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Attorneys for Plaintiff Atlas Vargas

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF VENTURA

Atlas Vargas, an individual, on behalf of himself
and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

SKYSKOPES, INC., a Delaware Corporation;
and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 56-2020-00544196-CU-OE-VTA

Assigned for all Purposes to the Hon. Judge Mark
Borrell (Dept. 40)

Motion Reservation #: 2562304

**DECLARATION OF WALTER L. HAINES ISO
MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF PRIVATE
ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT (PAGA)
SETTLEMENT AND DISMISSAL OF CLASS
CLAIMS WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Hearing Date: May 27, 2021

Hearing Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Dept. 40

Complaint Filed: August 11, 2020

FAC Filed: October 15, 2020

Trial Date: None Set

1 I, Walter L. Haines, declare:

2 1. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of California. I am co-counsel
3 of record for Plaintiff Atlas Vargas (“Plaintiff” or “Vargas”) working with Alexander I. Dychter
4 and S. Adam Spiewak of Dychter Law Offices, APC, in this case against SkySkopes, Inc.
5 (“Defendants” or “SkySkopes”). I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein and if
6 called and sworn as a witness, I could and would competently testify under oath thereto.

7 2. My firm is highly experienced in actions of this nature. I have been practicing law
8 over 40 years and I am highly experienced in actions of this nature. I am the most senior attorney in
9 my firm, United Employees Law Group, PC (“UELG”), and worked on the litigation of this matter. I
10 formed UELG in 2005, primarily to represent employees in their wage claims. I have represented
11 over 1,500 clients in wage and hour disputes of which more than 300 cases were class actions with
12 settlements totaling over \$400,000,000. These class action cases include Fortune 500 companies
13 such as Pepsi, Intel, Home Depot, Kaiser and Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Cisco Systems, First
14 American Title Co., Yahoo!, WellPoint, Inc., Sun Microsystems, and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals.

15 3. When this case was originally filed it was “inescapably contingent.” Further, the
16 result was by no means guaranteed. Effective prosecution of this case was founded upon the risky
17 contingent investment of time and expense.

18 4. I firmly believe that the settlement represents a very favorable resolution of the
19 Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”) claim on behalf of the State of California and for the
20 benefit of the “aggrieved employees.”

21 5. Although I did not attend the mediation session via Zoom, I was in communication
22 with my co-counsel (Mr. Dychter) during the mediation session. Although the parties did not
23 resolve the matter on the date of mediation the parties ultimately reached a PAGA settlement the
24 following day via a “Mediator’s Proposal.”

25 6. Given the risks inherent in litigation and PAGA-only actions, I strongly believe that
26 the settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable, and in the best interests of the State of California and
27 the aggrieved employees.

7. My lodestar *through* May 5, 2021 is approximately **\$11,205** (*16.6 hours x \$675/hr*).
This time was spent on the following categories of tasks:

- a. Client intake / background case research: **3.50 hours.**
- b. Discussions with co-counsel re intake and overall case strategy: **4.60 hours.**
- c. Review various documents/pleadings: **6.0 hours.**
- d. Review and edit the PAGA Settlement Agreement and Motion Papers: **2.50 hours.**

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 5th day of May 2021, at Los Angeles, California.

W. C. G. Harris

Walter L. Haines