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Attorneys for Plaintiff Celina Acuna

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**

CELINA ACUNA, 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; IAN PFEIFLE, individually, and on behalf of other members of the general public similarly situated;

Plaintiffs,

vs.

BASS PRO OUTDOOR WORLD, LLC, an unknown business entity; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: CIVDS1811384

Honorable David S. Cohn
Department S26

**DECLARATION OF CELINA ACUNA IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

[Notice of Motion and Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement; Declaration of Class Counsel (Edwin Aiwazian); Declaration of Class Representative (Ian Pfeifle); and [Proposed] Order filed concurrently herewith]

Date: April 26, 2022
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Department: S26

Complaint Filed: May 9, 2018
FAC Filed: June 3, 2021
Trial Date: None Set

DECLARATION OF CELINA ACUNA

I, **Celina Acuna**, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age and a resident of California. I am one of the named plaintiffs 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.

2. I was employed by Bass Pro Outdoor World, LLC ("Bass Pro") as an hourly-paid, non-exempt employee from approximately April 2013 to approximately September 2015. I decided to seek legal advice about my work experiences with Bass Pro and about pursuing my grievances. I contacted Lawyers *for* Justice, PC and spoke with attorneys there, including Arby Aiwazian. I wanted to do whatever I could to make sure Bass Pro was held accountable for not paying its employees for all hours worked and non-compliant meal and rest breaks. After speaking with the attorneys, I investigated complex class action lawsuits on my own and did some research into the leading class action and employment law firms in California for approximately 7 hours. Thereafter, I consulted with the attorneys at Lawyers *for* Justice, PC for 10 hours discussing 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 be a named plaintiff, class representative, and, eventually, a PAGA representative.

3. I have spent over 20 hours meeting with my attorneys regarding the case and fulfilling my responsibilities as a class and PAGA representative, which included gathering documents concerning my employment with Bass Pro, reviewing documents with my attorneys and answering their questions, providing guidance regarding the duties of hourly-paid or non-exempt employees, and helping develop a strategy as to what documents and information to obtain from Bass Pro. I routinely checked in with my attorneys and their staff to make sure that they had all of my most current information and any additional information that I had obtained.

4. As the case progressed, I was available to answer any questions my attorneys had, and available to speak and meet with my attorneys whenever they needed me. I responded to them as quickly as possible and gave them as much information and identified as many

documents as I could. I spent at least 16 additional hours speaking with my attorneys about the case, identifying potential witnesses, providing my attorneys with documents and information concerning the case, and also describing policies, practices, and procedures of Bass Pro. During the discovery phase of the litigation, I spent approximately 6 additional hours reviewing Bass Pro's discovery requests, locating documents, and providing documents and responses, to my attorneys.

5. As far as the settlement is concerned, I was available to review documents and answer any questions my attorneys had. I spent about 2 hours reviewing the settlement agreement and about 2 hours asking questions and discussing the potential settlement with my attorneys before signing the settlement agreement.

6. I believe that I have done everything that my attorneys have asked of me and have tried, to the best of my ability, to represent the class and seek relief for the aggrieved employees and the State of California. I think my efforts helped to get the result obtained in this case, and as a class and PAGA representative. I respectfully request that the Court award me an incentive payment in the amount of \$10,000.00 for my active participation in this case. Taking into consideration the time that I have dedicated to this case, I believe that this amount is reasonable.

7. I am not related to anyone associated with Lawyers *for* Justice, PC and Melmed Law Group, P.C.

8. 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 incentive payment, as well as my share of the settlement as a class member and as an aggrieved employee.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

08/23/2021
Executed this ____ day of August 2021 at Diamond Bar, California.

Electronically Signed 2021-08-24 00:11:02 UTC - 104.172.50.180
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Celina Acuna