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 14 and Potential Classes

15 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
 16 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
 17 **SAN FRANCISCO**

18 DESIDERO SOTO, STEVEN STRICKLEN,  
 19 STEEVE FONDROSE, LORENZO  
 ORTEGA, and JOSE ANTONIO FARIAS,  
 20 JR., on behalf of themselves and all other  
 similarly situated,

21 Plaintiffs,

22 vs.

23 O.C. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,  
 24 COMCAST CORPORATION, and  
 25 COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS  
 MANAGEMENT, LLC,

26 Defendants

Case No.: 3:17-cv-00251-VC

**DECLARATION OF JOSE ANTONIO  
 FARIAS, JR. IN SUPPORT OF MOTION  
 FOR APPROVAL OF SERVICE AWARD  
 AS CLASS REPRESENTATIVE**

Date: October 17, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Courtroom: 4 (17th Floor)

Judge: Honorable Vince Chhabria

Complaint Filed: January 18, 2017

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**DECLARATION OF JOSE ANTONIO FARIAS, JR.**

I, Jose Antonio Farias, Jr., hereby declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the following is true and correct:

1. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge.

2. I am a Named Plaintiff in the above-captioned action against Defendants O.C. Communications, Inc., (“OCC”) Comcast Corporation, and Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC (“Comcast”) (collectively, “Defendants”).

3. I worked for Defendants as a Technician on installation services such as installing cable, televisions, security and phone systems in commercial and residential settings.

4. Between approximately May 2012 and October 2017, I worked for Defendants as a Technician in California.

5. As a Technician, my duties included, but were not limited to, driving to customers’ residences, installing cable, telephone, and internet service, making repairs, troubleshooting, educating customers, and providing installations and troubleshooting integral to Comcast’s service.

6. When I worked for Defendants, I worked overtime hours for Defendants without being paid overtime premiums. I was also required to work off-the-clock before my shifts to gather equipment and for inventory checks and I also worked off-the-clock after my shifts. The wage statements that I received did not accurately reflect my actual hours worked or actual wages earned. Additionally, my scheduled and actual hours worked triggered meal and rest breaks; however, I did not always receive these breaks or was required to work through them. And while working for Defendants, I incurred numerous unreimbursed work-related expenses and was required to purchase tools and supplies that I needed to perform my work duties.

7. I accordingly joined this lawsuit as a Named Plaintiff, because Defendants did not pay me minimum, straight time, or the required overtime compensation; failed to provide accurate, itemized wage statements; failed to keep accurate records of all hours worked; failed to pay all final wages due upon termination; did not provide meal and rest breaks; did not properly pay for rest and recovery periods and other non-productive time as piece rate workers, and did not pay me for necessary businesses expenses.

1           8.       During this lawsuit, I have spent my own personal time working closely with my  
2 attorneys. I provided information regarding my work experience with Defendants, the allegations  
3 in the lawsuit, as well as documents, including timesheets, daily reports and paystubs. My  
4 attorneys used this information to determine what claims to bring and to strategize the class  
5 action lawsuit.

6           9.       I have spent significant personal time strategizing with my attorneys as the case  
7 moved forward. I regularly communicated with my attorneys via telephone to discuss the status  
8 of the case. These communications concerned, but were not limited to: amending the Complaint  
9 to add additional plaintiffs and claims, the briefing on Defendants' motions to compel arbitration,  
10 and when my attorneys filed over 600 individual arbitration demands. I also strategized with my  
11 attorneys during their review of documents produced by OCC. And I cleared my schedule and  
12 made myself available for mediation in this case and communicated with my attorneys  
13 throughout the settlement process.

14           10.      The parties eventually reached an agreement to settle the case. I reviewed and  
15 approved the proposed settlement agreement.

16           11.      In sum, I have been significantly involved with this litigation, and I have  
17 contributed a substantial amount of my own time to the prosecution of these claims.

18           12.      I have worked as a Technician in the cable industry for approximately five years.

19           13.      Despite the potential risk of retaliation in the cable industry, I stepped forward to  
20 represent the interests of my fellow class members, including risking my reputation in the  
21 community in which I make my livelihood.

22           14.      As noted above, I have devoted substantial time and energy to this case, at great  
23 personal risk and expense.

24           15.      As part of the settlement agreement, I have agreed to release any and all  
25 claims I have against Defendants.

26           16.      Based upon my participation in this case, and also based upon my knowledge of  
27 the facts and the law, as explained to me by my attorneys, I believe that the settlement is fair and  
28 reasonable, and that my hard work has led to a beneficial result for the Class and Collective.

          17.      I therefore respectfully request that the Court grant final approval of the service

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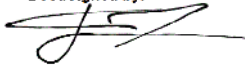
DECLARATION OF JOSE ANTONIO FARIAS, JR.

*Desidero Soto, et al. v. O.C. Communications, Inc.*, Case No. 3:17-cv-0251-VC

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payment agreed to by the parties of \$10,000.00 in the settlement agreement.

Dated: September 8, 2019

DocuSigned by:  
  
B839AF2CFF16491... is, Jr.