

Howard L. Magee (State Bar No. 185199)
Larry W. Lee (State Bar No. 228175)
Mai Tulyathan (State Bar No. 316704)
DIVERSITY LAW GROUP, P.C.
515 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1250
Los Angeles, California 90071
(213) 488-6555
(213) 488-6554 facsimile

Attorneys for Plaintiff, the Class, and the Aggrieved Employees

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

SAKHOEUTH “KURT” SAO, individually
and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

AUTOMATED GATE SERVICES, INC., a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through
50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. RIC2001904

[Assigned for all purposes to the Hon. Sunshine
S. Sykes, Dept. 6]

**DECLARATION OF LARRY W. LEE IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF’S MOTION
FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: October 20, 2021
Time: 8:30 A.M.
Dept.: 6

Complaint Filed: June 1, 2020
Trial Date: None Set

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I, Larry W. Lee, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney at law, duly licensed to practice before all Courts in the State of
 nia, and am with the law firm Diversity Law Group, counsel of record for Named
 f Sakhoeuth “Kurt” Sao (“Plaintiff”). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth
 and if called to testify I could and would do so competently.

2. From the inception of the case, Class Counsel has zealously represented the interests of the Class. The Settlement was obtained for the benefit of the Class, as opposed to any individual Class Representative. Further, Class Counsel has been approved as class counsel in a number of prior cases, have litigated numerous other class action cases, and are competent to represent the Class.

3. Based on their own independent investigation and evaluation, the Parties and respective counsel are of the opinion that settlement for the consideration and terms set forth in the Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement (“Stipulation” or “Settlement Agreement”) is fair, reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interests of the Class and consistent with the interests of justice in light of all known facts and circumstances and the expenses and risks inherent in litigation.

4. Based on my review of all the information, and based on my experience in class litigation, I believe this settlement to be fair, adequate, and reasonable.

5. Any remaining monies from uncashed settlement checks will be distributed to Aid at Work. Neither Plaintiff nor Plaintiff's counsel have any relationship with or connection to Legal Aid at Work. I have made reasonable inquiry of attorneys of my law firm and Plaintiff regarding any such relationship with LAAW, and I am not aware of any such relationship between myself, members of my law firm, or Plaintiff.

6. I was retained based upon a contingency fee arrangement wherein Plaintiff's counsel agreed to advance all costs and receive no fee unless a recovery was accomplished. Effectively, had Plaintiff failed to prevail on this case, counsel for Plaintiff would have spent a substantial amount of time, money and other resources without any benefit or return. In

1 addition, had Plaintiff also failed to prevail in the present case, Defendant would have been able
2 to seek attorney's fees and costs in connection with their defense of the case.

3 7. I have spent significant time researching and pursuing the claims that have been
4 alleged in this action.

5 8. I am one of the primary attorneys on this matter. My qualifications are as
6 follows: I received my J.D. from Arizona State University College of Law in 2003. During law
7 school, I was a summer associate at the law firm of Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison. I graduated
8 cum laude from Arizona State University College of Law in the top 10% of my class. While I
9 was in law school, I was the Associate Managing Editor of the Arizona State University College
10 of Law, Law Journal. Upon graduation, I practiced law as an associate at the Los Angeles
11 County offices of Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart, P.C., a national employment
12 defense law firm that represents a significant number of Fortune 500 companies.

13 9. My firm's primary focus is employment law. I have handled a number of wage
14 and hour matters including class actions and multiple-plaintiff actions. I have a practice that
15 encompasses cases in the Los Angeles Superior Court, the Orange County Superior Court, Santa
16 Clara Superior Court, Monterey Superior Court, Sonoma Superior Court, San Francisco County
17 Superior Court, the San Diego County Superior Court, and the United States District Courts for
18 the Central, Eastern, Southern, and Northern Districts of California.

19 10. I have been named as Class Counsel in a number of class actions that have been
20 granted final approval by the Superior Courts of Los Angeles County, Orange County, San
21 Francisco County, and the United States District Court for the Central District of California,
22 including the following Class Actions: *Chan Lanier v. Citigroup, Inc. et al.*, San Francisco
23 Superior Court Case No. CGC-05-445143; *Naqvi v. Acoustic Home Loans et al.*, Orange County
24 Superior Court Case No. 05CC00263; *Ortega v. AIG*, Central District of California Case No.
25 CV 06-0196-RSWL (PJWx); *Universal Protection Overtime Cases*, Orange County Superior
26 Court, Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding No. 4480; and *Hernandez v. CVS Corp. et al.*,
27 Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding No. 4539.

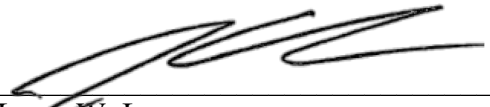
28 11. In addition, I was certified as class counsel by the United States District Court,

1 Central District of California in the cases *Abdullah v. U.S. Security* (Case Number CV 09-09554
2 GHK), *Avilez v. Pinkerton Government Services, Inc.* (Case Number SACV 11-0493-DOC),
3 *Dynabursky v. Allied Barton Security Services* (Case Number SACV 12-02210 JST); and *Pace*
4 *v. Petsmart, Inc.* (Case Number SACV 13-500-DOC); by the Northern District of California in
5 the cases of *Harris v. Vector Marketing Corp.*, (Case Number CV 08 5198 EMC), and *Lemus et*
6 *al. v. H&R Block Enterprises, LLC* (Case Number CV-09-03179-SI); and by the Superior Court
7 of California, Orange County in the cases of *De la Cruz v. Abercrombie & Fitch Co. et al.* (Case
8 Number 30-2007-00036240) and *Wu v. General Nutrition Corporation* (Case Number 30-2012-
9 00593759), all as part of the Courts' orders granting class certification pursuant to Rule 23 of
10 the FRCP and California Code of Civil Procedure § 382. I served as lead counsel on these
11 cases.

12 12. My co-counsel and I will adequately represent the Class Members in this action.
13 Plaintiff's Counsel have and will zealously represent Plaintiff and the Class and pursue this
14 lawsuit to its conclusion.

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

17 Executed on this 27th day of September, 2021, at Los Angeles, California.

18 
19 _____
20 Larry W. Lee