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Attorneys for Plaintiff

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

ASHANTI BERRY, as an individual and on
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PDS TECH, INC, a Washington corporation;
and DOES 1 through 100,

Defendants.

Case No. 20STCV18030

*[Case assigned for all purposes to the Hon.
Yvette M. Palazuelos, Dept. SSC-9]*

**DECLARATION OF JODEY
LAWRENCE IN SUPPORT OF
APPROVAL OF CLAIMS BROUGHT
UNDER THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS
GENERAL ACT, AND REASONABLE
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS**

Date: June 21, 2021

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Dept: 09

Action Filed: May 8, 2020

Trial Date: None Set

DECLARATION OF JODEY LAWRENCE

I, JODEY LAWRENCE, declare as follows:

1. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and if called upon to testify, I could and would do so competently under oath.

2. I am employed by Phoenix Settlement Administrators (“PSA”), as Vice President of Business Development.

3. I personally have over eleven years of experience in claims management and administration of class and collective action matters.

4. PSA has never had any financial interests in nor affiliation with the parties or counsel in the *Ashanti Berry v. PDS Tech, Inc.*, matter.

5. PSA has extensive experience administering class action matters. PSA has administered complex wage and hour, labor and employment, consumer/ product liability, TCPA, FLSA, FACTA, ERISA and PAGA class action matters, thru final approval and distribution. PSA has developed a system of quality assurance measures, to ensure the highest quality service is provided in our cases and to class members.

6. PSA’s Claims Management Group has extensive experiences in all aspects of Notification and Identification of Class Members, Claims Processing, Formulation and Calculation Methodologies, Award Distribution and Taxation, Accounting and Reconciliation.

7. PSA has extensive experience in and are experts at all aspects of complex class action matters including; (i) preparing, printing, mailing and tracking privacy notices; (ii) operation of a 24/7/365 multi-lingual call center; (iii) establishing settlement websites; (iv) claims management; (v) USPS processes and systems, third party tracing, including the use of reverse telephone directory services; (v) database management, programming and security protocols; (vii) calculating and issuing settlement payments; (viii) tax management, filings, and account reconciliation; and (ix) final approval.

8. As part of Settlement Notice procedures, PSA will run the names of all Settlement Class members through the National Change of Address (“NCOA”) database to determine any updated addresses for Settlement Class members. If a Class Notice from the

1 initial notice mailing is returned as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator will attempt to
2 obtain a current address for the Settlement Class Member to whom the returned Class Notice
3 had been mailed by undertaking skip tracing. If the Settlement Administrator is successful in
4 obtaining a new address, it will promptly re-mail the Class Notice to the Settlement Class
5 Member. Further, any Class Notices that are returned to the Settlement Administrator with a
6 forwarding address before the Response Deadline shall be promptly re-mailed to the forwarding
7 address affixed thereto.

8 9. PSA has been appointed as a Claims Administrator in both State and Federal
9 Courts.

10 10. A true and correct copy of PSA's Curriculum Vitae is attached hereto as **Exhibit**
11 **A**

12 11. Phoenix Settlement Administrators has adequate procedure in place to safeguard
13 the data and funds to be entrusted to it. PSA's Technology and Banking groups are directly
14 involved with Management on all issues of Information Security and Settlement Fund transfer, as
15 it pertains to the continuance of business processes, and all risk, vulnerability, security and
16 assessments as it pertains to information. The group, along with internal systems in place,
17 monitor and communicate with Management on a Preventative and comprehensive level, in
18 order to prevent potential Strategic or Compliance Risks. All processing of confidential and
19 personal information is handled and maintained within the organization and therefore all data
20 received is kept within a strict chain of custody internally. All informational assets are classified
21 and assigned based on initial case assessment, client and procedural requirements. The
22 Technology Group handles all higher-level ownership of information and physical peripherals, as
23 well as ownership of direct / indirect assets associated with technology and the continuance of
24 business, Specific Users, Groups or Entities are assigned Shared Ownership or Management
25 Capability based on procedural needs, and security level granted.

26 12. In addition to high levels of Data Center Policies/Procedures and
27 Facility/Maintenance Security Protocols, PSA's conducts semiannual training to maintain
28 additional safeguards such as:

- a. Phoenix Settlement Administration Business Continuity Policy
- b. Phoenix Settlement Administration Disaster Recovery Plan
- c. Phoenix Settlement Administration Incident Response Plan
- d. Phoenix Settlement Administration Personal Computer Security Policy
- e. Phoenix Settlement Administration Phoenix Data Archiving and Retention Policy
- f. Phoenix Settlement Administration Phoenix Personnel Security Policy
- g. Phoenix Settlement Administration Risk Assessment
- h. Phoenix Settlement Administration Service Provider Risk Assessment
- i. Phoenix Settlement Administrator Classification and Access Rights Policy
- j. Phoenix Settlement Administrator Password Policy
- k. Phoenix Settlement Administrators Certification of Destruction
- l. Phoenix Settlement Administrators Security Awareness Training Program

13. PSA currently maintains an errors and omissions insurance policy, which includes a data breach provision.

14. PSA costs are reasonable and competitive when compared to the industry.

15. PSA only employs a certified and/or qualified translator to translate Court-approved Notices for postings on PSA's website for dissemination to the Class.

16. This Administration project has a cost not to exceed \$1,850.00. A detailed breakdown of PSA's cost is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and state of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 23, 2021 at Orange, California.


Jodey Lawrence

EXHIBIT A



CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT SOLUTIONS

1411 N. Batavia, Suite 105 Orange, CA 92867

800-523-5773

www.phoenixclassaction.com

CURRICULUM VITAE

Phoenix Settlement Administrators. PSA Overview

Phoenix Settlement Administrators, PSA, is an emerging, National, Class Action Notification and Claims Administration firm, located in San Diego and Newport Beach California. PSA's core competencies ensure delivery of the highest quality and accuracy to its Clients and Class members. With a combined 28 years of expert experience, PSA's Managing Partners, Case Supervisors, Managers and Associates, Data Programming, and Certified Secure Strategic Partners, possess all the qualities that our Clients expect throughout the Noticing and Administration process, to Final Approval. It is our Value Pricing, Efficiency, Experience, Consultative Expertise and Delivery, that has perpetuated PSA, as an emerging leader in Class Action Settlement Administration. Expert PSA staff members are currently managing, Consumer and Product Liability, TCPA, Complex Labor & Employment, FLSA, ERISA and PAGA cases.

PSA has over 100 Attorney & Law Firm Clients, which have entrusted us with the management of their claim's administration, because of the "Boutique" attention every case receives. PSA is value driven on all size cases. large or small, cases receive expert management, secure data custody, neutral communication and a dedicated team. This seamless process maintains superior case continuity to ensure our clients receive timely final approval and conclusion to their actions. Phoenix Settlement Administrators implements its successful C.A.S.E. solutions on all our class action matters.

With 10's of Millions of dollars in award distributions currently under management since our inception, PSA has the ability and strengths to manage all levels of Complex Cases. PSA's Staff "Synergy" is our greatest attribute. It allows our people to work closely together and solve our client's case issues. PSA prides itself as a true "Third Party Administrator" and holds Neutrality as a mantra. Because of this approach, both Defense and Plaintiff Clients, experience fairness, trust and confidence in us, and allows for continued business from both parties. PSA has been appointed Third Party Administrator in State and Federal Courts.

We look forward to working with you on your next Class Action Noticing Campaign or Claims Administration. Let us design a C.A.S.E. solution, which will allow us to showcase the difference you'll experience. Superior Service, Class Savings Value Pricing and Timely Outcomes is why our clients come back to PSA.



PHOENIX
SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATORS

CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT SOLUTIONS

Expert Core Services

Initial Planning and Consultative Service on Class Action Cases and Noticing Plans.

State/Nationwide Noticing Expertise: Privacy, Media, Publication, Internet & Email Campaigns.

Attorney General(s) CAFA Notification

Claims Programming, Administration, Processing and Reporting.

24/7/365 Multi-Lingual Call Center Support and Claims Processing

Secure Data Management Environment, Individual Firewalls, Encrypted Data and Storage

Settlement Fund Calculations, Solutions, Award Distribution, Award Reconciliation

Tax Filings: State, Federal, EDD, ETT, FUTA, PAGA Payments

Partial PSA Client List, Defense and Plaintiff

Fisher & Phillips
Gordon & Rees
Paul Plevin Sullivan & Connaughton
Call & Jensen
Drinker Biddle
McKenna Long & Aldridge
Greenberg Traurig
Manning & Kass
Littler Mendelson
Kring & Chung
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart
Perkins Coie
Ross Wersching & Wolcott
Winston & Strawn
Sheppard Mullins
Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith
Morgan Lewis & Bockius
Paul Hastings
Park & Zheng
Sidley Austin
Higgs Fletcher & Mack
Jackson Lewis
Norton Rose Fulbright

Law Offices of Jonathan Ricasa
Dente Law Firm
Mahoney Law Group
Law Office of Thomas Rutledge
Law Office of Briana Kim
Dychter Law Firm
Garay Law Firm
Olsen Law Offices
Gould & Associates
Cohelan, Khoury & Singer
Ridout, Lyon & Ottoson
Carter Law Firm
Law Office of Justian Jusuf
The Phelps Law Group
The Emilio Law Group
Zeldes, Haeggquist & Eck
Markham Law Firm
Arias Ozzello & Gignac
David Yeremian & Associates
Aegis Law Firm
Rukin Hyland Doria & Tindall
Malk Law Firm
Spiro Law Corp
Levine Law Group, APC

Phoenix Settlement Administrators 411 N. Batavia, Suite 105 Orange, CA 92867

Phone: 800-784-2174 Fax: 619.338.0308

www.psaaction.com

EXHIBIT B



PHOENIX
SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATORS

CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT SOLUTIONS

CASE ASSUMPTIONS

Class Members	95
Total Claims Processed	95
Subtotal Admin Only	\$1,850.00
WILL NOT EXCEED	\$1,850.00

Price good for scope of quote

January 4, 2021

Case: Ashanti Berry v. PDS Tech, Inc. - PAGA Settlement Administration

Phoenix Contact: Jodey Lawrence
Contact Number: 949.566.1455
Email: Jodey@phoenixclassaction.com

Requesting Attorney: Alexandra R. McIntosh, Esq.
Firm: Haines Law Group, APC.
Contact Number: 424.292.2249
Email: amcintosh@haineslawgroup.com

Assumptions and Estimate are based on information provided by counsel. If class size changes, PSA will need to adjust this Estimate accordingly. Estimate is based on 95 Class Members. PSA assumes class data will be sent in Microsoft Excel or other usable format with no or reasonable additional formatting needed. A rate of \$150 per hour will be charged for any additional analysis or programming.

Case & Database Setup/ NCOA (USPS)				
Administrative Tasks:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item Estimate	
Programming Manager	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
Programming Database & Setup	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
Toll Free Setup*	\$31.17	1		\$31.17
Call Center & Long Distance	\$2.00	10		\$19.00
NCOA (USPS)	\$20.00	1		\$20.00
Language Translation	\$200.00	1		\$200.00
		Total		\$470.17

Data Merger & Scrub				
Project Action	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item Estimate	
Notice Packet/Check Formatting	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
Data Merge & Duplication Scrub	\$0.25	95		\$23.75
		Total		\$123.75

* Prices good for 90 days. Subject to change with the USPS Rate or change in Notice pages or Translation, if any.

Mailing and Case Management				
Project Action:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item Estimate	
Case Associate	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
QSF Bank Account Fees	\$50.00	1		\$50.00
Programming Calculations	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
Disbursement Review	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
Notice Checks and 1099's	\$2.00	95		\$190.00
Estimated Postage (up to 2 oz.)*	\$0.55	95		\$52.25
Skip Tracing Undeliverables	\$1.00	19		\$19.00
Remail Notice and Checks	\$2.00	19		\$38.00
Estimated Postage	\$0.55	19		\$10.45
Programming Undeliverables	\$75.00	1		\$75.00
Reconcile Uncashed Checks	\$50.00	1		\$50.00
Accounting Declaration	\$100.00	1		\$100.00
State Controller Notice of Uncashed Check and Postage	\$1.50	14		\$21.38
State Controller Uncashed Check QSF	\$350.00	1		\$350.00
Annual Tax Reporting *				
		Total		\$1,256.08

* All applicable California State & Federal taxes, which include SUI, ETT, and SDI, and FUTA filings. Additional taxes are Defendant's responsibility.

Estimate Total: \$1,850.00



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Provisions: The case estimate is in good faith and does not cover any applicable taxes and fees. The estimate does not make any provision for any services or class size not delineated in the request for proposal or stipulations. Proposal rates and amounts are subject to change upon further review, with Counsel/Client, of the Settlement Agreement. Only pre-approved changes will be charged when applicable. No modifications may be made to this estimate without the approval of PSA (Phoenix Settlement Administrators). All notifications are mailed in English language only unless otherwise specified. Additional costs will apply if translation into other language(s) is required. Rates to prepare and file taxes are for Federal and California State taxes only. Additional charges will apply if multiple state tax filing(s) is required. **Pricing is good for ninety (90) days.**

Data Conversion and Mailing: The proposal assumes that data provided will be in ready-to-use condition and that all data is provided in a single, comprehensive Excel spreadsheet. PSA cannot be liable for any errors or omissions arising due to additional work required for analyzing and processing the original database. A minimum of two (2) business days is required for processing prior to the anticipated mailing date with an additional two (2) business days for a National Change of Address (NCOA) update. Additional time may be required depending on the class size, necessary translation of the documents, or other factors. PSA will keep counsel apprised of the estimated mailing date.

Claims: PSA's general policy is to not accept claims via facsimile. However, in the event that facsimile filing of claims must be accepted, PSA will not be held responsible for any issues and/or errors arising out of said filing. Furthermore, PSA will require disclaimer language regarding facsimile transmissions. PSA will not be responsible for any acts or omissions caused by the USPS. PSA shall not make payments to any claimants without verified, valid Social Security Numbers. All responses and class member information are held in strict confidentiality. Additional class members are at \$10.00 per claim.

Payment Terms: All postage charges and 50% of the final administration charges are due at the commencement of the case and will be billed immediately upon receipt of the data and/or notice documents. PSA bills are due upon receipt unless otherwise negotiated and agreed to with PSA by Counsel/Client. In the event the settlement terms provide that PSA is to be paid out of the settlement fund, PSA will request that Counsel/Client endeavor to make alternate payment arrangements for PSA charges that are due at the onset of the case. The entire remaining balance is due and payable at the time the settlement account is funded by Defendant, or no later than the time of disbursement. Amounts not paid within thirty (30) days are subject to a service charge of 1.5% per month or the highest rate permitted by law.

Tax Reporting Requirements

PSA will file the necessary tax returns under the EIN of the QSF, including federal and state returns. Payroll tax returns will be filed if necessary. Under the California Employment Development Department, all taxes are to be reported under the EIN of the QSF with the exception of the following taxes: Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Employment Training Tax (ETT), employer-side taxes, and State Disability Insurance (SDI), an employee-side tax. These are reported under Defendant's EIN. Therefore, to comply with the EDD payroll tax filing requirements we will need the following information:

1. Defendant's California State ID and Federal EIN.
2. Defendant's current State Unemployment Insurance (UI) rate and Employment Training Tax (ETT) rate. This information can be found in the current year DE 2088, Notice of Contribution Rates, issued by the EDD.
3. Termination dates of the class members, or identification of current employee class members, so we can account for the periods that the wages relate to for each class member.
4. An executed Power of Attorney (Form DE 48) from Defendant. This form is needed so that we may report the UI, SDI, and ETT taxes under Defendant's EIN on their behalf. If this form is not provided we will work with the EDD auditors to transfer the tax payments to Defendant's EIN.
5. Defendant is responsible for reporting the SDI portion of the settlement payments on the class member's W-2. PSA will file these forms on Defendant's behalf for an additional fee and will issue an additional W-2 for each class member under Defendant's EIN, as SDI is reported under Defendant's EIN rather than the EIN of the QSF. The Power of Attorney (Form DE 48) will be needed in order for PSA to report SDI payments.