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

HELEN SANTOS, an individual, on behalf of
herself and others similarly situated,

PLAINTIFF,

v.

AIR CULINAIRE WORLDWIDE, LLC; and
DOES 1 thru 50, inclusive,

DEFENDANTS.

CASE NO. 20STCV40648

[Case Assigned for All Purposes to Hon.
William F. Highberger in Dept. 10]

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT AND ENTERING
JUDGMENT**

Date: May 3, 2023

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Dept.: 10

Complaint Filed: October 23, 2020

Trial Date: None Set

1 **TO ALL PARTIES AND TO THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:**

2 The above captioned Action is a class action lawsuit brought by Plaintiff HELEN SANTOS
3 (“Class Representative” or “Plaintiff”) against Defendant AIR CULINAIRE WORLDWIDE, LLC
4 (“Defendant”). The Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement came before this Court,
5 on May 3, 2023.

6 **WHEREAS**, Judge William Highberger granted preliminary approval of the Amended
7 Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and Release of Claims (“Settlement”), attached to the
8 concurrently-filed Declaration of Kelsey M. Szamet as Exhibit “1”, on June 13, 2022.

9 **WHEREAS**, Plaintiff HELEN SANTOS has applied to the Court for an order granting
10 final approval of the Settlement Agreement.

11 **WHEREAS**, the Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions for the proposed
12 Agreement and for entry of an Order of Final Approval and entry of final judgment thereon. The
13 Court having read and considered Plaintiff’s Motion for Final Approval of Class Action
14 Settlement; Motion for Approval of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs; the Declarations of Kelsey M.
15 Szamet, Helen Santos; and Nicole Bench of ILYM Group, Inc.; and the supporting documents
16 annexed thereto, now finds:

17 **NOW THEREFORE, GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

18 1. The Court has personal jurisdiction over all Class Members and that the Court has
19 subject matter jurisdiction to approve the Agreement;

20 2. The terms of the Agreement are fair, just, reasonable, and adequate, consistent and
21 in compliance with California Code of Civil Procedure, the California and United States
22 Constitutions (including the due process clauses), the California Rules of Court and any other
23 applicable law, and in the best interest of each of the Parties and the Class Members and is hereby
24 finally approved in all respects.

25 3. The Parties are hereby directed to perform the terms of the Settlement as described
26 in the Agreement according to its terms and provisions.

27 4. The Agreement is binding on Plaintiff and all other Class Members, except those
28 who timely and properly filed Request for Exclusion, as well as their heirs, executors and

administrators, successors and assigns.

5. There is one (1) valid request for exclusion.

6. There are zero (0) objectors to the Agreement.

7. It is ordered that the settlement class is certified for settlement purposes only. The Court finds that an ascertainable class exists and a well-defined community of interest exists in the questions of law and fact involved because in the context of the Agreement: (i) there are questions of law and fact common to the Class Members which, as to the Agreement and all related matters, predominate over any individual questions; (ii) the Claims of Plaintiff are typical of the Claims of the Class Members; and (iii) in negotiating, entering into and implementing the Agreement, Plaintiff and Plaintiff's Attorneys have fairly and adequately represented and protected the interest of the Class Members.

8. The Court finds that the Notice and notice methodology implemented pursuant to this Agreement (i) constituted the best practicable notice; (ii) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Class Members of the pendency of the Action, their right to object to or exclude themselves from the proposed Agreement and their right to appear at the Final Settlement Hearing; (iii) were reasonable and constituted due, adequate and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to receive notice; and (iv) met all applicable requirements of the California Code of Civil Procedure, the California and United States Constitution (including the Due Process Clause), the California Rules of Court and any other applicable law.

9. The settlement class is hereby made final. The "Settlement Class Members" are defined as all persons who are employed or have been employed as an hourly employee by Defendant in the state of California during the Covered Period.

10. The "Covered Period" is October 23, 2016 through October 23, 2020.

11. The Agreement is not an admission by Defendant, nor is this Final Order a finding of the validity of any allegations or of any wrongdoing by Defendant. Neither this Final Order, the Agreement, nor any document referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Settlement, shall be construed or deemed an admission of liability, culpability, negligence, or wrongdoing on the part of Defendant.

12. Pursuant to the Agreement, upon entry of this Final Order, Plaintiff; each Class Member; and all PAGA Class Members shall fully release and discharge the Released Parties pursuant to the following release and expressly waive and relinquish any and all claims, rights or benefits that they may have under California Civil Code § 1542, which provides:

“any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, penalties, guarantees, costs, expenses, attorney’s fees, damages, action or causes of action of whatever kind of nature, whether known or unknown, contingent or accrued, that are alleged, or that reasonably could have arisen out of the same facts alleged in the Action, including: (1) Failure to Pay Wages and/or Overtime Under Labor Code §§ 510, 1994, 1994.2, and 1199; (2) Failure to Provide Meal Breaks Pursuant to Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512; (3) Failure to Provide Rest Breaks Pursuant to Labor Code § 226.7; (4) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements Pursuant to Labor Code § 226(a); (5) Waiting Time Penalties Pursuant to Labor Code § 204; (6) Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200; and (7) penalties pursuant to Labor Code §2699, et seq. based on the facts alleged in Plaintiff’s October 23, 2020 notice letter to the LWDA.”

13. Plaintiff and all Class Members who have not been timely and properly excluded from the settlement class, and any person acting on their behalf, are permanently barred and enjoined from: (i) filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, participating in (as class members or otherwise), or receiving any benefits or other relief from, any other lawsuit, in any state or federal court, arbitration, or administrative, regulatory or other proceeding or order in any jurisdiction based on the Released Claims; and (ii) organizing such non-excluded Class Members into a separate class for purposes of pursuing as a purported class action (including by seeking to amend a pending complaint to include class allegations, or by seeking class certification in a pending action) any lawsuit based on or relating to the Released Claims.

14. The Agreement provides that the Gross Settlement Amount is \$425,000.00. The Net Settlement Amount shall be determined according to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

15. The Court orders the calculations and the payments to be made and administered in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

16. The Court hereby finds that Plaintiff and Class Counsel adequately represented the settlement class for purposes of entering into and implementing the settlement. The Court hereby confirms Kingsley & Kingsley, APC as Class Counsel in the Action.

1 17. The Court hereby finds the unopposed application of Class Counsel for a costs and
2 attorneys' fees award provided for under the proposed Agreement to be fair and reasonable in light
3 of all the circumstances and is hereby granted. Of the Gross Settlement Amount, \$141,666.67
4 shall be paid for attorney fees and \$12,000.00 shall be paid for litigation costs.

5 18. The unopposed application of Class Counsel for an enhancement payment to
6 Plaintiff is hereby granted. Of the Gross Settlement Amount, a \$5,000.00 Class Representative
7 Enhancement Payment shall be allocated to Class Representative HELEN SANTOS.

8 19. The unopposed application of Class Counsel for claims administration fees to
9 ILYM Group, Inc. is hereby granted. Of the Gross Settlement Amount, \$15,000.00 shall be paid
10 for settlement administration fees.

11 20. The Court approves the PAGA Payment in the amount of \$30,000.00. The Court
12 approves 75% of the PAGA Payment being allocated to the Labor and Workforce Development
13 Agency ("LWDA") in the amount of \$22,500.00. The Court further directs that the remaining
14 25% of the PAGA Payment, in the amount of \$7,500.00 shall be allocated to the Net Settlement
15 Amount for distribution to the PAGA Members.

16 21. Defendant shall have no further liability for costs, expenses, interest, attorneys'
17 fees, or for any other charge, expense, or liability, except as provided for in the Agreement.

18 22. If a Class Member/PAGA Member does not cash his or her settlement check within
19 90 days, the uncashed funds shall be transmitted by the Settlement Administrator to a *cy pres*
20 beneficiary to be selected by the parties to this Agreement and approved by the Court pursuant to
21 the terms of Code of Civil Procedure section 384.

22 23. Defendant shall have no further liability for costs, expenses, interest, attorneys'
23 fees, or for any other charge, expense, or liability, except as provided for in the Agreement.

24 24. The Court hereby grants and authorizes the Parties, without further approval from
25 the Court, to agree to and to adopt such amendments, modifications and expansions of this
26 Stipulation and all exhibits attached hereto as (i) are consistent with the Final Judgment; and (ii)
27 do not limit the rights of Class Members under the Stipulation.

28 25. Pursuant to California Rule of Court Rule 3.769(h) and C.C.P. §664.4, the Court

1 shall retain jurisdiction over the Action, the Parties, and the settlement class, as well as the
2 administration and enforcement of the terms of the Settlement of this action to enforce the terms
3 of the judgment. Without affecting the finality of the Final Judgment, the Court shall retain
4 continuing jurisdiction over the Action, the Parties, and the settlement class, as well as the
5 administration and enforcement of the Settlement. Any disputes or controversies arising with
6 respect to the interpretation, consummation, enforcement, or implementation of the Settlement
7 shall be presented by motion to the Court; provided however, that nothing in this Part shall restrict
8 the ability of the Parties to exercise their rights to terminate the Settlement pursuant to the terms
9 of the Agreement.

10 26. This Final Order shall constitute a final judgment.

11
12 **DATED:** _____

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PROOF OF SERVICE)
[CCP 1013(a)(3)]
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is 16133 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 1200, Encino, California 91436.

On April 11, 2023, I served all interested parties in this action the following documents described as: **[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND ENTERING JUDGMENT** by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

Clint D. Robison
Angeli C. Aragon
O'HAGAN MEYER
21550 Oxnard Street, Suite 1050
Woodland Hills, CA, 91367
Email(s): crobison@ohaganmeyer.com
aaragon@ohaganmeyer.com

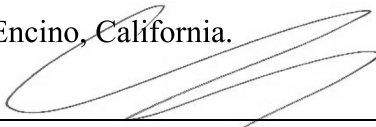
☐ **(BY MAIL)** I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with U.S. postal service on that same day with postage fully prepaid at Encino, California in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

☒ **BY ELECTRONIC MAIL THROUGH CASE ANYWHERE:** On interested parties set forth on the attached service list.

☒ **BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE:** I caused a true and correct copy thereof to be electronically filed using the Labor and Workforce Development Agency Electronic Filing ("EF") System (<https://dir.tfaforms.net/315>) and service was completed by electronic means by transmittal of the documents referenced herein on the EF System.

☒ **(STATE)** I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on April 11, 2023, at Encino, California.



Michelle A. Tanzer