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Attorneys for Plaintiff

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

JEFFREY CESARIO, individually, and on
behalf of other members of the general public
similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HARTWELL CORPORATION, a California
corporation; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 30-2018-00976928-CU-OE-CXC

Honorable Peter J. Wilson
Department CX102

CLASS ACTION

**DECLARATION OF JEFFREY
CESARIO IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

[Notice of Motion and Motion for
Preliminary Approval of Class Action
Settlement; Declaration of Proposed Class
Counsel (Edwin Aiwazian); and [Proposed]
Order filed concurrently herewith]

Date: July 16, 2020
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Department: CX102

Complaint Filed: March 1, 2018
Jury Trial: None Set

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I, **Jeffrey Cesario**, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age and a resident of California. I am the named plaintiff in the above-captioned case. I have personal knowledge of the facts and statements set forth in this declaration, and if called upon to testify, I could and would competently testify thereto.

2. I was employed by Defendant Hartwell Corporation (“Hartwell”) in an hourly-paid, non-exempt position from approximately July 2013 to August 2015. I decided to seek legal advice about my work experiences with Hartwell and about pursuing my grievances. I contacted Lawyers *for* Justice, PC and spoke with attorneys there. I wanted to do whatever I could to make sure Hartwell paid me and other employees what was owed to us and stopped its practice of not properly compensating its employees for all hours worked and non-compliant meal and rest breaks. After speaking with the attorneys, I investigated class action lawsuits on my own and did some research into the leading class action and employment law firms in California for approximately 10 hours. Thereafter, I consulted with the attorneys at Lawyers *for* Justice, PC, including and not limited to, Arby Aiwarzian, for 7 hours discussing my situation, complex wage-and-hour class actions in general, and what it meant to start a class action lawsuit as a named plaintiff.

3. Since becoming involved in this case, I have spent over 27 hours meeting with my attorneys regarding the case and fulfilling my responsibilities as a class representative, which included gathering documents concerning my employment with Hartwell, reviewing documents with my attorneys and answering their questions, answering questions and providing guidance regarding the duties of non-exempt employees, and helping develop a strategy as to what documents and information to obtain from Hartwell. I routinely checked in with my attorneys and their staff to make sure that they had all of my most current information and any additional information that I had obtained.

4. Throughout the case, I was available to answer any questions my attorneys had, and available to speak and meet with my attorneys whenever they needed me. I responded to them as quickly as possible and gave them as much information and identified as many

1 documents as I could. I spent at least 33 additional hours speaking with my attorneys about the
2 case, identifying potential witnesses, providing my attorneys with documents and information
3 concerning the case, and also describing policies, practices, and procedures of Hartwell.

4 5. As far as the settlement is concerned, I was available to review documents and
5 answer any questions my attorneys had. I spent about 5 hours reviewing the settlement
6 agreement and about 4 hours asking questions and discussing the settlement with my attorneys
7 before signing the settlement agreement.

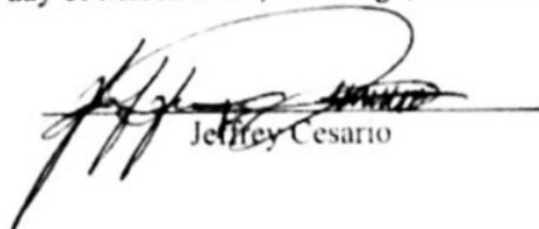
8 6. I believe that I have done everything that my attorneys have asked of me and have
9 tried, to the best of my ability, to represent the class. I think my efforts helped to get the result
10 obtained in this case, and as a class representative, I respectfully request that the Court award me
11 a service payment in the amount of \$12,000 for my active participation in this case. Taking into
12 consideration the time that I have dedicated to this case, I believe that this amount is reasonable.

13 7. I am not related to anyone associated with Lawyers for Justice, PC.

14 8. I have not entered into any undisclosed agreements, nor have I received any
15 undisclosed compensation in this case. The only compensation I will receive is whatever amount
16 the Court awards as a service payment, as well as my share of the settlement fund as a class
17 member.

18 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
19 foregoing is true and correct.

20 Executed this 21 day of March 2020, at Orange, California.

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23 Jeffrey Cesario
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