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Attorneys for Plaintiff ALBERT THOMPCKINS,
individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

[Additional Counsel On Next Page]

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

ALBERT THOMPCKINS and NATALIE
KATIE BERNICE JOHNSON, Individually
and on behalf of the general public as private
attorney general,

Plaintiffs,

v.

HOST INTERNATIONAL INC., dba HMS
HOST, a Delaware Corporation; and DOES
1-50, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 21STCV20440

Hon. Theresa M. Traber
Dept. 47 (Stanley Mosk)

**DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF ALBERT
THOMPCKINS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS AND PAGA ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: August 21, 2025
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Dept.: 47

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6 Attorneys for Plaintiff: NATALIE KATIE BERNICE JOHNSON and on behalf of herself and all
7 others similarly situated

I, ALBERT THOMPkins hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen and I submit this Declaration in support of the Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class and PAGA Action Settlement. The following is based upon my personal knowledge and if called as a witness, I could and would competently testify thereto.

2. I was employed by Defendant Host International Inc., dba HMS Host ("Defendant") in approximately April 2019 through my separation in October 2020 as a non-exempt employee with the position of Busser/Server.

3. As a non-exempt employee, I suffered the same damages as other employees. These included not being paid all my wages including overtime, not provided meal and rest periods, not provided accurate wage statements, not reimbursed business expenses incurred, and not timely paid wages upon my separation from Defendant's employ all in accordance with California law. As a result of these alleged violations, I sought consultation with my attorneys at James Hawkins, APLC.

4. Based upon my allegations, and after consultation and full disclosure from my attorneys about the potential risks I faced as a Plaintiff in a putative class action, I freely decided to pursue this lawsuit to try and vindicate my rights and the rights of others who also worked for Defendant and suffered similar harms due to Defendant's common practices and policies.

5. Prior to filing my action, my attorneys and I had multiple conferences about the factual bases for the claims that I wanted to pursue against Defendant. During those conferences, my attorneys provided me with an overview of how those claims would be litigated and generally educated me about the nature of complex/representative litigation and my role as the representative Plaintiff.

6. My attorneys provided me with a draft of the complaint for my review and approval. I closely reviewed the complaint to ensure accuracy and completeness. As a result, I caused my attorneys to file the class action complaint alleging claims for the allegations alleged therein. Thereafter, I have been fully involved in my case. Following the filing of the

1 complaint, I collaborated with my attorneys on the prosecution of my claims, and I regularly
2 contacted my attorneys to stay current on the status of the litigation, and to discuss my attorneys'
3 progress in prosecuting the claims.

4 7. Since I believe I was not paid my wages, not timely paid wages, and therefore not
5 provided accurate itemized wage statements, I believe that I have been similarly injured as to all
6 other class members in the settlement who worked for Defendant during the class period. I
7 believe the claims asserted in the Complaint are also shared by the other Class Members. I worked
8 with various other non-exempt employees, and I believe we were all treated the same and subject
9 to the same unlawful policies.

10 8. On June 1, 2021, I, through my attorneys, filed this instant action against
11 Defendant.

12 9. Since I agreed to become a Class Representative, I have worked every step of the
13 way with my attorneys. During the course of the litigation I have always kept the best interest of
14 the Class Members on equal footing as mine. I have been, and I am willing to continue to pursue
15 the Class Members' claims vigorously on our collective behalf if the Settlement is not finally
16 approved. As a result, I firmly believe that I do not have any interests adverse to the interests of
17 the Class Members. I have maintained the Class Members best interest from the inception of the
18 case.

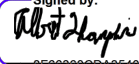
19 10. As the Class Representative, I have spent numerous hours consulting with my
20 attorneys, providing documentation, consulting with other Class Members, responding to
21 questions by my attorneys, providing documents to my attorneys, working with my attorneys to
22 review documents received, preparing for deposition although my deposition was never taken due
23 to the settlement of this matter. I also assisted my attorneys in preparing for the mediations and
24 attending the mediations via telephone. I was consulted about the status of the case and provided
25 constant feedback about the case from my attorneys including the mediation, settlement
26 negotiations and eventual settlement. I estimate I have spent approximately 40-45 hours working
27 on this case.

28 11. From the beginning of this case, I have freely chosen to accept the risks of

1 being a Class Representative in this class action lawsuit. Although I have not realized any of the
2 risks, I freely chose to assume the risks of filing a class action lawsuit and the stigma that is
3 associated with it, to pursue the claims on behalf of the Class Members as I wanted to vindicate
4 their rights. I believe we have achieved that result with the settlement and the individual payments
5 to the Class Members. I believe the settlement is fair reasonable and adequate based on the
6 numerous defenses asserted by Defendant. I believe the efforts and work I put forth helped to
7 achieve the fair settlement that will benefit the Class Members. As a result of my efforts, I also
8 believe the Class Representative Service Award is reasonable, and I respectfully request the Court
9 approve the amount of \$10,000.00 to each Plaintiff as fair and reasonable.

10 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of California that the
11 foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 29, 2025, at Lancaster, California.

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Signed by:

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ALBERT THOMPkins