

DIVERSITY LAW GROUP, P.C.
 Larry W. Lee (State Bar No. 228175)
lwlee@diversitylaw.com
 Simon L. Yang (State Bar No. 260286)
sly@diversitylaw.com
 515 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1250
 Los Angeles, California 90071
 Telephone: (213) 488-6555
 Facsimile: (213) 488-6554

POLARIS LAW GROUP
 William L. Marder (State Bar No. 170131)
bill@polarislawgroup.com
 501 San Benito Street, Suite 200
 Hollister, California 95023
 Telephone: (831) 531-4214
 Facsimile (831) 634-0333

Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Class

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

DOUGLAS WALKER, as an individual and on
 behalf of all others similarly situated, and as a
 private attorney general,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PEET'S COFFEE, INC., a Virginia corporation
 limited liability company; and DOES 1 through
 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. RG21095499

[Hon. Brad Seligman, Department 23]

**DECLARATION OF DOUGLAS WALKER
 IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
 FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
 ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: June 27, 2023
 Time: 3:00 p.m.
 Department: 23

Reservation ID: A-21095499-002

Complaint Filed: April 15, 2021

1 I, Douglas Walker, declare as follows:

2 1. I am an individual over the age of 18. I am the named plaintiff in the above-reference
3 action. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below, except as to those matters stated on
4 information and belief and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true. If called as a witness, I could
5 testify competently as to the matters stated in this declaration.

6 2. I began working for Peet's Coffee, Inc. in or about August of 2014. Throughout my
7 employment, I received wage statements that do not show all applicable hourly rates of pay, including
8 overtime rates, or the "Period End" date. I cannot determine from the wage statements whether I was
9 properly paid. For example, I cannot determine whether my "General Bonus" or "Covid Bonus OT"
10 earnings were properly compensated.

11 3. During the pendency of this lawsuit, I have done my best to represent the interests of the
12 employees that are part of the class. I have actively contributed to the litigation of this case. My
13 contributions include but are not limited to (i) participating in numerous telephonic meetings with my
14 attorneys and their staff to discuss the case and review documents prepared on my behalf, (ii) providing
15 my attorneys with information and documents regarding my employment with Defendant, (iii) searching
16 for additional information and documents requested by my attorneys, (iv) reviewing and approving the
17 written notice to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency and the complaint and other papers
18 filed with the court, (v) participating in mediated settlement discussions, (vi) reviewing and executing
19 the settlement agreement, and (vii) reviewing and signing the declarations submitted to this Court in
20 support of the settlement. During the more than 25 months that this lawsuit has been pending, I have
21 easily spent at least 2.0 hours per month, on average—or at least 50.0 hours total—in progressing the
22 litigation on behalf of the Class.

23 4. I understand that the class claims alleged in this action were brought on behalf of other
24 similarly situated employees, and thus I am acting as a representative for the Class. I understood that an
25 individual case would have resolved much faster than a class action and involved much less financial
26 risk than a class action.

27 5. Throughout the lawsuit, I have been kept apprised of the status of this case. As the class
28 representative, I understand that it is my responsibility to act in the Class's best interest and not my own.

1 I agree that I will not put my own interests ahead of that of the Class. Moreover, I am not aware of any
2 conflicts that exist between my interest and the interests of the Class that would impair or affect my
3 ability to serve as representative for the Class.

4 6. I have and continue to be willing to assist in the investigation of this matter as well as
5 make myself available for trial or any further proceeding in this matter as required to represent the
6 interests of the Class. I also understand my duties and responsibilities to the proposed class and will
7 carry out those duties as necessary.

8 7. I have discussed the terms of the settlement agreement with my attorneys, and based on
9 my understanding of the case, I am of the opinion that settlement for the consideration and on the terms
10 set forth in the settlement agreement are fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the
11 Class.

12 8. I understood that filing this lawsuit is a public record and I accepted that burden. This
13 lawsuit is something that potential employers can look into, and which may cause a negative impact of
14 my employment prospects. I also understood that there were risks due to my involvement as a named
15 plaintiff in a representative lawsuit against a large employer. For instance, if I lost, I might have to face a
16 judgment for some of Defendant's legal costs. Even understanding all these risks, I was willing to move
17 forward and bring this case on behalf of the other employees.

18 9. As part of the settlement, I also agreed to sign a general release of claims and a waiver of
19 Civil Code section 1542.

20 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
21 true and correct. Executed this 25th day of May 2023, at Modesto, California.

22 DocuSigned by:

23 *Douglas Walker*

24 ADA9A42371C04B4...

25 Douglas Walker