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12 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

13 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

14 MARTINA AVERY, an individual, on
15 behalf of herself, and on behalf of all
16 persons similarly situated,

17 Plaintiff,

18 vs.

19 SLEEP DATA SERVICES LLC, a
20 California Limited Liability Company; and
21 Does 1 through 50, inclusive,

22 Defendants.

Case No.: **37-2020-00032747-CU-OE-CTL**

**DECLARATION OF NORMAN BLUMENTHAL
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL
APPROVAL OF CLASS SETTLEMENT**

Hearing Date: February 17, 2023

Hearing Time: 8:30 a.m.

*[Hearing scheduled by Orders dated June 16, 2022
and November 15, 2022]*

Dept.: C-74

Judge: Hon. Keri Katz

Action Filed: September 17, 2020

Trial Date: Not Set

1 I, NORMAN B. BLUMENTHAL, declare as follows:

2 1. I am the managing partner of the law firm of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De
3 Blouw LLP, counsel of record for Plaintiff Martina Avery ("Plaintiff") in this matter. As such, I am fully
4 familiar with the facts, pleadings and history of this matter. The following facts are within my own
5 personal knowledge, and if called as a witness, I could testify competently to the matters stated herein.
6 This declaration is being submitted in support to the Plaintiff's motion for final approval of the class
7 settlement.

8 2. Over the course of the litigation, a number of attorneys in my firm have worked on this
9 matter. Their credentials are reflected in the Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP firm
10 resume, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit #1. Some of the major cases our
11 firm has undertaken are also set forth in Exhibit #1. The bulk of the attorneys involved in this matter at
12 Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP have had substantial class litigation experience in the
13 areas of employment class actions, unfair business practices and other complex litigation. The attorneys
14 at my firm have extensive experience in cases involving labor code violations and overtime claims. Class
15 Counsel has litigated similar overtime cases against other employers on behalf of employees, including
16 cases against Cigna, Okta, Securitas, See's Candies, HealthNet, El Pollo Loco, Total Renal, Panda
17 Express, Walt Disney Resorts, Pharmaca, Nortek Security, California Fine Wine, Solarcity, Space
18 Exploration, Union Bank, Verizon, Apple, Wells Fargo, Kaiser, Universal Protection Services, and
19 California State Automobile Association. Class Counsel have been approved as experienced class
20 counsel during contested motions in state and federal courts throughout California. It is this level of
21 experience which enabled the firm to undertake the instant matter and to successfully combat the
22 resources of the defendants and their capable and experienced counsel. Class Counsel have participated
23 in every aspect of the settlement discussions and have concluded the settlement is fair, adequate and
24 reasonable and in the best interests of the Class.

25
26 3. Summary of the Proposed Settlement.

27 (a) A true and correct copy of the Class Action Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") between
28

1 the parties is attached hereto as Exhibit #2.¹ Plaintiff and Defendant Sleep Data Services LLC
2 ("Defendant") reached a full and final settlement of the above-captioned action, which is embodied in
3 the Agreement filed concurrently with the Court. As consideration for this Settlement, the Gross
4 Settlement Amount to be paid by Defendant is Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand and Five Hundred
5 Dollars (\$277,500) (Agreement at ¶¶ I(S) and III(B).) Under the Settlement, the Gross Settlement
6 Amount consists of the following elements: (1) Settlement Shares to the Participating Class Members,
7 (2) Settlement Administration Expenses, (3) Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation
8 Expenses Payment, (4) Class Representative Service Payment, and (5) the PAGA Payment, and
9 excluding any employer payroll taxes, if any, due on the portion of the Settlement Shares allocated to
10 wages which shall not be paid from the Gross Settlement and shall be the separate additional obligation
11 of Defendant.. (Agreement at ¶¶ I(S) and III(B).) The Gross Settlement Amount does not include
12 Defendant's share of payroll taxes. (Agreement at ¶¶ I(S) and III(B).) The Gross Settlement Amount
13 shall be all-in with no reversion to Defendant. (Agreement at ¶¶ I(S) and III(B).)

14 (b) Defendant shall fund the Gross Settlement Amount and the amount necessary to pay
15 Defendant's share of payroll taxes within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date. (Agreement at ¶
16 III(F)(9).) Within fifteen (15) days after Defendant funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement
17 Administrator will make payment of all Class Settlement Shares to Participating Class Members.
18 (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(9).)

19 (c) The Net Settlement Amount shall equal the Gross Settlement Amount less the Court approved
20 amounts for the Class Representative Service Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel
21 Litigation Expenses Payment, the PAGA Payment, and the Settlement Administration Expenses.
22 (Agreement at ¶ I(U).) The Net Settlement Amount will be distributed as the Settlement Shares to the
23 Class Members who do not timely request exclusion ("Participating Class Member"). (Agreement at ¶¶
24 III(D)(1).) The Settlement Share will be calculated as follows: (a) the Settlement Administrator shall then
25 divide the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of workweeks to determine a dollar amount per
26 week ("Weekly Rate"); and (b) the Settlement Administrator shall then take the number of weeks worked
27

28 ¹ Capitalized terms are defined in the Agreement.

1 by each Participating Class Member and multiply it by the Weekly Rate to calculate their Settlement
2 Share. (Agreement at ¶ III(D)(2).) Workweeks were based on Defendant's records, however Class
3 Members had the right to challenge the number of workweeks.

4 (d) Class Members were sent the Court approved Class Notice using the procedure approved by
5 the Court by mailing the notice packets after updating class members' addresses using the National
6 Change of Address database and, for any notice packets returned as undeliverable, re-mailing such
7 notices to any forwarding address provided or updated address located. Declaration of Stephen Gomez
8 ("Gomez Decl.") ¶¶ 5-8. Class Members were provided with the opportunity to exclude themselves or
9 "opt out" if they did not want to participate in the settlement. (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(2), Ex. A.) Gomez
10 Decl. ¶ 5, Exh. A. No Class Members submitted a request for exclusion. Gomez Decl. ¶ 13. As a result,
11 all of the Class Members are deemed Participating Class Members who are bound by the Settlement and
12 will be entitled to receive a Settlement Share. (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(3)(c).) All Aggrieved Employees
13 will be sent their share of the PAGA Payment and will be subject to the release of the PAGA Released
14 Claims, whether or not they opt out of the Settlement. (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(3)(c).) The Class Notice
15 also advised Class Members of their right to object to the Settlement and/or dispute their workweeks.
16 (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(3)); Gomez Decl. ¶ 5, Exh. A.)

17 (e) A Participating Class Member must cash his or her Settlement Share check within 180 days
18 after it is mailed. (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(10).) The Settlement Administrator will send a reminder to
19 Participating Class Members who have not cashed their checks within 120 days after its last mailing to
20 the affected individual. (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(10).) Any settlement checks not cashed within 180 days
21 will be voided and any the funds from such uncashed checks will be paid to the California State
22 Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of and for the benefit of the individual who did not
23 cash their check. (Agreement at ¶ III(F)(10).)

24 (f) Simpluris was appointed by the Court as the Settlement Administrator for the Settlement.
25 (Agreement at ¶ III(E).) From the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator shall be paid
26 for the expenses of administering the Settlement in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. (Agreement at ¶
27 III(C)(4).) As set forth in the Gomez Decl. at ¶ 16, the Settlement Administration Expenses, including
28 fees and costs incurred to-date, as well as anticipated fees and costs for completion of the settlement

1 administration, are \$8,250.00.

2 (g) Subject to Court approval, the Agreement provides for Class Counsel to be awarded a sum
3 not to exceed one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, as the Class Counsel Fees Payment.
4 (Agreement at ¶ III(C)(2).) Class Counsel will also be allowed to apply separately for an award of Class
5 Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. (Agreement at ¶ III(C)(2).)
6 Subject to Court approval, the Agreement provides for a payment of no more than \$10,000 to the Plaintiff
7 as the Class Representative Service Payment. (Agreement at ¶ III(C)(1).) In support of this separate
8 motion for attorneys' fees, reimbursement of expenses and service awards, Class Counsel is providing
9 evidentiary support, for these requests, including lodestar.

10 (h) Subject to Court approval, Twenty--Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) will be paid from the
11 Gross Settlement Amount for PAGA penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act, Cal.
12 Labor Code Section 2698, et seq. ("PAGA"). Pursuant to the express requirements of Labor Code §
13 2699(i), the PAGA Payment shall be allocated as follows: 75% (\$18,750) to the LWDA as the LWDA's
14 share of the PAGA Payment pursuant to PAGA and 25% (\$6,250) will be distributed to the Aggrieved
15 Employees based on their respective pay periods worked during the PAGA Period. (Agreement at ¶
16 III(C)(3).) As set forth in the accompanying proof of service, the LWDA has been served with this
17 motion and the Agreement.

18 (i) The Settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable to the class and should be finally approved
19 for the same reasons the Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement, agreeing that the
20 settlement is "fair, adequate and reasonable". (Preliminary Approval Order at ¶3.) In sum, the
21 Settlement valued at \$277,500 is an excellent result for the Class. This result is particularly favorable
22 in light of the fact that liability and class certification in this case were far from certain in light of the
23 defenses asserted by Defendant. Given the complexities of this case, the defenses asserted, the
24 uncertainty of class certification, along with the uncertainties of proof at trial and appeal, the proposed
25 settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and should be finally approved.

26
27 4. Procedural status of the settlement - In accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order
28 dated June 16, 2022 ("Preliminary Approval Order"), the approved Class Notice has been disseminated

1 to the Class. The reaction of the Class unequivocally supports approval of the Settlement. On November
2 18, 2022, the Settlement Administrator mailed the Court-approved Class Notice to the Class Members,
3 which provided each class member with the terms of the Settlement, including notice of the claims at
4 issue and the financial terms of the settlement, including the attorneys' fees, costs, and service award that
5 were being sought, how individual settlement awards would be calculated, and the specific, estimated
6 payment amount to that individual. See Gomez Decl. ¶ 8, Exh. A. In disseminating the notice, the
7 Settlement Administrator followed the notice procedures authorized by the Court in its Preliminary
8 Approval Order. Significantly, there have been no objections and no requests to opt-out. Gomez Decl.
9 ¶¶ 13, 15. As such, 100% of the Class will participate in the Settlement and will be sent a settlement
10 check. See Gomez Decl. at ¶ 13.

11
12 5. Description of Plaintiffs' claims - The Action generally alleges that Plaintiff and other
13 Class Members were not properly paid all minimum and overtime wages for hours worked, were not
14 provided meal and rest periods, were not timely paid earned wages, were not provided accurate itemized
15 wage statements, were not paid all wages at the time of termination. The Action seeks unpaid wages,
16 penalties, attorney fees, litigation costs, and any other equitable or legal relief allegedly due to Plaintiff
17 and the other Class Members by virtue of the foregoing claims.

18
19 6. Procedural History of the Litigation

20 (a) On April 22, 2020, Plaintiff serve a PAGA notice on Defendant and the Labor Workforce
21 Development Agency pursuant to PAGA to identify the alleged violations of the Labor Code by the
22 Defendant.

23 (b) On September 17, 2020, Plaintiff filed a Complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court
24 of the State of California, County of San Diego. Plaintiff asserted claims that Defendant: (1) engaged in
25 unfair competition in violation of Cal. Bus & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.; (2) failed to pay minimum
26 wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197, and 1197.1; (3) failed to pay overtime wages
27 in violation of Cal. Labor Code § 510; (4) failed to provide required meal periods in violation of Cal.
28 Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512; (5) failed to provide required rest periods in violation of Cal. Labor Code

1 §§ 226.7 and 512; (6) failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements in violation of California
2 Labor Code § 226; (7) failed to provide wages at termination in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 201, 202,
3 and 203; (8) wrongful termination in violation on public policy; and (9) violated the the Private Attorney
4 General Act, Cal. Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq. ("PAGA") based upon the alleged violations.

5 (c) On November 13, 2020, Defendant filed a general denial along with 62 affirmative defenses
6 to the Complaint.

7 (d) Over the course of litigation, the Parties engaged in the investigation of the claims, including
8 production of documents, class data, and other information, allowing for the full and complete analysis
9 of liabilities and defenses to the claims in the Action. The information for mediation obtained by
10 Plaintiff included: (1) data showing employees and their employment dates; (2) Payroll information for
11 employees; (3) time punch data for 255 employees; (4) Defendant's employee wage and hour policies;
12 (5) the employment file for the Plaintiff; and, (6) samples of wage statements provided by Defendant.
13 Plaintiff and Defendant agreed to discuss resolution of the Action through a mediation.

14 (e) Prior to mediation, the Parties engaged in the above investigation and the exchange of
15 documents and information in connection with the Action. On June 6, 2021, the Parties participated in
16 an all-day mediation presided over by Hon. Louis Meisinger (Ret.), a respected jurist and experienced
17 mediator of wage and hour class actions. Following the mediation, each side, represented by its
18 respective counsel, were able to agree to settle the Action based on a mediator's proposal which was
19 memorialized in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding. At all times, the negotiations were arm's
20 length and contentious.

21 (f) The Parties continued to negotiate the terms of the settlement and prepared the final
22 Agreement which was signed by the Parties and is now presented to this Court for preliminary approval.
23 Accordingly, for purposes of this Settlement, the "Class" is defined as "all individuals who worked for
24 Defendant in California as non-exempt employees at any time during the Class Period." (Agreement at
25 ¶ I(C).) The Class Period is from April 22, 2019 to September 22, 2021. The Class consists of 299 Class
26 Members who worked 15,587 workweeks. These final figures were verified by Defendant's declaration
27 as required by the Agreement.

28 (g) Class Counsel has conducted a thorough investigation into the facts of the class action. Over

1 the course of more than two years, Class Counsel diligently evaluated the Class Members' claims against
2 Defendant. Prior to the settlement negotiations, counsel for Defendant provided Class Counsel with
3 access to necessary information for the Class. In addition, Class Counsel previously negotiated
4 settlements with other employers in actions involving nearly identical issues and analogous defenses.
5 Based on the foregoing data and their own independent investigation, evaluation and experience, Class
6 Counsel believes that the settlement with Defendant on the terms set forth in the Agreement is fair,
7 reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interest of the Class in light of all known facts and
8 circumstances, including the risk of significant delay, defenses asserted by Defendant, and potential
9 appellate issues.

10
11 7. History of Settlement Discussions

12 (a) This Settlement is the result of extensive and hard-fought litigation as well as negotiations
13 before an experienced and well-respected mediator. Defendant has expressly denied and continues to
14 deny any wrongdoing or legal liability arising out of the conduct alleged in the Action. Plaintiff and
15 Class Counsel have determined that it is desirable and beneficial to the Class to resolve the Released
16 Class Claims in accordance with this Settlement. Class Counsel are experienced and qualified to evaluate
17 the class claims, the viability of the defenses asserted, and the risks and benefits of trial and settlement,
18 and Class Counsel are experienced in wage and hour class actions, as Class Counsel has previously
19 litigated and certified similar claims against other employers.

20 (b) The Parties attended an arms-length mediation session with Hon. Louis Meisinger (Ret.), a
21 respected and experienced mediator of wage and hour class actions, in order to reach this Settlement.
22 In preparation for the mediation, Defendant provided Class Counsel with necessary information for the
23 members of the Class, including time data, payroll data and data concerning the composition of the Class.
24 Class Counsel analyzed the data with the assistance of damages expert, Berger Consulting, and prepared
25 and submitted a mediation brief and damage valuation to the Mediator. At the conclusion of the all-day
26 mediation, the Parties agreed to this Settlement.

27 (c) From September 2021 to February 2022, the settlement agreement and exhibits thereto were
28 finalized and executed. In an Order dated June 3, 2022, the Court issued a tentative ruling granting

1 preliminary approval and identifying modifications to be made to the class notice. On June 9, 2022,
2 Plaintiff filed a revised [Proposed] Preliminary Approval Order applying the modifications requested by
3 the Court. On June 16, 2022, the Court issued its Order granting preliminary approved of the settlement
4 as fair and reasonable to the Class. Due to some data issues, the parties stipulated to continue the final
5 approval hearing date to the current date to allow the notice process to be concluded.

6 (d) Plaintiff and Class Counsel believe that this settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. In
7 my judgment as experienced Class Counsel, this Settlement should be finally approved.

8
9 8. The outcome of this case would have been uncertain and fraught with risks.

10 (a) Here, a number of defenses asserted by Defendant present serious threats to the claims of the
11 Plaintiff and the other Class Members, including that there would be no class without settlement given
12 that the Plaintiff and the Class Members signed arbitration agreements. Defendant also asserted that
13 Defendant's practices complied with all applicable Labor laws. Defendant argued that all work time was
14 paid for and that the regular rate was properly calculated. Defendant contended that their meal and rest
15 period policies fully complied with California law and that although Defendant's timekeeping system
16 recorded meal periods, all meal periods were provided. Further, Defendant argued that Defendant was
17 not required to record rest periods. Finally, Defendant could argue that the Supreme Court decision in
18 *Brinker v. Superior Court*, 53 Cal. 4th 1004 (2012), weakened Plaintiff's claims, on liability, value, and
19 class certifiability as to the meal and rest period claims. Defendant also argues that based on their
20 facially lawful practices, they acted in good faith and without willfulness, which if accepted would negate
21 the claims for waiting time penalties and/or inaccurate wage statements. In fact, under the current state
22 of the law, it is questionable whether these penalties could be awarded at all based upon the alleged meal
23 and rest period violations. If successful, Defendant's defenses could eliminate or substantially reduce
24 any recovery to the Class. While Plaintiff believes that these defenses could be overcome, Defendant
25 maintains these defenses have merit and therefore present a serious risk to recovery by the Class.

26 (b) There was also a significant risk that, if the Action was not settled, Plaintiff would be unable
27 to move for class certification given the existence of an arbitration agreement and thereby not recover
28 on behalf of any employees other than herself. Even if Plaintiff could move for class certification,

1 Defendant argued that the individual experience of each putative class member varied with respect to the
2 claims. Defendant could also contest class certification by arguing injury and good faith were case by
3 case determinations that precluded class certification. Plaintiff is aware of cases where class certification
4 of similar claims was denied. *See e.g. Cacho v. Eurostar, Inc.*, 43 Cal. App. 5th 885, 256 Cal. Rptr. 3d
5 547 (2019) (denying certification of meal and rest break claims). Defendant also contended that
6 individual differences in work experiences not only impacted damages but would also impact
7 certification. Finally, even if class certification was successful, as demonstrated by the California
8 Supreme Court decision in *Duran v. U.S. Bank National Assn.*, 59 Cal. 4th 1 (2014), there are significant
9 hurdles to overcome for a class wide recovery even where the class has been certified. While other cases
10 have approved class certification in wage and hour claims, class certification in this action would have
11 been hotly disputed and was by no means a foregone conclusion.

12 (c) As demonstrated by the decision in *Duran*, the complexities and duration of further litigation
13 cannot be overstated. There is little doubt that Defendant would post a bond and appeal in the event of
14 an adverse judgment. A post-judgment appeal by Defendant would have required many more years to
15 resolve, assuming the judgment was affirmed. If the judgment was not affirmed in total, then the case
16 could have dragged on for years after the appeal. The benefits of a guaranteed recovery today outweigh
17 an uncertain result three or more years in the future. Plaintiff and Class Counsel recognize the expense
18 and length of a trial against Defendant through possible appeals which could take at least another two
19 or three years. Class Counsel also have taken into account the uncertain outcome, the risk of litigation,
20 especially in complex actions such as this one. Class Counsel are also mindful of and recognize the
21 inherent problems of proof under, and alleged defenses to, the claims asserted in the Action. Moreover,
22 post-trial motions and appeals would have been inevitable. Costs would have mounted and recovery
23 would have been delayed if not denied, thereby reducing the benefits of an ultimate victory. Plaintiff and
24 Class Counsel believe that the Settlement confers substantial benefits upon the Class. Based upon their
25 evaluation, Plaintiff and Class Counsel have determined that the Settlement set forth in the Agreement
26 is in the best interest of the Class.

27 (d) The calculations to compensate for the amount due to the Class Members at the time this
28 Settlement was negotiated were calculated by Plaintiff's expert, Berger Consulting, in advance of

1 mediation. For the individuals whose claims are at issue in this Actions, Plaintiff analyzed the data for
2 putative class members and determined the potential maximum damages for the class claims. For the
3 Class, Plaintiff determined that the unpaid wages due to the alleged failure to pay overtime wages based
4 on the regular rate miscalculation to be \$46,785, maximum potential off-the-clock damages to be
5 \$308,114, maximum potential rest period damages were estimated to be \$366,663, maximum meal
6 period damages at a 25% violation rate were estimated to be \$364,453, and the maximum damages for
7 unreimbursed expenses were estimated to be \$228,200 at a rate of \$200 of unreimbursed expenses
8 incurred each month. In total, the damages for the Class were calculated to have a maximum total value
9 of \$1,314,215. In addition, Plaintiff calculated that the maximum value of the waiting time penalties
10 were \$683,950 and the maximum value of the wage statement penalties to be \$428,100, however, these
11 wage statement and waiting time penalties claims potentially have a much smaller value, even if damages
12 were awarded, to the extent that they are only derivative of the meal and rest break claims.²
13 Consequently, the Gross Settlement Amount represents more than 21% of the value of the potential
14 maximum damages at issue for the Class in this case, assuming these amounts could all be proven in full
15 at trial.³ The above maximum calculations should then be adjusted in consideration for both the risk of
16 certification and the risk of establishing class-wide liability on all claims. Given the amount of the
17 Settlement as compared to the potential value of the claims, the Settlement is most certainly fair and
18

19 ² Importantly, while Plaintiffs alleged claims for statutory penalties pursuant to Labor Code
20 Sections 203 and 226, at mediation Plaintiffs recognized that these claims were subject to various
21 defenses asserted by Defendant, including, but not limited to, a good faith dispute defense as to whether
22 any premium wages for meal or rest periods or other wages were owed given Defendant's position that
23 Plaintiffs were properly compensated. *See Nordstrom Commission Cases*, 186 Cal. App. 4th 576, 584
24 (2010) ("There is no willful failure to pay wages if the employer and employee have a good faith
25 dispute as to whether and when the wages were due."). Additionally, at the time of mediation Courts
26 had held that violations of the meal and rest period regulations, which require payment of a "premium
27 wage" for each improper meal period, do **not** give rise to claims under sections 203 and 226. *See Ling*
28 *v. P.F. Chang's China Bisto, Inc.*, 245 Cal. App. 4th 1242, 1261 (2016) and *Maldonado v. Epsilon*
Plastics, Inc., 22 Cal. App. 5th 1308, 1336 (2018). As a result, the viability of Plaintiffs' claims on
these theories was uncertain.

³ Because the PAGA claim does not provide a recovery to the Class, Plaintiffs have not included
the PAGA claim in this discussion. The PAGA claim was addressed in Motion for Preliminary
Approval in the Declaration of Nordrehaug at ¶33.

1 reasonable. Even greater detail as to the valuation of the class claims was presented in the declarations
2 submitted in support of preliminary approval.

3 (e) In sum, the Settlement is a fair and reasonable result, and provides the Class with a significant
4 recovery, particularly when viewed in light of the fact that the Defendant asserted serious and substantial
5 defenses both to liability and to class certification. Currently, the maximum and average class member
6 allocation are \$1,279.13 and \$454.28, respectively. See Gomez Decl. ¶11. Given the complexities of this
7 case, the defenses, along with the uncertainties of proof and appeal, the proposed Settlement is fair,
8 reasonable and adequate, and should be finally approved.

9 (f) It is impossible to predict with certainty whether, under the facts of this case, Plaintiff would
10 prevail against the Defendant's factual and legal defenses. While Plaintiff and Class Counsel believe in
11 the merits of the claims, Defendant has asserted real and substantial defenses to these claims and to class
12 certification. Settlement in this case clearly benefits the Class when measuring the strengths of Plaintiff's
13 case and the risk of establishing class wide liability and damages.

14
15 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
16 true and correct. Executed this 25th day of January 2023, at San Diego, California.

17
18 /s/ Norman Blumenthal
19 NORMAN B. BLUMENTHAL
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FIRM RESUME

Areas of Practice: Employee, Consumer and Securities Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions, Civil Litigation, Business Litigation.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHIES

Norman B. Blumenthal

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Consumer and Securities Class Action, Civil Litigation, Wage and Hour Class Actions, Transactional Law

Admitted: 1973, Illinois; 1976, California

Biography: Law Clerk to Justice Thomas J. Moran, Illinois Supreme Court, 1973-1975, while on Illinois Court of Appeals. Instructor, Oil and Gas Law: California Western School of Law, 1981; University of San Diego School of Law, 1983. Sole Practitioner 1976-1987. Partner, Blumenthal & Ostroff, 1988-1995. Partner, Blumenthal, Ostroff & Markham, 1995-2001. Partner, Blumenthal & Markham, 2001-2007. Partner, Blumenthal & Nordrehaug, 2007. Partner, Blumenthal, Nordrehaug & Bhowmik, 2008-2018. Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP, 2018 - present.

Member: San Diego County, Illinois State and American Bar Associations; State Bar of California.

Educated: University of Wisconsin (B.A., 1970); Loyola University of Chicago (J.D., 1973);

Summer Intern (1971) with Harvard Voluntary Defenders

Kyle R. Nordrehaug

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Consumer and Securities Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions, Civil Litigation

Admitted: 1999, California

Biography: Associate, Blumenthal, Ostroff & Markham, 1999-2001. Associate, Blumenthal & Markham, 2001-2007. Partner, Blumenthal & Nordrehaug, 2007. Partner, Blumenthal, Nordrehaug & Bhowmik, 2008-2017

Member: State Bar of California, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Third Circuit Court of Appeals

Educated: University of California at Berkeley (B.A., 1994); University of San Diego School of Law (J.D. 1999)

Awards: Top Labor & Employment Attorney 2016; Top Appellate Reversal - Daily Journal 2015; Super Lawyer 2015-2018

Aparajit Bhowmik

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2006, California

Educated: University of California at San Diego (B.A., 2002); University of San Diego School of Law (J.D. 2006)

Biography: Partner, Blumenthal, Nordrehaug & Bhowmik, 2008-2017

Awards: Rising Star 2015

Nicholas J. De Blouw

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2011, California

Educated: Wayne State University (B.A. 2008); California Western School of Law (J.D. 2011)

Piya Mukherjee

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2010, California

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Victoria Rivapalacio

Associate Attorney

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Admitted: 2011, California

Educated: University of California at San Diego (B.A., 2003); George Washington University Law School (J.D. 2010)

Ricardo Ehmann

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Admitted: 2018, California; 2004, Nevada

Educated: University of California, San Diego (B.A. 1998); Loyola Law School (J.D. 2001)

Jeffrey S. Herman

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2011, California; 2016 Arizona

Educated: University of Michigan (B.A. 2008); California Western School of Law (J.D. 2011)

Charlotte James

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2016, California

Educated: San Diego State University; California Western School of Law

Christine Levu

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2012, California

Educated: University of California, Irvine; California Western School of Law

Andrew Ronan

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2016, California

Educated: Arizona State University; University of San Diego School of Law

Scott Blumenthal

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2020, New Mexico

Educated: University of Southern California; California Western School of Law

REPORTED CASES

Sakkab v. Luxottica Retail N. Am., Inc., 803 F.3d 425 (9th Cir. 2015) (The panel reversed the district court's order granting Luxottica Retail North America, Inc.'s motion to compel arbitration of claims and dismissing plaintiff's first amended complaint, in a putative class action raising class employment-related claims and a non-class representative claim for civil penalties under the Private Attorney General Act.);

Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. v. Superior Court, 234 Cal. App. 4th 1109 (Cal. Feb. 27, 2015) (Court of Appeal concluded the trial court correctly ruled that *Iskanian* rendered the PAGA waiver within the parties' dispute resolution agreement unenforceable. However, the Court of Appeal then ruled the trial court erred by failing to invalidate the non-severable class action waiver from the agreement and remanded the entire complaint, including class action and PAGA claims, be litigated in the Superior Court);

Sussex v. United States Dist. Court for the Dist. of Nev., 781 F.3d 1065 (9th Cir. 2015) (The panel determined that the district court clearly erred in holding that its decision to intervene mid-arbitration was justified under *Aerojet-General*. Specifically, the panel held that the district court erred in predicting that an award issued by the arbitrator would likely be vacated because of his "evident partiality" under 9 U.S.C. § 10(a)(2).);

Provost v. YourMechanic, Inc., 2020 Cal. App. Lexis 955 (Oct. 15, 2020) (Court of Appeals affirmed denial of arbitration of PAGA claim, and held in a case of first impression, that there was no additional standing rules for PAGA claim brought by independent contractor);

In re Tobacco Cases II, 41 Cal. 4th 1257 (2007); Washington Mutual Bank v. Superior Court, 24 Cal. 4th 906 (2001); Rocker v. KPMG LLP, 148 P.3d 703; 122 Nev. 1185 (2006); PCO, Inc. v. Christensen, Miller, Fink, Jacobs, Glaser, Weil & Shapiro, LLP, 150 Cal. App. 4th 384 (2007); Hall v. County of Los Angeles, 148 Cal. App. 4th 318 (2007); Coshov v. City of Escondido, 132 Cal. App. 4th 687 (2005); Daniels v. Philip Morris, 18 F.Supp 2d 1110 (S.D. Cal.1998); Gibson v. World Savings & Loan Asso., 103 Cal. App. 4th 1291 (2003); Jordan v. Department of Motor Vehicles, 75 Cal. App. 4th 445 (1999); Jordan v. Department of Motor Vehicles, 100 Cal.App. 4th 431 (2002); Norwest Mortgage, Inc. v. Superior Court, 72 Cal.App.4th 214 (1999); Hildago v. Diversified Transp. Sya, 1998 U.S. App. LEXIS 3207 (9th Cir. 1998); Kensington Capital Mgal. v. Oakley, Inc., 1999 U.S. Dist LEXIS 385; Fed.Sec.L.Rep. (CCH) P90, 411 (1999 C.D. Cal.); Lister v. Oakley, Inc., 1999 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 384; Fed. Sec. L. Rep. (CCH) P90,409 (C.D Cal. 1999); Olszewski v. Scripps Health, 30 Cal. 4th 798 (2003); Steroid Hormone Product Cases, 181 Cal. App. 4th 145 (2010); Owen v. Macy's, Inc., 175 Cal. App. 4th 462 (2009); Taiheiyo Cement Corp. v. Superior Court, 117 Cal. App. 4th 380 (2004); Taiheiyo Cement Corp. v. Superior Court, 105 Cal.App. 4th 398 (2003); McMeans v. Scripps Health, Inc., 100 Cal. App. 4th 507 (2002); Ramos v. Countrywide Home Loans, 82 Cal.App. 4th 615 (2000); Tevssier v. City of San Diego, 81 Cal.App. 4th 685 (2000); Washington Mutual Bank v. Superior Court, 70 Cal. App. 4th 299 (1999); Silvas v. E*Trade Mortg. Corp., 514 F.3d 1001 (9th Cir. 2008); Silvas v. E*Trade Mortg. Corp., 421 F. Supp. 2d 1315 (S.D. Cal. 2006); McPhail v. First Command Fin. Planning, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 26544 (S.D. Cal. 2009); McPhail v. First Command Fin. Planning, Inc., 251 F.R.D. 514 (S.D. Cal. 2008); McPhail v. First Command Fin. Planning, Inc., 247 F.R.D. 598 (S.D. Cal. 2007); Barcia v. Contain-A-Way, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17118 (S.D. Cal. 2009); Barcia v. Contain-A-Way, Inc., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27365 (S.D. Cal. 2008); Wise v. Cubic Def. Applications, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11225 (S.D. Cal. 2009); Gabisan v. Pelican Prods., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 1391

(S.D. Cal. 2009); La Jolla Friends of the Seals v. Nat'l Oceanic & Atmospheric Admin. Nat'l Marine Fisheries Serv., 630 F. Supp. 2d 1222 (S.D. Cal. 2009); La Jolla Friends of the Seals v. Nat'l Oceanic & Atmospheric Admin. Nat'l Marine Fisheries Serv., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 102380 (S.D. Cal. 2008); Louie v. Kaiser Found. Health Plan, Inc., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78314 (S.D. Cal. 2008); Weltman v. Ortho Mattress, Inc., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20521 (S.D. Cal. 2010); Weltman v. Ortho Mattress, Inc., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 60344 (S.D. Cal. 2008); Curry v. CTB McGraw-Hill, LLC, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 5920; 97 A.F.T.R.2d (RIA) 1888; 37 Employee Benefits Cas. (BNA) 2390 (N.D. Cal. 2006); Reynov v. ADP Claims Servs. Group, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94332 (N.D. Cal. 2006); Kennedy v. Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc., 2010 U.S. App. LEXIS 248 (9th Cir. 2010); Kennedy v. Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38889 (S.D. Cal. 2008); Kennedy v. Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc., 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 57766 (S.D. Cal. 2007); Sussex v. Turnberry/MGM Grand Towers, LLC, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 29503 (D. Nev. 2009); Picus v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., 256 F.R.D. 651 (D. Nev. 2009); Tull v. Stewart Title of Cal., Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14171 (S.D. Cal. 2009); Keshishzadeh v. Gallagher, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46805 (S.D. Cal. 2010); Keshishzadeh v. Arthur J. Gallagher Serv. Co., 2010 U.S. Dist. Lexis 116380 (S.D. Cal. 2010); In re Pet Food Prods. Liab. Litig., MDL Docket No. 1850 (All Cases), 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94603 (D.N.J. 2008); In re Pet Food Prods. Liab. Litig., 629 F.3d 333 (3rd Cir. 2010); Puentes v. Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., 160 Cal. App. 4th 638 (2008); Rezec v. Sony Pictures Entertainment, Inc., 116 Cal. App. 4th 135 (2004); Badillo v. Am. Tobacco Co., 202 F.R.D. 261 (D. Nev. 2001); La Jolla Friends of the Seals v. Nat'l Oceanic & Atmospheric Admin., 2010 U.S. App. Lexis 23025 (9th Cir. 2010); Dirienzo v. Dunbar Armored, Inc., 2011 U.S. Dist. Lexis 36650 (S.D. Cal. 2011); Rix v. Lockheed Martin Corp., 2011 U.S. Dist Lexis 25422 (S.D. Cal. 2011); Weitzke v. Costar Realty Info., Inc., 2011 U.S. Dist Lexis 20605 (S.D. Cal. 2011); Goodman v. Platinum Condo. Dev., LLC, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 36044 (D. Nev. 2011); Sussex v. Turnberry/MGM Grand Towers, LLC, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14502 (D. Nev. 2011); Smith v. Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Inc., 2010 U.S. Dist. Lexis 117869 (S.D. Cal. 2010); Dobrosky v. Arthur J. Gallagher Serv. Co., LLC, No. EDCV 13-0646 JGB (SPx), 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106345 (C.D. Cal. July 30, 2014); Metrow v. Liberty Mut. Managed Care LLC - Class Certification Granted, Metrow v. Liberty Mut. Managed Care LLC, No. EDCV 16-1133 JGB (KKx), 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 73656 (C.D. Cal. May 1, 2017); Nelson v. Avon Products, Inc., Class Certification Granted, U.S. District Court for The Northern District of California, Case No. 13-cv-02276-BLF, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 51104 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 17, 2015); Orozco v. Illinois Tool Works Inc., Class Certification Granted, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 23179 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 16, 2017); Rieve v. Coventry Health Care, Summary Judgment *Sua Sponte* Granted for Plaintiff, Rieve v. Coventry Health Care, Inc., 870 F. Supp. 2d 856 (C.D. Cal. 2012)

CLASS ACTION & REPRESENTATIVE CASES

4G Wireless Wage Cases, Orange County Superior Court, JCCP No. 4736; Classic Party Rentals Wage & Hour Cases, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. JCCP No. 4672; Abu-Arafeh v. Norco Delivery Service, Inc., San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-14-540601; Aburto v. Verizon, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 11-cv-0088; Adkins v. Washington Mutual Bank, Class Certification Granted, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC819546; Agah v. CompUSA, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. SA CV05-1087 DOC (Anx); Akers v. The San Diego Union Tribune, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No 37-2010-00088571; Altman v. SolarCity Corporation, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00023450-CU-OE-CTL; Aquino v. Macy's West Stores, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2010-00395420; Baker v. Advanced Disability Management, Inc., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2014-00160711; Barcia v. Contain-A-Way, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 07 cv 0938; Bates v. Verengo, Inc., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2012-00619985-CU-OE-CXC; Battle v. Charming Charlie Inc., San Diego

County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00005608; Behar v. Union Bank, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2009-00317275; Bell v. John Stewart Company, Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG14728792; Bennett v. Custom Built Personal Training, Monterey County Superior Court, Case No. M127596; Bermant v. Bank of America, Investment Services, Inc., Los Angeles Superior Court, Civil Action No. BC342505; Bethley v. Raytheon Company, United States District Court, Central District of California, Case No. SACV10-01741; Betorina v. Randstad US, L.P., U.S. District Court Northern District of California, Case No. 3:15-cv-03646-MEJ; Beverage v. Edcoa Inc., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 2013-00138279; Bova v. Washington Mutual Bank / JP Morgan Chase, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 07-cv-2410; Bowden v. Sunset Parking Services, LLC & LAZ Parking California, LLC - Settled San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2012-00101751-CU-OE-CTL; Briseno v. American Savings Bank, Class Certification Granted, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 774773; Brueske v. Welk Resorts, San Diego Superior Court, Case No 37-2010-00086460; Bueche v. Fidelity National Management Services, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 13-cv-01114; Bunch v. Pinnacle Travel Services, LLC, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC552048; Butler v. Stericycle, Inc & Appletree Answering Services of California, Inc., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2015-00180282; Cabral v. Creative Communication Tech., Class Certification Granted, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC402239; Cardoza v. Wal-Mart Associates, Inc., U.S. District Court Northern District of California, Case No. 4:15-cv-01634-DMR; Castro v. Vivint Solar, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00031385-CU-OE-CTL; Cavazos v. Heartland Automotive Services, Inc., Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. PSC 1401759; Cohen v. Bosch Tool, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. GIC 853562; Comstock v. Washington Mutual Bank - Class Certification Granted, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC820803; Conley v. Norwest, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. N73741; Connell v. Sun Microsystems, Alameda Superior Court, Case No. RG06252310; Corrente v. Luxe Valet, Inc., San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-15-545961; Cruz v. Redfin Corporation, U.S. District Court Northern District of California, Case No. 3:14-cv-05234-THE; Culley v. Lincare Inc. & Alpha Respiratory Inc., U.S. District Court eastern District of California, Case No. 2:15-cv-00081-GEB-CMK; Cunningham v. Leslie's Poolmart, Inc., U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 13-cv-02122-CAS; Curry v. California Testing Bureau/McGraw Hill, U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. C-05-4003 JW; Daniels, et al. v. Philip Morris,(In Re Tobacco Cases II) – Class Certification Granted, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. JCCP 4042; Davis v. Genex Holdings Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 1-13-cv-240830; Davis v. Clear Connection, LLC, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00035173-CU-OE-CTL; Day v. WDC Exploration, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2010-00433770; Dedrick v. Hollandia Dairy, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00004311-Cu-OE-CTL; Delmare v. Sungard Higher Education - Settled U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 07-cv-1801; Del Rio v. Tumi Stores, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2015-00022008-CU-OE-CTL; Dewane v. Prudential, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. SA CV 05-1031; Diesel v. Wells Fargo Bank, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2011-00441368; Dirienzo v. Dunbar Armored, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 09-cv-2745; Dobrosky v. Arthur J. Gallagher Service Company, LLC, Class certification Granted, No. EDCV 13-0646 JGB (Spx); Dodds v. Zaven Tootikian, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC494402; Drumheller v. Radioshack Corporation, United States District Court, Central District of California, Case No. SACV11-355; Enger v. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 09-cv-1670; Escobar v. Silicon Valley Security & Patrol, Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 1-14-cv272514; Fierro v. Chase Manhattan - Class Certification Granted, Settled San Diego Superior Court, Case No. GIN033490; Figueroa v. Circle K Stores, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2012-00101193-CU-OE-CTL; Finch v. Lamps Plus, (Lamps Plus Credit Transaction Cases), San Diego Superior Court, Case No. JCCP 4532; Fletcher v. Verizon, U.S. District Court, Southern

District of California, Case No. 09-cv-1736; Francisco v. Diebold, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 09-cv-1889; Friend v. Wellpoint, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC345147; Frudakis v. Merck Sharp & Dohme, U.S. District Court, Central District California, Case No. SACV 11-00146; Fulcher v. Olan Mills, Inc., U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 11-cv-1821; Gabisan v. Pelican Products, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 08 cv 1361; Galindo v. Sunrun Installation Services Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2015-00008350-CU-OE-CTL; Gallagher v. Legacy Partners Commercial, Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 112-cv-221688; Ghattas v. Footlocker Retail, Inc., U.S. District Court Central District of California, Case No. CV 13-0001678 PA; Gibson v. World Savings, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 762321; Goerzen v. Interstate Realty Management, Co., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. 679545; Gomez v. Enterprise Rent-A-Car, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 3:10-cv-02373; Gordon v. Wells Fargo Bank, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 3:11-cv-00090; Grabowski v. CH Robinson, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 10-cv-1658; Gross v. ACS Compiq Corporation, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2012-00587846-CU-OE-CXC; Gripenstraw v. Buffalo Wild Wings, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 12-CV-00233; Gruender v. First American Title, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 06 CC 00197; Guillen v. Univision Television Group, Inc. & Univision Management Co., San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-12-526445; Gujjar v. Consultancy Services Limited, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2010-00365905; Gutierrez v. Five Guys Operations, LLC, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2012-00086185-CU-OE-CTL; Handler v. Oppenheimer, Los Angeles Superior Court, Civil Action No. BC343542; Harley v. Tavistock Freebirds, LLC, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2014-00173010; Harrington v. Corinthian Colleges – Class Certification Granted, Orange Superior Court; United States Bankruptcy Court District of Delaware; Harvey v. PQ Operations, Inc., Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC497964; Henshaw v. Home Depot U.S.A., United States District Court, Central District of California, Case No. SACV10-01392; Heithold v. United Education Institute, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2013-00623416-CU-OE-CXC; Hibler v. Coca Cola Bottling, Settled U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 11cv0298; Hildebrandt v. TWC Administration LLC & Time Warner NY Cable, LLC, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. ED-cv-13-02276-JGB; Hopkins v. BCI Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Los Angeles, United states District Court, Central District of California; U.S. Court of Appeals 9th Circuit; Howard v. Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC586369; Hughes v. Parexel International, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC485950; Hurley v. Comcast of California/Colorado/Texas/Washington, Inc., Sonoma County Superior Court, Case No. SCV-253801; Irving v. Solarcity Corporation, San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. CIV525975; Jacobs v. Nu Horizons - Settled Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 111cv194797; Jefferson v. Bottling Group LLC (Pepsi) - Class Certification Granted, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2009-0018010; Jones v. E*Trade Mortgage, U.S. District Court, Southern District California Case No. 02-CV-1123 L (JAH); Kennedy v. Natural Balance - Dismissal Reversed on Appeal, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2007-00066201; Keshishzadeh v. Arthur J. Gallagher Service Co., U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 09-cv-0168; Kinney v. AIG Domestic Claims / Chartis, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 8:10-cv-00399; Kizer v. Tristar Risk Management, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2014-00707394-CU-OE-CXC; Kleinberg v. Reeve Trucking Company, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2015-00001601-CU-OE-CTL; Kove v. Old Republic Title, Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG09477437; Krellcom v. Medley Communications, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2013-00050245-CU-OE-CTL; Ladd v. Extreme Recovery, LP, Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC11-02790; Langille v. EMC, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 09-cv-0168; Lawson v. Marquee Staffing, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2012-00103717-

CU-OE-CTL; Lazar v. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 1-14-cv-273289; Lemmons v. Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Inc., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2012-00125488; Levine v. Groeniger, Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG09476193; Linder v. OCWEN (In re Ocwen Federal Bank FSB Servicing Litig.) U.S. District Court, Central District California, Case No. 07cv501, U.S. District Court, Northern Dist. Illinois, Case No. MDL 1604; Litton v. Diebold, Incorporated, San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. CIV524776; Lohn v. Sodexo, Inc. & SDH Services West, LLC, U.S. District Court Central District of California, Case No. 2:15-CV-05409; Lopez v. K-Mart, Ventura County Superior Court, Case No. BC351983; Louie / Stringer v. Kaiser, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 08-cv-0795; Lucero v. Sears, U.S. District Court Southern District of California, Case No. 3:14-cv-01620-AJB; Lucero v. Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2013-00075933-CU-OE-CTL; Magallanes v. TSA Stores, Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 1-15-cv-283586; Magana v. El Pollo Loco, Inc., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2012-00613901-CU-OE-CXC; Maitland v. Marriott, U.S. District Court, Central District California, Case No. SACV 10-00374; Mann v. NEC Electronics America, Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 109CV132089; Martinez v. Hydro-Scape Products, Inc., San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00029157-CU-OE-CTL; Mathies v. Union Bank - Class Certification Granted, San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-10-498077; McDermott v. Catalina Restaurant Group Inc., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2012-00574113-CU-OE-CXC; McPhail v. First Command, United States District Court for the Southern District of California, Case No. 05CV0179 IEG (JMA); Medina v. Universal Protection Service, LP, Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. BC572848; Meierdiercks v. 8x8, Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 110CV162413; Metrow v. Liberty Mut. Managed Care LLC - Class Certification Granted, U.S. District Court Eastern District of California, Case No. 16-1133 JGB (Kkx); Meyer v. Thinktank Learning, Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 1-15-cv-282698; Morales v. Wells Fargo Insurance Services USA, Inc., U.S. District Court Northern District of California, Case No. 3:13-cv-03867-EDL; Morse v. Marie Callender Pie Shop, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 09-cv-1305; Moynihan v. Escalante Golf, Inc. & Troon Golf, LLC, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2012-00083250-CU-OE-CTL; Muntz v. Lowe's HIW, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC880932; Najarian v. Macy's West Stores, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2010-00418401; Nelson v. Avon Products, Inc., Class Certification Granted, U.S. District Court for The Northern District of California, Case No. 13-cv-02276-BLF; Nguyen v. Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 05 CC 00116; Ochoa v. Eisai, Inc., U.S. District Court, Northern District California, Case No. 3:11-cv-01349; Ogans v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2012-00121054; Ohayon v. Hertz, United States District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 11-1662; Olvera v. El Pollo Loco, Inc., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2014-00707367-CU-OE-CXC; Orozco v. Illinois Tool Works Inc., Class Certification Granted, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 14-cv-02113-MCE; Ortega v. Prime Healthcare Paradise Valley, LLC, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2014-00011240-CU-OE-CTL; Patel v. Nike Retail Services, Inc., U.S. District Court Northern District of California, Case No. 3:14-cv-04781-RS; Patelski v. The Boeing Company, United States District Court, Southern District of New York; transferred to United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri; Pearlman v. Bank of America, San Diego Superior Court; Perry v. AT&T, U.S. District Court, Northern District California, Case No. 11-cv 01488; Picus v. Wal-Mart Stores, U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, Case No. 2:07-CV-00682; Pittard v. Salus Homecare, U.S. District Court, Southern District California, Case No. 08 cv 1398; Port v. Southern California Permanente Medical Group, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2007-00067538; Postema v. Lawyers Title Ins. Corp., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2010-00418901; Pratt v. Verizon, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2010-00430447; Proctor v. Ameriquest, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 06CC00108; Ramirez v. Estenson Logistics, LLC, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2015-00803197-CU-OE-CXC; Ray

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Division, Case No. 16-CV-00906-DB; Mrazik v. C.H. Robinson Company – U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 12-CV-02067-CAS-PLA; Horn v. Rise Medical Staffing, LLC – U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 2:17-cv-01967-MCE-KJN; Pasallo v. GSG Protective Services CA Inc. – San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00037611-CU-OE-CTL; Smith v. Pacific Personnel Services, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 17-cv-03594-SK; Terrado v. Accredited Debt Relief, LLC – San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00014181-CU-OE-CTL; Escobedo v. Pacific Western Bank – Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC682686; Wade v. Automobile Club of Southern California – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2017-00960268-CU-OE-CXC; Montano v. American Automobile Association of Northern California – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. CIVMSC18-01539; Perez v. Summit Interconnect, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2018-00995403-CU-OE-CXC; Wolleson v. Gosch Imports, Inc. – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC170356; Banuelos v. Ortho Mattress, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01161304-CU-OE-CXC; Castellanos v. Miller Automotive Group, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC699211; Tressler v. Spoonful Management, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC71940; Delph v. Employee Retention Services, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00007885; Romero v. May Trucking Company – U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 5:17-cv-02166-JGB-SHK; Miranda v. Genex Services, LLC – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1700779; Moore v. Zirx Transportation Services, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-566655; Sottile v. Motion Recruitment Partners – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 18CV321677; Shahbazian v. Fast Auto Loans, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 2:18-cv-03076-ODW-KS; Salazar v. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC702468; Conti v. L’Oreal USA S/D, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Fresno, Case No. 1:19-CV-00769-LJO-SKO; Mercado v. Security Industry Specialists, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 17CV320059; Vikili v. Dignity Health – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-569456; Bagby v. Swissport SA, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC691058; Henry v. Motion Entertainment Group, LLC – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC18565643; Dandoy v. West Coast Convenience, LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG20051121; Lanuza v. AccentCare, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-565521; Thomas v. Easy Driving School, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00047639-CU-OE-CTL; Erickson v. Erickson – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC18-00307; Martin v. Menzies Aviation (USA) Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-566072; Mortimer v. Healthsouth Bakersfield Rehabilitation Hospital, LLC – Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-18-102761; Alcaraz v. Red Lion Hotels Corporation – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-570310; Calhoun v. Total Transportation and Distribution, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00058681-CU-OE-CTL; Rataul v. Overton Security Services, Inc. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG18891882; Beltran v. Compass Bank – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00024475-CU-OE-CTL; Kirshner v. Touchstone Golf, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00028865-CU-OE-CTL; Pizarro v. The Home Depot, Inc. – U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia-Atlanta Division; Hatanaka v. Restore Rehabilitation, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00034780-CU-OE-CTL; Faria v. Carriage Funeral Holdings, Inc. – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC18-00606; Ontiveros v. Baker Concrete Construction, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 18CV328679; Morales v. Redlands Automotive Services, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1807525; Ramirez v. Carefusion Resources, LLC – U.S. District Court, Southern District of California; Amster v. Starbucks Corporation – San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1922016; Kutzman v. Derrel’s Mini Storage, Inc. – U.S. District, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:18-cv-00755-AWI-JLT; Marks v. Universal Propulsion Company, Inc. – Solano County Superior Court, Case No. FCS051608; Martinez v. Geil Enterprises,

Inc. – Fresno County Superior Court, Case No. 17CECG01480; Teniente v. Cirrus Asset Management, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV16302; Blackshear v. California Fine Wine & Spirits LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2018-00245842; Warnick v. Golden Gate America West LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC714176; Bennett v. Dnata Aviation USA, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-566911; George v. PF Stockton Fitness LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00261113-CU-OE-GDS; Oshana v. Farmers and Merchants Bank of Central California – Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-19-003427; Vasquez v. Packaging Corporation of America – U.S. District Court, California Central District, Case No. 2:19-cv-01935-PSG-PLA; Palomino v. Zara USA Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2018-00992682-CU-OE-CXC; Simmons v. Joe & The Juice LA, LLC – San Francisco County Superior Court; Pacia v. CIM Group, L.P. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC709666; Flores v. Plastic Express – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC71971; Madera v. William Warren Properties, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01055704-CU-OE-CXC; Hernandez v. Quality Custom Distribution – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2018-01010611-CU-OE-CXC; Arango v. Schlumberger Technology Corporation – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01056839-CU-OE-CXC; Dandoy v. West Coast Convenience, LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG20051121; Ramirez v. J E H Enterprises, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-19-574691; Sullen v. First Service Residential California, LLC – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-19-575131; Valentino v. East Bay Tire Co. – Solano County Superior Court, Case No. FCS053067; Murphy v. Rockler Retail Group, Inc. – Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00251220; Shahbazian v. Onewest Bank – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV23722; Bruemmer v. Tempur Retail Stores LLC – Marin County Superior Court, Case No. CIV1803646; Antonios v. Interface Rehab, Inc. – Orange County Superior, Case No. 30-2019-01067547-CU-OE-CXC; Tavallodi v. DC Auto, Inc. – San Bernardino, Case No. CIVDS1833598; Miranda v. The Lloyd Pest Control Co. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00052510-CU-OE-CTL; Soenardi v. Magnussen Imports, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 18CV340003; Thai v. Team Industrial Services, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV21953; Castillo v. A.J. Kirkwood & Associates, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV04435; Moss v. Jabil Inc. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG20050536; Billosillo, Jr. v. Crown Energy Services, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00058254-CU-OE-CTL; Tarkington v. Freetime, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00011473-CU-OE-CTL; McIntyre v. J.J.R. Enterprises, Inc. – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00251220; Bucur v. Pharmaca Integrative Pharmacy, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00009409-CU-OE-CTL; Batin v. McGee Air Services, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV347733; Terry v. McGee Air Services, Inc. – King County Superior Court of Washington, Case No. 19-2-3321-5 KNT; Weiss v. Niznik Behavioral Health Resources, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00039441-CU-OE-CTL; Cavada v. Inter-Continental Hotels Group, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 3:19-cv-01675-GPC-AHG; Lesevic v. Spectraforce Technologies, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 5:19-cv-03126-LHK; Mutchler v. Circle K Stores, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00016331-CU-OE-CTL; Azima v. CSI Medical Group – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV345450; Porras v. Baypointe Enterprises, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV31015; Mitchell v. Mack Trucking, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1928334; Watts v. T.R.L. Systems, Incorporated – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01102457-CU-OE-CXC; Price v. DMSD Restaurants Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00024062-CU-OE-CTL; Jacobs v. Nortek Security & Control LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-0019735-CU-OE-CTL; Gonzalez v. Hub International Midwest – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1900463; Cisneros v. Bluepearl California, Inc. – San Mateo Superior Court, Case No. 19-

CIV-05707; Garcia v. Gallagher Basset Services – San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2004140; Callow v. Adventist Health System/West – Placer County Superior Court, Case No. SCV0043607; Dominguez v. Kimco Facility Services, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV37592; Searles v. Robert Heath Trucking, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCY30808; Rangel v. Pioneer Hi-Bred international, Inc. – Yolo County Superior Court, Case No. CV-19-1797; Ivon v. Sinclair Television of California, Humboldt County Superior Court, Case No. DR190699; Williams v. Henkels & McCoy, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2003888; Cano v. Larry Green Chrysler Jeep Dodge, Inc. – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. BLC1900184; Lopez v. Cepheid – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV358827; Hernandez v. Quick Dispense, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV29405; Lopez v. Lacoste USA, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1914626; Duhe v. Hospital Couriers Nevada, LLC – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC19-01377; Law v. Sequoia Equities, Incorporated – Contra Costa Superior Court, Case No. C19-01925; Dvorak v. Rockwell Collins, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00064397-CU-OE-CTL; Noguera v. Metal Container Corporation – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC2003235; Leon v. Miller Event Management, Inc. – San Luis Obispo Superior Court, Case No. 19CV-0435; Leon v. Miller Event Management, Inc. – San Luis Obispo County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV-0435, Camacho-Bias v. Serve U Brands Inc. – Butte County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV00603; La Pietra v. Entertainment Partners Services, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV39529; Celis v. Theatre Box - San Diego, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. ____; Ignacio v. Laboratory Corporation of America – U.S. District Court, California Central District, Case No. 2:19-cv-06079-AB-RAO; Kovnas v. Cahill Contractors LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG19037852; Hersh v. Mrs. Gooch's Natural Food – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV10444; Miller v. The Permanente Medical Group – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG19045904; Vasquez v. Autoalert, LLC – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01114549-CU-OE-CXC; Cavanaugh v. Morton Golf, LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00270176; Coley v. Monroe Operations, LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG20063188; Ramirez v. Sierra Aluminum Company – U.S. District Court, California Central District Court, Case No. 5:20-cv-00417-JGB-KK; Marrero v. Stat Med, P.C. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG19043214; Enriquez v. Solari Enterprises, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV11129; Craig v. Hometown Heart – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-20-582454; Lopez v. Hy0Lang Electric California, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00012543-CU-OE-CTL; Heuklom v. Clara Medical Group, P.C. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-20-585918; Dominguez v. Lifesafer of Northern California – Monterey County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV002586; Kiseleva v. Totalmed Staffing Inc. – U.S. District Court, California Northern District, Case No. 5:19-cv-06480; Vires v. Sweetgreen, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV365918; Kim v. Wireless Vision, LLC – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2000074; Senoren v. Air Canada Corporation – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV13942; Clark v. Quest Diagnostics Incorporated – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2018707; Green v. Shipt, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV01001; Respass v. The Scion Group LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2020-00285265; Jackson v. Decathlon USA LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG2003024; Avacena v. FTG Aerospace Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV28767; Perez v. Butler America, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV20218; Christensen v. Carter's Retail, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01138792-CU-OE-CXC; Astudillo v. Torrance Health Association, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV18424; Hansen v. Holiday AI Management Sub LLC – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. CIVMSC20-00779; Almahdi v. Vitamin Shoppe Industries Inc – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV365150; Krisinda v. Loyal Source Government Services LLC – U.S. District Court, California

Southern District, Case No. 3:20-cv-879-LAB-NLS; Ettedgui v. WB Studio Enterprises Inc – U.S. District Court, California Central District, Case No. 2:20-CV-08053-MCS (MAAx); Fernandez v. Nuvision Federal Credit Union – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01161691-CU-OE-CJC; Aviles v. UPS Supply Chain Solutions, Inc. – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC2000727; Alcocer v. DSV Solutions, LLC – San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2010345; Wilson v. Wholesome Harvest Baking, LLC – U.S. District Court, California Northern District, Case No. 4:20-cv-05186-YGR; Gregory v. Verio Healthcare, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV37254; Rose v. Impact Group, LLC – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01141107-CU-OE-CXC; Monasterio v. Citibank, N.A. – San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. 20-CIV-03650; Martinez-Lopez v. Medamerica, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00034393-CU-OE-CTL; Cox v. PRB Management, LLC – Solano County Superior Court, Case No. FCS055514; Nash v. K. Hovnanian Companies, LLC – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC2003319; Kyler v. Harbor Freight Tools USA, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00015828-CU-OE-CTL; Roberts v. Solantic Corporation – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV41117; Price v. Mistras Group, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV22485; Macias v. ABM Electrical & Lighting Solutions, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00024997-CU-OE-CTL; Basu-Kesselman v. Garuda Labs, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-20-585229; Armstrong v. Prometric LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV29967; Ashlock v. Advantis Medical Staffing, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00022305-CU-OE-CTL; Wilson v. WXI Global Solutions, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV25007; Gandhale v. Select Rehabilitation, LLC – Monterey County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV002240; Starvoice v. G4S Secure Solutions (USA) Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00029421-CU-OE-CTL; Mbise v. Axlehire, Inc. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG20067350; Points v. C&J Services, Inc. – Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-20-102483; Marshall v. PHI Air Medical, LLC – Lassen County Superior Court, Case No. 62973; Jauregui v. Cytotec Engineered Materials, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01164932-CU-OE-CXC

CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Class Action Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between plaintiff Martina Avery (“Plaintiff”) and defendant Sleep Data Services LLC (“Defendant”). Plaintiff and Defendant collectively are referred to in this Agreement as the “Parties.”

I. DEFINITIONS

In addition to other terms defined in this Agreement, the terms below have the following meaning in this Agreement:

- A. “Action” means the Class Action Complaint that was filed in California state court and any amendments thereto, which is captioned *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC*, Case No. 37-2020-00032747-CU-OE-CTL, pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego.
- B. “Aggrieved Employees” means all individuals who worked for Defendant in California as non-exempt employees at any time during the PAGA Period.
- C. “Class” means all individuals who worked for Defendant in California as non-exempt employees at any time during the Class Period.
- D. “Class Counsel” means Norman B. Blumenthal, Kyle R. Nordrehaug, Aparajit Bhowmik, Piya Mukherjee, Victoria Rivapalacio and Charlotte James of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP.
- E. “Class Counsel Fees Payment” and “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” mean the amounts to be paid to Class Counsel for fees and expenses, respectively, as approved by the Court, to compensate Class Counsel for their legal work in connection with the Action, including their pre-filing investigation, their filing of the Action, all related litigation activities, all Settlement work, all post-Settlement compliance procedures, and related litigation expenses billed in connection with the Action.
- F. “Class Data” means, for each Class Member, his or her name; last-known mailing address; Social Security number; his or her employee identification number; his or her email address (if known); and his or her weeks worked during the Class Period as a Class Member and pay periods worked during the PAGA Period.
- G. “Class Member” is a member of the Class.
- H. “Class Notice” means the Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class Action and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval substantively in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- I. “Class Notice Packet” means the Class Notice to be provided to the Class Members by the Settlement Administrator in the form set forth as Exhibit A to

this Agreement (other than formatting changes to facilitate printing by the Settlement Administrator).

- J. “Class Period” means the period of time from April 22, 2019 to September 22, 2021, the date of Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, or the date the Class grows to 10% of 19,981 (21,979) workweeks, whichever occurs first.
- K. “Class Representative Service Payment” means the service payment made to the Plaintiff in their capacity as Class Representative in order to compensate her for initiating the Action, performing work in support of the Action, undertaking the risk of liability for Defendant’s expenses in the event Plaintiff was unsuccessful in the prosecution of the Action, and for the general release of all claims by the Plaintiff.
- L. “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego.
- M. “Defendant” means Sleep Data Services LLC.
- N. “Defendant’s Counsel” means Travis K. Jang-Busby, Lindsay C. David and Janna L. Jamil of Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP.
- O. “Effective Date” means the date by which all of the following have occurred:
 - 1. This Agreement is approved by the Court; and
 - 2. The Judgment becomes Final as defined in Section I(Q) of this Agreement.
- P. “Election Not to Participate in Settlement” means the written request by a Class Member to exclude himself or herself from the Settlement submitted in accordance with the instructions in the Class Notice.
- Q. “Final” means the last of the following dates, as applicable:
 - 1. If no objection to the Settlement is made, the date the Judgment is entered.
 - 2. If an objection to the Settlement is made and Judgment is entered, but no appeal is filed, the last date on which a notice of appeal from the Judgment may be filed and none is filed.
 - 3. If Judgment is entered and a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the date the Judgment is affirmed and is no longer subject to appeal.
- R. “Final Approval Hearing” means the hearing to be conducted by the Court to determine whether to approve finally and implement the terms of this Agreement and enter the Judgment.
- S. “Gross Settlement Amount” means Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$277,500) to be paid by Defendant as provided by this Agreement. This Gross Settlement Amount is an all-in amount without any

reversion to Defendant and shall be inclusive of all payments of Settlement Shares to the Participating Class Members, Settlement Administration Expenses, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, and the PAGA Payment, and excluding any employer payroll taxes, if any, due on the portion of the Settlement Shares allocated to wages which shall not be paid from the Gross Settlement and shall be the separate additional obligation of Defendant. The Gross Settlement Amount is all in with no reversion to Defendant and shall be paid without the need to submit a claim form.

- T. “Judgment” means the Final Approval Order and Judgment entered by the Court substantially in the forms attached hereto as Exhibit C to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- U. “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount less the Court-approved amounts for the Class Representative Service Payments, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, the PAGA Payment, and the Settlement Administration Expenses.
- V. “Non-Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who submits a valid and timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement.
- W. “PAGA Period” means the period of time from April 22, 2019 to September 22, 2021, the date of Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, or the date the class grows to 10% of 19,981 (21,979) workweeks, whichever occurs first.
- X. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement.
- Y. “Pay Periods” means the number of pay periods worked by a Class Member for Defendant during the Class Period.
- Z. “Preliminary Approval of the Settlement” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B to this Agreement and incorporated by this reference herein.
- AA. “Released Parties” collectively mean: Defendant, Defendant’s respective past, present and future parents, subsidiaries, corporations, divisions, and successors and assigns, and the past, present and future shareholders, managers, officers, partners, members, directors, agents, employees, attorneys, insurers, predecessors, successors and assigns of Defendant.
- BB. “Settlement” means the disposition of the Action and all related claims effectuated by this Agreement.
- CC. “Settlement Administrator” means the third party settlement administrator proposed by the Parties, as approved by the Court.

- DD. “Settlement Share” means each Participating Class Member’s share of the Net Settlement Amount as provided by this Agreement.
- EE. “Workweeks” means the number of weeks worked by a Class Member for Defendant during the Class Period.

II. RECITALS

- A. On September 17, 2020, Plaintiff filed a Complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego. Plaintiff asserted claims that Defendant:
1. Violated California Business and Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.*;
 2. Failed to pay minimum wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
 3. Failed to pay overtime wages in violation of California Labor Code § 510, *et seq.*;
 4. Failed to provide required meal periods in violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7 & 512 and the applicable IWC Wage Order;
 5. Failed to provide required rest periods in violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7 & 512 and the applicable IWC Wage Order;
 6. Failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements in violation of California Labor Code § 226; and,
 7. Failed to provide wages when due in violation of California Labor Code §§ 201, 202 and 203;
 8. Wrongful termination in violation of public policy; and,
 9. Violated the Private Attorney General Act, Cal. Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.* (“PAGA”).
- B. On November 13, 2020, Defendant filed a general denial along with 62 affirmative defenses to the Complaint.
- C. On June 9, 2021, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Hon. Louis Meisinger (Ret.), a respected jurist and mediator of wage and hour representative and class actions. Following the mediation, each side, represented by its respective counsel, were able to agree to settle the Action based upon a mediator’s proposal which was memorialized in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding. This Agreement replaces and supersedes the Memorandum of Understanding and any other agreements, understandings, or representations between the Parties

- D. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission by Defendant that the claims in the Action of Plaintiff or the Class have merit or that Defendant bears any liability to Plaintiff or the Class on those claims or any other claims, or as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree to certification of the Class for purposes of this Settlement only. If for any reason the settlement does not become effective, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reason and reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action.
- E. The Parties further agree that this Agreement, the fact of this Settlement, any of the terms of this Agreement, and any documents filed in connection with the Settlement shall not constitute, or be offered, received, claimed, construed, or deemed as an admission, finding, or evidence of: (i) any wrongdoing by any Released Parties, (ii) any violation of any statute or law by Released Parties, (iii) any liability on the claims or allegations in the Action on the part of any Released Parties, (iv) any waiver of Defendant's right to arbitration or the enforceability of any arbitration agreement, or (v) the propriety of certifying a class or pursuing representative relief under the PAGA in the Action or any other civil or administrative proceeding; and this Agreement shall not be used by any person for any purpose whatsoever in any administrative or legal proceeding, including but not limited to arbitrations, other than a proceeding to enforce the terms of the Agreement.

Based on these Recitals that are a part of this Agreement, the Parties agree as follows:

III. SETTLEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. **Amendment to Complaint:** The Parties agree to the filing by stipulation of an amended complaint to conform the definition of the Class and PAGA Period to be consistent with the terms of this Settlement Agreement.
- B. **Gross Settlement Amount.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Gross Settlement Amount that Defendant will pay under this Settlement is Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$277,500). This amount is all-inclusive of all payments contemplated in this resolution, excluding any employer-side payroll taxes on the portion of the Settlement Shares allocated to wages which shall be separately paid by Defendant to the Settlement Administrator. All of the Gross Settlement Amount will be disbursed pursuant to this Agreement without the need to submit a claim form and none of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendant.
- C. **Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator will make the following payments out of the Gross Settlement Amount:
 - 1. **To Plaintiff:** In addition to the Settlement Shares to be paid to Plaintiff, Plaintiff will apply to the Court for an award of not more than \$10,000 as the Class Representative Service Payment. Defendant will not oppose

Class Representative Service Payment of no more than \$10,000 for the Plaintiff. The Settlement Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service Payment approved by the Court out of the Gross Settlement Amount. If the Court approves a Class Representative Service Payment of less than \$10,000, for the Plaintiff, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members. Payroll tax withholding and deductions will not be taken from the Class Representative Service Payment and instead a Form 1099 will be issued to the Plaintiff with respect to the payment who will assume full responsibility and liability for the taxes due on her Class Representative Service Payment. In addition, Plaintiff is separately settling her wrongful termination claim as alleged in the operative complaint as cause of action number eight. The payment for the settlement of the wrongful termination claims is not being made in consideration of the settlement and dismissal of the class claims, PAGA claims, and related individual claims.

2. **To Class Counsel:** Class Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of not more than One-Third of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is presently \$92,500, as their Class Counsel Fees Payment and an amount not more than \$25,000 for all expenses incurred as documented in Class Counsel's billing records as their Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. Defendant will not oppose their request for a Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment consistent with this Agreement and approved by the Court. The Settlement Administrator will pay the amounts approved by the Court out of the Gross Settlement Amount. If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of less than these amounts, which are presently \$92,500, and \$25,000 respectively, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members. Payroll tax withholding and deductions, if any, will not be taken from the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and instead one or more Forms 1099 will be issued to Class Counsel with respect to those payments. The payment of the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment shall be made to Class Counsel.
3. **The PAGA Payment.** The Parties will seek approval from the Court for the PAGA Payment of \$25,000 out of the Gross Settlement Amount, which shall be allocated 75% (\$18,750) to the LWDA as the LWDA's share of the settlement of civil penalties paid under this Agreement pursuant to the PAGA and 25% (\$6,250) will be distributed to the Aggrieved Employees based on their respective pay periods worked during the PAGA Period. If the Court approves a PAGA Payment of less than \$20,000, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members. All Aggrieved Employees will be sent their share of the PAGA Payment and will be subject to the release of the Released PAGA Claims as set forth below, whether or not they opt out of the Settlement. One hundred percent (100%) of the PAGA

Payment is in settlement of claims for penalties and not be subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form 1099.

4. **To the Settlement Administrator.** The Settlement Administrator will pay out of the Gross Settlement Amount to itself its reasonable fees and expenses that are documented and approved by the Court in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 (“Settlement Administration Expenses”). To the extent the Settlement Administration Expenses that are documented and approved by the Court are less than \$10,000, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members.

D. **Payments From the Net Settlement Amount.** The Net Settlement Amount shall include the following payments after the deductions have been made from the Gross Settlement Amount as described in this Agreement. The Net Settlement Amount shall include the following:

1. **Settlement Share.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator will pay a Settlement Share from the Net Settlement Amount to each Participating Class Member. The submission of a claim form is not required to be paid.
2. **Calculation.** Each Participating Class Member will be entitled, provisionally, to a share or shares of the Net Settlement Amount. The Settlement Share for each Participating Class Member will be calculated as follows: (i) Defendant shall provide the Settlement Administrator with the workweeks for all Participating Class Members during the Class Period; (ii) the Settlement Administrator shall then divide the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of workweeks to determine a dollar amount per week (“Weekly Rate”); and (iii) the Settlement Administrator shall then take the number of weeks worked by each Participating Class Member and multiply it by the Weekly Rate to calculate their Settlement Share.
3. **Withholding.**
 - a. Subject to approval by the Court, One-Third of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share is in settlement of wage claims (the “Wage Portion”). Accordingly, the Wage Portion is subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form W-2 and shall be paid for from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for remitting to the tax authorities employees’ and employer’s share of all payroll taxes on the Wage Portion.
 - b. Subject to approval by the Court, One-Third of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share is in settlement of claims for interest and One-Third of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share is in settlement of claims for penalties allegedly

due to employees (collectively the “Non-Wage Portion”). The Non-Wage Portion shall not be subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form 1099.

- c. The Participating Class Members agree to hold harmless Defendant, Class Counsel, and Defendant’s Counsel for any tax liability, including penalties and interest, arising out of or relating to the Participating Class Members’ failure to pay taxes on any amounts paid pursuant to this Settlement.
- 4. **Effect of Non-Participating Class Members.** Non-Participating Class Members will receive no Settlement Share, and their Election Not to Participate in Settlement will reduce neither the Gross Settlement Amount nor the Net Settlement Amount. Their respective Settlement Shares will remain a part of the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a *pro rata* basis relative to their Settlement Shares.
- 5. **Class Size Modification.** Defendant has represented that the class consists of an estimated total of 331 Class Members who worked at any time during the Class Period. In regard hereto, Defendant will provide a declaration under oath prior to the filing of the motion for preliminary approval confirming the number of Class Members and workweeks they worked during the Class Period. If prior to preliminary settlement approval and/or prior to September 22, 2021, the class exceeds 19,981 workweeks the class period will end on the date the class grows to 10% of 19,981 (21,979), whichever occurs first.
- E. **Appointment of Settlement Administrator.** After obtaining a quote from mutually acceptable and qualified settlement administrators, the Parties have mutually agreed to ask the Court to appoint Simpluris as the qualified administrator, to serve as the Settlement Administrator, which, as a condition of appointment, will agree to be bound by this Agreement with respect to the performance of its duties and its compensation. The Settlement Administrator’s duties will include preparing, printing, and mailing the Class Notice Packet to all Class Members; conducting a National Change of Address search to update Class Member addresses before mailing the Class Notice Packets; re-mailing Class Notice Packets that are returned to the Class Member’s new address; setting up a toll-free telephone number to receive calls from Class Members; receiving and reviewing for validity completed Elections Not to Participate in Settlement; providing the Parties with weekly status reports about the delivery of Class Notice Packets and receipt of completed Elections Not to Participate in Settlement; calculating Settlement Shares; issuing the checks to effectuate the payments due under the Settlement; issuing the tax reports required under this Settlement; and otherwise administering the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator will have the authority to resolve all disputes concerning the calculation of a Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share, subject to the dollar limitations and calculations set forth in this Agreement. The

Settlement Administration Expenses, including the cost of printing and mailing the Class Notice Packet, will be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

The Settlement Administrator shall have its own Employer Identification Number under Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 and shall use its own Employer Identification Number in calculating payroll withholdings for taxes and shall transmit the required employers' and employees' share of the withholdings to the appropriate state and federal tax authorities. The Settlement Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.

F. Procedure for Approving Settlement.

1. Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement by the Court.

- a. After Execution of this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiff will file a Preliminary Approval Motion with the Court for an order giving Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, setting a date for the Final Approval Hearing, and approving the Class Notice (the "Motion for Preliminary Approval"). Plaintiff will provide a copy of all moving papers to Defendant for review and comment no later than 5 days prior to filing. Any disagreement among the Parties concerning the Class Notice, the proposed orders, or other documents necessary to implement the Settlement will be referred to the mediator for resolution. The proposed preliminary approval orders, at a minimum, shall:
 - (i) Conditionally certify the Settlement Class for settlement purposes;
 - (ii) Preliminarily appoint Plaintiff as representative of the proposed Settlement Class;
 - (iii) Preliminarily approve Class Counsel to represent the Settlement Class;
 - (iv) Appoint Simpluris Settlement Administrator, and order the Settlement Administrator to provide notice of the Settlement as out-lined below; and
 - (v) Stay all litigation of the Action pending the Final Approval Hearing, except as necessary to implement and effectuate the Settlement; and
 - (vi) Order that the preliminary approval of the Settlement, conditional certification of the Settlement Class, and all actions associated with them, are undertaken on the condition that they shall be vacated if the Settlement Agreement is disapproved in whole or in part by the

Court, or any appellate court and/or other court of review in which event the Settlement Agreement and the fact that it was entered into shall not be offered, received, or construed as an admission or as evidence for any purpose, including but not limited to an admission by any Party of liability or non-liability or of the certifiability of a litigation class or the appropriateness of maintaining a representative action.

- b. At the hearing on the Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Parties will jointly appear, support the granting of the motion, and submit an Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement substantially in the form evidenced by Exhibit B to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
 - c. Should the Court decline to preliminarily approve material aspects of the Settlement (including but not limited to the scope of release to be granted by Participating Class Members or the binding effect of the Settlement on Participating Class Members), the Parties shall work together in good faith to address any concerns raised by the Court and propose a revised Settlement for the Court's approval.
2. **Notice to Class Members.** After the Court enters an Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, every Class Member will be sent the Class Notice Packet (which will include the Class Notice completed to reflect the Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement and showing the Class Member's Settlement Share) as follows:
- a. No later than 14 days after the Court enters an Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant will provide to the Settlement Administrator an electronic database containing each Class Member's Class Data. If any or all of the Class Data is unavailable to Defendant, Defendant will so inform Class Counsel and the Parties will make their best efforts to reconstruct or otherwise agree upon the Class Data prior to when it must be submitted to the Settlement Administrator. This information will otherwise remain confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone, except as required to applicable taxing authorities, in order to carry out the reasonable efforts described in section III.F.2.c., or pursuant to Defendant's express written authorization or by order of the Court. All Class Data will be used for settlement notification and settlement administration and shall not be used for any other purpose by Class Counsel. This provision shall not be construed to impede Class Counsel's ability to discharge their fiduciary duties to the Class, and if additional disclosures are necessary, Class Counsel will obtain written authorization of Defendant and/or an order from the Court.

- b. The Settlement Administrator shall update the Class Data using the National Change of Address database prior to mailing the Class Notice Packets. Using best efforts to mail it as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14 days after receiving the Class Data, the Settlement Administrator will mail the Class Notice Packets to all Class Members via first-class regular U.S. Mail using the mailing address information provided by Defendant, unless modified by any updated address information that the Settlement Administrator obtains in the course of administration of the Settlement.
- c. If a Class Notice Packet is returned because of an incorrect address, the Settlement Administrator will promptly, and not longer than fourteen (14) days from receipt of the returned packet, search for a more current address for the Class Member and re-mail the Class Notice Packet to the Class Member. The Settlement Administrator will use the Class Data and otherwise work with Defendant to find a more current address. The Settlement Administrator will be responsible for taking reasonable steps, consistent with its agreed-upon job parameters, Court orders, and fee, as agreed to with Class Counsel and according to the following deadlines, to trace the mailing address of any Class Member for whom a Class Notice Packet is returned by the U.S. Postal Service as undeliverable. These reasonable steps shall include, at a minimum, the tracking of all undelivered mail; performing address searches for all mail returned without a forwarding address using available email addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, credit reports, LinkedIn, and Facebook; and promptly re-mailing to Class Members for whom new addresses are found. If the Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the response date for written objections, disputes and opt-outs will be extended an additional 15 days, and the Settlement Administrator will note for its own records and notify Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel of the date and address of each such re-mailing as part of a weekly status report provided to the Parties.
- d. As part of its weekly status report, the Settlement Administrator will inform Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel of the number of Elections Not to Participate in Settlement it receives (including the numbers of valid and deficient), and number of objections received.
- e. Not later than 10 days before the date by which the Plaintiff files the motion for final approval of the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will provide the Parties for filing with the Court a declaration of due diligence setting forth its compliance with its obligations under this Agreement and detailing the Elections Not to Participate in Settlement it received (including the numbers of

valid and deficient Elections) and objections received. Prior to the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator will supplement its declaration of due diligence if any material changes occur from the date of the filing of its prior declaration.

3. **Objections to Settlement; Disputes as to Workweeks allocated to Class Members; Elections Not to Participate in Settlement.** Participating Class Members may submit objections to the Settlement and/or objections to the Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. Class Members may also submit disputes as to workweeks allocated to them and Elections Not to Participate in Settlement pursuant to the following procedures:
 - a. **Objections to Settlement.** The Class Notice will provide that only Participating Class Members who wish to object to the Settlement, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and/or the Class Representative Service Payments may object to the proposed Settlement, either in writing or orally at the Final Approval Hearing. Objections in writing must be submitted to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked not later than forty-five (45) calendar days after the Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets. Written objections must set forth the grounds for the objection(s) and comply with the instructions in the Class Notice. If a Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the response date for written objections will be extended an additional 15 days. Alternatively, Class Members shall be entitled to be heard at the Final Approval Hearing (whether individually or through separate counsel) to orally object to the Settlement, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and/or the Class Representative Service Payments. Non-Participating Class Members shall have no ability to comment on or object to the Settlement.
 - b. **Disputes as to Workweeks.** Each Class Member shall also have forty-five (45) calendar days after the Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets in which to dispute the workweeks the Class Notice allocates to them during the Class Period. Any notice of dispute shall be directed to the Settlement Administrator. Any dispute as to this allocation shall be resolved by the Settlement Administrator, with input and assistance from Defendant's Counsel, where applicable. If a Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the response date for disputes will be extended an additional 15 days.
 - c. **Election Not to Participate in Settlement.** The Class Notice also will provide that Class Members who wish to exclude themselves from the Settlement must mail to the Settlement Administrator postmarked not later than forty-five (45) calendar days after the

Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets, a signed Election Not to Participate in Settlement. If a Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the response date for opt-outs will be extended an additional 15 days. To be valid, an Election Not to Participate in Settlement must be timely and must comply with the instructions in the Class Notice. If a question is raised about the authenticity of a signed Election Not to Participate in Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will have the right to demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. A Non-Participating Class Member will not participate in or be bound by the Settlement and the Judgment, except that an Aggrieved Employee will still be paid their allocation of the PAGA Payment and will remain bound by the release of the Released PAGA Claims regardless of their request for exclusion. Defendant will remain free to contest any claim brought by any Class Member that would have been barred by this Agreement, and nothing in this Agreement will constitute or be construed as a waiver of any defense Defendant has or could assert against such a claim. A Class Member who does not complete and mail a timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement in the manner and by the deadline specified above and in the Class Notice will automatically become a Participating Class Member and will be bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Released Class Claims by the Class, if the Settlement is approved by the Court, and by the Judgment, regardless of whether he or she has objected to the Settlement. Persons who submit an Election Not to Participate in Settlement shall not be permitted to file objections to the Settlement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing to voice any objections to the Settlement.

All Participating Class Members who do not submit a valid and timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement will receive a Settlement Share, without the need to file a claim form, and will be bound by all of the terms of the Settlement, including without limitation, the release of the Released Class Claims by the Participating Class Members set forth in this Agreement.

- d. **Report.** Not later than ten (10) calendar days after the deadline for submission of Elections Not to Participate in Settlement, the Settlement Administration will provide Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel with a complete and accurate list of all Participating Class Members and all Non-Participating Class Members.

- 4. **Right of Defendant to Reject Settlement.** If the number of Class Members who timely submit valid Elections Not to Participate in Settlement exceeds five percent (5%) of the Class, Defendant, at its sole discretion, shall have the right but not the obligation to revoke the Settlement. Defendant shall exercise its revocation rights, if at all, within

fifteen (15) court days of the deadline for submission of Elections Not to Participate in Settlement by providing written notice, either email or fax will suffice, to Class Counsel. If Defendant exercises its revocation rights, the Parties will have no further obligations under the Settlement, including any obligation by Defendant to pay the Gross Settlement Amount, or any amounts that otherwise would have been owed under this Agreement, except that Settlement Administration Expenses as of the date that Defendant exercises the right to void the Settlement pursuant to this Paragraph will be paid by Defendant.

5. **No Solicitation.** The Parties and their respective counsel represent that neither the Parties nor their respective counsel have or will solicit or otherwise encourage directly or indirectly any Class Member to object to the Settlement, appeal from the Judgment, or elect not to participate in the Settlement.

6. **Additional Briefing and Final Approval.**

a. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, Class Counsel will file with the Court their motion for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and Class Representative Service Payments no later than the date Plaintiff files the Motion for Final Approval, and the application will be scheduled to be heard by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing.

b. Not later than sixteen (16) court days before the Final Approval Hearing, the Plaintiff will file with the Court a motion for final approval of the Settlement, the PAGA Payment, and payment of the Settlement Administration Expenses. Drafts of the motion for final approval of the Settlement and proposed final approval order will be provided to Defendant's counsel at least five (5) court days before the documents are filed and approved of in writing before it is filed. The final approval order shall adjudge that, among other things:

(i) The Settlement Administrator has fulfilled its initial notice and reporting duties under the Settlement and that the Class Notice (i) constituted the best practicable notice; (ii) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Class Members of the pendency of the Action, and their right to exclude themselves from or object to the proposed Settlement and to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (iii) was reasonable and constituted due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to receive notice; and (iv) met all applicable requirements of due process, and any other applicable rules or law;

(ii) The Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate;

- (iii) Plaintiff and Class Counsel may adequately represent the Settlement Class for the purpose of entering into and implementing the Agreement;
 - (iv) The Settlement Administrator is to execute the distribution of proceeds pursuant to the terms of this Agreement;
 - (v) The final approval order and judgment shall be final and entered forthwith;
 - (vi) Without affecting the finality of the final approval order and judgment, the Court retains continuing jurisdiction over Plaintiff, Defendant, and Participating Class Members, as to all matters concerning the administration, consummation, and enforcement of this Settlement Agreement;
 - (vii) As of the Effective Date, Plaintiff and Participating Class Members compromised, settled, discharged, and provided the release of the Released Class Claims during the applicable time period, against Defendant and the Released Parties, and are bound by the provisions of this Settlement Agreement;
 - (viii) Notwithstanding the submission of a timely request for exclusion, Aggrieved Employees are still bound by release of the Released PAGA Claims in the Settlement and the State's Released PAGA Claims for civil penalties pursuant to PAGA are also extinguished.
 - (ix) This Settlement Agreement and the Final Approval Order and Judgment to be binding on, and have *res judicata* and preclusive effect in, all pending and future lawsuits or other proceedings that encompass Plaintiff's and Participating Class Members' claims released herein, and that are maintained by or on behalf of Plaintiff and Participating Class Members;
 - (x) The Settlement provided for herein, and any proceedings undertaken pursuant thereto, are not, and should not in any event be offered, received, or construed as evidence of, a presumption, concession, or an admission by any Party of liability or non-liability or of the certifiability or non-certifiability of a litigation class or collective, or that PAGA representative claims may validly be pursued;
- c. If any opposition is filed to the motion for final approval and/or the motion for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service

Payments, and the PAGA Payment, then not later than five (5) court days before the Final Approval Hearing, both Parties may file a reply in support of the motion for final approval, and Plaintiff and Class Counsel may also file a reply in support of their motion for the Class Representative Service Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payments, and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment.

- d. If the Court does not grant final approval of the Settlement or grants final approval conditioned on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Participating Class Members), then the Parties shall work together in good faith to address any concerns raised by the Court and propose a revised Settlement for the Court's approval. However, an award by the Court of a lesser amount than that sought by Plaintiff and Class Counsel for the PAGA Payment, Class Representative Service Payments, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, or the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, will not constitute a material modification to the Settlement within the meaning of this paragraph. In the event: (i) the Court denies preliminary approval of the Settlement and the Parties are unable to propose a revised Settlement for the Court's approval; (ii) the Court denies final approval of the Settlement and the Parties are unable to propose a revised Settlement for the Court's approval; (iii) the Court refuses to enter a Judgment as provided herein; or (iv) the Settlement does not become Final for any other reason, this Agreement shall be null and void and any order or judgment entered by the Court in furtherance of this Settlement shall be treated as void from the beginning.
- e. Upon final approval of the Settlement by the Court at or after the Final Approval Hearing, the Parties will present for the Court's approval and entry the Judgment substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C. After entry of the Judgment, the Court will have continuing jurisdiction over the Action and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as may be appropriate under court rules or applicable law.

- 7. **Waiver of Right to Appeal.** Provided that the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Plaintiff, plaintiff's counsel, and Participating Class Members who did not timely submit an objection to the Settlement, Defendant, and their respective counsel hereby waive any and all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to any post-judgment proceeding and appellate proceeding, such as, but not limited to, a motion to vacate judgment, a motion for new trial, and any extraordinary writ. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver

of the right to oppose any appeal, appellate proceedings or post-judgment proceedings. If an appeal is taken from the Judgment, the time for consummation of the Settlement (including making payments under the Settlement) will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes Final.

8. **Vacating, Reversal, or Material Modification of Judgment on Appeal or Review.** If, after a notice of appeal, a petition for review, or a petition for *certiorari*, or any other motion, petition, or application, the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment such that there is a material modification to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Participating Class Members), and that Court's decision is not completely reversed and the Judgment is not fully affirmed on review by a higher Court, then the Parties shall work together in good faith to address any concerns raised by the reviewing Court and propose a revised Settlement for the approval of the Court not later than fourteen days after the reviewing Court's decision vacating, reversing, or materially modifying the Judgment becomes Final. A vacation, reversal, or modification of the Court's award of the Class Representative Service Payments or the Class Counsel Fees Payment or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment will not constitute a vacation, reversal, or material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, provided that Defendant's obligation to make payments under this Settlement will remain limited by the Gross Settlement Amount.
9. **Timing of Settlement Funding and Provision of Settlement Shares and Other Payments.** Defendant shall fund the Gross Settlement Amount by depositing the money with the Settlement Administrator. Defendant shall fund the Gross Settlement Amount and the amount necessary to pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date. Within fifteen (15) days after Defendant funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator will make payment of all Settlement Shares to Participating Class Members, as well as payment of Settlement Administration Expenses, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, the Class Representative Service Payments and the PAGA Payment in accordance with this Agreement.
10. **Uncashed Settlement Share Checks.** A Participating Class Member or Aggrieved Employee must cash his or her Settlement Share check within 180 days after it is mailed to him or her. If a check is returned to the Settlement Administrator or not cashed within 120 days after the last mailing, the Settlement Administrator will make all reasonable efforts to re-mail it to the affected individual at his or her correct address by use of available email addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, credit reports, LinkedIn and Facebook. If a Participating Class Member's or Aggrieved Employee's check is not cashed within 120 days after its last mailing to the affected individual, the Settlement Administrator will also

send the individual a notice informing him or her that unless the check is cashed in the next 60 days, it will expire and become non-negotiable, and offer to replace the check if it was lost or misplaced but not cashed. If the check remains uncashed by the expiration of the 60 day period after this notice, the funds from such uncashed checks will be paid to the California State Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of and for the benefit of the individual who did not cash their check, and the Participating Class Member or Aggrieved Employee will remain bound by the Settlement. The Parties agree that this disposition results in no "unpaid residue" within the meaning of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, as the entire Net Settlement Amount will be paid out to Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees, whether or not they all cash their Settlement Share checks.

11. **Final Report by Settlement Administrator to Court.** Within ten days after final disbursement of all funds from the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator will provide the Parties with a declaration proving a final report on the disbursements of all funds from the Gross Settlement Amount.

G. Release of Claims.

1. **Participating Class Members.** As of the Effective Date, Defendant shall receive a release from the Participating Class Members of all claims alleged in the operative complaint, or which could have been asserted in the operative complaint premised on the facts asserted therein, which arose during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, and workers' compensation, and class claims outside of the Class Period ("Released Class Claims").
2. **Aggrieved Employees.** As of the Effective Date, Defendant shall receive a release from the State of California of all PAGA claims for civil penalties alleged in the operative complaint, or which could have been asserted in the operative complaint premised on the facts asserted therein, which arose during the PAGA Period ("Released PAGA Claims"). The release of the Released PAGA Claims shall be effective as to all Aggrieved Employees, regardless of whether an Aggrieved Employee submitted a request for an exclusion from the Class for all Released PAGA Claims that occurred during the PAGA Period.
3. **Plaintiff.** As of the Effective Date, Plaintiff generally, releases and discharges the Released Parties from any and all claims, transactions or occurrences between them that occurred during the Class Period ("Plaintiff's Released Claims"). This release of Plaintiff's Released Claims releases the Released Parties from any claim that Plaintiff could maintain in any action against any Released Party that occurred during the Class Period. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this waiver and release of claims does not extend to any rights which as a matter of law cannot be

waived and released by private agreement, including rights to sue to enforce this Agreement and rights to vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, workers' compensation benefits, claims outside the Class Period, and Plaintiff's wrongful termination claims as alleged in the operative complaint which are being separately settled.

Plaintiff acknowledges that she may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to the facts or law that she knows or believes to be true with respect to the claims and matters released by way of this Agreement and agrees, nonetheless, that this Agreement and the releases contained in it shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or the discovery of them. The Parties declare and represent that they intend this Agreement to be complete and not subject to any claim of mistake, and that the releases herein express full and complete releases, and that they intend that the releases herein shall be final and complete.

4. **Plaintiff's Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542.** As partial consideration for the Class Representative Service Payments, the Plaintiff's Released Claims shall include all such claims, whether known or unknown by the releasing party. Thus, even if Plaintiff discovers facts and/or claims in addition to or different from those that she now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Plaintiff's Released Claims, those claims will remain released and forever barred. Therefore, with respect to Plaintiff's Released Claims, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes the provisions, rights and benefits of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, and that if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

5. **Plaintiff's Other Claims.** Plaintiff represents that she does have an additional claim against Defendant other than the Class claims and PAGA claims. This other claim consists of a wrongful termination claim which Plaintiff is separately settling pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 3.770. To the extent required by the Court, Plaintiff will provide the Court with a declaration disclosing the facts concerning the individual settlement for in camera review by the Court.
6. **Class Counsel.** As of the Effective Date, and except as otherwise provided by this Agreement and the Judgment, Class Counsel and any counsel associated with Class Counsel waive any claim to costs and attorneys' fees and expenses against Defendant arising from or related to the Action.

- H. **No Effect on Other Benefits.** The Settlement Shares will not result in any additional benefit payments (such as 401(k) or bonus) beyond those provided by this Agreement to Plaintiff or Participating Class Members, and Plaintiff and Participating Class Members will be deemed to have waived all such claims, whether known or unknown by them, as part of their release of claims under this Agreement.
- I. **Limitation on Public Statements About Settlement.** Neither Class Counsel nor Defendant's Counsel shall publicize the Settlement prior to the Court granting preliminary approval, other than filing documents with the Court. Plaintiff and Class Counsel and Defendant and Defendant's Counsel agree that they will not issue any press releases or initiate any contact with the media about the fact, amount, or terms of the Settlement. If Plaintiff or Class Counsel or Defendant or Defendant's Counsel receives an inquiry about the Settlement from the media, they may respond only after the Motion for Preliminary Approval has been filed and only by confirming the accurate terms of the Settlement. This provision shall not prohibit Class Counsel from communicating with Class Members after preliminary approval is granted for the sole purpose of administering the Settlement. This provision also does not limit Class Counsel from complying with ethical obligations or from posting court-filed documents on their website for viewing by Class Members after preliminary approval. Nothing in this provision shall prevent Defendant or Plaintiff from making any required disclosures.
- J. **Miscellaneous Terms.**
1. **No Admission of Liability or Class Certification for Other Purposes.**
- a. Defendant and the Released Parties deny that they have engaged in any unlawful activity, have failed to comply with the law in any respect, have any liability to anyone under the claims asserted in the Action, or that but for the Settlement a class should be certified in the Action. This Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendant or the Released Parties, or an admission by Plaintiff that any of the claims were non-meritorious or any defense asserted by Defendant was meritorious. This Settlement and the fact that Plaintiff and Defendant were willing to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (other than solely in connection with effectuating the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement). Nothing in this Agreement shall be constructed as an admission by Defendant of any liability or wrongdoing as to Plaintiff, Class Members, or any other person, and Defendant specifically disclaims any such liability or wrongdoing. Moreover, it is not, and it should not be construed as, any admission of fact or law in this matter or any other matter that a class action is appropriate. The Parties have entered into this settlement with the

intention of avoiding further disputes and litigation with the attendant inconvenience, expenses and risks. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Plaintiff's claims do not have merit or that class action is inappropriate.

- b. Whether or not the Judgment becomes Final, neither the Settlement, this Agreement, any document, statement, proceeding or conduct related to the Settlement or the Agreement, nor any reports or accounting of those matters, will be (i) construed as, offered or admitted in evidence as, received as, or deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to Plaintiff or Defendant or any of the Released Parties, including, but not limited to, evidence of a presumption, concession, indication or admission by any of the Released Parties of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession or damage; or (ii) disclosed, referred to or offered in evidence against any of the Released Parties, in any further proceeding in the Action, or any other civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding except for purposes of effectuating the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement.
- c. This section and all other provisions of this Agreement notwithstanding, any and all provisions of this Agreement may only be admitted in evidence and otherwise used in any and all proceedings for the limited purpose of enforcing any or all terms of this Agreement or defending any claims released or barred by this Agreement.

- 2. **Integrated Agreement.** After this Agreement is signed and delivered by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement and its exhibits will constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, and it will then be deemed that no oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements have been made to any Party concerning this Agreement or its exhibits other than the representations, warranties, covenants, and inducements expressly stated in this Agreement and its exhibits.
- 3. **Attorney Authorization.** Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts to effect the implementation of the Settlement. In the event the Parties are unable to reach agreement on the form or content of any document needed to implement the Agreement, or on any supplemental provisions that may become necessary to effectuate the terms of this Agreement, the Parties will seek the assistance of the mediator for resolution.

4. **No Prior Assignments:** The Parties represent, covenant and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged in this Settlement.
5. **No Tax Advice:** Neither Class Counsel nor Defendant's Counsel intend anything contained in this Settlement to constitute advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.
6. **Modification of Agreement.** Except as set forth in section III.J.3 hereinabove this Agreement, and any and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives.
7. **Agreement Binding on Successors.** This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
8. **Applicable Law.** All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California.
9. **Cooperation in Drafting.** The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.
10. **Fair Settlement.** The Parties and their respective counsel believe and warrant that this Agreement reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Action and have arrived at this Agreement through arms-length negotiations, taking into account all relevant factors, current and potential.
11. **Use and Return of Documents and Data.** All originals, copies, and summaries of documents and data provided to Class Counsel by Defendant in connection with the mediation or other settlement negotiations in this matter may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule. Within thirty days after the Effective Date, Class Counsel will return or destroy and confirm in writing to Defendant the destruction of all such documents and data.
12. **Headings.** The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.

13. **Notice.** All notices, demands or other communications given under this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff and the Class:

Norman B. Blumenthal
Kyle R. Nordrehaug
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
2255 Calle Clara
La Jolla, CA 92037
Tel.: (858) 551-1223
Fax: (858) 551-1232
E-Mail: norm@bamlawca.com
kyle@bamlawca.com

To Defendant:

Travis K. Jang-Busby
Lindsay C. David
Janna I. Jamil
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
101 West Broadway, Suite 2000
San Diego, CA 92101
Tel.: (619) 544-7226
Fax: (619) 696-7124
E-Mail: tjang-busby@grsm.com
ldavid@grsm.com
jjamil@grsm.com

14. **Execution in Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument provided that counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
15. **Stay of Litigation.** The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process from the mediation with Hon. Louis Meisinger (Ret.) on June 9, 2021 until the earlier of the Effective Date or the date this Agreement shall not longer be of any force or effect.

16. **Continuing Jurisdiction.** The Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over the Action under CCP section 664.6 to ensure the continuing implementation of this Agreement and enforcement of the Settlement until performance in full of the terms of this Settlement.

IV. EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL

The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.

Dated: Nov 10, 2021


Martina Avery (Nov 10, 2021 22:39 PST)
Plaintiff Martina Avery

Dated: _____

[name]
For Defendant Sleep Data Services LLC

Dated: 11/15/21


Norman Blumenthal
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff

Dated: _____

Travis K. Jang-Busby
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
Attorney for Defendant

16. **Continuing Jurisdiction.** The Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over the Action under CCP section 664.6 to ensure the continuing implementation of this Agreement and enforcement of the Settlement until performance in full of the terms of this Settlement.

IV. EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL

The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.

Dated: _____

Plaintiff Martina Avery

Dated: 12/06/2021

Julie Gorich
Julie Gorich [name]
For Defendant Sleep Data Services LLC

Dated: _____

Norman Blumenthal
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff

Dated: 12/7/2021

Travis K. Jang-Busby
Travis K. Jang-Busby
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
Attorney for Defendant

EXHIBIT A

[NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION AND HEARING DATE FOR
FINAL COURT APPROVAL]

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION
AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL**

**(Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC, Superior Court of the State of California,
County of San Diego, Case No. 37-2020-00032747-CU-OE-CTL)**

**YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED WHETHER YOU ACT OR DO NOT
ACT. PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.**

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT:	
Do Nothing and Receive a Payment	To receive a cash payment from the Settlement, you do not have to do anything. Your estimated Settlement Share is: \$<<__>>. See the explanation in Section 5 below. If you do nothing, you will be considered a Participating Class Member and will be part of the Settlement as explained more fully below. After final approval by the Court, the payment will be mailed to you at the same address as this notice. In exchange for the Settlement Share payment, you will release the Released Class Claims as detailed in Section 4 below. If your address has changed, you must notify the Settlement Administrator as explained in Section 6 below.
Exclude Yourself	To exclude yourself, you must send a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator as provided below. If you request exclusion, you will receive no money from the Settlement and you will not be bound by the Settlement. However, if you are an Aggrieved Employee who opts out, you will still be paid your allocation of the PAGA Payment and will remain bound by the release of the Released PAGA Claims regardless of whether you submit a request for exclusion. If you choose to do so, you must notify the Settlement Administrator as explained in Section 7 below.
Object	Write to the Court about why you do not agree with the settlement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing to make an oral objection. Instructions are provided in Section 8 below.

Your options are further explained in this Class Notice. To exclude yourself from, or object to, the settlement you must take action by certain deadlines. If you want the Settlement as proposed, you don't need to do anything to obtain your share of the Settlement. Defendant will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the Settlement.

1. Why did I get this Notice?

A proposed class action settlement (the "Settlement") of the above-captioned action pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of San Diego (the "Court") has been reached between Plaintiff Martina Avery ("Plaintiff") and Defendant Sleep Data Services LLC ("Defendant") and has been granted preliminary approval by the Court. You may be entitled to receive money from this Settlement.

You have received this Class Notice because you have been identified as a member of the Class, which is defined as:

All individuals who worked for Defendant in California as non-exempt employees at any time during the Class Period.

The Class Period is April 22, 2019 to [insert date].

This Class Notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, and your legal rights. It is important that you read this Class Notice carefully as your rights may be affected by the Settlement.

2. What is this class action lawsuit about?

On September 17, 2020, Plaintiff filed a Complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego (the “Complaint”), alleging the following class claims against the Defendant: unfair competition, failure to pay minimum wages, failure to pay overtime wages, failure to provide required meal periods, failure to provide required rest periods, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to timely pay wages at termination, and recovery of civil penalties pursuant to the Private Attorney General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.*) (“PAGA”) based upon the above alleged violations. This lawsuit is referred to as the “Action”.

Defendant denies and disputes all such claims. Specifically, Defendant contends that Plaintiff and the Class Members were properly compensated for wages under California law; that Plaintiff and the Class Members were provided with meal and rest periods in compliance with California law; that Defendant complied with California wage statement requirements; that Defendant is not liable for any of the penalties claimed or that could be claimed in the Action; and that this Action cannot be maintained as a class action.

The Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement on <<INSERT PRELIMINARY APPROVAL DATE>>. At that time, the Court also preliminarily approved the Plaintiff to serve as the Class Representative, and the law firms Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP to serve as Class Counsel.

3. What are the terms of the Settlement?

Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant has agreed to pay an “all in” amount of Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$277,500) (the “Gross Settlement Amount”) to fund the settlement of this Action. The Gross Settlement Amount includes all payments of Settlement Shares to Class Members, the Settlement Administration Expenses, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, and the PAGA Payment for civil penalties. Any employer-side payroll taxes on the portion of the Settlement Shares allocated to wages shall be separately paid by Defendant.

Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date, Defendant will fund the Gross Settlement Amount by depositing the money with the Settlement Administrator. The “Effective Date” the date the Judgment is entered, or if there are objections or any appeal, the date the Judgment is no longer subject to appeal. Fifteen (15) days after the settlement is funded, the Settlement Administrator will mail checks for the Settlement Shares to Participating Class Members.

Amounts to be Paid From the Gross Settlement Amount. The proposed payments subject to Court approval will be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount before Settlement Shares are made to Class Members who do not request exclusion (“Participating Class Members”):

- Settlement Administration Expenses. Payment to the Settlement Administrator, estimated not to exceed \$10,000, for expenses, including without limitation expenses of notifying the Class Members of the Settlement, processing opt outs, and distributing Settlement Shares and tax forms, and handling inquiries and uncashed checks.
- Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. Payment to Class Counsel of reasonable attorneys’ fees not to exceed one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is presently \$92,500 and an additional amount to reimburse actual litigation costs incurred by the Plaintiff not to exceed \$25,000. Class Counsel has been prosecuting the Action on behalf of Plaintiff and the Class on a contingency fee basis (that is, without being paid any money) and has been paying all litigation costs and expenses. The amounts stated are what Class Counsel will be requesting and the final amounts to be paid will be decided at the Final Approval Hearing.
- Class Representative Service Payments. Class Representative Service Payment in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to the Plaintiff, or such lesser amount as may be approved by the Court, to compensate her for services on behalf of the Class in initiating and prosecuting the Action, and for the risks she undertook. The amount stated is what Plaintiff will be requesting and the final amount to be paid will be decided at the Final Approval Hearing.
- PAGA Payment. A payment of \$25,000 relating to the claim for penalties under the Private Attorney Generals Act (“PAGA”), \$18,750 of which will be paid to the State of California’s Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA Payment”). The remaining \$6,250 will be distributed to the Aggrieved Employees based on their respective pay periods worked during the PAGA Period (April 22, 2019 to [REDACTED]). “Aggrieved Employees” mean all individuals who worked for Defendant in California as non-exempt employees at any time during the PAGA Period. All Aggrieved Employees will be sent their share of the PAGA Payment and will be subject to the release of the Released PAGA Claims as set forth below, whether or not they opt out of the Settlement.

Calculation of Payments to Class Members. After all of the payments of the Court-approved Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, the Class Representative Service Payment, the PAGA Payment, and the Settlement Administration Expenses are deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount, the remaining portion, called the “Net Settlement Amount”, shall be distributed as Settlement Shares to the Participating Class Members. The Net Settlement Amount is estimated to be at least \$[REDACTED], based upon the above proposed deductions. Settlement Administrator will pay a Settlement Share from the Net Settlement Amount to each Participating Class Member, which shall be calculated as follows: (a) the Settlement Administrator shall then divide the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of workweeks to determine a dollar amount per week (“Weekly Rate”); and (b) the Settlement Administrator shall then take the number of weeks worked by each Participating Class Member and multiply it by the Weekly Rate to calculate their Settlement Share.

If the Settlement is approved by the Court and you do not exclude yourself, you will automatically be mailed a check for your Settlement Share to the same address as this Class Notice. You do not have to do anything to receive a payment. If your address has changed, you must contact the Settlement Administrator to inform them of your correct address to ensure you receive your payment.

Tax Matters. One-third (1/3) of each Participating Class Member's Settlement Share is in settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). Accordingly, the Wage Portion is subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form W-2. One-third (1/3) of each Participating Class Member's Settlement Share is in settlement of claims for interest and one-third (1/3) of each Participating Class Member's Settlement Share is in settlement of claims for penalties allegedly due to employees (collectively the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portion shall not be subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form 1099. The employee portion of all applicable income and payroll taxes will be the responsibility of the Participating Class Members. Neither Class Counsel nor Defendant's Counsel intend anything contained in this Class Notice to constitute advice regarding taxes or taxability. The tax issues for each Participating Class Member are unique to him/her, and each Participating Class Member may wish to consult a tax advisor concerning the tax consequences of the payments received under the Settlement.

Conditions of Settlement. This Settlement is conditioned upon the Court granting final approval of the Settlement and entering the Judgment.

4. What Do I Release Under the Settlement?

Released Class Claims. As of the Effective Date, Defendant shall receive a release from the Participating Class Members of all claims alleged in the operative complaint, or which could have been asserted in the operative complaint premised on the facts asserted therein, which arose during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, and workers' compensation, and class claims outside of the Class Period ("Released Class Claims").

This means that, if you do not timely exclude yourself from the settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant and any other Released Party about Released Class Claims resolved by this Settlement. It also means that all of the Court's orders in this Action will apply to you and legally bind you.

Released PAGA Claims. As of the Effective Date, Defendant shall receive a release from the State of California of all PAGA claims for civil penalties alleged in the operative complaint, or which could have been asserted in the operative complaint premised on the facts asserted therein, which arose during the PAGA Period ("Released PAGA Claims"). The release of the Released PAGA Claims shall be effective as to all Aggrieved Employees, regardless of whether an Aggrieved Employee submitted a request for an exclusion from the Class for all Released PAGA Claims that occurred during the PAGA Period.

5. How much will my payment be?

The Weekly Rate is estimated to be <<\$_____>>. Defendant's records reflect that you have worked <<_____>> weeks for Defendant during the Class Period (April 22, 2019 to _____).

Based on this information, your estimated Settlement Share from the Net Settlement Amount is <<_____>>.

If you wish to challenge the information set forth above, then you must submit a written and signed dispute challenging the information along with supporting documents, to the Settlement Administrator at the address provided in this Class Notice no later than _____ [forty-five (45) days after the mailing of the Class Notice or 60 days after the Class Notice in the case of re-mailing].

6. How can I get a payment?

To get money from the settlement, you do not have to do anything. A check for your Settlement Share will be mailed automatically to the same address as this Class Notice. If your address is incorrect or has changed, you must notify the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator can be contacted at: _____ or (800) _____.

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on _____, 2022, at _____ to decide whether to approve the Settlement and fix the amounts to be paid as attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel and as a service award to the Plaintiff. If the Court approves the Settlement and there are no objections or appeals, payments will be mailed approximately two months after this hearing. If there are objections or appeals, resolving them can take time, usually more than a year. Please be patient.

7. What if I don't want to be a part of the Settlement?

If you do not wish to participate in the Settlement, you may exclude yourself from the Settlement or "opt out." **If you opt out, you will not receive a Settlement Share from the Settlement, and you will not be bound by the Settlement which means you will retain the right to sue Defendant for the Released Class Claims.** However, Aggrieved Employees who opt out will still be paid their allocation of the PAGA Payment and will remain bound by the release of the Released PAGA Claims regardless whether they submit a request for exclusion.

To opt out, you must mail to the Settlement Administrator, by First Class Mail, a written, signed and dated request to opt-out postmarked no later than _____ [forty-five (45) days after the date of the Class Notice or 60 days after the Class Notice in the case of re-mailing]. The request to opt-out must be postmarked or received by the Settlement Administrator by this deadline and should: (1) contain a clear statement that you are requesting to opt out of, or be excluded from the Class and Released Class Claims in the *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC* lawsuit; (2) contain the name, address, and the last four digits of the Social Security Number of the person requesting exclusion; (3) state the Class Member's request to exclude himself or herself from the Settlement and to opt out of the Settlement; and (4) be signed by the Class Member or his or her lawful representative. Please include the name and number of the case, which is *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC*, Case No. 37-2020-00032747. The request to opt-out must be signed by you. No other person may opt-out for a living member of the Class.

The address for the Settlement Administrator is _____. Written requests for exclusion that are postmarked after _____, or are incomplete or unsigned may be rejected; and if so, those Class Members will remain bound by the Settlement and the Released Class Claims described above.

8. How do I tell the Court that I don't agree with the Settlement?

Any Class Member who has not opted out and believes that the Settlement should not be finally approved by the Court for any reason may object to the proposed Settlement, the attorneys' fees, the costs and/or the service awards, either in writing or in person. Objections that are in writing should state the Class Member's name, current address, telephone number, and the dates of employment in California by Defendant, and describe why you believe the Settlement is unfair. All written objections or other correspondence should also state the name and number of the case, which is *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC*, in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego, Case No. 37-2020-00032747.

All written objections must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at _____, no later than _____ [forty-five (45) days after the date of the Class Notice or 60 days after the Class Notice in the case of re-mailing].

Alternatively, Class Members may appear remotely at the Final Approval Hearing on _____ at _____ to make an oral objection without submitting a written objection or to otherwise participate in the Final Approval Hearing. Check the Court's website for the most current information concerning appearances and procedures at the Court - <https://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/sdcourt/generalinformation/covid-19info>. For assistance in making an appearance at the Final Approval Hearing, please contact Class Counsel below.

To object to the Settlement, you must not opt out, and if the Court approves the Settlement despite your objection, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement in the same way as Class Members who do not object and you will still be mailed a check for your Settlement Share.

The addresses for Parties' counsel are as follows:

Class Counsel:

Norman Blumenthal
Kyle Nordrehaug
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
2255 Calle Clara
La Jolla, CA 92037
Tel: 858-551-1223 / Fax: 858-551-1232
Email: kyle@bamlawca.com
Website: www.bamlawca.com

Counsel for Defendant:

Travis K. Jang-Busby
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
101 West Broadway, Suite 2000
San Diego, CA 92101

9. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at _____ on _____, at the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 West Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101, in Department 74 before Judge Keri Katz. At this hearing the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. The purpose of this hearing is for the Court to determine whether to grant final approval to the Settlement and to fix the amounts to be paid as attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel and as service payments to Plaintiff. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. This hearing may be rescheduled by the Court without further notice to you. If you are interested in participating in the Final Approval Hearing, you should confirm the date, time and location by contacting Class Counsel. **You are not required**

to attend the Final Approval Hearing, although any Class Member is welcome to attend the hearing. If the hearing is continued, notice will be posted on Class Counsel's website at www.bamlawca.com under "Class Notices" for *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC*. In addition, hearing dates are posted on the Internet via the Register of Actions page for the California Superior Court for the County of San Diego (<https://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/sdcourt/generalinformation/accesscourtrecords>) and entering the Case No. 37-2020-00032747.

10. How do I get more information about the Settlement?

You may call the Settlement Administrator at _____ or write to *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC* Settlement Administrator, c/o _____; or contact Class Counsel at 1-858-551-1223.

This Class Notice summarizes the proposed settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement. You may receive a copy of the Settlement Agreement, the Judgment, the motion for attorneys' fees, costs and service award, the motion for final approval, or other Settlement documents by going to Class Counsel's website at www.bamlawca.com under "Class Notices" for *Avery v. Sleep Data Services LLC*. You may also get more details by examining the Court's file on the Internet via the Register of Actions for the San Diego County Superior Court (<https://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/sdcourt/generalinformation/accesscourtrecords>) and entering the Case No. 37-2020-00032747. If you wish to view the Court files in person, you must make an appointment with the Clerk's Office at the Hall of Justice, 330 West Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT ABOUT THIS NOTICE.

IMPORTANT:

- You must inform the Settlement Administrator of any change of address to ensure receipt of your settlement payment.
- Settlement checks will be null and void 180 days after issuance if not deposited or cashed, and this expiration date will be printed on the check. In such event, the Settlement Administrator shall pay all unclaimed funds to the California State Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of and for the benefit of the individual who did not cash their check where the funds may be claimed.
- If your check is lost or misplaced, you should contact the Settlement Administrator immediately to request a replacement.

EXHIBIT B

[ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT]

EXHIBIT "B"

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

MARTINA AVERY, an individual, on behalf
of herself, and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SLEEP DATA SERVICES LLC a California
Limited Liability Company; and Does 1
through 50, Inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: **37-2020-00032747-CU-OE-CTL**

**[PROPOSED] PRELIMINARY
APPROVAL ORDER**

Hearing Date:
Hearing Time:

Judge: Hon, Keri Katz
Dept.: 74

Action Filed: September 17, 2020
Trial Date: None Set

PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER

1 This matter, having come before the Honorable Keri Katz of the Superior Court of the
2 State of California, in and for the County San Diego, on _____[DATE], for the motion by
3 Plaintiff Martina Avery (“Plaintiff”) for preliminary approval of the class settlement with
4 Defendant Sleep Data Services LLC (“Defendant”). The Court, having considered the briefs,
5 argument of counsel and all matters presented to the Court and good cause appearing, hereby
6 GRANTS Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement.

7
8 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

9 1. The Court preliminarily approves the Class Action Settlement Agreement
10 (“Agreement”) attached as Exhibit ____ to the Declaration of Kyle Nordrehaug in Support of
11 Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement. This is based on the
12 Court’s determination that the Settlement set forth in the Agreement is within the range of possible
13 final approval, pursuant to the provisions of Section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure
14 and California Rules of Court, rule 3.769.

15 2. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Agreement, and all
16 terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order as set forth in the Agreement.

17 3. The Gross Settlement Amount is Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Five
18 Hundred Dollars (\$277,500). It appears to the Court on a preliminary basis that the settlement
19 amount and terms are fair, adequate and reasonable as to all potential Class Members when
20 balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation and the significant risks relating to
21 certification, liability and damages issues. It further appears that investigation and research have
22 been conducted such that counsel for the Parties are able to reasonably evaluate their respective
23 positions. It further appears to the Court that settlement at this time will avoid substantial
24 additional costs by all Parties, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the
25 further prosecution of the Action. It further appears that the Settlement has been reached as the
26 result of serious and non-collusive, arms-length negotiations. The Court therefore preliminarily
27 finds that the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable when balanced against the probable
28

1 outcome of further litigation and the significant risks relating to certification, liability, and
2 damages issues.

3 4. The Agreement specifies for an attorneys' fees award not to exceed one-third (1/3)
4 of the Gross Settlement Amount, an award of litigation expenses incurred, not to exceed \$25,000,
5 and proposed Class Representative Service Payment to the Plaintiff in an amount not to exceed
6 \$10,000. The Court will not approve the amount of attorneys' fees and costs, nor the amount of
7 any service award, until the Final Approval Hearing. Plaintiff will be required to present evidence
8 supporting these requests, including lodestar, at the time of final approval.

9 5. The Court recognizes that Plaintiff and Defendant stipulate and agree to
10 certification of a class for settlement purposes only. This stipulation will not be deemed
11 admissible in this or any other proceeding should this Settlement not become final. For settlement
12 purposes only, the Court conditionally certifies the following Class: "all individuals who worked
13 for Defendant in California as non-exempt employees at any time during the Class Period." The
14 Class Period is April 22, 2019 to _____.

15 6. The Court concludes that, for settlement purposes only, the Class meets the
16 requirements for certification under section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure in that:
17 (a) the Class is ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members of the Class is
18 impracticable; (b) common questions of law and fact predominate, and there is a well-defined
19 community of interest amongst the members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the
20 litigation; (c) the claims of the Plaintiff are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d)
21 the Plaintiff can fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class
22 action is superior to other available methods for the efficient resolution of this controversy; and (f)
23 counsel for the Class is qualified to act as counsel for the Class and the Plaintiff are adequate
24 representatives of the Class.

25 7. The Court provisionally appoints Plaintiff as the representative of the Class. The
26 Court provisionally appoints Norman B. Blumenthal, Kyle R. Nordrehaug, and Aparajit Bhowmik
27 of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP as Class Counsel for the Class.
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1 8. The Court hereby approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Proposed
2 Settlement of Class Action and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval (“Class Notice”) attached
3 to the Agreement as Exhibit A. The Court finds that the Class Notice appears to fully and
4 accurately inform the Class of all material elements of the proposed Settlement, of the Class
5 Members’ right to be excluded from the Class by submitting a written opt-out request, and of each
6 member’s right and opportunity to object to the Settlement. The Court further finds that the
7 distribution of the Class Notice substantially in the manner and form set forth in the Agreement
8 and this Order meets the requirements of due process, is the best notice practicable under the
9 circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto. The
10 Court orders the mailing of the Class Notice by first class mail, pursuant to the terms set forth in
11 the Agreement.

12 9. The Court hereby appoints Simpluris as Settlement Administrator. No later than
13 fourteen (14) calendar days after preliminary approval of the Settlement by the Court, Defendant
14 shall provide to the Settlement Administrator an electronic spreadsheet with the Class Data. The
15 Settlement Administrator will perform address updates and verifications as necessary prior to the
16 mailing of the Class Notice. Using best efforts to mail it as soon as possible, and in no event later
17 than 14 days after receiving the Class Data, the Settlement Administrator will mail the Class
18 Notice to all Class Members via first-class U.S. Mail.

19 10. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the proposed procedure for exclusion
20 from the Settlement. Any Class Member may individually choose to opt out of and be excluded
21 from the Class as provided in the Class Notice by following the instructions for requesting
22 exclusion from the Class that are set forth in the Class Notice. All requests for exclusion must be
23 postmarked by no later than forty-five (45) calendar days after the date of the mailing of the Class
24 Notice and received by the Settlement Administrator. If the Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the
25 response date for requests for exclusion will be extended an additional 15 days. Any such person
26 who chooses to opt out of and be excluded from the Class will not be entitled to any recovery
27 under the Settlement and will not be bound by the Settlement or have any right to object, appeal or
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comment thereon. Class Members who have not requested exclusion shall be bound by all determinations of the Court, the Agreement and the Judgment. A request for exclusion may only opt out that particular individual, and any attempt to effect an opt out of a group, class, or subclass of individuals is not permitted and will be deemed invalid. Subject to the Court's final approval of the Settlement, those Aggrieved Employees that worked during the PAGA Period of April 22, 2019 to _____, will still be paid their allocation of the PAGA Payment and will remain bound by the release of the Released PAGA Claims in the Agreement regardless of their request for exclusion from the Class.

11. Any Class Member who has not opted out may appear at the final approval hearing and may object or express the Member's views regarding the Settlement, and may present evidence and file briefs or other papers that may be proper and relevant to the issues to be heard and determined by the Court as provided in the Notice. Class Members will have forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of the mailing of the Class Notices to submit their written objections to the Settlement Administrator in accordance with the instructions in the Class Notice. If the Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the response date for written objections will be extended an additional 15 days. Alternatively, Class Members may appear at the Final Approval Hearing to make oral objections.

12. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court on _____ at _____ in Department 74 at the San Diego County Superior Court to determine all necessary matters concerning the Settlement, including: whether the proposed settlement of the Action on the terms and conditions provided for in the Agreement is fair, adequate and reasonable and should be finally approved by the Court; whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered herein; whether the plan of allocation contained in the Agreement should be approved as fair, adequate and reasonable to the Class Members; and to finally approve attorneys' fees and costs, the service awards, and the expenses of the Settlement Administrator. All papers in support of the motion for final approval and the motion for attorneys' fees, costs and service awards shall be filed with the Court and served on all counsel no later than

1 sixteen (16) court days before the hearing and both motions shall to be heard at the Final Approval
2 Hearing.

3 13. Neither the Settlement nor any exhibit, document, or instrument delivered
4 thereunder shall be construed as a concession or admission by Defendant in any way that the
5 claims asserted have any merit or that this Action was properly brought as a class or representative
6 action, and shall not be used as evidence of, or used against Defendant as, an admission or
7 indication in any way, including with respect to any claim of any liability, wrongdoing, fault or
8 omission by Defendant or with respect to the truth of any allegation asserted by any person.
9 Whether or not the Settlement is finally approved, neither the Settlement, nor any exhibit,
10 document, statement, proceeding or conduct related to the Settlement, nor any reports or accounts
11 thereof, shall in any event be construed as, offered or admitted in evidence as, received as or
12 deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to the Defendant, including, but not limited to,
13 evidence of a presumption, concession, indication or admission by Defendant of any liability,
14 fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession or damage.

15 14. In the event the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms
16 of the Agreement, or the Settlement is not finally approved, or is terminated, canceled or fails to
17 become effective for any reason, this Order shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated,
18 and the Parties shall revert to their respective positions as of before entering into the Agreement,
19 and expressly reserve their respective rights regarding the prosecution and defense of this Action,
20 including all available defenses and affirmative defenses, and arguments that any claim in the
21 Action could not be certified as a class action and/or managed as a representative action. In such
22 an event, the Court's orders regarding the Settlement, including this Order, shall not be used or
23 referred to in litigation for any purpose. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to alter the terms of
24 the Agreement with respect to the effect of the Agreement if it is not approved.

25 15. The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the date of the final approval
26 hearing and all dates provided for in the Agreement without further notice to Class Members, and
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1 retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with the
2 proposed Settlement.

3 16. The Action is stayed and all trial and related pre-trial dates are vacated, subject to
4 further orders of the Court at the Final Approval Hearing.

5 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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7 Dated: _____

8 HON. KERI KATZ
9 JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
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EXHIBIT C

[FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT]

EXHIBIT "C"

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

MARTINA AVERY, an individual, on behalf
of herself, and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SLEEP DATA SERVICES LLC a California
Limited Liability Company; and Does 1
through 50, Inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: **37-2020-00032747-CU-OE-CTL**

**[PROPOSED] FINAL APPROVAL
ORDER AND JUDGMENT**

Hearing Date:
Hearing Time:

Judge: Hon, Keri Katz
Dept.: 74

Action Filed: September 17, 2020
Trial Date: None Set

FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT

1 The motion of Plaintiff Martina Avery (“Plaintiff”) for an order finally approving the Class
2 Action Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) with Defendant Sleep Data Services LLC
3 (“Defendant”), and the motion for attorneys’ fees and costs, service payments, and the fees and
4 expenses of the Settlement Administrator, duly came on for hearing on _____ before
5 the Honorable Keri Katz.

6
7 **I.**
8 **FINDINGS**

9 Based on the oral and written argument and evidence presented in connection with the
10 motion, the Court makes the following findings:

- 11 1. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Agreement.
- 12 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this litigation pending before
13 the California Superior Court for the County of San Diego, and over all Parties to this litigation,
14 including the Class.
- 15 3. Based on a review of the papers submitted by Plaintiffs and a review of the
16 applicable law, the Court finds that the Gross Settlement Amount of Two Hundred Seventy-Seven
17 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$277,500) and the terms set forth in the Agreement are fair,
18 reasonable, and adequate.
- 19 4. The Court further finds that the Settlement was the result of arm’s length
20 negotiations conducted after Class Counsel had adequately investigated the claims and became
21 familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of those claims. In particular, the amount the
22 Settlement, the significant risks relating to certification, liability, and damages issues, and the
23 assistance of an experienced mediator in the settlement process, among other factors, support the
24 Court’s conclusion that the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate.

25 **Preliminary Approval of the Settlement**

- 26 5. On _____, the Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement. At
27 this same time, the Court approved conditional certification of the Class for settlement purposes

1 only.

2 **Notice to the Class**

3 6. In compliance with the Preliminary Approval Order, the Class Notice was mailed
4 by first class mail to members of the Class at their last known addresses on or about
5 _____. Mailing of the Class Notice to their last known addresses was the best notice
6 option under the circumstances and was reasonably calculated to communicate actual notice of the
7 litigation and the proposed settlement to the Class. The Class Notice given to the Class Members
8 fully and accurately informed the Class Members of all material elements of the proposed
9 Settlement and of their opportunity to object to or comment thereon or to seek exclusion from the
10 Settlement; was valid, due, and sufficient notice to all Class Members; and complied fully with the
11 laws of the State of California, the United States Constitution, due process and other applicable
12 law. The Class Notice fairly and adequately described the Settlement and provided Class
13 Members adequate instructions and a variety of means to obtain additional information.

14 7. The deadline for opting out of the Class or submitting written objections to the
15 Settlement was _____. There was an adequate interval between notice and the deadline
16 to permit Class Members to choose what to do and act on their decision. A full opportunity has
17 been afforded to the Class Members to participate in this hearing, and all Class Members and other
18 persons wishing to be heard have been heard. Class Members also have had a full and fair
19 opportunity to exclude themselves from the proposed Settlement and Class. Accordingly, the
20 Court determines that all Class Members who did not timely and properly submit a request for
21 exclusion are bound by the Settlement and this Final Approval Order and Judgment.

22 **Fairness Of Settlement**

23 8. The Agreement is entitled to a presumption of fairness. *Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.*
24 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 (1996).

25 a. The settlement was reached through arm's-length bargaining between the
26 parties during an all-day mediation before Hon. Louis Meisinger (Ret.), a respected jurist and
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1 experienced mediator of wage and hour class actions. There has been no collusion between the
2 parties in reaching the proposed settlement.

3 b. Plaintiff's investigation and discovery have been sufficient to allow the
4 Court and counsel to act intelligently.

5 c. Counsel for both parties are experienced in similar employment class action
6 litigation. All counsel recommended approval of the Agreement.

7 d. The percentage of objectors and requests for exclusion is small. ____
8 objections were received. _____ requests for exclusion were received.

9 e. The participation rate was high. _____ Class Members will be mailed a
10 settlement payment, representing ____% of the overall Class.

11 9. The consideration to be given to the Class Members under the terms of the
12 Agreement is fair, reasonable and adequate considering the strengths and weaknesses of the claims
13 asserted in this action and is fair, reasonable and adequate compensation for the release of Class
14 Members' claims, given the uncertainties and significant risks of the litigation and the delays
15 which would ensue from continued prosecution of the action.

16 10. The Agreement is approved as fair, adequate and reasonable and in the best
17 interests of the Class Members.

18 **Attorneys' Fees and Costs**

19 11. An award of \$_____ for attorneys' fees, representing one-third (1/3) of
20 the Gross Settlement Amount, and \$_____ for litigation costs and expenses, is
21 reasonable, in light of the contingent nature of Class Counsel's fee, the hours worked by Class
22 Counsel, and the results achieved by Class Counsel. The requested awards have been supported
23 by Class Counsel's lodestar and billing statement.

24 **Class Representative Service Payment**

25 12. The Agreement provides for a Class Representative Service Payment of not more
26 than \$10,000 to the Plaintiff, subject to the Court's approval. The Court finds that a Class
27 Representative Service Payment in the amount of \$_____ to the Plaintiff is reasonable in light
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1 of the risks and burdens undertaken by the Plaintiff in the litigation, for her time and effort in
2 bringing and prosecuting this matter on behalf of the Class, and for her execution of a general
3 release.

4 **Settlement Administration Expenses**

5 13. The Settlement Administrator shall calculate and administer the payment to be
6 made to the Class Members, transmit payment for attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel,
7 transmit the Class Representative Service Payment to the Plaintiff, distribute the PAGA Payment,
8 issue any required tax reporting forms, calculate withholdings and perform the other remaining
9 duties set forth in the Agreement. The Settlement Administrator has documented \$ _____ in
10 fees and expenses, and this amount is reasonable in light of the work performed by the Settlement
11 Administrator.

12 **PAGA Payment**

13 14. The Agreement provides for a PAGA Payment out of the Gross Settlement
14 Amount of \$25,000, which shall be allocated \$18,750 to the LWDA as the LWDA's 75% share of
15 the settlement of civil penalties paid pursuant to the PAGA and \$6,250 to be distributed to the
16 Aggrieved Employees based on their respective pay periods during the PAGA Period. The
17 Aggrieved Employees are all individuals who worked for Defendant in California as non-exempt
18 employees at any time during the PAGA Period, which is April 22, 2019 to
19 _____. The Court finds this PAGA Payment to be reasonable. All Aggrieved
20 Employees will be sent their share of the PAGA Payment and will be subject to the release of the
21 Released PAGA Claims as set forth below, whether or not they opt out of the Settlement.

22
23 **II.**

24 **ORDERS**

25 Based on the foregoing findings, and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

26 1. The certification of the Class for the purposes of settlement is confirmed. The
27 Class is defined as follows:

1 All individuals who worked for Defendant in California as non-exempt employees
2 at any time during the Class Period (April 22, 2019 to [REDACTED]).

3 2. All persons who meet the foregoing definition are members of the Class, except for
4 those individuals who filed a valid request for exclusion (“opt out”) from the Class. [INSERT
5 REFERENCE TO IDENTIFY ANY OPT OUTS].

6 3. The Agreement is hereby finally approved as fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the
7 best interest of the Class.

8 4. Class Counsel are awarded attorneys' fees in the amount of \$_____ and
9 costs in the amount of \$_____. Class Counsel shall not seek or obtain any other
10 compensation or reimbursement from Defendant, Plaintiff or members of the Class.

11 5. The payment of the Class Representative Service Payment in the amount of \$
12 _____ to the Plaintiff is approved.

13 6. The payment of \$_____ to the Settlement Administrator for their fees and
14 expenses is approved.

15 7. The PAGA Payment of \$25,000 is approved and shall be allocated in accordance
16 with the Agreement.

17 8. The Agreement and this Settlement are not an admission by Defendant, nor is this
18 Final Approval Order and Judgment a finding, of the validity of any claims in the Action or of any
19 wrongdoing by Defendant or that this Action is appropriate for class treatment (other than for
20 settlement purposes). Neither this Final Approval Order and Judgment, the Agreement, nor any
21 document referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Agreement is, may be construed
22 as, or may be used as an admission by or against Defendant of any fault, wrongdoing or liability
23 whatsoever. The entering into or carrying out of the Agreement, and any negotiations or
24 proceedings related thereto, shall not in any event be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, an
25 admission or concession with regard to the denials or defenses by Defendant. Notwithstanding
26 these restrictions, Defendant may file in the Action or in any other proceeding this Final Approval
27 Order and Judgment, the Agreement, or any other papers and records on file in the Action as
28 evidence of the Settlement to support a defense of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, or other

1 theory of claim or issue preclusion or similar defense as to the Released Class Claims and/or the
2 Released PAGA Claims.

3 9. Notice of entry of this Final Approval Order and Judgment shall be given to all
4 Parties by Class Counsel on behalf of Plaintiffs and all Class Members. The Final Approval Order
5 and Judgment shall be posted on Class Counsel's website as set forth in the Class Notice to the
6 Class. It shall not be necessary to send notice of entry of this Final Approval Order and Judgment
7 to individual Class Members.

8 10. If the Agreement does not become final and effective in accordance with the terms
9 of the Agreement, then this Final Approval Order and Judgment, and all orders entered in
10 connection herewith, shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated, and the Parties shall
11 revert to their respective positions as of before entering into the Agreement, and expressly reserve
12 their respective rights regarding the prosecution and defense of this Action, including all available
13 defenses and affirmative defenses, and arguments that any claim in the Action could not be
14 certified as a class action and/or managed as a representative action.

15
16 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDICATED AND DECREED THAT:**

17 1. Except as set forth in the Agreement and this Final Approval Order and Judgment,
18 Plaintiffs, and all members of the Class, shall take nothing in the Action.

19 2. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6, the Court shall retain
20 jurisdiction to construe, interpret, implement and enforce the Agreement, to hear and resolve any
21 contested challenge to a claim for settlement benefits, and to supervise and adjudicate any dispute
22 arising from or in connection with the distribution of settlement benefits.

23 3. The Parties are authorized, without further approval from the Court, to agree to and
24 to adopt such amendments, modifications and expansions of the Agreement and all exhibits
25 attached thereto which are consistent with this Final Approval Order and Judgment and as
26 approved by the Court.

1 4. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs, except as otherwise
2 provided in the Agreement and in this Final Approval Order and Judgment.

3 5. As of the Effective Date, each Class Member who has not validly opted out has
4 released the "Released Class Claims" against the Defendant and the Released Parties as set forth
5 in the Agreement. "Released Class Claims" means all claims alleged in the operative complaint, or
6 which could have been asserted in the operative complaint premised on the facts asserted therein,
7 which arose during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for
8 vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, and
9 workers' compensation, and class claims outside of the Class Period.

10 6. As of the Effective Date, Defendant shall receive a release from the State of
11 California of all PAGA claims for civil penalties alleged in the operative complaint, or which
12 could have been asserted in the operative complaint premised on the facts asserted therein, which
13 arose during the PAGA Period ("Released PAGA Claims"). The release of the Released PAGA
14 Claims shall be effective as to all Aggrieved Employees, regardless of whether an Aggrieved
15 Employee submitted a request for an exclusion from the Class for all Released PAGA Claims that
16 occurred during the PAGA Period.

17 7. As of the Effective Date, Plaintiff generally releases and discharges the Released
18 Parties from all of the Plaintiff's Released Claims as set forth fully in the Agreement.

19 **LET JUDGMENT BE FORTHWITH ENTERED ACCORDINGLY. IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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21 Dated: _____

22 _____
23 HON. KERI KATZ
24 JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
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