

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC

Shani O. Zakay (State Bar #277924)
Jackland K. Hom (State Bar #327243)
Julieann Alvarado (State Bar #334727)
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
Telephone: (619) 255-9047
Facsimile: (858) 404-9203
shani@zakaylaw.com
jackland@zakaylaw.com
julieann@zakaylaw.com

JCL LAW FIRM, APC

Jean-Claude Lapuyade (State Bar #248676)
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
Telephone: (619) 599-8292
Facsimile: (619) 599-8291
jlapuyade@jcl-lawfirm.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff JERMELL JONES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KERN

JERMELL JONES, an individual, on behalf of
himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MARSHALL E. HELM CORP., a California
Corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. BCV-21-102356

**DECLARATION OF JERMELL JONES IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT**

Date:

Time:

Judge: Hon. Bernard C. Barmann, Jr.
Dept.: H

1 I, JERMELL JONES, declare as follows:

2 1. I am over eighteen years of age and if called as a witness, I could and would competently
3 testify to the following facts from my own personal knowledge. I am the named Plaintiff in the above
4 wage and hour class action filed against MARSHALL E. HELM CORP (hereinafter “Defendants”).

5 2. This declaration is being submitted in support of Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary
6 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

7 3. I believe that I am, have been and will continue to represent the interests of the class
8 fairly and adequately. I have claims that are typical of the claims the Class Members that I am seeking
9 to represent.

10 4. I worked for Defendant as an hourly, non-exempt, employee in California from February
11 of 2015 to October 16, 2020. At all times during my employment, I earned an hourly wage and was
12 entitled to legally compliant meal and/or rest periods, and minimum, regular and overtime wages for
13 all hours worked. Throughout my employment, I was subject to Defendant’s written policies and
14 procedures.

15 5. Generally, my lawsuit claims that Defendant failed to include non-discretionary
16 incentive compensation when calculating the regular rate of pay when paying overtime wages, meal
17 period premiums, and sick pay, failed to provide compliant meal and rest periods, failed to pay for all
18 hours worked, failed to reimburse for required business expenses, failed to furnish accurate itemized
19 wage statements, and failed to pay all wages when due.

20 6. I believe that my claims are typical of the claims of the Class Members that I am seeking
21 to represent because I was subject to the same alleged unlawful employment policies and practices at
22 issue in this action, including but not limited to, Defendant’s failure to include non-discretionary
23 incentive compensation when calculating the regular rate of pay for purposes of overtime wages, meal
24 period premiums and sick pay, failure to provide complaint meal and rest periods, failure to pay for
25 all hours worked, failure to reimburse for required business expenses, failure to furnish accurate
26 itemized wage statements, and failure to pay all wages when due. Factually, Defendant’s policies and
27

1 practices apply class wide, and Defendant's liability can be determined by facts common to all
2 members of the Class.

3 7. Further, there is no conflict between my interests and the interests of the class that I am
4 seeking to represent. My interests are entirely coextensive with the interests of the Class. I allege that
5 I was injured by the same company-wide policies and practices to which the proposed Class was
6 subjected and seek the same relief. I have already demonstrated my ability to advocate for the interests
7 of the Class by initiating this litigation, undertaking extensive class discovery, and evaluating the
8 proposed settlement to assure that it is fair.

9 8. I understood at the time that I filed this action, that as a Class Representative, I owed a
10 duty to the putative class members to faithfully prosecute this action with their best interests at the
11 forefront of every decision. I understood that I could not make any decision in this action for the sole
12 benefit of my personal interest. I understood that in executing this duty, I might have been asked to
13 sacrifice my personal best interests for the benefit of the interests of the putative class members.
14 Nevertheless, I knowingly and voluntarily undertook this duty in order to provide the broadest possible
15 relief for my former co-workers for what I perceived to be Defendant's unlawful wage and hour
16 practices. I believe that I faithfully executed the duties of a Class Representative throughout this
17 litigation and will continue to do until this litigation is fully and finally resolved.

18 9. I believe that the proposed settlement before the Court is fair, reasonable, and adequate,
19 and made in the best interest of the Settlement Class Members. Consequently, I respectfully, and
20 humbly, I ask the Court to grant preliminary approval of the Settlement and all of its terms.

21 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
22 is true and correct. Executed Jun 26, 2023, at Bakersfield, California.

23
24 By: 
JERMELL JONES