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7 ROBERT ROSAS

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12 Attorneys for Defendants SIERRA PACIFIC
13 REFRIGERATED SERVICES, LLC, SIERRA
PACIFIC REFRIGERATED SERVICES LIMITED
14 PARTNERSHIP, ROY ATKINS, SIERRA PACIFIC
DISTRIBUTION SERVICES, INC., TURLOCK COLD
15 STORAGE, LLC, STOCKTON COLD STORAGE, LLC,
and SIERRA PACIFIC LOGISTICS, INC.

16 **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**

17 **COUNTY OF STANISLAUS**

18 RUBEN ROSAS and ROBERT ROSAS,
19 individually and on behalf of all others similarly
20 situated,

21 Plaintiffs,

22 v.

23 SIERRA PACIFIC REFRIGERATED
24 SERVICES, LLC, a California limited liability
company; SIERRA PACIFIC REFRIGERATED
25 SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, a
California limited partnership; ROY ATKINS,
26 an individual; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

27 Defendants.
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Case No. CV-21-003621

Assigned for All Purposes to:
Hon. John R. Mayne, Dept. 21

**JOINT STIPULATION OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Action Filed: July 12, 2021

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5 Attorneys for Plaintiffs RUBEN ROSAS and
6 ROBERT ROSAS
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I. DEFINITIONS

B. “Aggrieved Employees” means all persons currently or formerly employed as non-

1 exempt employees in California by Defendants at any time during the PAGA Period (defined below).

2 C. "Class" means all persons currently or formerly employed as non-exempt employees
3 in California by Defendants at any time during the Class Period (defined below) who do not timely
4 and validly exclude themselves from the Class in compliance with the exclusion procedures set forth
5 in this Settlement.

6 D. "Class Counsel" means the attorneys for the Class and the Class Members, as follows:

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9 Long Beach, CA 90802
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14 E. "Class Member(s)" means all members of the Class.

15 F. "Class Notice" means the Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement in a form
16 substantially similar to the notice attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, subject to Court approval.

17 G. "Class Period" means July 12, 2017 through the Preliminary Approval Date of the
18 Settlement or an earlier date at Defendants' discretion per Section III(D)(5).

19 H. "Court" means the Stanislaus Superior Court, where the Action is pending.

20 I. "Effective Date" means the later of the following: (1) the date the Final Approval Order
21 is signed if no objections are filed to the Settlement; (2) if objections are filed and overruled, and no
22 appeal is taken of the Final Approval Order, sixty (60) days after the Final Approval Order is signed;
23 or (3) if an appeal is taken from the Court's overruling of objections to the Settlement, ten (10) days
24 after the appeal is withdrawn or after an appellate decision affirming the final approval decision
25 becomes final.

26 J. "Defendants" means Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, Sierra Pacific
27 Refrigerated Services Limited Partnership, Roy Atkins, Sierra Pacific Distribution Services, Inc.,
28 Turlock Cold Storage, LLC, Stockton Cold Storage, LLC, and Sierra Pacific Logistics, Inc.

1 K. "Defense Counsel" means counsel for Defendants, who are:

2 Ian B. Wieland
3 Michael J. Conway II
4 SAGASER, WATKINS & WIELAND, PC
5 5260 North Palm Avenue, Suite 400
6 Fresno, California 93704
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8 Facsimile: (559) 473-1483

9 L. "Disposition" means the method by which the Court approves the terms of the
10 Settlement and retains jurisdiction over its enforcement, implementation, construction, administration,
11 and interpretation.

12 M. "Enhancement Award(s)" means an amount of up to Twenty Thousand Dollars
13 (\$20,000) for Plaintiff Ruben Rosas and up to Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for Plaintiff Robert
14 Rosas, subject to Court approval.

15 N. "Final Approval Order" means the final formal court order signed by the Court and
16 entering a judgment approving this Settlement on substantially the terms provided herein or as the
17 same may be modified by subsequent written agreement of the Parties as approved by the Court
18 following the Final Approval Hearing in accordance with the terms herein.

19 O. "Gross Settlement Amount" means Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand Dollars
20 (\$280,000), unless increased on a pro rata basis pursuant to Section III(D)(5) to be paid by Defendants
21 pursuant to the terms of this Settlement to settle this Action. All claims of the Settlement Class,
22 including all wages, damages, interest, penalties, and all administration costs, attorney's fees and
23 costs, Enhancement Awards, and LWDA Payment (defined below) pursuant to Section III(D)(7)
24 below, and all applicable payroll taxes shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount. The
25 employer's share of payroll taxes arising from the payments made under this settlement shall be paid
26 by Defendants separate from and in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount. No part of the Gross
27 Settlement amount shall revert to Defendants.

28 P. "Individual Settlement Payments" means the amounts of money from the Net
Settlement Amount that shall be paid to Participating Class Members less the employee's portion of
required federal and state withholdings. Individual Settlement Payments will be each Participating
Class Member's proportional share of the Net Settlement Amount (which shall be determined by the

1 calculations provided in this Settlement).

2 Q. "Judgment" refers to the judgment entered by the Court in conjunction with the Final
3 Approval Order.

4 R. "LWDA Payment" means 75% of the \$10,000 allocated to settlement of PAGA claims,
5 which will be paid to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") pursuant to Section
6 III(D)(7)(e) of this Settlement, subject to Court approval.

7 S. "Net Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount less the Court-
8 approved settlement administration costs, attorney's fees and costs, Enhancement Awards, and
9 LWDA Payment, pursuant to Section III(D)(7) below.

10 T. "Non-Participating Class Member(s)" means those Class Members who submit to the
11 Settlement Administrator a valid and timely Exclusion Form to be excluded from the Class pursuant
12 to Section III(D)(2) below.

13 U. "Objection" means a signed written objection to the Settlement by a Class Member,
14 that is timely mailed to the Settlement Administrator, setting forth the grounds for the objection, along
15 with any supporting documents, the Class Member's address, telephone number, reference to the
16 Action, and whether they intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing.

17 V. "PAGA Period" means June 30, 2020 through the Preliminary Approval Date of the
18 Settlement or an earlier date at Defendants' discretion per Section III(D)(5).

19 W. "Participating Class Member(s)" is defined as a Class Member who does not timely
20 exclude himself or herself from the Settlement and will therefore receive his or her share of the
21 Settlement proceeds automatically without the need to return a claim form. Each Participating Class
22 Member will be paid his/her Individual Settlement Payment.

23 X. "Plaintiffs" means RUBEN ROSAS and ROBERT ROSAS.

24 Y. "Preliminary Approval Date" means the date the Court preliminarily approves the
25 Settlement.

26 Z. "Qualifying Pay Periods" means any pay period during which an Aggrieved Employee
27 was employed by Defendants during the PAGA Period.

28 AA. "Qualifying Workweeks" means any week during which a Class Member was

1 employed by Defendants during the Class Period.

2 BB. "Request for Exclusion" means the Exclusion Form that will be enclosed with the Class
3 Notice that Class Members can use to opt out or exclude themselves from the Settlement. In order for
4 a Request for Exclusion to be valid, the Exclusion Form must be signed and postmarked by the
5 deadline provided for in Sections III(C) and III(D)(2) below, and mailed to the Settlement
6 Administrator at the address specified in the Class Notice.

7 CC. "Second Amended Complaint" refers to Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint, on
8 file with the Court.

9 DD. "Settlement" means this Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement, including the
10 attached Exhibit.

11 EE. "Settlement Administration Costs" means an amount of up to Seven Thousand Dollars
12 (\$7,000), subject to Court approval, for all costs incurred by the Settlement Administrator in
13 administration of the Settlement, including, but not limited to, mailing of notice to the class,
14 calculation of Individual Settlement Payments, generation of Individual Settlement Payment checks
15 and related tax reporting forms, administration of unclaimed and/or uncashed checks to the Howard
16 Training Center, and distribution of checks to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and costs, to Plaintiffs
17 for their Enhancement Awards, and to the LWDA. The Settlement Administration Costs shall be paid
18 from the Gross Settlement Amount.

19 FF. "Settlement Administrator" means Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions,
20 which the Parties have agreed will be responsible for the administration of the Individual Settlement
21 Payments to be made by Defendants from the Gross Settlement Amount and related matters under this
22 Settlement.

23 **II. CONTINGENT NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT**

24 Because the Parties have stipulated to the certification of the Class with respect to all causes
25 of action alleged in the Action for settlement purposes only, this Settlement requires preliminary and
26 final approval by the Court. Accordingly, the Parties enter into this Settlement on a conditional basis.
27 This Settlement is contingent upon the approval and certification by the Court. If the Effective Date
28 does not occur, the fact that the Parties were willing to stipulate for the purposes of this Settlement

1 shall have no bearing on, nor be admissible in connection with, the issue of certification of the Class
2 with respect to all causes of action alleged in the Action, and this Settlement shall not be referred to
3 or used for any purpose whatsoever. Defendants do not consent to certification of the Class for any
4 purpose other than to effectuate settlement of the Action. If the Effective Date does not occur, or if
5 Disposition of this Action is not effectuated, any certification of the Class as to Defendants will be
6 vacated and Plaintiffs, Defendants, and the Class will be returned to their respective positions in the
7 Action as if the Settlement had not been executed. In the event that the Effective Date does not occur:
8 (a) any Court orders preliminarily or finally approving certification of any class contemplated by this
9 Settlement shall be null, void, and vacated, and shall not be used or cited thereafter by any person or
10 entity; and (b) the fact of the settlement reflected in this Settlement, the fact that Defendants did not
11 oppose the certification of a Class under this Settlement, or that the Court preliminarily approved the
12 certification of the Class, shall not be used or cited thereafter by any person or entity, including in any
13 manner whatsoever, including without limitation any contested proceeding relating to the certification
14 of any class. If the Effective Date does not occur, this Settlement shall be deemed null and void, shall
15 be of no force or effect whatsoever, and shall not be referred to or used for any purpose whatsoever.
16 Defendants expressly reserve the right to challenge the propriety of class certification in the Action
17 for any purpose if the Effective Date does not occur.

18 The Parties and their respective counsel shall take all steps that may be requested by the Court
19 relating to the approval and implementation of this Settlement and shall otherwise use their respective
20 best efforts to obtain Court approval and implement this Settlement. If the Court does not grant the
21 Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the Motion for Final Approval, the Parties agree to meet and
22 confer in good faith to address the Court's concerns. If the Parties are unable to agree upon a
23 resolution, the Parties agree to seek guidance from the Court to resolve the dispute.

24 **III. PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SETTLEMENT**

25 The procedure for obtaining Court approval of and implementing this Settlement shall be as
26 follows:

27 **A. Motion for Conditional Class Certification and Preliminary Approval**

28 Plaintiffs will bring a motion before the Court for an order conditionally certifying the Class

1 to include all claims pled in the Action based on the preliminary approval of this Settlement. The date
2 that the Court grants preliminary approval of this Agreement will be the "Preliminary Approval Date."
3 Pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699(l)(1), Plaintiffs shall submit to the LWDA a copy of this
4 Agreement and all supporting approval documents required by the LWDA at the same time that
5 Plaintiffs submit them to the Court for approval.

6 **B. The Settlement Administrator**

7 The Parties have chosen Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions to administer this
8 Settlement and to act as the Settlement Administrator, including but not limited to distributing and
9 responding to inquiries about the Class Notice, determining the validity of exclusions/opt-outs,
10 calculating the Net Settlement Amount and the Individual Settlement Payments (including any payroll
11 taxes due thereon), issuing the Individual Settlement Payment checks and distributing them to
12 Participating Class Members, administering and making payment of unclaimed and/or uncashed
13 checks to the Howard Training Center, issuing the payment to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and
14 costs, the Enhancement Award checks to Plaintiffs, the LWDA Payment, and remitting the employer
15 payroll taxes to the appropriate taxing authorities. The Settlement Administrator shall expressly agree
16 to all of the terms and conditions of this Settlement.

17 All costs of administering the Settlement, including but not limited to all costs and fees
18 associated with preparing, issuing and mailing any and all notices to Class Members and/or
19 Participating Class Members, all costs and fees associated with computing, processing, reviewing, and
20 mailing the Individual Settlement Payments, all costs and fees administering and making payment of
21 unclaimed and/or uncashed checks to the Howard Training Center, all costs and fees associated with
22 preparing any tax returns and any other filings required by any governmental taxing authority or
23 agency, all costs and fees associated with preparing any other checks, notices, reports, or filings to be
24 prepared in the course of administering disbursements from the Net Settlement Amount, and any other
25 costs and fees incurred and/or charged by the Settlement Administrator in connection with the
26 execution of its duties under this Settlement ("Settlement Administration Costs"), shall be paid to the
27 Settlement Administrator from the Gross Settlement Amount.

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1 **C. Notice to Class Members**

2 No later than ten (10) business days after the Preliminary Approval Date, Defendants will
3 provide the Settlement Administrator with a "Class List" based on its business records, identifying the
4 names of the Class Members, their last known home addresses, Social Security numbers or, as
5 applicable, other taxpayer identification number, and their dates of employment (i.e., hire date (or the
6 first date of the Class Period, whichever is later) and termination/resignation date (or the last date of
7 the Class Period, whichever is earlier)) during the Class Period. This information shall be treated as
8 confidential and shall not be disclosed to Plaintiffs, Class Counsel or any other person without prior
9 approval from Defendants' Counsel.

10 Within ten (10) business days of receiving the Class List from Defendants, the Settlement
11 Administrator will send Class Members, by first-class mail, at their last known address, the Court
12 approved Class Notice, including notice of this settlement and of the opportunity to opt out of the
13 Settlement Class or object to the Settlement. The Class Notice will include a calculation of the Class
14 Member's minimum share of the Net Settlement Amount. Class Members will have forty-five (45)
15 days from the date of mailing in which to postmark Requests for Exclusion or Objections. Prior to the
16 initial mailing, the Settlement Administrator will check all Class Member addresses against the
17 National Change of Address database and shall update any addresses before mailing. The Settlement
18 Administrator will skip trace and re-mail all returned, undelivered mail within five (5) days of
19 receiving notice that a notice was undeliverable. If a Class Member's notice is re-mailed, the Class
20 Member shall have fifteen (15) days from the re-mailing, or forty-five (45) days from the date of the
21 initial mailing, whichever is later, in which to postmark a Request for Exclusion or Objection. Class
22 Members shall not be required to submit claim forms in order to receive their Individual Settlement
23 Payments.

24 If the Class Notice is returned with a forwarding address, the Settlement Administrator shall
25 re-mail the Class Notice to the forwarding address. With respect to those Class Members whose Class
26 Notice is returned to the Settlement Administrator as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator shall
27 promptly attempt to obtain a valid mailing address by performing a skip trace or mass search on
28 LexisNexis databases based on set criteria and, if another address is identified, shall mail the Class

1 Notice to the newly identified address. It is the intent of the parties that reasonable means be used to
2 locate Class Members and that the Settlement Administrator be given discretion to take steps in order
3 to facilitate notice of this Settlement and delivery of the Individual Settlement Payments to the
4 Settlement Class. If no address can be determined by the Settlement Administrator after these efforts,
5 no further efforts to determine an address shall be required.

6 If the Class Notice is re-mailed, the Settlement Administrator will note for its own records and
7 notify Class Counsel and Defense Counsel of the date of each such re-mailing as part of a weekly
8 status report provided to the Parties.

9 In the event a Class Member's Class Notice remains undeliverable sixty (60) days after the
10 Class Notice was initially mailed, the Settlement Administrator will not mail the Class Member's
11 Individual Settlement Payment. The Settlement Administrator will hold the Class Member's
12 Individual Settlement Payment during the check cashing period on behalf of the Class Member. If at
13 the conclusion of the check cashing period the Class Member's Class Notice and Individual Settlement
14 Payment remain undeliverable and/or unclaimed and uncashed, the Settlement Administrator will
15 distribute the funds from unclaimed/uncashed checks in accordance with the procedures set forth in
16 Section III(D)(7)(f) below.

17 No later than twenty (20) business days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement
18 Administrator shall provide Defense Counsel and Class Counsel with a declaration attesting to
19 completion of the notice process, including any attempts to obtain valid mailing addresses for and re-
20 sending of any returned Class Notices, as well as the number of valid Requests for Exclusion and
21 Objections that the Settlement Administrator received.

22 Compliance with the procedures described in this section shall constitute due and sufficient
23 notice to Class Members of this proposed Settlement and the Final Approval Hearing and shall satisfy
24 the requirements of due process. Nothing else shall be required of the Parties, Class Counsel, Defense
25 Counsel, or the Settlement Administrator to provide notice of the proposed Settlement and the Final
26 Approval Hearing. However, if any Class Member objects to the Settlement and the Final Approval
27 Hearing is continued as a result, the Settlement Administrator shall provide notice to the objecting
28 party of the continuance.

1 **D. Responses to Notice**

2 **1. Class Member Disputes**

3 If any Class Member disagrees with Defendants' records as to his or her Qualifying
4 Workweeks during the Class Period as reflected in the Class Notice, the Class Member shall set forth
5 the Qualifying Workweeks he or she claims to have worked during the Class Period and submit to the
6 Settlement Administrator along with any supporting documentation. The Notice will also provide a
7 method for the Class Member to challenge the employment data on which his or her Individual
8 Settlement Payment is based. The Settlement Administrator shall contact the Parties regarding the
9 dispute and the Parties will work in good faith to resolve it. If the Parties are unable to resolve the
10 dispute, the Settlement Administrator will be the final arbiter of the Qualifying Workweeks for each
11 Class Member during the Class Period based on the information provided to it. Any dispute not
12 otherwise resolved by the Administrator and the Parties shall be resolved by the Court.

13 **2. Requests for Exclusion from the Class**

14 The Plaintiffs may not request exclusion from the Class. In order for any Class Member to
15 validly exclude himself or herself from the Class and this Settlement (*i.e.*, to validly opt out), the
16 Exclusion Form must be completed and signed by the Class Member or his or her authorized
17 representative, and must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked by no later than forty-
18 five (45) days after the date the Settlement Administrator initially mails the Class Notice to the Class
19 Members (or fifteen (15) days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Class Notice to the Class
20 Member, whichever is later). The Class Notice shall contain instructions that the Exclusion Form
21 must be mailed, the date by which it must be mailed, and state the name and address of the Settlement
22 Administrator. The date of the initial mailing of the Class Notice, and the date the signed Exclusion
23 Form was postmarked, shall be conclusively determined according to the records of the Settlement
24 Administrator. Any Class Member who timely and validly requests exclusion from the Class and this
25 Settlement will not be entitled to any Individual Settlement Payment arising from the Class claims,
26 will not be bound by the terms and conditions of this Settlement as to the Class claims, and will not
27 have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon. However, the proposed settlement includes the
28 settlement of claims for civil penalties under PAGA. An employee may not request exclusion from

1 the settlement of a PAGA claim. Thus, if the court approves the Settlement, then even if a Class
2 Member requests exclusion from the Settlement, the Class Member will still receive an individual
3 settlement share for the PAGA claims pursuant to the terms in Section III(D)(7)(e) below, and will be
4 deemed to have released the PAGA claims. A Request for Exclusion will preserve the Class Member's
5 right to individually pursue only the remaining Class claims.

6 Any Class Member who fails to timely submit a Request for Exclusion shall automatically be
7 deemed a Class Member whose rights and claims with respect to the issues raised in the Action are
8 determined by the Court's Final Approval Order, and by the other rulings in the Action.

9 **3. Objections to Settlement**

10 The Plaintiffs may not object to the Settlement. For any Class Member to object to this
11 Settlement, or any term of it, the person making the objection must not submit a Request for Exclusion
12 (*i.e.*, must not opt out), and should complete, sign and send the Objection using the instructions
13 provided in the Class Notice to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than forty-five (45)
14 days after the Class Notice was initially mailed to the Class Members (or fifteen (15) days after the
15 Settlement Administrator re-mails the Notice to the Class Member, whichever is later), along with all
16 supporting papers. The date of the initial mailing of the Class Notice, and the date the signed Objection
17 was postmarked, shall be conclusively determined according to the records of the Settlement
18 Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall send any Objections it receives to Defense Counsel
19 and Class Counsel within three (3) business days of receipt. The Court retains final authority with
20 respect to the consideration and admissibility of any Class Member objections.

21 **4. Encouragement of Class Members**

22 The Parties to this Settlement and the counsel representing such Parties shall not, directly or
23 indirectly, through any person, encourage or solicit any Class Member to exclude himself or herself
24 from this Settlement (opt out), or to object to it. However, Class Counsel may respond to inquiries
25 from Class Members. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as preventing or prohibiting
26 Defendants from providing notice to Class Members regarding the settlement and the procedure
27 related thereto.

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1 **5. Right to Adjust Gross Settlement Amount and/or Class Period**

2 When the Parties agreed to settle this matter, Defendants estimated the number of putative
3 class members as 270. If the number of Class Members increases by more than 10% (which is more
4 than 297 Class Members) as of the end of the Class Period, Defendants shall have the right to elect to
5 either have a pro rata adjustment to the Gross Settlement Amount equal to \$1,037.04 per additional
6 Class Member over 270 or adjust the end date of the Class Period and/or PAGA Period such that the
7 number of Class Members does not exceed 297. If such adjustment is necessary, the Parties agree to
8 file an Amended Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement adjusting the last date of the Class Period
9 accordingly, or, alternatively file an amended [Proposed] Order re Class Action Settlement adjusting
10 the last date of the Class Period and/or PAGA Period Accordingly.

11 **6. Final Approval Hearing**

12 On the date set forth in the Order for Preliminary Approval and Class Notice, a Final Approval
13 Hearing shall be held before the Court in order to (1) review this Settlement and determine whether
14 the Court should give it final approval, and (2) consider any objections made and all responses by the
15 Parties to such objections. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Parties shall ask the Court to give final
16 approval to this Settlement and shall submit to the Court a Proposed Final Approval Order.

17 a. Waiver of Right to Appeal

18 Provided that the Final Approval Order is consistent with the terms and conditions of this
19 Settlement, all Class Members who do not submit timely written objections to the Settlement or orally
20 object at the Final Approval Hearing hereby waive any and all rights to appeal from the Final Approval
21 Order and Judgment, including all rights to any post-Final Approval Order proceeding and appellate
22 proceeding, such as a motion to vacate or set-aside the Final Approval Order and Judgment, a motion
23 for new trial, and any extraordinary writ, and the Final Approval Order and Judgment therefore shall
24 become final and non-appealable at the time it is entered. This waiver does not include any waiver of
25 the right to oppose any appeal, appellate proceedings, or post-Final Order proceedings. A modification
26 by the Court of the requested amount of the Enhancement or Class Counsel's fees or costs shall not
27 constitute a basis for appeal of the Final Approval Order within the meaning of this paragraph.

28 b. Vacation, Reversal, or Material Modification of Final Order and

Judgment on Appeal or Review

If, after a notice of appeal or a petition for a writ of *certiorari* or any other motion, petition, or application, the reviewing court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Final Approval Order such that there is a material modification to the Settlement and that court's decision is not completely reversed, and the Final Approval Order is not fully affirmed on review by a higher court, then Plaintiffs and Defendants shall each have the right, but not the obligation, to void the Settlement, which the Party must do by giving written notice to the other Party, the final reviewing court, and the Court no later than thirty (30) days after the final reviewing court's decision vacating, reversing, or materially modifying the Final Order becomes final and non-appealable. A vacation, reversal, or modification of the Court's award of the Enhancement or Class Counsel's fees or costs shall not constitute a vacation, reversal, or material modification of the Final Order and Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph.

7. Settlement Payment Procedures

a. Gross Settlement Amount

In exchange for the releases set forth in this Agreement, Defendants agree to pay the Gross Settlement Amount in the amount of Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000), subject to a voluntary pro rata increase under the condition set forth in Section III(D)(5) at the discretion of Defendants. The Gross Settlement Amount includes all claims of the Settlement Class and all Settlement Administration costs, Class Counsel's attorney's fees and costs, LWDA Payment, and Enhancement Awards.

No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Court's final approval of the Settlement (i.e., the date the final approval order is signed), Defendants will transfer the Gross Settlement Amount into an account established by the Settlement Administrator either directly or by sending the funds to the Settlement Administrator to be deposited and distributed. All of Defendants' obligations under this Settlement are deemed to be satisfied upon Defendants' timely deposit of the entire Gross Settlement Amount and acknowledgement of receipt of said funds by the Settlement Administrator and Defendants shall have no further obligations to the Class including, without limitation, any further obligations to make any other payments of any kind to, or on behalf of, the Class (except for the

1 employer's share of payroll taxes).

2 The Settlement Administrator will use these funds to fund payment of the Individual
3 Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs,
4 LWDA Payment, the Enhancement Awards, and employer and employee tax withholdings applicable
5 to the Net Settlement Amount allocated to wages. Ten (10) calendar days after Defendants fully fund
6 the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will pay the Class Members' Individual Settlement
7 Payments, Court-approved attorney's fees and costs, settlement administration costs, Enhancement
8 Awards, and LWDA Payment.

9 b. Payment of Attorneys' Fees and Costs

10 Class Counsel shall submit an application for an award of attorneys' fees of up to one-third of
11 the Gross Settlement Amount (which may increase pursuant to Section III(D)(5) [i.e., pro rata increase
12 provision]), which, based on the current Gross Settlement Amount, is Ninety Three Thousand Three
13 Hundred and Thirty-Three Dollars and Thirty-Four Cents (\$93,333.34). Class Counsel shall submit
14 an application for an award of costs not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000). Such
15 application for attorneys' fees and costs shall be heard by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing.
16 Defendants shall not object to or oppose any such application in these amounts.

17 Any fees and costs awarded by the Court shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount and
18 shall not constitute payment to any Class Member(s). The attorneys' fees and costs for Class Counsel
19 approved by the Court shall encompass all work performed, costs, and expenses related to the
20 investigation, prosecution, and settlement of the Action incurred through the Effective Date. To the
21 extent that the Court approves less than the amount of attorney's fees and/or costs that Class Counsel
22 requests, the difference between the requested and awarded amounts will be reallocated to the Net
23 Settlement Amount.

24 Any award of attorneys' fees and costs shall include and satisfy all past and future attorneys'
25 fees and costs incurred to prosecute, settle, and participate in administering the Settlement, including
26 obtaining the Final Approval Order. Defendants shall have no obligation to Class Counsel for any
27 attorneys' fees and costs incurred in prosecuting this Action other than as stated herein, provided that
28 Defendants fully comply with the terms of this Settlement, including but not limited to timely payment

1 of the Gross Settlement Amount.

2 c. Payment of Settlement Administration Costs

3 The Settlement Administration Costs shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount and
4 shall not constitute payment to any Participating Class Member(s). The amount shall not exceed Seven
5 Thousand Dollars (\$7,000).

6 d. Payment of Enhancement Awards to Named Plaintiffs

7 Subject to Court approval, Plaintiffs shall each receive an Enhancement Award of up to Twenty
8 Thousand Dollars (\$20,000), the request for which Defendants will not object to or oppose. The
9 Enhancement Awards shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount and shall not constitute
10 payment to any Participating Class Member(s). To the extent that the Court approves less than the
11 amount of Enhancement Awards that Class Counsel requests, the difference between the requested
12 and awarded amounts will be reallocated to the Net Settlement Amount.

13 Because it is the intent of the Parties that the Enhancement Awards represent payments to
14 Plaintiffs for their service to the Class Members, and not wages, the Settlement Administrator will not
15 withhold any taxes from the Enhancement Awards. The Enhancement Awards will be reported on a
16 Form 1099, which the Settlement Administrator will provide to Plaintiffs and to the pertinent taxing
17 authorities as required by law.

18 Although it is the contemplation of the Parties that the Enhancement Awards do not represent
19 wages, the Internal Revenue Service, the California Franchise Tax Board, or some other taxing
20 authority may take the position that some or all of the Enhancement Awards constitute wages for
21 income tax and withholding purposes. Plaintiffs agree to assume the responsibility of remitting to the
22 Internal Revenue Service, the California Franchise Tax Board, and any other relevant taxing authority
23 the amounts required by law, if any, to be withheld by Defendants from the Enhancement Awards paid
24 under this Settlement. In addition, Plaintiffs shall hold Defendants, Released Parties and Class
25 Counsel harmless and indemnify Defendants, Released Parties and Class Counsel for all taxes,
26 interest, penalties, other payments and costs, incurred by Defendants by reason of any valid claims by
27 taxing authorities relating to the non-withholding of taxes from the Enhancement Awards.

28 / / /

e. Payment to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency and the
Class for Settlement of PAGA Claims

In consideration of claims made under the California Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”), Cal. Labor Code §§ 2698 et seq., Class Counsel will request that the Court approve allocation of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) of the Gross Settlement Amount to these claims. Seventy-Five percent (75%) of this payment will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA Payment”) and Twenty-Five percent (25%) will be paid on a pro rata basis to all Aggrieved Employees based on the individual Qualifying Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period by each Aggrieved Employee, regardless of whether or not they opt out of this Settlement (“PAGA Settlement Payment”). Defendants will not oppose this request. The LWDA Payment and PAGA Settlement Payment will be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount. The Court’s adjustment, if any, of the amount allocated to Plaintiffs’ PAGA claim will not invalidate this Settlement.

f. Payment of Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class
Members

The Parties agree that the Net Settlement Amount shall be used to fund Individual Settlement Payments. The Parties agree that the Net Settlement Amount shall be divided among all Participating Class Members in proportion to the number of individual Qualifying Workweeks for each Class Member. To calculate the amount each Class Member will receive based on their individual Qualifying Workweeks, the Net Settlement Amount will be divided by the total number of Qualifying Workweeks by all Class Members during the Class Period and then allocated on a pro rata basis (i.e., according to the Qualifying Workweeks worked by each of the individual Class Members during the Class Period). Each Class Member’s individual amount will be included in his or her Class Notice. After final approval by the Court, the Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis based on the individual Qualifying Workweeks worked during the Class Period by each Participating Class Member.

Each Individual Settlement Payment will represent wages and penalties allocated using the following formula: 10% allocated to wages, 80% allocated to penalties and interest, and 10%

1 reimbursements. The amounts paid as wages shall be subject to all tax withholdings customarily made
2 from an employee's wages and all other authorized and required withholdings and shall be reported
3 by W-2 forms. The employer-side taxes (including employer's portion of FICA, FUTA, SUTA, and
4 all other applicable payroll taxes) will be paid by Defendants separate from and in addition to the
5 Gross Settlement Amount. The amounts paid as penalties and interest shall be subject to all authorized
6 and required withholdings other than the tax withholdings customarily made from employees' wages
7 and shall be reported by IRS 1099 forms. Defendants shall not make as part of this Settlement, nor be
8 required to make, any deductions, nor pay any monthly contributions for any insurance, retirement,
9 401(k) or profit-sharing plans, or any benefit plans related to monies paid as a result of this Settlement.

10 No later than ten (10) business days after the Preliminary Approval Date, Defendants will
11 provide the Settlement Administrator with the class list (as described in Section III(c)), containing
12 information from which the Settlement Administrator can calculate each of the Class Members'
13 Qualifying Workweeks. Based on that information, the Settlement Administrator shall calculate:
14 (a) the Net Settlement Amount, (b) the Individual Settlement Payment for each Participating Class
15 Member based on the formula specified above, (c) the amount of the Individual Settlement Payments
16 to be allocated to wages, interest and penalties, and reimbursements based on the formula specified
17 above, (d) the employer share of the payroll taxes applicable to the Net Settlement Amount allocated
18 to wages, and (e) the employee tax withholding amount based on the allocation of each Individual
19 Settlement Payment to wages.

20 No later than ten (10) business days after receiving the entire Gross Settlement Amount from
21 Defendants, the Settlement Administrator shall prepare and mail the checks for the Individual
22 Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members. Defendants shall not bear any liability for lost
23 or stolen checks, forged signatures on checks, or unauthorized negotiation of checks. Individual
24 Settlement Payments paid from the Net Settlement Amount allocated to wages will be reduced by
25 applicable employer and employee tax withholdings, and the Settlement Administrator will issue a
26 Form W-2 for the wage portion of the Individual Settlement Payments. The Settlement Administrator
27 will issue a Form 1099 to the extent required by law for the interest and penalty portions of the
28 Individual Settlement Payments. Participating Class Members shall have 180 days from the date their

1 Individual Settlement Payment checks are dated to cash their settlement checks. Any amounts from
2 checks that remain unclaimed and/or uncashed after 180 days of issuance will be disbursed to the
3 Howard Training Center.

4 If a check is returned to the Settlement Administrator as undeliverable, the Settlement
5 Administrator shall promptly attempt to obtain a valid mailing address by performing a skip trace or
6 a mass search on LexisNexis databases based on set criteria and, if another address is identified, shall
7 mail the check to the newly identified address. If the Settlement Administrator is unable to obtain a
8 valid mailing address through this process, the Settlement Administrator will also transfer the amount
9 represented by the check to Howard Training Center.

10 g. No Credit Toward Benefit Plans

11 The Individual Settlement Payments made to Participating Class Members under this
12 Agreement, as well as any other payments made pursuant to this Agreement, will not be utilized to
13 calculate any additional benefits under any benefit plans to which any Class Members may be eligible,
14 including, but not limited to: profit-sharing plans, bonus plans, 401(k) plans, stock purchase plans,
15 vacation plans, sick leave plans, PTO plans, and any other benefit plan. Rather, it is the Parties'
16 intention that this Settlement will not affect any rights, contributions, or amounts to which any Class
17 Members may be entitled under any benefit plans.

18 h. No Effect on Regular Rate or Overtime Compensation

19 Participating Class Members will receive payment under the Settlement as determined by the
20 Settlement Administrator in accordance with this Agreement. The Parties agree that this payment is
21 not viewed as additional compensation for purposes of calculating a "regular rate" of pay under
22 California or federal law for the period during which it is received, and no additional overtime
23 compensation is required as a result of such payment.

24 i. Tax Liability

25 The Parties and counsel for the Parties make no representation as to the tax treatment or legal
26 effect of the payments called for hereunder. Plaintiffs and Participating Class Members are not relying
27 on any statement, representation, or calculation by the Parties, counsel for the Parties, or the Settlement
28 Administrator in this regard. Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, and Plaintiffs' Counsel

1 understand and agree that they will be solely responsible for the payment of their own portion of any
2 taxes and penalties assessed on the payments that they receive.

3 j. No Additional Contribution by Defendants

4 Other than as set forth above, Defendants shall not be called upon or required to contribute
5 additional monies above the Settlement under any circumstances whatsoever except as specifically set
6 forth herein. In the event that this Settlement is canceled, rescinded, terminated, voided, or nullified,
7 however that may occur, or the Settlement of the Action is barred by operation of law, or invalidated,
8 or ordered not to be carried out by a court of competent jurisdiction, Defendants shall cease to have
9 any obligation to pay any portion of the Settlement to anyone under the terms of this Settlement, except
10 for costs already incurred by the Settlement Administrator, and this action shall resume as though no
11 Settlement had occurred with the Action proceeding in the Stanislaus County Superior Court.

12 **IV. LIMITATIONS ON USE OF THIS SETTLEMENT**

13 **A. No Admission**

14 Defendants deny that they have engaged in any unlawful activity, that they have failed to
15 comply with the law in any respect, that they have any liability to anyone under the claims asserted in
16 the Action. Defendants maintain that but for this Settlement a class should not be certified in this
17 Action. This Settlement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising highly disputed claims.
18 Nothing in this Settlement is intended or will be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing
19 by Defendants.

20 **B. Non-Evidentiary Use**

21 Whether or not the Effective Date occurs, neither this Settlement nor any of its terms will be:
22 (a) construed as, offered, or admitted in evidence as, received as, or deemed to be evidence for any
23 purpose adverse to Defendants or any other of the Released Parties, including but not limited to,
24 evidence of a presumption, concession, indication, or admission by any of the Released Parties of any
25 liability, fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, or damage, or (b) disclosed, referred to, or offered
26 in evidence against any of the Released Parties in any further proceeding in the Action (or any other
27 action), except for the purposes of effectuating the Settlement pursuant to the terms herein or for
28 Defendants to establish that a Class Member has resolved any of his/her claims released through this

1 Settlement.

2 **C. Defendants' Right to Terminate Settlement**

3 Defendants shall have the right at their sole discretion to terminate the Settlement if Class
4 Members holding 15% or more of the amount to be actually distributed to the Class, timely elect to
5 opt out of the Settlement. If Defendants elect to exercise their right under this paragraph, Defendants
6 shall be liable solely for administrative costs of the Settlement Administrator not exceeding \$7,500.00.
7 Defendants agree that they will not in any manner take any actions to encourage Class Members to
8 opt-out.

9 **D. Nullification**

10 The Parties have agreed to the certification of the Class encompassing all claims alleged in the
11 Action for the sole purpose of effectuating this Settlement. If (a) the Court should for any reason fail
12 to certify this Class for settlement, or (b) the Court should for any reason fail to approve this
13 Settlement, or (c) the Court should for any reason fail to enter the Final Approval Order, or (d) the
14 Final Approval Order is reversed, or declared or rendered void, or (e) the Court should for any reason
15 fail to dispose of the action in its entirety, then (i) this Settlement shall be considered null and void;
16 (ii) neither this Settlement nor any of the related negotiations or proceedings shall be of any force or
17 effect; (iii) all Parties to this Settlement shall stand in the same position, without prejudice, as if the
18 Settlement had been neither entered into nor filed with the Court; and (iv) the fact that the Parties were
19 willing to stipulate to class certification of all causes of action pled in the Action as part of the
20 Settlement will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether
21 the Class should be certified by the Court in a non-settlement context in this Action or any other action,
22 and in any of those events, Defendants expressly reserve the right to oppose certification of the Class.

23 Invalidation of any material portion of this Settlement shall invalidate this Settlement in its
24 entirety unless the Parties shall subsequently agree in writing that the remaining provisions shall
25 remain in full force and effect.

26 **V. RELEASES**

27 **A. Releases by Class Members**

28 Upon the Effective Date and full payment of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendants,

1 Participating Class Members who do not opt out of the Settlement will release Defendants, together
2 with their present and former parents, subsidiaries, affiliated and related entities, present and former
3 owners, boards, officers, directors, trustees, shareholders, members, partners, employees, agents,
4 insurers, attorneys, representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns
5 (collectively, the “Released Parties”) from any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands, actions, or
6 causes of action of every nature and description that accrued during the Class Period, under state law
7 and the Wage Orders of the California Industrial Welfare Commission, that were alleged or which
8 could have been alleged based on the factual allegations in the Second Amended Complaint (or other
9 Operative Complaint(s)) in the Action, including claims for unpaid wages, including but not limited
10 to failure to pay minimum wages, straight time compensation, overtime compensation, and interest;
11 failure to timely pay regular and final wages; failure to provide compliant meal, rest, and/or recovery
12 periods; failure to pay premiums at all or at the correct rate for any violation of meal, rest, and recovery
13 period obligations; compensation due by reason of a split shift; reporting time pay; meal period
14 waivers and on-duty meal period waivers; payment for all hours worked; wage statements and
15 paystubs, including wage statements and paystubs furnished or available in physical, electronic, or
16 other forms; failure to keep accurate records; making unlawful deductions; failing to reimburse
17 business expenses; unfair business practices; any and all related penalties, including recordkeeping
18 penalties, wage statement penalties, minimum wage penalties, and waiting time penalties; and
19 statutory penalties and/or civil penalties associated with any of the foregoing. Such released claims
20 shall include, but are not limited to those claims arising under California Labor Code sections 201-
21 204, 206, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 222, 222.5, 223, 224, 225, 225.5, 226, , 226.3, 226.7, 233, 234,
22 246, 246.5, 247, 247.5, , 248, 248.1, 248.2, 248.3, 248.5, 248.6, 248.7, 400-410,, 510, 512, 558, 558.1,
23 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 1199, 2800, 2802, 2698 *et seq.*, and 2699
24 *et seq.*, and/or those arising under the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s)
25 (including but not limited to subsections 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 18, and 20 of the applicable Wage
26 Order(s) [including those Wage Order(s) that are stated in the California Code of Regulations], which
27 may include but are not limited to Wage Orders 1-2001, 7-2001, and/or 9-2001); 8 C.C.R. §3395;
28 California Business and Professions Code section 17200 *et seq.* (including, without limitation,

1 California Business and Professions Code §§17200 through 17208); the California Civil Code sections
2 3287, 3289, and 3294; California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 (“Released Claims”). The
3 Parties intend that this release be construed as broadly as possible to encompass all claims alleged by
4 Plaintiffs, or those which could have been alleged by Plaintiffs based on the factual allegations in the
5 Second Amended Complaint or Operative Complaint.

6 The above release language shall also be included in the Class Notice. Plaintiffs and
7 Participating Class Members will release these Released Claims for the Class Period.

8 Class Members who endorse their settlement checks waive and release any claims under the
9 Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”) (29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.*) arising during the Class Period and
10 based on the factual allegations alleged or which could have been alleged in the operative Class Action
11 Complaint, including the claims noted above.

12 This release excludes the release of claims not permitted by law.

13 Any Class Member who validly excludes himself or herself from the Settlement will still
14 receive a PAGA Settlement Payment, and will be deemed to have released claims against the Released
15 Parties for civil penalties pursuant to PAGA based on the Released Claims (“PAGA Released
16 Claims”). Plaintiffs, the State of California, and Aggrieved Employees will release these PAGA
17 Released Claims from March 3, 2020 through the Preliminary Approval Date of the Settlement or an
18 earlier date at Defendants’ discretion per Section III(D)(5).

19 **B. Plaintiffs’ General Release**

20 Plaintiffs do hereby, for themselves, and for their heirs, successors, predecessors, attorneys,
21 agents, representatives and assigns, forever release the Released Parties from any and all charges,
22 complaints, claims, liabilities, obligations, promises, agreements, controversies, damages, actions,
23 causes of action, injuries, suits, rights, demands, costs, losses, debts, judgments, accounts, attorneys’
24 fees, interest, expenses (including back wages, penalties, liquidated damages, and attorneys’ fees and
25 costs actually incurred), and other legal responsibilities arising in law, equity or otherwise, of any kind,
26 nature, and character whatsoever, from the beginning of time through the date of his signature on this
27 Settlement, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, unforeseen, or unanticipated including but
28 not limited to all claims arising out of, based upon, or relating to his employment with Defendants, the

1 termination or resignation of their employment with Defendants, or the remuneration for such
2 employment. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Plaintiffs expressly release all claims
3 which were or could have been raised in the Action and all claims or rights arising out of alleged
4 violations of any contracts, express or implied (including but not limited to any contract of
5 employment); any contract or covenant of good faith or fair dealing (express or implied); any tort,
6 including negligence, fraud, misrepresentation under California Labor Code § 970, negligent infliction
7 of emotional distress, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and defamation; any other common
8 law claim; any “retaliation” claims; any claims relating to any breach of public policy; any claim for
9 costs, fees, interest, or other expenses including attorneys’ fees; any legal restrictions on Defendants’
10 right to discharge employees or refuse to hire applicants; and any federal, state, or other governmental
11 statute, regulation, or ordinance, including, without limitation: (1) Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of
12 1964, as amended (race, color, religion, sex, and national origin discrimination or harassment,
13 including retaliation for reporting discrimination or harassment); (2) The Civil Rights Act of 1991, as
14 amended; (3) Sections 1981 through 1988 of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended; (4) The
15 Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended; (5) The Employee Retirement Income
16 Security Act of 1974, as amended; (6) The Immigration Reform and Control Act, as amended; (7) The
17 Americans with Disability Act, as amended; (8) Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of
18 1973 (disability discrimination); (9) The Workers Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, as
19 amended; (10) The Occupational Safety and Health Act, as amended; (11) California Equal Pay Law,
20 as amended; (12) Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. § 209(4)(1) (equal pay); (13) Americans with Disabilities
21 Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12100 *et seq.* (disability discrimination); (14) Family and Medical Leave Act, 29
22 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.* (family/medical leave); (15) California Fair Employment and Housing Act [*Gov.*
23 *Code*, §§ 12900, *et seq.*] (discrimination or harassment in employment and/or housing, including
24 discrimination or harassment based on race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical
25 or mental disability, marital status, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, genetic, or age,
26 including retaliation for reporting discrimination or harassment); (16) California Family Rights Act,
27 [*Gov. Code*, §§ 12945.1, *et seq.*] (family/medical leave); (17) California Labor Code or any Industrial
28 Welfare Commission Wage Order; (18) FLSA; (19) Executive Order 11246 (race, color, religion, sex,

1 and national origin discrimination or harassment); (20) Executive Order 11141 (age discrimination);
2 (21) California health and safety laws and regulations; and (22) any other federal, state, or local law,
3 regulation or ordinance, including those regulating compensation, and those prohibiting
4 discrimination, harassment, or retaliation of any kind. This release excludes the release of claims not
5 permitted by law.

6 **C. Plaintiffs' Release of Unknown Claims**

7 Plaintiffs, in their individual capacity, also expressly waive, as to the Released Claims any and
8 all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by any law or principle of common law or equity, that is
9 similar, comparable, or equivalent, in whole or in part, to California Civil Code § 1542. For the
10 purpose of implementing a full and complete release, Plaintiffs expressly acknowledge that the release
11 given in this Settlement is intended to include in its effect, without limitation, claims that each did not
12 know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of the effective date of this Settlement, regardless of
13 whether the knowledge of such claims, or the facts upon which they might be based, would materially
14 have affected the settlement of this matter, and that the consideration given under the Settlement was
15 also for the release of those claims and contemplates the extinguishment of any such unknown claims.
16 Plaintiffs expressly waive the provisions of section 1542 of the Civil Code of California, which
17 provides:

18 **A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or**
19 **releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor**
20 **at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her,**
would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor
or released party.

21 Thus, subject to and in accordance with this Agreement, even if Plaintiffs may hereafter discover facts
22 in addition to or different from those they now know or believe to be true, Plaintiffs, upon the Effective
23 Date, shall be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever settled and released any and all claims against
24 the Released Parties that were alleged or could have been alleged in the Action, as well as any other
25 claims, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, that now
26 exist, upon any theory of law or equity, including without limitation, conduct which is negligent,
27 intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law, or rule, without regard to the
28 subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts.

1 **D. No Additional Attorneys' Fees or Costs**

2 Except for the attorneys' fees and costs set forth in this Settlement, the Parties agree to bear
3 their own attorneys' fees and costs related to this Action.

4 **VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

5 **A. Amendments or Modification**

6 The terms and provisions of this Settlement may be amended or modified only by an express
7 written agreement that is signed by all the Parties (or their successors-in-interest) and their counsel
8 and approval by the Court.

9 **B. Assignment**

10 None of the rights, commitments, or obligations recognized under this Settlement may be
11 assigned by any Party, Class Member, Class Counsel, or Defense Counsel without the express written
12 consent of each other Party and their respective counsel. The representations, warranties, covenants,
13 and agreements contained in this Settlement are for the sole benefit of the Parties under this Settlement,
14 and shall not be construed to confer any right or to avail any remedy to any other person.

15 **C. Governing Law**

16 This Settlement shall be governed, construed, and interpreted, and the rights of the Parties shall
17 be determined, in accordance with the laws of the State of California, irrespective of the State of
18 California's choice of law principles.

19 **D. Entire Agreement**

20 This Settlement, including the Exhibit referred to herein, which form an integral part hereof,
21 contains the entire understanding of the Parties hereto with respect of the subject matter contained
22 herein. In case of any conflict between text contained in Articles I through VI of this Settlement and
23 text contained in the Exhibit to this Settlement, the former (*i.e.*, Articles I through VI) shall be
24 controlling, unless the Exhibit is changed by or in response to a Court order. There are no restrictions,
25 promises, representations, warranties, covenants, or undertakings governing the subject matter of this
26 Settlement other than those expressly set forth or referred to herein. This Settlement supersedes all
27 prior agreements and understandings among the Parties hereto with respect to the settlement of the
28 Action, including correspondence between Class Counsel and Defense Counsel and drafts of prior

1 agreements or proposals.

2 **E. Waiver of Compliance**

3 Any failure of any Party, Defense Counsel, or Class Counsel hereto to comply with any
4 obligation, covenant, agreement, or condition herein may be expressly waived in writing, to the extent
5 permitted under applicable law, by the Party or Parties and their respective counsel hereto entitled to
6 the benefit of such obligation, covenant, agreement, or condition. A waiver or failure to insist upon
7 strict compliance with any representation, warranty, covenant, agreement, or condition shall not
8 operate as a waiver of, or estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure.

9 **F. Counterparts and Fax/PDF Signatures**

10 This Settlement, and any amendments hereto, may be executed in any number of counterparts
11 and any Party and/or their respective counsel hereto may execute any such counterpart, each of which
12 when executed and delivered shall be deemed to be an original and all of which counterparts taken
13 together shall constitute one instrument. A fax or PDF signature on this Settlement shall be as valid
14 as an original signature.

15 **G. Meet and Confer Regarding Disputes**

16 Should any dispute arise among the Parties or their respective counsel regarding the
17 implementation or interpretation of this Settlement, a representative of Class Counsel and a
18 representative of Defense Counsel shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve such disputes prior
19 to submitting such disputes to the Court.

20 **H. Agreement Binding on Successors**

21 This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors in interest of
22 each of the Parties.

23 **I. Cooperation in Drafting**

24 The Parties have cooperated in the negotiation and preparation of this Settlement. This
25 Settlement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party, or the Party's counsel,
26 was the drafter or participated in the drafting of this Settlement.

27 **J. Fair Settlement**

28 Plaintiffs, Defendants, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel believe that this Settlement

reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Action and have arrived at this Settlement through arm's-length negotiations, taking into account all relevant factors, current and potential, and is consistent with public policy, and fully complies with applicable provisions of law.

K. Headings

The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Settlement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Settlement and shall not be considered in interpreting this Settlement.

L. Notice

All notices, demands, or other communications given under this Settlement must be in writing and addressed as follows:

To Plaintiffs and the Class:

Jose R. Garay
JOSE GARAY, APLC
249 E. Ocean Blvd. #814
Long Beach, CA 90802
Telephone: (949) 208-3400
Facsimile: (562) 590-8400

Daniel J. Hyun
LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL J. HYUN
1100 West Town and Country Road, Suite 1250
Orange, California 92868
Telephone: (949) 596-4782
Facsimile: (949) 528-2596

And

To Defendants:

Ian B. Wieland
Michael J. Conway II
SAGASER, WATKINS & WIELAND, PC
5260 North Palm Avenue, Suite 400
Fresno, California 93704
Telephone: (559) 421-7000
Facsimile: (559) 473-1483

M. Enforcement of Settlement and Continuing Court Jurisdiction

To the extent consistent with class action procedure, this Settlement shall be enforceable by the Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6 and California Rule of Court 3.769(h). The disposition entered by the Court will not adjudicate the merits of the Action or the

1 liability of the Parties resulting from the allegations of the Action. Its sole purpose is to adopt the
2 terms of the Settlement and to retain jurisdiction over its enforcement. To that end, the Court shall
3 retain continuing jurisdiction over this Action and over all Parties and Class Members, to the fullest
4 extent to enforce and effectuate the terms and intent of this Settlement.

5 **N. Mutual Full Cooperation**

6 The Parties agree fully to cooperate with each other to accomplish the terms of this Settlement,
7 including but not limited to execution of such documents, and to take such other action as may
8 reasonably be necessary to implement the terms of this Agreement. The Parties to this Settlement
9 shall use their best efforts, including all efforts contemplated by this Settlement, to effectuate this
10 Settlement and the terms set forth herein. In the event the Parties are unable to reach agreement on
11 the form or content of any document needed to implement the Settlement, or on any supplemental
12 provisions that may become necessary to effectuate the terms of the Settlement, the Parties agree to
13 seek the assistance of the Court.

14 **O. Authorization to Act**

15 Class Counsel warrants and represents that they are authorized by Plaintiffs, and Defense
16 Counsel warrants that they are authorized by Defendants, to take all appropriate action required to
17 effectuate the terms of this Settlement, except for signing the documents (including but not limited to
18 this Settlement) that are required to be signed by the Parties and funding the Settlement.

19 **P. No Reliance on Representations**

20 The Parties have made such investigation of the facts and the law pertaining to the matters
21 described herein and to this Settlement as they deem necessary, and have not relied, and do not rely,
22 on any statement, promise, or representation of fact or law, made by any of the other parties, or any of
23 their agents, employees, attorneys, or representatives, with regard to any of their rights or asserted
24 rights, or with regard to the advisability of making and executing this Settlement, or with respect to
25 any other matters. No representations, warranties, or inducements have been made to any party
26 concerning this Settlement.

27 **Q. No Collateral Attack**

28 This Settlement shall not be subject to collateral attack by any Class Member or any recipient

of the Class Notice after the Effective Date. Such prohibited collateral attacks shall include but not be limited to claims that the Class Member failed for any reason to receive timely notice of the procedure for disputing the calculation of his or her Individual Settlement Payment.

R. Invalidity of Any Provision

Before declaring any provision of this Agreement invalid, the Court will first attempt to construe the provision as valid to the fullest extent possible consistent with applicable precedents so as to define all provisions of this Agreement valid and enforceable. If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Agreement which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application and, to this end, the provisions of this Agreement are declared to be severable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no portion of any release contained herein may be deemed severed or deleted from this Agreement, except upon waiver in writing by the applicable party.

S. Confidentiality/Non-Publicity

Plaintiffs and their counsel will keep this Agreement confidential through preliminary approval. Thereafter, Plaintiffs and their counsel will further agree to keep this Agreement confidential, including without limitation no disclosures to current or former employees of the Defendants, to the media, or on any websites, blogs, social media, and/or online platforms. Exceptions to the obligation of confidentiality in this section are: (i) disclosures necessary to comply with the law, judicial process, or for financial planning or tax preparation purposes; (ii) to obtain and seek approval of this settlement in court and as is necessary to provide settlement information to Class Members, and (iii) if any party seeks to enforce any term or condition of this Agreement against any other party.

EXECUTION BY PARTIES

The Parties hereby execute this Settlement.

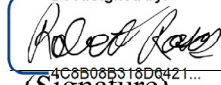
Dated: 12/20/2022

RUBEN ROSAS

By: Ruben Rosas
(Signature)

1 Dated: 12/20/2022

ROBERT ROSAS

By: 
(Signature)

4 Dated: 1/4/2023

SIERRA PACIFIC REFRIGERATED SERVICES, LLC

By: 
(Signature)

Christopher Murphy

(Printed Name)

Managing Member

(Title)

10 Dated: 1/4/2023

SIERRA PACIFIC REFRIGERATED SERVICES, L.P.

By: 
(Signature)

Christopher Murphy

(Printed Name)

Partner

(Title)

16 Dated: 1/4/2023

SIERRA PACIFIC DISTRIBUTION SERVICES, INC.

By: 
(Signature)

Christopher Murphy

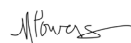
(Printed Name)

CEO

(Title)

22 Dated: 1/4/23

TURLOCK COLD STORAGE, LLC

By: 
(Signature)

Michelle Powers

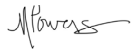
(Printed Name)

CFO

(Title)

1 Dated: 1/4/23

STOCKTON COLD STORAGE, LLC, dba SIERRA
PACIFIC WAREHOUSE GROUP

2
3 By: 
4 (Signature)
5 Michelle Powers
6 (Printed Name)
7 CFO
(Title)

8 Dated: 1/4/23

SIERRA PACIFIC LOGISTICS, INC. dba SIERRA
PACIFIC EXPRESS

9
10 By: 
11 (Signature)
12 Christopher Murphy
13 (Printed Name)
14 President
(Title)

15 Dated: 01-04-2023

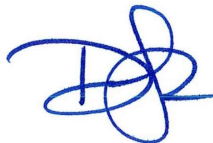
ROY ATKINS

16 By: 
17 (Signature)
18 Sue Atkins
19 (Printed Name)
20 General Partner
(Title)

21 Approved as to form:

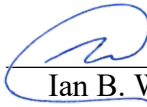
22
23 Dated: December 20, 2022

JOSE GARAY, APLC &
LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL J. HYUN &

24
25 
26 By: _____
27 Jose R. Garay
Daniel J. Hyun
28 Attorneys for Plaintiffs RUBEN ROSAS and
ROBERT ROSAS

1 Dated: January 4, 2023

SAGASER, WATKINS & WIELAND, PC

2
3 By: 

4 Ian B. Wieland

Michael J. Conway II

5 Attorneys for Defendants Sierra Pacific Refrigerated
6 Services, LLC, Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services
7 Limited Partnership, Roy Atkins, Sierra Pacific
8 Distribution Services, Inc., Turlock Cold Storage,
9 LLC, Stockton Cold Storage, LLC, and Sierra
10 Pacific Logistics, Inc.

EXHIBIT A

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT COURT APPROVED NOTICE. READ CAREFULLY.

Rosas, et al. v. Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, et al.
Stanislaus County Superior Court
Case No. CV-21-003621

If you worked as a non-exempt hourly employee for Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, L.P., Sierra Pacific Distribution Services, Inc., Turlock Cold Storage, LLC, Stockton Cold Storage, LLC doing business as Sierra Pacific Warehouse Group, Sierra Pacific Logistics, Inc. doing business as Sierra Pacific Express, and/or Roy Atkins (collectively “Defendants”) in California at any time from July 12, 2017 through December 11, 2022, you are eligible to receive compensation from a class action settlement.

- You have been identified as a Class Member (defined below) in a Lawsuit (defined below) brought by a former employee of Defendants. Defendants deny all allegations and contend they have complied with California law at all relevant times. However, to avoid the continuing expense of litigation, the Parties have reached a settlement of highly disputed claims (the “Settlement”). The Court has preliminarily approved the Settlement, finding it to be fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the Class Members.
- The Class Settlement will affect all of Defendants’ non-exempt hourly California employees from July 12, 2017 through December 11, 2022 (the “Class Period”). The PAGA Settlement will affect all of Defendants’ non-exempt hourly California employees from June 30, 2020 through December 11, 2022 (the “PAGA Period”).
- If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, you will receive a settlement payment.

*A court authorized this notice. This is not an advertisement.
You are not being sued. Your rights will be affected by this notice and settlement.*

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS	
PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT – <u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u>	Stay in this Lawsuit. Receive a payment. Give up certain rights. By doing nothing, you become part of the Settlement Class (defined below), will receive a settlement payment, and will give up certain rights to sue Defendants separately about the legal claims raised in this Lawsuit.
OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT – <u>ACTION REQUIRED</u>	Stay in this Lawsuit. May give up certain rights. If you object to the Settlement, you will remain a member of the Class (defined below), and if the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement in the same way as Class Members who do not object.
ASK TO BE EXCLUDED – <u>ACTION REQUIRED</u>	Opt out of the Settlement. Receive no payment from the settlement for the Class claims, but receive an individual settlement share for civil penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”). Keep rights to individually pursue only the Class claims. If you opt out of the Settlement, you won’t receive any share of the

	Class payment, but you retain the right to sue Defendants separately about the Class claims in this Lawsuit. However, even if you opt out, you will still receive an individual settlement share for claims for civil penalties pursuant to PAGA and will be deemed to have released the PAGA claims.
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- To object to the Settlement or to ask to be excluded, you must act before [DATE], 2023.
- **Any questions?** Read on or contact Class Counsel (defined below) or the Settlement Administrator (defined below).

WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS

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2. What is the Lawsuit about?
3. What is a class action and who is involved?
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BASIC INFORMATION

1. Why did I get this notice?

Records show that you are a potential member of the Class because you worked for Defendants in California as a non-exempt employee during the Class Period. The Court has given preliminary approval to the Settlement of a class action lawsuit that may affect your legal rights and ordered that this Notice be sent to you to explain your rights in connection with the Settlement. The Court has determined only that there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the proposed Settlement might be fair, adequate, and reasonable; the Court has not made any ruling on the merits of Plaintiffs' claims or Defendants' defenses.

The lawsuit is known as *Rosas, et al. v. Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, et al.*, Case No. CV-21-003621 (the "Lawsuit"). You can view the Lawsuit's records online by visiting the Court's website (<https://stanportal.stanct.org/search>), entering the Case Number in the search box for the section titled "Case Number Search," and selecting "Search."

2. What is this Lawsuit about?

The Lawsuit is about whether Defendants failed to pay minimum, regular, overtime, and double time wages for all hours worked, failed to provide proper meal and rest breaks, failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failed to timely pay all wages upon separation of employment, unlawfully deducted wages, violated paid sick leave laws, and failed to reimburse business expenses to its non-exempt employees as required by applicable California laws. Based on these alleged violations, the Lawsuit also alleges violations of California's Labor Code and Unfair Competition Law ("UCL") and seeks penalties under PAGA.

Defendants deny any liability or wrongdoing associated with the claims alleged in the Lawsuit.

3. What is a class action and who is involved?

In an employment class action lawsuit such as this, a person called the "Class Representative" sues his or her employer or former employer on behalf of other current or former employees who may have similar claims. The people who may have similar claims are called "Class Members," and Class Members are collectively referred to as "the Class." The Class Representative is also called the Plaintiff. There are two Plaintiffs/Class Representatives in this Action, Ruben Rosas and Robert Rosas. The companies and individual that were sued (in this case Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, L.P., Sierra Pacific Distribution Services, Inc., Turlock Cold Storage, LLC, Stockton Cold Storage, LLC dba Sierra Pacific Warehouse Group, Sierra Pacific Logistics, Inc. dba Sierra Pacific Express, and/or Roy Atkins) are called the Defendants. In class action litigation, one Court resolves the issues for everyone in the Class in one lawsuit, except for those people who choose to exclude themselves from the Class.

4. Why is this Lawsuit a class action?

As part of the Settlement, Plaintiffs and Defendants agreed to conditionally certify the Lawsuit as a class action for all of Plaintiffs' alleged claims for settlement purposes only and to ask the Court to approve the Settlement.

By agreeing to the terms of the settlement, Defendants do not admit any of the allegations in this Action, that they have done anything wrong, or that any Class Member has suffered any damage. Defendants settled this case to avoid additional expense, inconvenience, and interference with their business operations. The Court has not ruled on the merits of Plaintiffs' claims or the defenses of Defendants. Defendants retain the right to defend themselves against any of the allegations involved in the Lawsuit if for any reason the Settlement is not approved by the Court.

5. What are the terms of the proposed Settlement?

The major terms of the Settlement are as follows:

1. Defendants have agreed to pay \$280,000. This \$280,000 total settlement figure is known as the "Gross Settlement Amount," unless increased on a pro rata basis according to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.
2. Plaintiffs Ruben Rosas and Robert Rosas have agreed to a general release of all of their claims against Defendants.
3. Plaintiffs seek the following allocation of the Gross Settlement Amount:
 - a. Up to one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount (or currently approximately \$93,333.34) for Class Counsel's attorneys' fees;
 - b. Up to \$25,000 for reimbursement of Class Counsel's litigation costs;
 - c. An enhancement payment of up to \$20,000 for Plaintiff Ruben Rosas and an enhancement payment of up to \$20,000 for Plaintiff Robert Rosas for dedicating personal time and performing work in connection with the Lawsuit, assisting Class Counsel in investigating the alleged claims, being available to answer Class Counsel's questions, providing a general release of claims, and undertaking the risks of filing the Lawsuit;
 - d. All costs of the Settlement Administrator, which are currently estimated to be no more than \$7,000; and
 - e. \$10,000 as PAGA civil penalties. Per Labor Code Section 2699(i), seventy-five percent (75%) of this amount (\$7,500) will be payable to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"). The remaining twenty-five percent (25%), or \$2,500, will be payable to the Class as the "PAGA Amount."
4. After the above deductions from the Gross Settlement Amount, the remaining funds will be distributed to Class Members on a pro rata basis. To ensure timely payment, please contact and inform the Settlement Administrator listed in Section 18, below, of any changes to your mailing address.

If the Court approves this proposed allocation, the Parties estimate that \$107,166.66 (the "Net Settlement Amount") will be distributed to Class Members who do not request exclusion (the "Participating Class Members") according to the following formula:

The Net Settlement Amount shall be divided among all Participating Class Members in proportion to the number of individual Qualifying Workweeks for each Class Member. To calculate the amount each Class Member will receive based on their individual Qualifying Workweeks, the Net Settlement Amount will be divided by the total number of Qualifying Workweeks by all Class Members during the Class Period and then allocated on a pro rata basis (i.e., according to the Qualifying Workweeks worked by each of the individual Class Members during the Class Period). Each Class Member's individual amount will be included in his or her Class Notice. After final approval by the Court, the Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis based on the individual Qualifying Workweeks worked during the Class Period by each Participating Class Member.

“Qualifying Workweeks” means any week during which a Class Member was employed by Defendants during the Class Period.

The PAGA Amount will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees according to the following formula:

The PAGA Amount shall be divided among all Aggrieved Employees in proportion to the number of individual Qualifying Pay Periods for each Aggrieved Employee. To calculate the minimum amount each Aggrieved Employee will receive based on their individual Qualifying Pay Periods, the PAGA Amount will be divided by the total number of Qualifying Pay Periods by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and then allocated on a pro rata basis. Each Aggrieved Employee's individual amount will be included in his or her Class Notice. After final approval by the Court, the PAGA Amount will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees on a pro rata basis based on the individual Qualifying Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period by each Aggrieved Employee.

Your estimated Individual Settlement Payment is listed in Section 8 of this Notice. Employee-side payroll deductions will be made to your Individual Settlement Payment for state and federal withholding taxes and any other applicable payroll deductions owed by you as a result of the payment, with 10% allocated to wages, 80% allocated to penalties and interest, and 10% allocated to expense reimbursements. Defendants will pay employer-side taxes separate and apart from the Gross Settlement Amount.

Nothing in this Notice or the Settlement is intended to be tax advice. You should consult your tax advisor for any tax issues pertaining to this Settlement.

WHO IS IN THE CLASS?

6. Am I part of this Class?

The “Settlement Class” consists of all persons who worked as non-exempt hourly employees in California for Defendants at any time from July 12, 2017 through December 11, 2022.

7. I'm still not sure if I am included.

If you still are not sure whether you are included in the Class, you can get free help by contacting Phoenix

Class Action Administration Solutions, the “Settlement Administrator,” at the designated phone number for this matter at [insert telephone number], or by calling or writing the lawyers representing the Class in this case (“Class Counsel”), at (949) 208-3400.

YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

You have to decide whether to stay in the Class, object to the Settlement, or ask to be excluded from the Settlement. These options are further explained below, including the dates by which you need to take any action.

8. What is my approximate Individual Settlement Payment?

According to payroll records maintained by Defendants, your total number of Qualifying Workweeks during the Class Period is [REDACTED] and Qualifying Pay Periods during the PAGA Period is [REDACTED]. As a result, your estimated Individual Settlement Payment will be \$[REDACTED].

You do not need to do anything further to receive your Individual Settlement Payment, other than to ensure that the Settlement Administrator has an accurate mailing address for you. It is important that you contact and inform the Settlement Administrator listed in Section 18, below, of any changes to your mailing address for timely payment.

If you believe your total number of Qualifying Workweeks or Qualifying Pay Periods (shown above) is not accurate, you may submit a signed written dispute to the Settlement Administrator, indicating what you believe is the correct number of Qualifying Workweeks or Qualifying Pay Periods. Please be advised that your number of Qualifying Workweeks and Qualifying Pay Periods is presumed to be correct, unless you submit documents to support your contention to the Settlement Administrator no later than [DATE], 2023.

9. What rights am I releasing if I participate in the Settlement?

If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, each Class Member who does not validly opt-out will be mailed an Individual Settlement Payment. In addition, each Class Member who does not validly opt-out, on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of all those who claim by and through them, or in their stead, including, but not limited to agents, attorneys, representatives, predecessors, successors and assigns will be deemed to forever release, acquit, and discharge, and covenant not to sue, Defendants, together with their present and former parents, subsidiaries, affiliated and related entities, present and former owners, boards, officers, directors, trustees, shareholders, members, partners, employees, agents, insurers, attorneys, representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns (collectively, the “Released Parties”) from any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands, actions, or causes of action of every nature and description that accrued during the Class Period, under state law and the Wage Orders of the California Industrial Welfare Commission, that were alleged or which could have been alleged based on the factual allegations in the Second Amended Complaint (or other Operative Complaint(s)) in the Action, including claims for unpaid wages, including but not limited to failure to pay minimum wages, straight time compensation, overtime compensation, and interest; failure to timely pay regular and final wages; failure to provide compliant meal, rest, and/or recovery periods; failure to pay premiums at all or at the correct rate for any violation of meal, rest, and recovery period obligations; compensation due by reason of a split shift; reporting time pay; meal period waivers and on-duty meal period waivers; payment for all hours worked; wage statements and paystubs, including wage statements

and paystubs furnished or available in physical, electronic, or other forms; failure to keep accurate records; making unlawful deductions; failing to reimburse business expenses; unfair business practices; any and all related penalties, including recordkeeping penalties, wage statement penalties, minimum wage penalties, and waiting time penalties; and statutory penalties and/or civil penalties associated with any of the foregoing. Such released claims shall include, but are not limited to those claims arising under California Labor Code sections 201-204, 206, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 222, 222.5, 223, 224, 225, 225.5, 226, , 226.3, 226.7, 233, 234, 246, 246.5, 247, 247.5, , 248, 248.1, 248.2, 248.3, 248.5, 248.6, 248.7, 400-410,, 510, 512, 558, 558.1, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 1199, 2800, 2802, 2698 *et seq.*, and 2699 *et seq.*, and/or those arising under the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s) (including but not limited to subsections 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 18, and 20 of the applicable Wage Order(s) [including those Wage Order(s) that are stated in the California Code of Regulations], which may include but are not limited to Wage Orders 1-2001, 7-2001, and/or 9-2001); 8 C.C.R. §3395; California Business and Professions Code section 17200 *et seq.* (including, without limitation, California Business and Professions Code §§17200 through 17208); the California Civil Code sections 3287, 3289, and 3294; California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 (“Released Claims”).

Class Members who endorse their settlement checks waive and release any claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”) (29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.*) arising during the Class Period and based on the factual allegations alleged or which could have been alleged in the Class Action Complaint, including the claims noted above.

This release excludes the release of claims not permitted by law.

For members of the Class who do not validly opt out, the release period shall run from July 12, 2017 through December 11, 2022 for non-exempt hourly employees. For Aggrieved Employees, the release period shall run from June 30, 2020 through December 11, 2022.

“Aggrieved Employees” means all persons currently or formerly employed as non-exempt employees in California by Defendants at any time during the PAGA Period.

The proposed Settlement includes the settlement of claims for civil penalties under PAGA. An employee may not request exclusion from the settlement of a PAGA claim. Thus, if the court approves this Settlement, then even if you request exclusion from the Settlement, you will still receive an individual settlement share for the PAGA claims and will be deemed to have released the PAGA claims. A request for exclusion will preserve your right to individually pursue only the remaining Class claims.

10. How do I object to the Settlement?

If you are a Class Member and would like to object to the Settlement, you must not submit a request for exclusion (*i.e.*, must not opt out).

If you submit both a request for exclusion and an objection, you will be excluded from the Settlement (see sections 11 and 12 below), and your objection will not be considered.

To object, mail a written objection to the Settlement Administrator (at the address in Section 18, below) setting forth the grounds of objection, along with any supporting documents postmarked no later than [DATE], 2023, which is 45 days from the date that this Notice was mailed.

All written objections must be signed and must contain your address, telephone number, and a reference

to the Lawsuit. You may also appear personally or through an attorney, at your own expense, at the Final Approval Hearing to present your objection directly to the Court. If you object, but the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement in the same way as a Class Member who does not object.

11. Why would I ask to be excluded?

You have the right to exclude yourself from the Settlement. If you exclude yourself from the Class — sometimes called “opting-out” of the Class — you will only receive an individual settlement share for the PAGA claims and will not receive any compensation from the Settlement for the Class claims. If you exclude yourself, you will not be legally bound by the Court’s disposition of the Class claims, but you will still be deemed to have released the PAGA claims.

12. How do I ask to be excluded from the Class?

If you are a member of the Class described above and would like to exclude yourself from the Class, you need to submit the enclosed Exclusion Form. To exclude yourself from the Settlement, you must mail your completed Exclusion Form to the Settlement Administrator at the address below in Section 18, and it must be postmarked on or before [DATE], 2023. The date of the postmark on the mailing envelope shall be the exclusive means used to determine whether a request for exclusion has been timely submitted. Any Class Member who requests to be excluded from the Class will only receive an individual settlement share for the PAGA claims, will release only his or her PAGA claims, will not receive any compensation from the Settlement for the Class claims, and will not have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon. Class Members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion on or before [DATE], 2023, will be bound by all terms of the Settlement and any final disposition entered in this Class Action if the Court approves the Settlement.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

13. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

The Court preliminarily decided that Jose Garay, APLC and the Law Office of Daniel J. Hyun are qualified to represent you and all Class Members in this Lawsuit. These law firms are also called “Class Counsel” in the context of this case.

14. How will the lawyers be paid?

As part of the Settlement with Defendants, Class Counsel has requested one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount (currently, that is equal to approximately \$93,333.34) in attorneys’ fees, plus costs not to exceed \$25,000 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to compensate Class Counsel for their work on this matter. You will not have to pay Class Counsel’s fees and costs from your Individual Settlement Payment.

THE SETTLEMENT, APPROVAL, AND PAYMENT PROCESS

15. Who is handling the Settlement Administration process?

The Settlement Administrator, Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions, will handle the process.

The Settlement Administrator's contact information is provided in Section 18, below.

16. When is the Final Approval Hearing and do I have to attend?

The Final Approval Hearing has been set for [DATE], 2023 at [TIME] .m. in Department 21 of the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Stanislaus, located at 801 10th Street, 4th Floor, Modesto, California 95354. You do not need to attend the hearing to be a part of the Settlement. However, if you wish to object to the Settlement, you may appear at the hearing. If physical access to the Court is restricted due to COVID-19 or other reasons, please contact the Settlement Administrator regarding alternative options to appear at the hearing.

17. When will I get money after the hearing?

Your Individual Settlement Payment from the Net Settlement Amount will be made within approximately [INSERT] days after the Court's final approval of the Settlement, or, if an objection is filed, then approximately [INSERT] days after the Court's final approval of the Settlement, or, if an appeal is filed, then after all rights to appeal expire (assuming that the Court's approval stands), whichever date is later.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

18. Are more details available?

A copy of the entire Settlement Agreement was filed in this case as Exhibit A to the Declaration of Daniel J. Hyun in Support of Motion for Preliminary Approval, filed on January 17, 2023.

You may contact the Settlement Administrator, whose contact information is below:

Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions
[ADDRESS]
[PHONE]
[FAX]

You may also contact Class Counsel, whose contact information is below:

Jose R. Garay
JOSE GARAY, APLC
249 E. Ocean Blvd. #814
Long Beach, CA 90802
Telephone: (949) 208-3400
Facsimile: (562) 590-8400
Email: jose@garaylaw.com

Daniel J. Hyun
LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL J. HYUN
1100 West Town and Country Road, Suite 1250
Orange, California 92868
Telephone: (949) 596-4782
Facsimile: (949) 528-2596

Email: dh@danielhyunlaw.com

Defendants are represented by:

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Michael J. Conway II
SAGASER, WATKINS & WIELAND, PC
5260 North Palm Avenue, Suite 400
Fresno, California 93704
Telephone: (559) 421-7000
Facsimile: (559) 473-1483

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR WRITE TO THE JUDGE OR TO THE COURT REGARDING
THIS NOTICE OR THE LAWSUIT.**

Rosas, et al. v. Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, et al.

Case No. CV-21-003621

EXCLUSION FORM

MAIL OR FAX TO:

c/o [Administrator]

P.O. Box *****

*****, CA *****

Fax: (***) ***-****

COMPLETE THIS FORM **ONLY IF** YOU WISH TO EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS. IF YOU EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS, YOU **WILL NOT** RECEIVE COMPENSATION FROM THE SETTLEMENT FOR THE CLASS ACTION CLAIMS.

I, _____, request to be excluded from the Settlement Class in the matter of *Rosas, et al. v. Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, et al.*, Case No. CV-21-003621 (Stanislaus County Superior Court). I understand that by submitting this Exclusion Form, I will no longer be eligible for compensation from the settlement for the class action claims.

Signature and last four digits of your social security number Date

Print your name here

By signing this form, I hereby certify that I request exclusion from the Settlement Class as specified above and that the last four digits of my social security number are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

TO BE TIMELY, A REQUEST SUBMITTED BY FAX MUST BE SENT ON OR BEFORE _____, 2023. A REQUEST SUBMITTED BY MAIL MUST BE

Rosas, et al. v. Sierra Pacific Refrigerated Services, LLC, et al.

Case No. CV-21-003621

EXCLUSION FORM

POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE _____, 2023. IT MUST BE SENT TO
THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS OR FAX NUMBER:

c/o [Administrator]

P.O. Box *****

***** , CA *****

Fax: (***) ***-*****

[BAR CODE OR CLASS MEMBER ID WILL BE INCLUDED HERE]