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Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Putative Class

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF ANGELES

CARRIE PRODROMIDES, an individual,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SHORELINE TREATMENT CENTER, INC., a
California Corporation; RACHEL LEVI, an
individual, and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

CLASS ACTION

Case No: 20STCV47287

Hon. Stuart Rice

Dept. 1

**DECLARATION OF RICHARD KIM, ESQ.
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF CARRIE
PRODROMIDES' NOTICE OF MOTION
FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Date: June 7, 2024

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Dept.: 1

Complaint Filed: December 10, 2020

Initial Trial Date: None

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1. I am over the age of 18 and a resident of California. I am admitted and licensed to practice law before all state courts within the State of California. I am co-counsel for Plaintiff CARRIE PRODROMIDES and the Putative Class. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein. If called as a witness, I could and would testify truthfully and competently thereto under oath.

3. In conjunction with attorney Rolando Gutierrez, we have actively and aggressively litigated this Action, which ultimately lead to this favorable outcome. More specifically:

(b) I conducted my independent research and investigation into Ms. Prodromides' claims, and I personally reviewed the records and determined that the case should proceed as a class action. I conducted extensive research on class actions and the alternative work week schedules that were implemented by Defendant.

(d) On December 8, 2020, I coordinated with my co-counsel and submitted an Amended PAGA Notice and filed it with the LWDA. My office served the Notice on Defendants.

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Roycroft, LLC (“Roycroft”), as “Doe 3”.

- (f) On June 4, 2021, Defendants filed an Answer to the First Amended Complaint. I personally reviewed the contents of the Complaint, First Amended Complaint, and this Answer.
- (g) On June 29, 2021 (after I met and conferred with my co-counsel) Defendants filed an Amended Answer where they reduced their affirmative defenses from 32 to 11.
- (h) On July 29, 2021, I drafted the Demurrer to the Amended Answer. I conducted extensive legal research and personally reviewed the Amended Answer.
- (i) I personally reviewed the Opposition to the Amended Answer that was filed and drafted the Reply. I also reviewed the Court’s tentative ruling and made an appearance on this Demurrer.
- (j) Afterwards, I personally reviewed the Third Amended Answer, conducted research and on October 28, 2021, I filed the Demurrer to the Third Amended Answer. I personally reviewed the Opposition to the Amended Answer that was filed and drafted the Reply. I also reviewed the Court’s tentative ruling and made an appearance on this Demurrer.
- (k) My office spoke with and interviewed numerous putative class members about topics relevant to the case, including Defendants’ attempts to pick-off the putative class.
- (l) I also personally reviewed the discovery requests and document production in preparation with Ms. Prodromides, and with her assistances, I prepared outlines of certain topics and lines of questions for my co-counsel to ask during the deposition that took place in this action, which were the depositions of Defendant Rachel Levi.

4. On January 12, 2023, the Parties engaged in a full day mediation with professional neutral, Kim Deck, Esq., of Judicate West. Prior to the mediation, I conferred with my co-counsel to review damage models and discuss settlement strategies and negotiations points.

5. A full-day mediation did not result in a compromise, but the Parties continued negotiations with the aid of Ms. Deck.

6. On September 13, 2023, my office gave notice of the settlement to the LWDA by uploading an electronic copy of the fully executed Long Form Agreement to the LWDA website.

7. I regularly communicated with the Class representative and updated her on the developments in this case. Any questions that she had in the matter, she would contact me about the case.

MY EXPERIENCE

8. I obtained my Juris Doctor Degree from University of San Diego, School of Law in August of 2009.

9. In 2010 after obtaining my license to practice law, I worked as an Associate at Albertson Law, a Real Estate Litigation law firm where I represented lenders in Wrongful Foreclosure actions and loan modifications. At this firm, I primarily engaged in law and motion practice, legal research, and discovery. In 2015, I began work as a Litigation Attorney at Lucem PC, an intellectual property boutique law firm. At this time, I also worked on building my own practice primarily focusing on Plaintiff's Employment Law and Personal Injury. Since 2017, I have been litigating individual wage and hour and wrongful termination/FEHA cases primarily on the Plaintiff's side. From 2017 to present, I have litigated over 35 individual wage and hour, wrongful termination/FEHA to completion. In these cases, I have drafted pleadings, engaged in law and motion practice, conducted discovery and deposition, and prepared for trial. I began litigating PAGA actions in 2018 and wage and hour class actions shortly after.

10. Here is a sampling of my representative matters:

(a) As lead or co-counsel, I have actively litigated and/or am currently litigating, the following matters:

- A wage and hour individual case and PAGA captioned *Alvaro Herrera, et. al. v. SK Market, Inc., et. al.*, LA Sup. Ct. Case No. BC716470. I represented Defendants in this matter and was able to resolve the matter with the Plaintiff for a confidential settlement sum.
- A wage and hour individual case and PAGA captioned *Igor Khanukayev, et.*

1 *al. v. Vladimir Yepishin, et. al.* LA Sup. Ct. Case No. 19TRCV00566. I
2 represented Plaintiff and was able to resolve this matter for a confidential
3 settlement sum.

- 4 • A wage and hour individual case and PAGA captioned *Arik Brown v. CBD,*
5 *Inc., et. al.* Orange Count. Sup. Ct. Case No. 30-2021-01198053-CU-OE-
6 CXC. This case is still pending.
- 7 • A wage and hour individual case and PAGA captioned *Wayne Eric Fan v.*
8 *Cybercoders, Inc.* Orange Count. Sup. Ct. Case No. 30-2021-01198053-CU-
9 OE-CXC, settled for \$245,000.00, pending Court approval.
- 10 • A wage and hour class action/PAGA action captioned *Hyo Kyoung Lee v.*
11 *Elite Logistics Corp.,* LA Sup. Ct. Case No. 21STCV34748 which recently
12 settled for \$125,000, pending preliminary approval.
- 13 • A wage and hour class action/PAGA action captioned *Nicole Wheat v. Mario*
14 *Marovic, et. al.;* Orange Count Sup. Ct. Case No. 30-2021-01210986-CU-OE-
15 CXC (related case: *Natasha Konishi et al. v. The Lounge Group, Inc., et al.;*
16 Orange Count Sup. Ct. Case No. 30-2021-01201250-CU-OE-CXC, which
17 recently settled for \$1,750,000, pending preliminary approval.
- 18 • A wage and hour/PAGA action captioned *Efren Lopez v. The Fishel*
19 *Company..;* Orange County Superior Ct. Case No. 30-2023-01305726-CU-
20 OE-CXC, settled for \$200,000.00, pending Court approval.
- 21 • A wage and hour class action captioned *Richard Choi v. The Claremont*
22 *Colleges, Inc.;* LA Sup. Ct. Case No. Pending. This case is still pending.

23 11. As of the date of this declaration, my market and customary hourly rate ranges are
24 approximately between \$500 and \$550 an hour, which is commensurate with my years of experience in
25 civil litigation and complex class action litigation.¹

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27 ¹ According to the 2022 Real Rate Report, a Wolters Kluwer publication, the median and average hourly
28 rates for Los Angeles area attorneys with seven or more years of experience in 2022 was \$550 and \$600,
respectively, while the median and average hourly rates for “Litigation” associates in the Los Angeles area
was \$615 and \$642, respectively. In addition, in a 2014 survey from ALM Legal Intelligence published by

12. For this action, I am claiming an hourly rate of \$400, which is below my market rate.

13. I have dedicated approximately 114.1 hours to litigating this matter, resulting in a lodestar of \$45,640.

14. To date, I have incurred \$1,274.40 in litigation expenses.

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is true and correct, this 15th Day of May 2024, in Buena Park, California.

Richard Kim

RICHARD KIM

the National Law Journal reported the hourly rates of the Los Angeles office of SHEPPARD MULLIN RICHTER & HAMPTON, LLP, a leading wage and hour class action defense firm, at \$535 on the higher end, \$275 on the lower end, and an average of \$415. (<https://www.law.com/nationallawjournal/almID/1202636785489/>)

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 **RE: *Prodromides v. Shoreline Treatment Center, Inc, et. al.***
3 **Case No: 20STCV47287**

4 I am employed in the State of California, County of Los Angeles. I am over the age of 18 and not
5 a party to the within suit; my business address is 333 South Hope Street, 40th Floor, Los Angeles, CA
6 90071.

7 On **May 16, 2024** I served true and correct copies the following document(s) described as:

8 **DECLARATION OF RICHARD KIM, ESQ. IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF CARRIE**
9 **PRODROMIDES' NOTICE OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION**
10 **AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

11 on the interested parties in this action as follows:

12 Karina B. Sterman, Esq.
13 *KSterman@ggfirm.com*
14 James W. Hill, Esq.
15 *JHill@ggfirm.com*
16 **GREENBERG GLUSKER FIELDS**
17 **CLAMAN & MACHTINGER, LLP**
18 2049 Century Park East, Suite 2600
19 Los Angeles, CA 90076

20 Richard Kim, Esq.
21 *rkim@richkimlaw.com*
22 **LAW OFFICES OF RICHARD KIM, PC**
23 6131 Orangethorpe Ave., Suite 370
24 Buena Park, CA 90620-4929
25 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Putative Class*

26 *Attorneys for Defendants*
27 **SHORELINE TREATMENT CENTER, LLC,**
28 *f/k/a SHORELINE TREATMENT CENTER,*
INC.; RACHEL LEVI; ODYSSEY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, LLC; 108
ROYCROFT, LLC

1 ☒ **BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE VIA CASEANYWHERE:** Complying with California Rule
2 of Court 2.251 and Code of Civil Procedure § 1010.6, *et. seq.*, and in compliance with the
3 Court's Case Management Order, I caused true and correct copies of the documents to be served
4 through Case Anywhere at www.caseanywhere.com to the email address(es) of the person(s)
5 identified above.

6 ☒ **STATE:** I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
7 foregoing is true and correct.

8 Executed on **May 16, 2024** at Los Angeles, California.

9 _____
10 Don Adove
11 Type or Print Name

12 _____
13 
14 Signature

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 **RE: *Prodromides v. Shoreline Treatment Center, Inc, et. al.***
3 **Case No: 20STCV47287**
LWDA Case No: LWDA-CM-793145-20

4 I am employed in the State of California, County of Los Angeles. I am over the age of 18 and not
5 a party to the within suit; my business address is 333 South Hope Street, 40th Floor, Los Angeles, CA
90071.

6 On **May 16, 2024** I served true and correct copies the following document(s) described as:

7 **DECLARATION OF RICHARD KIM, ESQ. IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF CARRIE**
8 **PRODROMIDES' NOTICE OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION**
9 **AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

on the interested parties in this action as follows:

10 Labor and Workforce Development Agency
11 800 Capital Mal, Suite 500
12 Sacramento, California 95814

13 ☒ **BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION:** Complying with CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 2699(l)(4) and
14 2699.3, I caused true and correct copies of the documents to be served on the Labor and
Workforce Development Agency through its online platform at
<https://www.dir.ca.gov/Private-Attorneys-General-Act/Private-Attorneys-General-Act.html>.

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

Executed on **May 16, 2024** at Los Angeles, California.

17
18 Rolando J. Gutierrez
19 Type or Print Name


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23
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25
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27
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Signature