

Edwin Aiwazian (SBN 232943)
Arby Aiwazian (SBN 269827)
Joanna Ghosh (SBN 272479)
LAWYERS for JUSTICE, PC
410 West Arden Avenue, Suite 203
Glendale, California 91203
Tel: (818) 265-1020 / Fax: (818) 265-1021

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ALBERT EBUEN, individually, and on
behalf of other members of the general
public similarly situated; MARICEL J.
SANTA ANA, individually, and on behalf
of other members of the general public
similarly situated and on behalf of other
aggrieved employees pursuant to the
California Private Attorneys General Act,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

RED RIBBON BAKESHOP INC., a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through
100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: BC715064

Honorable Kenneth R. Freeman
Department SSC14

CLASS ACTION

**DECLARATION OF MARICEL J. SANTA
ANA IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT,
ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS, AND
ENHANCEMENT PAYMENTS**

[Notice of Motion and Motion for Final
Approval of Class Action Settlement,
Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Enhancement
Payments; Declaration of Class Counsel
(Edwin Aiwazian); Declaration of Class
Representative (Albert Ebuen); Declaration of
Settlement Administrator (Lindsay Kline); and
[Proposed] Final Approval Order and
Judgment filed concurrently herein]

Date: June 28, 2022
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Department: SSC14

Complaint Filed: July 26, 2018
FAC Filed: January 25, 2021
Trial Date: None Set

DECLARATION OF MARICEL J. SANTA ANA

I, **Maricel J. Santa Ana**, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age and a resident of California. I am a proposed plaintiff in the above-captioned case. I have personal knowledge of the facts and statements set forth in this declaration, and if called upon to testify, I could and would competently testify thereto. This declaration and its contents are not intended to waive any mediation, settlement, or any attorney-client communication privileges or confidentiality.

2. I was employed by Defendant Red Ribbon Bakeshop Inc. ("Red Ribbon") in an hourly-paid, non-exempt position from approximately February 2017 to March 2017. I decided to seek legal advice about my work experiences with Red Ribbon and about pursuing my grievances. I contacted Lawyers *for* Justice, PC and spoke with attorneys there. I wanted to do whatever I could to make sure Red Ribbon paid me and other employees what was owed to us for all hours worked, non-compliant meal and rest breaks, and failure to reimburse expenses. After speaking with the attorneys, I investigated complex wage-and-hour lawsuits on my own and did some research into the leading class action and employment law firms in California for approximately 5 hours. Thereafter, I consulted with the attorneys at Lawyers *for* Justice, PC for 4 hours to discuss my situation, complex wage-and-hour class actions and representative actions under the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") in general, and what it meant to potentially be a named plaintiff, class representative, and PAGA representative. Prior to commencing the case, I was informed of and came to understand what my duties and responsibilities would be as a class representative, and also, if class certification were to be obtained, what my duties and responsibilities would be in that event.

3. I have spent over 8 hours communicating with my attorneys and fulfilling my responsibilities as a class representative in this case, which included gathering documents concerning my employment with Red Ribbon, reviewing documents with my attorneys, answering their questions, providing guidance regarding the work performed by other non-exempt employees, and helping develop a strategy as to what documents and information to obtain from Red Ribbon. I frequently checked in with my attorneys and their staff to make sure

1 that they had my most current information and any additional information that I had obtained.

2 4. Throughout the case, I was available to answer any questions my attorneys had,
3 and available to speak and meet with them whenever they needed me. I responded to my
4 attorneys as quickly as possible and gave them as much information and identified as many
5 documents as I could. I spent at least 7 additional hours speaking with my attorneys about the
6 case, identifying potential witnesses, providing my attorneys with documents and information
7 concerning the case, and also describing policies, practices, and procedures of Red Ribbon.

8 5. As far as the settlement is concerned, I was available to review documents and
9 answer any questions my attorneys had. I spent about 2 hours reviewing the settlement papers
10 and about 2 hour asking questions and discussing the potential settlement and amended
11 settlement paperwork with my attorneys before signing the settlement papers.

12 6. I understand that a settlement has been reached in my case and what my duties
13 and responsibilities are as a class and PAGA representative. For example, I am aware that if the
14 settlement is granted preliminary approval, the Court will certify a class for settlement purposes,
15 and likely appoint me as the representative of the class and my attorneys as counsel for the class.
16 I also understand that my duties will include checking in on, monitoring, and conferring with my
17 attorneys and counsel for the class to facilitate the notice and settlement administration process,
18 and to provide information that the Court needs to assess whether the settlement is fair,
19 reasonable, and adequate. Further, if any individuals who are potential class members contact
20 me, I will take steps to have them referred to the Court-appointed settlement administrator so that
21 these individuals may receive the necessary information and notice they may be eligible to
22 receive in connection with the settlement and contemplated final approval hearing.

23 7. I believe that I have done everything that my attorneys have asked of me and have
24 tried, to the best of my ability, to represent the class. I think my efforts helped to get the result
25 obtained in this case, and as a potential class and PAGA representative, I respectfully request
26 that the Court award me an enhancement payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 for my active
27 participation in this case. Taking into consideration the time that I have dedicated to this case, I
28 believe that this amount is reasonable.

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

Executed on 08/06/2021, at Daly City, California.

Maricel J. Santa Ana