

1 Taras Kick (State Bar No. 143379)
 Taras@kicklawfirm.com
 2 Greg Taylor (State Bar No. 315128)
 Greg@kicklawfirm.com
 3 Ryan Tish (State Bar No. 274284)
 Ryan@kicklawfirm.com

4 **THE KICK LAW FIRM, APC**

5 815 Moraga Drive
 Los Angeles, CA 90049
 6 Tel: (310) 395-2988
 Fax: (310) 395-2088

7
 8 Attorneys for Plaintiff YAZMIN GONZALEZ,
 individually and on behalf of all others similarly
 9 situated

10 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 **FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE**

12 YAZMIN GONZALEZ, individually, and on
 13 behalf of all others similarly situated,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 BRANDED ONLINE, INC., a Delaware
 17 corporation; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,

18 Defendants.

Case No.: 20STCV29702

*[Assigned for all purposes to the Honorable
 Maren Nelson, Dept. 17]*

**DECLARATION OF YAZMIN GONZALEZ
 IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
 FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
 CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: April 20, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM

Dept: 17

Complaint filed: August 5, 2020

FAC filed: October 27, 2020

Trial date: None set

DECLARATION OF YAZMIN GONZALEZ

I, Yazmin Gonzalez, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a plaintiff and proposed Class Representative in the above-captioned class and representative action, *Gonzalez v. Branded Online, Inc.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV29702.

2. I am over 18 years of age and make this declaration based on my personal knowledge. If called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto.

3. This declaration is submitted in support of Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class and PAGA Representative Action Settlement.

4. Defendant Branded Online, Inc. ("Branded Online") is a corporation headquartered in Tustin, California, which provides e-commerce services to third-party retailers or other vendors, including by hosting and creating web content to optimize online presence and sales. I worked for Branded Online as a non-exempt Digital Producer at Branded Online's Rancho Dominguez location from approximately July 16, 2018, through July 2, 2020. During my employment, I observed that Branded Online employs other non-exempt employees, including warehouse associates, in two distribution centers/warehouses in Fontana, California. In January 2020, in response to the pandemic, I started working from home. I observed that other some of the other non-exempt employees did the same, not including warehouse associates.

5. I seek to represent current and former non-exempt employees who worked for Branded Online in California and were subject to the same uniform policies and procedures with respect to timekeeping and payroll.

6. Despite my concerns about how a lawsuit could potentially affect my job prospects, I believe that Branded Online should be held accountable for how they treat their employees and decided to pursue these claims.

7. Throughout the litigation, I have maintained regular contact with my attorneys and received updates from them. I have spent many hours reviewing documents and providing my attorneys with information whenever they requested it. During both mediations, I made remained available and near the phone. My attorneys kept me informed about all settlement negotiations and sought my opinion, including

1 with respect to the mediations. I have reviewed the proposed settlement and conferred extensively with
2 my attorneys about its pros and cons.

3 8. Before and during the litigation, I was advised by my attorneys about my duties and
4 responsibilities as a representative for other current and former employees. I have taken these duties
5 seriously and was actively involved in my case throughout. I understand the factual allegations, and, as
6 far as I am aware, my experience is typical of Branded Online's employees in California. I have no interest
7 that is adverse to, or even substantially different from, any other employee.

8 9. I was never offered anything to serve as the class representative, and I understand that my
9 duty to the class is ongoing until the litigation is fully resolved. I am not seeking any compensation from
10 the litigation other than an individual class award and class representative service award, if approved by
11 the Court. Ultimately, I believe the settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable because it holds Defendant
12 accountable and will actually provide money to the proposed class, sooner rather than later.

13 I declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is
14 true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.

15 Executed on 1/26/2023 in Bellflower, California.

16 DocuSigned by:
17 Yazmin Gonzalez
18 Yazmin Gonzalez
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28