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Attorneys for Plaintiff

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

LETICIA BAEZ DE GUZMAN, on behalf of  
the State of California and other aggrieved  
persons,

Plaintiff,

v.

AGROMILLORA CALIFORNIA, a California  
corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 21CV02371

**PAGA REPRESENTATIVE ACTION**

*[Assigned for all purposes to: Hon. Tamara L.  
Mosbarger, Dept. 1]*

**DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF  
LETICIA BAEZ DE GUZMAN IN  
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION  
TO APPROVE PAGA SETTLEMENT**

**DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF LETICIA BAEZ DE GUZMAN**

I, Leticia Baez de Guzman, declare as follows:

1. I am an adult resident of the State of California, and, if called as a witness in this action, I would testify truthfully to the matters described in this declaration. All of the matters described in this declaration are within my personal knowledge, except those matters that are stated to be upon information and belief. As to such matters, I believe them to be true.

2. I make this declaration entirely of my own free will and choice. I have not been promised any benefit for doing so, and I have not been pressured into giving this declaration. Before signing this declaration, I was given the opportunity to review it, make changes, and verify the accuracy of its contents.

3. I am a former employee of Agromillora California (“Defendant”). I worked for Defendant from approximately May 2018 to approximately July 24, 2020 as an hourly-paid, non-exempt employee. Throughout the entirety of my employment, I was subject to all of Defendant’s policies and practices that have been alleged as unlawful in the Class Action Complaint and Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”) Notice sent to Defendant and the Labor & Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

4. I initiated this lawsuit because I was concerned that I was not paid properly for all the hours that I worked, and I was not provided all of my meal and rest breaks.

5. By originating this lawsuit as a class representative, I hoped that I might be able to change Defendant’s policies to better protect the working conditions of my co-workers. I also understood that it was my duty as a class representative to represent the best interests of the class, know about the lawsuit, assist my attorneys, and keep updated on the case.

6. I have invested a lot of personal time and energy into this lawsuit. As detailed more fully below, I have spent approximately 19 hours on this case. I made it a priority to be actively involved because I wanted to do everything I can to assist my attorneys in prosecuting this case.

7. Throughout this case, I spent a lot of time on the phone with my attorneys to get updates about the case and provide them with information. For example, during some of the phone calls, my attorneys and I were able to identify instances when I was not paid correctly.

8. Throughout the case, I also spent time looking for documents relevant to the case to send to my attorneys. I spent numerous hours looking for these documents, including when I first contacted my attorneys and before my attorneys filed the case. I also spent time reviewing legal documents in this case, including the retainer and settlement agreement and discussed, in detail, the terms with my attorneys.

9. I believe the settlement is a good settlement and I would recommend that the Court approve it because I believe that this settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable. I am glad that I had the opportunity to represent the class in this lawsuit and that I was able to recover money through a settlement for the class.

10. I did not make the decision to file a representative action lightly. I was concerned by the attention a publicly filed lawsuit, and especially a representative action, would attract. My name would be associated with a lawsuit that I filed against my former employer. I am mindful that prospective employers might find out that I sued Defendant. Nevertheless, I felt that important rights were at stake that hurt everyone, and something ought to be done about it.

11. I also understand that there was financial risk in bringing this lawsuit. For example, I knew that if I did not prevail in this lawsuit that I could potentially be responsible for Defendant's attorneys' fees and costs.

12. I understand that the settlement agreement provides a service payment to me in the amount of \$5,000.00. I believe this amount is fair compensation for my time and effort on this case, for helping to prosecute this case, and the risks with respect to my future employment. In addition, the settlement requires that I enter into a general release, which I understand is broader than the release that will bind other class members. I am receiving no compensation additional to that provided for in the settlement.

13. Based on my involvement in this case and the benefits provided to my former co-workers, I can say I helped stand up for the other workers who were too afraid to say anything to management because they did not want to risk losing their jobs or risk the stigma of suing an employer. I was not afraid to take that risk because I strongly care about helping out my former co-workers.

14. I reviewed (and ultimately signed) the PAGA Settlement Agreement in full and my attorneys answered all the questions I had. I believe the settlement terms and allocations are fair, adequate, and reasonable given the strength of the class claims and Defendant's defenses.

15. I have no conflicts of interest with any class member or the Settlement Administrator, Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions.

16. I am not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement.

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

Executed on 8/29/2024, at Gridley, California.

DocuSigned by:  
Leticia G

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Leticia Baez de Guzman

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

*Baez de Guzman v. Agromillora California, et al.*  
21CV02371

STATE OF CALIFORNIA                     )  
                                                          ) ss  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES            )

I, Sandy S. Sespene, state that I am employed in the aforesaid County, State of California; I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action; my business address is 3055 Wilshire Blvd., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California 90010. My electronic service address is sandy.sespene@wilshirelawfirm.com.

On September 3, 2024, I served the foregoing **DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF LETICIA BAEZ DE GUZMAN IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF MOTION TO APPROVE PAGA SETTLEMENT**, on the interested parties by placing a true copy thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope by following one of the methods of service as follows:

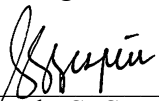
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Facsimile: (530) 3447883

Attorneys for Defendant Agromillora California

(X) **BY E-MAIL:** I hereby certify that this document was served from Los Angeles, California, by e-mail delivery on the parties listed herein at their most recent known email address or e-mail of record in this action.

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

Executed on September 3, 2024, at Los Angeles, California.

  
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Sandy S. Sespene