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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURS

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Case No.

JULIETA G. LUDOVICO.

Plaintiff,

KAISER PERMANENTE aka THE PERMANENTE MEDICAL GROUP California corporation, and DOES 4 inclusive,

Defendants

12-4363 COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND

INMINCTIVE RELIEF

- 1. Sexual Harassment 42 USC §2000e et seq.
- 2. Racial/National Origin Discrimination 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.
- 3. Retaliation 42 USC §2000e et seq.
- 4. Disability Discrimination 42 U.S.C. §§1101-
- 5. Retaliation 42 U.S.C. §§1101-12213
- 6. Age Discrimination in Employment 29 U.S.C. §621
- 7. Retaliation 29 U.S.C. §621
- 8. Race Discrimination 42 U.S.C. §1981
- 9. Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation -Govt. Code §12940 et seq.
- 10. Failure to Take Reasonable Steps to Prevent Discrimination and Harassment - Cal. Govt. Code §12940(k)
- 11. Failure to Provide Reasonable Accommodation - Cal. Govt. Code §12940(m)
- 12. Failure to Engage In the Interactive Process Cal. Govt. Code §12940(n)
- 13. Age Discrimination in Employment Cal. Govt. Code §12941
- 14. Retaliation Govt. Code §12940 et seq.
- 15. Retaliation in Violation of Public Policy JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiff, Julieta G. Ludovico alleges:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This action arises under the Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.; the Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101-12213; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. §621; 42 U.S.C. §1981; and other federal and state statutes.
- 2. On or around April 27, 2010, Plaintiff filed a charge of sexual harassment and discrimination, national origin discrimination, age discrimination and retaliation against her employer, Kaiser Permanente, also known as The Permanent Medical Group, Inc., with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Charge No. 550-2010-01204.
- 3. On September 7, 2010, Plaintiff filed a charge of national origin discrimination, disability discrimination and retaliation against her employer. Kaiser Permanente, also known as The Permanente Medical Group, Inc., with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC").
- 4. Jurisdiction is conferred by virtue of 28 U.S.C. §1331 and §1343. The acts and omissions complained of occurred primarity in the County of Solano, State of California.
- 5. The EEOC issued its Notice of Right-to-Sue letters with respect to both of Plaintiff's complaints on May 21, 2012. True and correct copies of the May 21, 2012, Notice of Right-to-Sue letters issued by the EEOC are attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by this reference as if set forth at length in their entirety.
- 6. The pendent state claims contained within this Complaint arise from the same nucleus of operative facts and involve substantially identical issues of fact and law, such that the entire action constitutes a single action, which ordinarily would be prosecuted in one proceeding. Plaintiff now invokes the jurisdiction of this Court to resolve the Federal and pendent state claims arising from the violations alleged herein, seeking in addition to damages, costs of suit, reasonable attorneys fees and any other relief ordered by this Court.

PARTIES

7. Plaintiff JULIETA G. LUDOVICO is, and at all material times was, a citizen of the State of California, residing in the City of Vallejo, California.

- 8. Defendant KAISER PERMANENTE aka THE PERMANENTE MEDICAL GROUP (hereinafter, "Kaiser" or "Defendant"), is, and at all material times was, a corporation, organized and operating under the laws of the State of California.
- 9. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate or otherwise, of DOES 1 though 20 herein and prays leave of Court to insert the true names and capacities of such Defendants when they become known or ascertained together with appropriate charging allegations.
- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that each of the Defendants named herein was the agent, employee, or representative of each of the remaining Defendants and in doing the things herein mentioned was acting in the course and scope of such agency and employment.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 11. Plaintiff, JULIETA G. LUDOVICO, has worked for Defendant Kaiser Permanente since 1997. Her most current position is as a registered nurse.
 - 12. Plaintiff is a 51 year old Filipino female.
- 13. Prior to the events giving rise to this action, she worked the mid shift as registered nurse in the emergency room in the Kaiser Permanente facility located in Vallejo, California, the same city in which she resides.
- 14. Plaintiff's work as an emergency room nurse required included escorting patients to the imaging department for x-rays and CT scans, and working with imaging department staff.
- 15. On February 17, 2010, at approximately 12:30 a.m., Plaintiff was sexually assaulted while on duty at the Kaiser Vallejo facility by "Kevin" (last name unknown), an African American male employed by Kaiser as an x-ray technician. Kevin grabbed Plaintiff by her right shoulder, pulled her to him so she was not free to leave, and told her he would "take his big wet tongue and shove it down her throat a few times, and he was sure she would like that." Plaintiff did not know Kevin and had never before engaged in any conversation with him other than as needed to attend to patients.
- 16. Plaintiff immediately formally complained to the appropriate Kaiser Permanente personnel about the sexual assault by Kevin. Several Kaiser employees witnessed the assault and provided written statements to Kaiser verifying her complaint, including a Kaiser emergency room physician.

- 17. Kaiser purportedly has a "zero tolerance" policy with respect to sexual harassment in the workplace.
- 18. Plaintiff is aware of other Kaiser female employees, who were much younger than Plaintiff and who were not Filipino, who were sexually harassed while at work. In those cases, Kaiser either transferred the alleged harasser out of the complainant's work area or terminated him.
- 19. Plaintiff was completely traumatized by the assault. She requested that Kaiser take appropriate action to remove Kevin from her work area, as she felt she was working in a sexually hostile environment which interfered with her ability to perform her work, because she worked in fear of another encounter with Kevin. There are several other Kaiser facilities in the North San Francisco Bay area with imaging departments to which Kevin could have been transferred.
- 20. Kaiser did nothing in response to Plaintiff's complaint that she was sexually assaulted by Kevin while on duty. Her complaint was not investigated and none of her witnesses were interviewed. Janis D. Lacy, Kaiser's Employee and Labor Relations Consultant, simply told Plaintiff to call her if she encountered Kevin again at work. When Plaintiff protested that Kevin should be removed from her work environment, she was told that Kevin had rights too. Gayla Odle, The Permanent Medical Group Administrator, instead of transferring Kevin, unreasonably suggested that Plaintiff transfer to a different work shift. Plaintiff was orced to return to work in a hostile work environment with Kevin.
- 21. On March 17, 2010, Plaintiff was working her regular night shift in the Vallejo ER when, at 2:30 a.m., she was suddenly startled to find Kevin coming up behind her in the Emergency Room. She felt frozen with fear of another encounter. She immediately called Janis Lacy to inform her Kevin was working in the Emergency Room, but received no response. She also notified the Emergency Room managers asking help as to what she was supposed to do in the situation because she was afraid of Kevin, but received no response.
- 22. Plaintiff was scheduled to return to work in the Vallejo Emergency Room on March 24, 2010, at 7PM. She had still received no response from Ms. Lacy or the ER Managers to her March 17, 2010 phone call. On March 24, 2010, she emailed Ms. Lacey and ER Nursing Director Linda Goble, among others, requesting what to do, what they were doing to investigate her sexual assault complaint, and how Kaiser and Management were going to provide for her safety at work.

- 23. Janis Lacey responded to Plaintiff's March 24, 2010, email as follows:
 - "I think that it would be wise for you to discuss situations where you may find yourself in a position to be alone with Kevin with your management team. I am sure they would be able to work through a situation such as this. . . . If you find yourself in a situation where you will be in an isolated area, please ask your management team to allow someone to escort you."
- 24. Thus, rather than remove Kevin from Plaintiff's worksite, Defendant required that Plaintiff rearrange her work activities in order to accommodate Kevin so that the two did not interact, further subjecting her to a hostile work environment. For example, on March 31, 2010, Plaintiff's supervisor, Ms. Wilson, stopped Plaintiff from performing her critical job duties when assisting a patient, and instructed her to stay in a conference room for about twenty minutes while Kevin was in Plaintiff's working area. Plaintiff objected to being soluted in the conference room. Ms. Wilson responded that there was nothing she could do.
- 25. Plaintiff was again isolated in the conference room a second time that day by Ms. Wilson and not able to perform her job duties.
- 26. On another occasion, Plaintiff was not able to work as a Floater because it would require that she interact with Kevin.
- 27. Plaintiff was forced to decline overtime out fear of further encountering Kevin and exposing herself to a heatile and unsafe work environment.
- 28. Plaintiff's union sent several letters to Kaiser Management and Human Resources on Plaintiff's behalf, including Ms. Goble, Ms. Lacy, Ms. Odle and Human Resources Director Sherri Stegge, requesting that Kaiser take appropriate steps to investigate Plaintiff's complaint and to remove Kevin from her work environment. Kaiser insisted that appropriate action had been taken, but did nothing to remedy Plaintiff's hostile work environment. Plaintiff continued to work in fear of another sexual assault by Kevin.
- 29. On the night of April 14, 2010, Plaintiff's Manager insisted that Plaintiff transfer a patient to another location that would require her to go with the patient by the imaging department on another floor, where she would potentially be alone with Kevin.

- 30. Plaintiff could no longer take the physical, psychological and emotional stress of working in the same environment as Kevin and filed a workers' compensation claim. In addition, Kaiser made no effort to refer Plaintiff to Kaiser's Employee Assistance Program, and Plaintiff had to enquire herself and seek her own help.
- 31. On April 27, 2010, Plaintiff filed a charge with the EEOC against Kaiser for discrimination based on sex, race, national origin and age, and for retaliation.
- 32. Plaintiff's Kaiser physician placed her on modified duty for two months, from May 11, 2010, to July 11, 2010. The doctor restricted Plaintiff as follows:

This patient cannot be allowed to work in the Emergency Room of KSR Hosp. Vallejo so long as "Kevin" (X-ray tech) is working in that Building. The preferable solution is to transfer him so that the patient does not feel further victimized by her being transferred as she is the clear victim of workplace violence. . . . If employer offers modified work as specified . . ., Julieta G. Ludovico can return to modified work. Please note: if employer cannot accommodate these restrictions, Julieta G. Ludovico must be regarded as being unable to work for this period. Employer/Supervisor – if you have questions, please call our Office"

- Resources Director, and informed them of her need for accommodation. Plaintiff presented Defendant with her doctor's note specifying her modified work restrictions. Rather than accommodate Plaintiff, she was taken out of the schedule and placed off work for the two months. Defendant furthermore failed to engage in the interactive process with Plaintiff, a disabled employee, to determine whether reasonable accommodation could be made so that Plaintiff would be able to perform the essential job requirements.
- 34. Defendants refusal to accommodate Plaintiff was discriminatory and retaliation for Plaintiff having exercising her rights to complain of unlawful discrimination and harassment in the workplace and her right to workers' compensation.
- 35. On July 12, 2010, Plaintiff's return to work date, Defendant had still done nothing to investigate Plaintiff's complaint of February 17, 2010, for sexual harassment, or take any steps to prevent further harassment from occurring. Neither had Defendant accommodated Plaintiff's

disability but instead kept her from working altogether. Plaintiff had no choice but to accept the recommendation from Linda Goble that she be transferred to another facility to escape the harassing, discriminatory and retaliatory hostile work environment in which she was being forced to work at the Vallejo facility.

- 36. On July 12, 2010, Plaintiff transferred to Defendant's Vacaville facility, which is more than a half hour's drive away from her home, and which she was required to travel at night due to her shift. Plaintiff is still assigned to that facility.
- 37. On November 3, 2011, Plaintiff suffered an injury while at work to her neck, shoulder, arm and back when she had to assist a heavy patient from the patient's bed alone and the patient fainted on her. No other staff was available in the area to assist her, in violation of hospital protocols and safety standards. Plaintiff was seen by an emergency room physician, who placed her off work that day and placed her on modified duty thereafter, including no lifting, pushing, pulling more than five pounds and no reaching up or bending.
- 38. Plaintiff filed a workers' compensation claim for the November 3, 2011. She also notified Vacaville Emergency Department Manager Kate Hesse, about the incident and complained about the unsafe working conditions that contributed to her injury due to the lack of available staff to help her.
- 39. Thereafter, Plaintiff was harassed because of her work limitations. Assistant Manager Dan Walker insisted that she work the EKG, which was outside her work limitations, and became angry and threatened her in front of others when she protested that it was outside her work limitations, saying loudly, "Are you refusing?"
- 40. Plaintiff's physician periodically removed her work restrictions but her condition persisted and she was placed back on modified duty. Plaintiff's managers continually assigned her job duties outside her job restrictions and which exacerbated her pain. Plaintiff was assigned menial tasks like greeter, which embarrassed and humiliated her, or assigned to sit in a room at a computer and forbidden to be out on the floor. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendant could have accommodated her in a position that would not exacerbate her medical condition and that would utilize her nursing skills, but they made no effort to do so. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant's actions were taken in retaliation for claiming workers compensation

for her work related injuries and for complaining about unsafe working conditions, and were intended to create a pretext for Defendant to claim that her disability could not be accommodated.

41. On April 16, 20120, Plaintiff was advised that Defendant could no longer accommodate her. She has been placed off work since that date. Defendant has provided not attempted to engage in the interactive process or provide any opportunity for Plaintiff to return to work with accommodation.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Sexual Harassment in Violation of Title VII - 42 USC \$2000e et seq.

- 42. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 (41 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 43. At all times herein mentioned, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. \$2000e, et seq., was in full force and effect and was binding upon Defendants. This law required Defendant employer to refrain from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of sex, among other protected classes.
- 44. Title VII also required the Defendant employer to take remedial steps reasonably calculated to end harassment and deter future harassment.
- 45. The conduct of Defendants, their agents, representatives and employees as alleged herein, substantially interfered with the employment of the Plaintiff on the basis of her sex in violation of Title VII, 42 U.S. §2000e at seq.
- 46. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 47 Such conduct has denied and will continue to deny the Plaintiff equal protection and civil rights guaranteed by Title VII all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 48. As a result of Defendants' wrongful conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 49. As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and

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anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

- 50. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq. and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 51. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Racial Discrimination in Violation of Title VII – 42 USC §2000e et seq.

- 52. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 52 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 53. At all times herein mentioned, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq., was in full force and effect and was binding upon Defendants. This law required Defendant employer to refrain from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of race, among other protected classes.
- 54. Fitte VII also required the Defendant employer to take remedial steps reasonably calculated to end discrimination and harassment and to deter further discrimination and harassment.
- 55. The conduct of Defendants, their agents, representatives and employees as alleged herein, substantially interfered with the employment of the Plaintiff on the basis of her race in violation of Title VII, 42 U.S. §2000e et seq.
- 56. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.

- 57. Such conduct has denied and will continue to deny the Plaintiff equal protection and civil rights guaranteed by Title VII all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 58. As a result of Defendants' wrongful conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 59. As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.
- 60. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq. and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- As a result of Defendant deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

Retaliation for Opposing Sexual and Racial

Discrimination and Harassment Environment in Violation

of Title VII - 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq.

- 62. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 11 above, and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein their entirety.
- 63. At all times herein mentioned, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq. was in full force and effect and was binding upon Defendants. This law specifically prohibits retaliation against "employees ... who engage in protected activities." [42 USC §2000e-3(a)]

- 64. Title VII also required the Defendant employer to take remedial steps reasonably calculated to end harassment and deter future harassment.
- 65. Plaintiff reasonably believed that the sexual and racially discriminatory conduct and practices by Defendants, and each of them, was unlawful and opposed the discriminatory conduct and practices by Defendants, and each of them. Plaintiff reported and complained in writing about the sexual and racially discriminatory conduct and practices to Defendants, and filed charges of sexual and racial discrimination and harassment with the EEOC, as set forth herein.
- 66. As alleged herein, Defendants, by and through their agents, representatives, and employees, in violation of Title VII, retaliated against Plaintiff for exercising her statutorily protected rights, all to her damage in an amount according to proof at time of trial. Plaintiff's opposition to the sexual and racial discrimination, harassment, and hostile work environment was a motivating factor in the adverse employment actions against the Plaintiff as alleged herein. A causal link exists between the Plaintiff's protected activity and Defendants' adverse employment actions.
- 67. Such conduct has denied and will continue to deny the Plaintiff equal protection and civil rights guaranteed by Title VII all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 68. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 69. As a result of Defendants' wrongful conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.
- 7I. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend his legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and he is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq.

and other applicable State and Federal statutes.

72. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Disability Discrimination in Violation of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) 42 USC §§12101-12213

- 73. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 72 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in-their entirety.
- 74. At all times herein mentioned, the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C. §12101-12213, was in full force and effect and was binding upon Defendants. This law required Defendant employer to refrain from discriminating against a qualified employee on the basis of a disability. The Act also requires employers to make reasonable accommodations to enable disabled individuals to perform a position's essential functions.
- 75. Plaintiff was qualified to perform the essential functions of her position, with accommodation.
- 76. As alleged herein, Defendants, their agents, representatives and employees discriminated against Plaintiff on the basis of her disability in violation of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12101-12213.
- 77. As alleged herein, Defendants failed and refused to make reasonable accommodations to enable Plaintiff to perform the essential functions of her job, in further violation of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12101-12213.
- 78. Such conduct has denied and will continue to deny the Plaintiff equal protection and civil rights guaranteed by Title VII all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 79. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.

- 80. As a result of Defendants' wrongful conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.
- 81. As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.
- 82. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§12117(a), 12133 and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 83. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Retaliation in Violation of the ADA – 42 U.S.C. §§12101-12213.

- 84. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 83 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 85. The Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101-12213, makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such individual or applicant has opposed any practice made unlawful by the ADA, or because such individual or applicant has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or litigation under the ADAA.
- 86. Plaintiff engaged in conduct protected under the ADA. Specifically, Plaintiff opposed disability discrimination made unlawful by the ADA to Defendant, made a charge of disability

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discrimination to the EEOC, and participated in the EEOC investigation under the ADA, among other protected conduct.

- 87. Defendants discriminated against Plaintiff for engaging in protected conduct and subjected Plaintiff to adverse employment actions in retaliation for the complaints she made about unlawful disability discrimination by Defendant.
- 88. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged perein.
- 89. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount according to proof.
- 90. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth herein.
- 91. As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.
- 92. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§12117(a), 12133 and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 93 As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Violation of Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 - 29 U.S.C. §621 et seq.

- 94. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 93 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 95. At all times herein alleged, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, 29 U.S.C. §621 et seq. was in full force and effect and binding upon Defendant. The Act makes it an unlawful employment practice to fail or refuse to hire an individual or to otherwise discriminate against any individual in her compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of that individual's age. The law also prohibits an employer to limit, segregate, or classify employees in any way which would deprive or tend to deprive any individual of employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect her status as an employee because of such individual's age.
- 96. Defendant engaged in the aforementioned unlawful actions, including but not limited to the refusal to hire Plaintiff for the position for which she applied and for which she was most qualified, and the harassment of Plaintiff based on her age.
- 97. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 98. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount according to proof.
- 99. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth herein.
- As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.
- 101. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §§216(b), 626(b) and other

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applicable State and Federal statutes.

102. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Retaliation in Violation of the ADEA - 29 U.S.C. \$621 et seq.

- 103. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 102 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length berein in their entirety.
- 104. The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, 29 U.S.C. §621 et seq., makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such individual or applicant has opposed any practice made unlawful by the ADEA, or because such individual or applicant has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or litigation under the ADEA.
- age discrimination made unlawful by the ADEA to Defendant, made a charge of age discrimination to the EEOC, and participated in the EEOC investigation under the ADEA, among other protected conduct.
- 106. Defendants discriminated against Plaintiff for engaging in protected conduct and subjected Plaintiff to adverse employment actions in retaliation for the complaints she made about unlawful age discrimination by Defendants.
- 107. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 108. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount according to proof.

- 109. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth herein.
- 110. As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.
- 111. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §§216(b), 626(b) and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 112. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Racial Discrimination in Violation of 42 U.S.C. §1981

- 113. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 112 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 114. At all times herein mentioned, 42 U.S.C. §1981, was in full force and effect and was binding upon Defendant. This law required Defendant employer to deny an employee the full and equal benefit of all laws on account of race.
- 115. The conduct of Defendant, its agents, representatives and employees as alleged herein, denied Plaintiff the full and equal benefit of all laws on account of her race, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1981.
- 116. As a result of Defendants' wrongful conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings and other employment benefits and opportunities, all to her damage in an amount within the jurisdiction of the court, according to proof at time of trial.

117. As a further result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, damage to reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

- 118. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1988 and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 119. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, maticious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing, in a sum to be established, according to proof at time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Discrimination and Harassment in Violation of the

Fair Employment and Housing Act - Cal. Govt. Code §12940, et seq.

- 120. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 119 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 121. At all time mentioned in this complaint, California Government Code §12940 was in full force and effect and was binding on Defendants. This law requires Defendants to refrain from harassing any employee on the basis of sex, age, race, national origin, mental and physical disability, or medical condition, and to refrain from exposing Plaintiff or any employee to a hostile work environment based on discrimination.
- 122. During the course of Plaintiff's employment, Defendants created and allowed to exist a hostile work environment, and discriminated against and harassed Plaintiff in a continuous and persistent manner on the basis of her sex, her race, her national origin and her diagnosed work-related physical disability and/or medical condition, as alleged above.

- 123. Such harassment of Plaintiff was in violation of Government Code §12940, et seq.

 Defendants engaged in the aforementioned unlawful actions, including but not limited to retaliation and harassment of Plaintiff on the basis of her sex, race, national origin and disability, and in retaliation for complaining about discrimination and harassment.
- 124. As alleged herein, within the time frame provided by law, Plaintiff filed complaints of discrimination, harassment and retaliation with the EEOC, who cross-filed her complaints with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing. DFEH issued its Notice of Right-to-Sue notice pursuant to Govt. Code §12965 on May 13, 2010. A true and correct copy of the Notice of Right-to-Sue is attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein by this reference as if set forth at length in its entirety. Plaintiff satisfied the administrative requirements with the DFEH and this suit is timely filed.
- 125. As a result of Defendants' conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 126. As a proximate result of Defendants discrimination, harassment and retaliation against Plaintiff, she has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established according to proof.
- 127. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §12940 and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 128. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

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TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Cal. Govt. Code §12940(k)

Failure to Take Reasonable Steps to Prevent Discrimination and Harassment

- 129. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 128 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 130. At all times mentioned in this complaint, Government Code §12940(k) was in full force and effect and was binding on Defendants. This law requires Defendants to take attreasonable steps necessary to prevent discrimination and harassment from occurring, including discrimination and harassment based on sex, age, race, national origin, and physical disability or medical condition.
- 131. Defendants, and each of them, violated this law by failing to take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent the discrimination and harassment against Plaintiff from occurring, despite repeated requests by Plaintiff.
- 132. Plaintiff timely complied with all EEOC administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the EEOC right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 133. As a result of Defendants' conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 134. As a proximate result of Defendants' discrimination, harassment and retaliation against Plaintiff, she has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to be damage in a sum to be established according to proof.
- 135 Raintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §12940 and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 136. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure to Provide Reasonable Accommodation to Disabled Employee –

Cal. Govt. Code §12940(m)

- 137. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 136 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 138. At all times herein mentioned, Cal. Government Code §12940, et seq. was in full force and effect and binding upon Defendants. These statutes make it an unlawful employment practice for any employer to discriminate against any employee on the basis of disability or medical condition or to fail to reasonably accommodate a disabled employee to allow them to return to work and in their employment.
- 139. Defendants, and each of them, were on written notice from Plaintiff's doctor that she suffered from work-related disability or medical condition.
- 140. Plaintiff was able to perform the essential job duties with reasonable accommodation for her disability or medication condition.
- 141. Defendants failed to provide reasonable accommodation to Plaintiff, a disabled employee or an employee with a medical condition, by reducing her workload and ameliorating the hostile work environment.
- 142 Raintiff timely complied with all DFEH administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the DFEH right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 143. As a result of Defendants' conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 144. As a proximate result of Defendants' discrimination, harassment and retaliation against Plaintiff, she has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and

mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established according to proof.

- 145. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §12940 et seq. and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 146. As a result of Defendants' deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

TWELFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Failure to Engage In the Interactive Process with Disabled Employee

Cal. Govt. Code §12940(n)

- 147. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 146 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 148. At all times herein mentioned, Cal. Government Code §12940, et seq. was in full force and effect and binding upon Defendant. These statutes make it an unlawful employment practice for any employer to discriminate against any employee on the basis of disability or medical condition or to fail to reasonably accommodate a disabled employee to allow them to return to work and in their employment.
- 149. Defendant was on written notice from Plaintiff's doctor that she suffered from work-related illness.

- 150. Plaintiff requested that Defendant make reasonable accommodation for her disability or medical condition so that she would be able to perform the essential job requirements.
- 151. Plaintiff was, and continues to be, willing to participate in an interactive process to determine whether reasonable accommodation could be made so that she would be able to perform the essential job requirements.
- 152. Defendant failed to participate in a timely, good-faith interactive process with Plaintiff to determine whether reasonable accommodation could be made.
- 153. Plaintiff timely complied with all DFEH administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the DFEH right to sue letters alleged herein.
- 154. As a result of Defendant's conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 155. As a proximate result of Defendant's discrimination, harassment and retaliation against Plaintiff, she has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical pain and arguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established according to proof.
- 156. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §12940 et seq. and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 157. As a result of Defendant's deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

THIRTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Age Discrimination in Employment-Cal. Govt. Code §12941 et seq.

- 158. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 157 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 159. At all times herein alleged, the Cal. Govt. Code §12941 was in full force and effect and binding upon Defendant. The Act makes it an unlawful employment practice to fail or refuse to hire an individual or to otherwise discriminate against any individual in her compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of that individual's age. The law also prohibits an employer to limit, segregate, or classify employees in any way which would deprive or tend to deprive any individual of employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect her status as an employee because of such individual's age.
- 160. Defendant engaged in the aforementioned unlawful actions, including but not limited to the refusal to hire Plaintiff for the position for which she applied and for which she was most qualified, and the harassment of Plaintiff based on her age.
- 161. Plaintiff timely complied with all DFEH administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the DFEH right to sue letter alleged herein.
- 162. As a result of Decendant's conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 163. As a proximate result of Defendant's discrimination, harassment and retaliation against Plaintiff, she has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established according to proof.
- 164. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §12940 et seq. and other applicable State and Federal statutes.

165. As a result of Defendant's deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

FOURTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Retaliation in Violation of the FEHA - Cal. Govt. Code §12940 et seq.

- 166. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 165 above and incorporates the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 167. California's Fair Employment and Housing Act, Cal. Govt. Code §12940 et seq., makes it an unlawful for an employer to discriminate against any employees or applicants for employment because such individual or applicant has opposed any practice made unlawful by the FEHA, or because such individual or applicant has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or litigation under the FEHA.
- 168. Plaintiff engaged in conduct protected under the FEHA. Specifically, Plaintiff opposed discrimination and harassment made unawful by the FEHA to Defendant, made a charge of discrimination to the DFEH, and participated in the EEOC investigation, among other protected conduct.
- 169. Defendant discriminated against Plaintiff for engaging in protected conduct and subjected Plaintiff to adverse employment actions, including but not limited to harassment, retaliation, AND further discrimination in retaliation for the complaints she made about unlawful discrimination by Defendants.
- 170. Plaintiff timely complied with all DFEH administrative prerequisites to bringing this suit and has timely filed this suit upon receipt of the DFEH right to sue letter alleged herein.
- 171. As a result of Defendant's conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 172. As a further result of Defendant's discrimination, harassment and retaliation against Plaintiff, she has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical pain and anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical

professionals, all to her damage in a sum to be established according to proof.

- 173. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with law and pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §12940 et seq. and other applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 174. As a result of Defendant's deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

FIFTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Retaliation in Violation of Public Policy

- 175. Plaintiff refers to those allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 174 and incorporate the same by reference as though fully set forth at length herein in their entirety.
- 176. At the time of the allegations as set forth in this complaint, it was and is the public policy of this State to protect workers from discrimination and retaliation against an employee because that employee has reported a work related injury or their intent to seek redress for a work related injury, as codified in California Labor Code §§98.6, 132(a) and other statutes.
- 177 At the time of the allegations as set forth in this complaint, it was and is the public policy of this State that no person shall discharge or in any manner discriminate against any employee because the employee has made any oral or written complaint with reference to employee safety or health to his or her employer or his or her representative. This public policy is codified in California Labor Code §6310 and other statutes.

- 178. In doing the acts and omissions complained of herein, Defendant unlawfully discriminated and retaliated against Plaintiff because Plaintiff reported a work related injury.
- 179. As a result of Defendant's conduct Plaintiff suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.
- 180. As a further result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress, loss of reputation, and mental and physical paintand anguish, that has required and will require the treatment of medical professionals, all to the damage in a sum to be established according to proof.
- 181. Plaintiff has also been required to retain attorneys to defend her legal rights and to recover damages for Plaintiff's injuries and she is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs to prosecute this action in accord with applicable State and Federal statutes.
- 182. As a result of Defendant's deliberate, outrageous, malicious and despicable conduct as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to maward of punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to punish and to deter such wrongdoing.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for damages and judgment as set forth herein.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant as follows:

- 1. (For compensatory damages and other economic damages according to proof;
- 2. For general damages according to proof;
- 3. For mental and emotional distress damages according to proof;
- 4. For special damages according to proof;
- 5. For treble damages on FEHA claims as allowed by law;
- 6. For punitive damages;