Freeburg promoted Plaintiff to Full Time Road Supervisor. Mr. Freeburg was viewed in the company as being supportive of African American employees.
- 13. In or about August 2021, Mr. Freeburg took over management of UPS's Rocklin, California facility ("Rocklin Facility"), one of the five largest UPS facilities in the United States. On information and belief, the Rocklin Facility at all times relevant had in excess of approximately 500 UPS employees, including drivers, loaders and other personnel. However, the Rocklin Facility workforce was wholly lacking in diversity, employing only approximately 10-15 African-American employees and only 1 African-American supervisor. The UPS employees at the Rocklin Facility were virtually all Caucasian.
- 14. As a result, in an effort to promote diversity, in or about August 2021, Mr. Freeburg transferred two African-American supervisors, including Plaintiff and Ray Caldwell, from the West Sacramento Facility to the Rocklin Facility. Both supervisors had demonstrated

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exemplary performance and spotless disciplinary records at UPS. As a show of dedication to UPS, Plaintiff moved his family to Roseville to be closer to the new work location.

Reporting of Harassing Statement

- 15. At the time of Plaintiff's transfer, the Manager of the UPS Valley Division (Jeff Kendall) maintained an office at the Rocklin Facility. In or about Fall 2021, Plaintiff, in the presence of Mr. Kendall, received a call from Division Manager Freeburg asking about an incident that Plaintiff and Mr. Kendall were handling involving a particular female UPS employee. When Plaintiff got off the call, Mr. Kendall asked Plaintiff in an accusatory manner: "What does he [Mr. Freeburg] want, is he fucking her too," referring to the same female employee. Plaintiff understood that Mr. Kendall appeared to be accusing Mr. Freeberg of sexual harassment. Plaintiff responded that he didn't know what Mr. Kendall was talking about. Plaintiff subsequently reported this statement by Mr. Kendall to Mr. Freeburg.
- 16. Shortly afterwards, Division Manager Freeburg was placed on administrative leave, and was subsequently terminated and replaced by Mr. Kendall. When Mr. Freeburg disputed his termination through UPS's Employee Dispute Resolution ("EDR") process, he submitted a written statement disclosing that Plaintiff had told him that Mr. Kendall had asked Plaintiff "Is Brad fucking her too" or words to that effect. When Mr. Freeburg submitted this statement, it was accidentally routed through the UPS Human Resource office for the Division managed by Mr. Kendall, who, on information and belief, saw the statement and learned that Plaintiff was the person who had reported Mr. Kendall's accusation to Mr. Freeburg.
- 17. On information and belief, in retaliation for such reporting and also due to Plaintiff's race, Mr. Kendall in part stripped Plaintiff of his responsibilities to manage the entire Rocklin Facility when the Operations Manager for the facility was unavailable.

Racially and Sexually Harassing Environment

- 18. UPS management promoted, tolerated and failed to stop a racially and sexually harassing environment at the Rocklin Facility.
- 19. In or about March 2023, supervisor Ray Caldwell, an African American, discovered that someone had placed an offensive black doll with African American features on

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his computer keyboard. Mr. Caldwell immediately showed it to Plaintiff, and both were outraged. Despite that Mr. Caldwell and Plaintiff reported this offensive incident to management, one of the managers and several supervisors laughed it off and no investigation was conducted.

- 20. In or about May 2023, one of UPS's Caucasian male loaders commented to another Caucasian male employee, directly in front an African-American female loader, that he hates black people and he loves to see their facial expressions when he tells them that. The female loader was horrified, terrified, and felt threatened by this racist comment. Although the female loader immediately reported this incident to her direct supervisor and then to Mr. Kendall (the Division Manager), Mr. Kendall said he couldn't be bothered and that she should simply call the company's 800 hotline number. The female loader then reported the incident to supervisor Caldwell, who reported it to his manager. Despite this reporting, UPS management failed to fire the employee who made the racist comment. Although the harassing employee was initially moved to another area of the facility, UPS on several occasions had him work in the same area as the victimized female loader, who had to take sick leave to avoid being in proximity with the harasser. Plaintiff was aware of this situation.
- 21. In addition, a number of employees at the Rocklin facility played loud music blaring throughout the facility, and also in the parking lot during breaks. This music constantly included lyrics using racially offensive and derogatory terms towards African Americans, including the N-Word (N****) and other derogatory racial terms. This music also contained offensive and sexually graphic and derogatory and demeaning lyrics, such as "Pussy," "Bitch" and "Dick." These employees, who were overwhelmingly Caucasian, would frequently sing the lyrics of the songs throughout the workday in the vicinity of African American employees, including Plaintiff and others. Plaintiff and other African American employees were extremely upset by this offensive and outrageous music and conduct.
- 22. Plaintiff reported this racially and sexually offensive and harassing music to one of his managers, who laughed it off and nothing was done. The African-American female loader and potentially others also objected and reported this offensive music up the chain at UPS

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but those complaints were ignored. In or about May 2023, she filed a grievance with her union, which forced UPS management to ban loud music in the facility, but nothing was done about the offensive music being played in the parking lots.

Plaintiff's Wrongful Termination

- 23. In or about late September 2023, Plaintiff wanted to build a scooter for his 10year old son's birthday. As Plaintiff was having trouble finding correct wheels for the scooter on his own, he noticed that one of the UPS maintenance men was working on a pushcart that had the type of wheels that would work for the scooter. When Plaintiff asked where he got the wheels, the maintenance worker told him "Coupa" and wrote down the part number for Plaintiff. Plaintiff had never used Coupa before and understood that it was an ordering site for UPS and its employees, who could use the site to purchase items at discount and pay for them when the items arrived.
- 24. Plaintiff then took the information to a fellow supervisor and asked if she was the person who had placed the order for the pushcart wheels. The supervisor said she was not the right person, but gave Plaintiff a printout of the wheels and what company they came from. When Plaintiff was then directed to a second supervisor who could help him, Plaintiff told her that he needed the wheels to build a scooter for his son and would pay for them when they came in. This second supervisor pulled up the wheels on "Coupa" and ordered them for Plaintiff. The second supervisor, a long-time UPS employee, did not indicate that it was in any way improper for Plaintiff to be ordering the wheels through Coupa.
- 25. Shortly thereafter, the second supervisor gave Plaintiff the invoice for the order. When plaintiff reviewed it, he discovered that the wrong wheels had been ordered, and asked the second supervisor to cancel the order, which she did. When they looked at other wheels together on Coupa, the second supervisor printed out a few options (ranging from \$6 to \$13 per wheel – four wheels in total) and Plaintiff said he would think about ordering it but never did so.
- 26. Approximately a week later (on or about October 11), Plaintiff received a call from a UPS security supervisor stating that he was investigating a flagged Coupa order. Plaintiff fully cooperated and explained what had happened.

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27. The following	ng day, Plaintiff was called in by a security manager and further
interviewed. The interview	vers told Plaintiff they were going to discuss this incident with
Plaintiff's Division Manage	er (Mr. Kendall). Within an hour, two managers (Rob Bonago and
Lee Murita) met with Plain	tiff and announced that he could either resign or be placed on
administrative leave pendir	ng investigation. Plaintiff responded that he did not intend to resign
Mr. Kendall then told Plain	tiff that management would be considering several disciplinary
options, including no raise,	no bonus, no stock, or termination.

- 28. Approximately two weeks later, on or about October 27, Plaintiff met with Division Manager Kendall (Caucasian), manager Doug Sedgwick (Caucasian) and an HR supervisor. Mr. Sedgwick told Plaintiff that he could either resign or he would be fired. When Plaintiff again responded that he did not intend to resign, Mr. Kendall fired him and Plaintiff was escorted out of the building.
- 29. On information and belief, Plaintiff's termination was due to his race and/or in retaliation for Plaintiff having reported the racially harassing environment, for having reported Division Manager Kendall's inquiry about Division Manager Freeburg [Is Brad fucking her too?] or for having participated in Mr. Kendall's apparent sexual harassment investigation of Mr. Freeberg.
- 30. On information and belief, UPS has a history of not disciplining similarly-situated non-African-American employees in the harsh manner in which it disciplined Plaintiff. Further, on information and belief, the supervisor who assisted Plaintiff in locating and placing an order (later cancelled by Plaintiff) for the wheels was not disciplined.
- 31. Shortly after Plaintiff's termination, Division Manager Kendall transferred the only other African American supervisor (Ray Caldwell) at the Rocklin Facility to another facility. As a result, on information and belief, the Rocklin Facility no longer has any African-American supervisors.

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The Racist and Homophobic Post-Termination Photos

- 32. On information and belief, shortly after Plaintiff was terminated, one or more UPS employees, including a UPS manager who was involved in Plaintiff's termination, photoshopped Plaintiff's face onto two highly offensive, racist and disparaging photographs.
- 33. The first photograph (Exhibit A hereto) depicts a Church's Texas Chicken employee holding fried chicken in his hand with Plaintiff's face photo-shopped replacing the face of the Church's employee. Church's fried chicken is a fast-food restaurant headquartered in the South. This photo is the embodiment of the racist stereotype of African Americans eating and selling fried chicken.
- 34. The second photograph (Exhibit B hereto) depicts two Dick's Sporting Goods employees with the faces of Plaintiff and his former Division Manager and mentor (Brad Freeburg) replacing the faces of the Dick's employees. On information and belief, this photo was intended to derogate Plaintiff due to his race and his association with his former Division Manager who was viewed at UPS as supporting African-Americans employees and also to falsely portray them as having a gay relationship. On information and belief, UPS managers and employees circulated, both before and after Plaintiff was employed, false rumors that Plaintiff and Mr. Freeburg were gay lovers.
- 35. Plaintiff is informed and believes that these manipulated photographs were circulated extensively amongst UPS management, other UPS employees and potentially third parties.

Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies

	36.	Plaintiff has exhausted his administrative remedies by submitting a charge to the
Califo	rnia Civ	ril Right Division ("CRD"). On or about January 11, 2024, the CRD issued
Plainti	ff a noti	ice of Right to Sue.

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FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Racial Discrimination, Racial Harassment (Hostile Work Environment), Retaliation, Failure To Investigate and Prevent Discrimination and Harassment, and Wrongful Discharge)

(Violation of 42 U.S.C. Section 1981)

(Against All Defendants)

- 37. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates the above paragraphs by reference as if fully set forth herein.
 - 38. As an African-American individual, Plaintiff is a member of a protected class.
- 39. During the course of Plaintiff's employment, Defendants, and each of them, violated Plaintiff's rights by depriving Plaintiff of his right to the enjoyment of all benefits, privileges, terms, and conditions of Plaintiff's employment contract "as is enjoyed by white citizens," in direct violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1981(b).
- 40. Specifically, said Defendants subjected Plaintiff to racial harassment, racial discrimination and a racially hostile work environment, culminating in the termination of Plaintiff's employment. Said Defendants also failed to investigate and prevent incidents of racial harassment, despite numerous reports and complaints, thereby evidencing a pattern and practice of racial discrimination and harassment. Defendants also photo-shopped and circulated racist photographs of Plaintiff.
 - Said Defendants acted intentionally to discriminate against Plaintiff. 41.
- 42. Said Defendants failed to prevent the racially harassing, discriminatory and retaliatory behavior directed at Plaintiff and other African-American employees. Ultimately, Plaintiff was wrongfully terminated due to his race.
- 43. Through their actions and treatment of Plaintiff, Said Defendants and their agents intended to discriminate against Plaintiff on the basis of his race.
- 44. Said Defendants' violations of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, as amended, caused Plaintiff to suffer harm, including but not limited to discharging Plaintiff, and stripping him of responsibilities and assignments.

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- 45. As a result of the actions of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages and injury in amounts not yet fully ascertained, but in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this court, including but not limited to:
- a. losses of wages and benefits, past and future, lost promotions, loss of earning capacity, reputational harm and other economic losses; and
- b. personal physical injury, physical sickness, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, pain and suffering, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community, scorn and humiliation, embarrassment, hurt feelings, loss of enjoyment of life, and a general loss of self-esteem and well-being and other non-economic damages.
- 46. The actions of Defendants, and each of them, were malicious, oppressive and fraudulent, and Plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive damages against said Defendants, and each of them.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Race Discrimination in Violation of FEHA)

(Against Defendants UPS and Does 1-10)

- 47. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates paragraphs 1 46 by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 48. The California Fair Employment and Housing Act ("FEHA" Govt. Code §§ 12920, 12940 et seq.) prohibits discrimination against employees on the basis of race.
- 49. Plaintiff's race was a substantial motivating factor for Defendants UPS and Does 1-10, and each of them, to take the alleged adverse employment actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to discharging Plaintiff, and stripping him of responsibilities and assignments.
- 50. As a result of the actions of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages and injury in amounts not yet fully ascertained, but in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this court, including but not limited to:

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a.	losses of wages and benefits, past and future, lost promotions, lo	ss of
earning capacity, repu	utational harm and other economic losses; and	

- b. personal physical injury, physical sickness, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, pain and suffering, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community, scorn and humiliation, embarrassment, hurt feelings, loss of enjoyment of life, and a general loss of self-esteem and well-being and other non-economic damages.
- 51. The actions of Defendants, and each of them, were malicious, oppressive and fraudulent, and Plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive damages against said Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 3294.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Racial Harassment in Violation of FEHA)

(Against All Defendants)

- 52. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates paragraphs 1 51 by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 53. FEHA makes it unlawful for any person to harass an employee based on his or her race.
- 54. Plaintiff was employed by UPS, and was subjected to harassing conduct based on his African-American race by UPS employees. This harassing conduct included but was not limited to, placement of an offensive doll with African American features on the keyboard of an African American supervisor, permitting the playing of music in the workplace having highly offensive racist and sexual lyrics and employees singing those lyrics in the workplace, and a Caucasian employee taunting an African American employee by stating that he hates black people and that he loves seeing the facial expressions of black people when he tells them that.
- 55. Management was notified of these harassing conditions and failed to take effective remedial actions to combat them.
 - 56. The harassing conduct was severe or pervasive.

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- 57. A reasonable person would have considered the work environment to be hostile, intimidating, offensive, oppressive, abusive and unwelcome, and Plaintiff considered it so.
- 58. The actions of Defendants, and each of them, were a substantial motivating factor in causing Plaintiff's harm.
- 59. As a result of the actions of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages and injury in amounts not yet fully ascertained, but in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this court, including but not limited to:
- a. losses of wages and benefits, past and future, lost promotions, loss of earning capacity, reputational harm and other economic losses; and
- b. personal physical injury, physical sickness, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, pain and suffering, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community, scorn and humiliation, embarrassment, hurt feelings, loss of enjoyment of life, and a general loss of self-esteem and well-being and other non-economic damages.
- 60. The actions of Defendants, and each of them, were malicious, oppressive and fraudulent, and Plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive damages against said Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 3294.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Retaliation in violation of FEHA

(Against Defendants UPS and Does 1-10)

- 61. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by this reference the allegations in paragraphs 1- 60 as though fully set forth herein.
- 62. FEHA (Govt. Code §§ 12940 et seq., 12940(h)) prohibits an employer from retaliating against an employee for engaging in protected activity, including the reporting of violations of FEHA or refusal to participate in activities that violate FEHA.
- 63. As set forth in paragraphs 15 22 above, Plaintiff reported and objected to Defendants' violations of FEHA, including but not limited disclosures that 1) the Division Manager (Jeff Kendall) had made an accusatory statement that another supervisor Division

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Manager had engaged in sexual harassment in violation of FEHA; and 2) reporting racially and sexually harassing conduct in violation of FEHA. Plaintiff also participated in a purported investigation regarding potential sexual harassment.

- 64. On information and belief, Plaintiff's reports and participation were a substantial motivating factor for Defendants, and each of them, to retaliate and take the above-alleged adverse employment actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to discharging Plaintiff and stripping him of responsibilities and assignments.
- 65. As a result of the actions of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages and injury in amounts not yet fully ascertained, but in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this court, including but not limited to:
- a. losses of wages and benefits, past and future, lost promotions, loss of earning capacity, reputational harm and other economic losses; and
- b. personal physical injury, physical sickness, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, pain and suffering, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community, scorn and humiliation, embarrassment, hurt feelings, loss of enjoyment of life, and a general loss of self-esteem and well-being and other non-economic damages.
- 66. The actions of Defendants, and each of them, were malicious, oppressive and fraudulent, and Plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive damages against said Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 3294.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Whistleblower Retaliation – Cal. Lab. Code § 1102.5) (Against Defendant UPS and Does 1-10)

- 67. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates paragraphs 1 66 by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 68. California Labor Code § 1102.5 prohibits, among other things, an employer, or any person acting on behalf of the employer, from retaliating against an employee for disclosing information, or because the employer believes that the employee disclosed or may disclose

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information, to a government or law enforcement agency, to a person with authority over the
employee, or to another employee who has the authority to investigate, discover, or correct the
violation or noncompliance, if the employee has reasonable cause to believe that the information
discloses a violation of state or federal statute or a violation of or noncompliance with a state or
federal rule or regulation, regardless of whether disclosing the information is part of the
employee's job duties.

- 69. As set forth above in paragraphs 15 - 22, Plaintiff disclosed one or more violations of state or federal statutes, rules or regulations by Defendants, and each of them, including disclosures that 1) Division Manager Kendall had made an accusatory statement that another Division Manager had engaged in sexual harassment in violation of FEHA; and 2) reporting racially harassing conduct in violation of FEHA and 42 U.S.C. § 1981. Plaintiff also participated in a purported investigation regarding potential sexual harassment.
- 70. Plaintiff made these disclosures to his managers and to Human Resources, each of whom had authority over Plaintiff and/or had the authority to investigate, discover, or correct the violations.
- 71. Defendants, and each of them, believed that Plaintiff had disclosed or might disclose same, to a government or law enforcement agency, a person with authority over Plaintiff, or to an employee with authority to investigate, discover, or correct legal violations or noncompliance.
- 72. Plaintiff had reasonable cause to believe that the information disclosed a violation of state or federal statute, rule or regulation.
- 73. On information and belief, in retaliation for Plaintiff's protected disclosures and participation, Defendants UPS, and Does 1-10, and each of them, took the above-alleged adverse employment actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to discharging Plaintiff and stripping him of responsibilities and assignments.
- 74. Plaintiff's protected disclosures and participation, and each of them, were at the very least a contributing factor in Defendants' decisions to take the foregoing adverse employment actions against Plaintiff.

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- 75. As a result of the actions of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages and injury in amounts not yet fully ascertained, but in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this court, including but not limited to:
- a. losses of wages and benefits, past and future, lost promotions, loss of earning capacity, reputational harm and other economic losses; and
- b. personal physical injury, physical sickness, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, pain and suffering, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community, scorn and humiliation, embarrassment, hurt feelings, loss of enjoyment of life, and a general loss of self-esteem and well-being and other non-economic damages.
- 76. The actions of Defendants, and each of them, were malicious, oppressive and fraudulent, and Plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive damages against said Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 3294.

SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress)

(Against All Defendants)

- 77. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates paragraphs 1 76 by reference as if fully set forth herein.
 - 78. The conduct of Defendants, and each of them, was outrageous.
- 79. Defendants intended to cause Plaintiff emotional distress or acted with reckless disregard of the probability that Plaintiff would suffer emotional distress.
- 80. As a proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff suffered severe emotional distress.
- 81. Defendants' conduct was a substantial factor in causing Plaintiff's severe emotional distress.
- 82. As a result of the actions of defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages and injury in amounts not yet fully ascertained, but in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this court, including but not limited to:

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1		a.	losses of wage	s and benefits, past and future, lost promotions, loss of	
2	earning capa	city, re	putational harm a	nd other economic losses; and	
3		b.	personal physic	cal injury, physical sickness, emotional distress,	
4	depression, a	ınxiety,	, humiliation, emb	parrassment, mental anguish, pain and suffering, loss of	
5	reputation, goodwill and standing in the community, scorn and humiliation, embarrassment, hur				
6	feelings, loss of enjoyment of life, and a general loss of self-esteem and well-being and other				
7	non-economic damages.				
8	83.	The	actions of Defend	ants, and each of them, were malicious, oppressive and	
9	fraudulent, a	nd Plai	ntiff is entitled to	recover punitive damages against said Defendants, and	
10	each of them, pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 3294.				
11	PRAYER FOR RELIEF				
12	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment in his favor and relief against Defendants,				
13	and each of them, as follows as appropriate for the above claims for relief:				
14	(a)	For c	compensatory dan	nages in an amount to be determined at trial;	
15	(b)	For p	punitive and exem	plary damages;	
16	(c)	For p	pre- and post-judg	ment interest, at the legal rate;	
17	(d)	For i	injunctive relief;		
18	(e)	For a	attorneys' fees and	d costs, including but not limited to fees and costs pursuant	
19		to Ca	al. Lab. Code § 11	102.5(j), Gov't Code § 12965(b), CCP § 1021.5, and 42	
20		U.S.	C. § 1988(b);		
21	(f)	For c	costs of suit hereir	n incurred; and	
22	(g)	For a	all such other and	further relief this Court deems just, proper, and equitable.	
23	Dated: Janua	ıry 24, 2	2024	Respectfully submitted,	
24				PHILLIPS, ERLEWINE, GIVEN & CARLIN LLP	
25				By /s/ R. Scott Erlewine	
26				R. Scott Erlewine	
27				Attorney for Plaintiff	
28					

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38(b), Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury of all claims asserted in this complaint so triable.

Dated: January 24, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

PHILLIPS, ERLEWINE, GIVEN & CARLIN LLP

By /s/ R. Scott Erlewine
R. Scott Erlewine
Attorney for Plaintiff