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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ALFREDO SILVA and GEORGE
ROSENBERG, individuals, on behalf of
themselves and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

WOODWARD HRT, INC., a Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. **21STCV42692**

**DECLARATION OF PRESTON H. LIM IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Judge: Hon. Maren Nelson
Department 17

Complaint Filed: November 19, 2021
Trial Date: Not Set

**DECLARATION OF PRETON H. LIM IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS’
MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS SETTLEMENT**

I, Preston Lim, declare:

1 I am a principal of the law firm of Lim Law Group, P.C. (“LLG”), counsel for Plaintiff George Rosenberg. As such, I am fully familiar with the facts, pleadings and history of this matter. The following facts are within my own personal knowledge, and if called as a witness, I could testify competently to the matters stated herein.

2 This declaration is being submitted in support of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Final Approval of Class and PAGA Settlement. The settlement reached between Plaintiffs Alfredo Silva and George Rosenberg (collectively, “Plaintiffs”), individually and on behalf of all members of the Class, on the one hand, and Defendant Woodward HRT, Inc. (“Defendant”), on the other hand, is set forth in the Stipulation of Class and Representative Action Settlement Agreement (the “Agreement”) submitted with this motion.

ADEQUACY OF CLASS COUNSEL

3 I graduated college in three years from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in History. Thereafter, I studied law at Washington University in St. Louis, School of Law. During law school, I externed for a federal magistrate judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California under the Honorable Theresa A. Goldner (*ret.*). As a second year law student, I interned for the Department of Justice – Civil Division, in Washington, D.C. and served as the executive articles editor for the Technology, Innovation, and Commerce Law Review.

4 I received my law degree in 2010 and served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable S. James Otero for the United States District Court for the Central District of California. There, I assisted the court in preparing minute orders on various substantive motions, including, among other things, class-action related motions.

5 After my one-year term as a judicial law clerk, I worked at Dykema Gossett, LLP, where, among other things, I served as class counsel defending numerous class action lawsuits involving asbestos litigation, automotive, banking, and housing. In 2012, I worked as a litigation associate at Bird,

1 Marella, Boxer, Wolpert, Nissim, Dooks, Lincenberg, and Rhow, P.C, a litigation boutique law firm
2 located in Century City. CA. There, I represented individuals and companies as trial counsel in various
3 high-stakes litigation matters. Notably, during my tenure at Bird Marella, I was part of a trial team that
4 obtained one of the top defense results in 2013, which was published by The Daily Journal.

5 6 Thereafter, in 2014, I worked as a litigation associate at Stubbs, Alderton, and Markiles,
6 LLP, where, among other things, I served as trial counsel on litigation matters and class counsel on a
7 high-profile ERISA class action lawsuit on behalf of California Longshoremen against their healthcare
8 plan, its administrators, and beneficiaries for failure to provide coverage on preauthorized claims. *See*
9 *Lorena Armijo, et al. v. ILWU-PMA Welfare Plan, et al.*, (C.D. Cal., Case No. 2:15-cv-1403-MWF
10 (MRWx)).

11 7 Since January 2016, I have been the principal of my own law firm, Lim Law Group, P.C.,
12 where I have devoted the vast majority of my practice representing plaintiffs in employment litigation.
13 I have been the lead or sole counsel on nearly all of my firm's cases in state and federal courts in
14 California, totaling hundred plus cases since I started my own practice. Within the span of three years,
15 I have relentlessly litigated my cases and collected millions of dollars for my clients.

16 8 I have attended and continue to attend professional meetings relating to my legal practice
17 and have served on the board of the Korean American Bar Association, as well as served on the board
18 of governors for the International Association of Korean Attorneys. I am currently an active member of
19 the California Employment Lawyers Association (CELA). I have also attended numerous trial related
20 colleges, including the Trial Lawyers College, founded by Gerry Spence, where I attended a number of
21 regional seminars relating to trial practice and advocacy. I have also been selected as Super Lawyer-
22 Rising Star consecutively from 2016 to 2020, and was selected to be on the "Up and Coming 100" list
23 for Super Lawyers. I have been selected as Super Lawyer for 2022.

24 9 Aside from my experience as class counsel at my previous firms, I have been approved
25 as class counsel on the following cases: *Martinez v. David's Bridal, Inc.*, (Sacramento Sup. Ct., Case
26 No. 2018-00240652-CU-OE-GDS) (on November 18, 2019, approved as class counsel on claims for
27 wage and hour violations and approved an hourly rate of \$600 for attorneys' fees); *Zavala v. PLS Check*
28 *Casher of California, Inc.* (Los Angeles Sup. Ct., Case No. 20STCV07175 (on November 17, 2022

1 approved as class counsel on claims for wage and hour violations and approved an hourly rate of \$800
2 for attorneys' fees). I have also been approved as counsel for Private Attorney General Act (PAGA)
3 settlement on *Hurtado v. Atrium Hospitality, L.P.*, et al., (Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No.
4 18STCV02036.

5 10 I am also currently prosecuting as counsel of record a number of other class action and
6 various representative PAGA actions, including, *Joh v. Wang Globalnet*, Los Angeles Superior Court,
7 Case No. 21STCV21663, and *Choi v. Dream Korean BBQ*, Los Angeles Superior Court,
8 21STCV33752, all of which are wage and hour claims affecting hundreds of employees across
9 California.

10 **COSTS**

11 11 I have reviewed the costs incurred in this case. All of these costs and expenses were
12 reasonable and necessary to bring this case to closure and are typically billed to a client. The amount of
13 my outstanding costs is approximately \$10,881.74, which include (1) Service Fee: \$176.25; (2) Filing
14 Fee: \$705.49; and (3) Mediation Fee: \$10,000.00.

15 **HOURLY RATE AND LODESTAR**

16 12 My hourly rate is \$880.00. I believe this hourly rate to be justified in light of my
17 experience and the results I have achieved in the past, as detailed above, as well as the rates I have been
18 awarded in the past.

19 13 It is my opinion that \$880 is a reasonable hourly rate in this case given my experience,
20 the complexity of the matter in litigation, and the rates for similarly experienced principal attorneys in
21 the Los Angeles area. Further, as of November 17, 2022, Los Angeles Superior Court's Judge Elihu
22 Berle approved my hourly rate of \$800 per hour in connection with prosecuting a class action matter.
23 In September 2019, I was approved for an hourly rate of \$600 per hour in connection with prosecuting
24 a class action matter before Judge Alan G. Perkins of the Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 2018-
25 00240652-CU-OE-GDS. On November 6, 2017, Los Angeles Superior Court's Judge Dalila Corral
26 Lyons approved my hourly rate of \$525 per hour for successfully prevailing on an anti-SLAPP motion,
27 in the matter entitled *Lee v. Kim*, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC673852. My rate has
28 increased approximately 10% yearly (2020 - \$660/hour, 2021 - \$725/hour, 2022 - \$800/hour, and 2023

1 - \$880/hour). My current standard hourly rate is \$880 per hour.

2 14 My total lodestar to date is \$53,768.00 (61.1 hours x \$880 per hour), not including time
3 compiling my time records. Attached as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of my billing records on
4 this case. I anticipate having to expend an additional 10 to 20 hours on this case dealing with class
5 member issues regarding the settlement and attending the final approval hearing.

6 15 I have performed the following work on this case, among other things: (1) interviewing
7 Plaintiff about his experience working for Defendants; (2) drafting PAGA letters; (3) drafting pleadings;
8 (4) drafting informal discovery requests for documents; (5) reviewing documents informally produced
9 in this case and analyzing the data to compute damages; (6) drafting and revising mediation brief; (7)
10 attending mediation; (8) negotiating, and working on preliminary and final settlement documents; and
11 (9) keeping Plaintiff informed about all developments in the case, and preparing them for the case.

12 **CONTINGENCY NATURE OF RECOVERY**

13 16 This class action was filed in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. For Class Counsel,
14 the fees were wholly contingent in nature, and Class Counsel's attention to this case during an uncertain
15 time in our community and economy was undertaken in lieu of work on other cases. I have not been
16 paid to date on this case and will only receive payment if the settlement is approved.

17 17 This case carried a degree risk of no recovery on my part, or the part of my firm and co-
18 counsel's firm, that no fees would ever be recovered, including for the chance of loss at trial and, if we
19 won at trial, the chance of non-collectability of any judgment.

20 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the
21 foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

22 Executed this 29th day of September, 2023, at Gardena, California.

23
24 /s/ Preston H. Lim

25 Preston H. Lim
26
27
28

EXHIBIT A

Date	Hours	Description
9/18/2020	0.1	Review correspondence re case
9/19/2020	0.1	Review correspondence w client re case
9/21/2020	0.4	Review correspondence w facts underlying case
9/28/2020	0.8	Draft and revise PAGA letter
9/29/2020	0.5	Conference call with client
10/2/2020	0.2	Review correspondence re documents
10/2/2020	0.2	Review documents
10/2/2020	0.5	Draft and review complaint
10/2/2020	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re complaint
10/4/2020	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re complaint
10/5/2020	0.4	Draft and review correspondence re complaint; finalize complaint
10/7/2020	0.3	Draft and review correspondence re case
10/9/2020	0.5	Conference call with client
10/12/2020	1	Draft and revise complaint, and filing documents
10/12/2020	0.3	Draft and review correspondence with client
10/13/2020	0.5	Conference call with client
1/15/2021	0.3	Draft and revise case management statement
1/15/2021	0.2	Draft and revise jury fee posting
2/1/2021	0.2	Draft change address form
2/10/2021	0.2	Draft notice of ruling
8/30/2021	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
9/7/2021	0.3	Draft and review correspondence with client
9/13/2021	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
9/14/2021	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
10/26/2021	0.8	Draft and revise informal document exchange
11/3/2021	0.3	Draft and review correspondence with client
11/12/2021	2	Conference call with client and co-counsel
11/12/2021	1	Draft and revise amended PAGA notice
11/12/2021	0.4	Draft and review correspondence with client
11/15/2021	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client re deposition
11/16/2021	8	Conference with client re deposition; attend deposition
11/16/2021	0.7	Draft and review correspondence with client
11/24/2021	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client re deposition
11/30/2021	4.5	Review deposition transcript
2/15/2022	0.2	Draft and revise joint prosecution agreement
2/15/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
2/17/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
2/17/2022	0.1	Draft correspondence re mediation
2/18/2022	0.1	Draft correspondence re mediation
2/25/2022	0.5	Draft and review correspondence with client
3/3/2022	0.2	Draft correspondence re request for documents
3/17/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
3/21/2022	0.3	Draft and revise joint stip to continue trial

3/22/2022	0.8	Draft and revise mediation brief
3/31/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence with client
4/1/2022	1	Review and revise settlement agreement
4/1/2022	8.5	Prep and attend mediation
4/5/2022	0.8	Review and revise settlement agreement
4/6/2022	0.3	Draft correspondence re conference call
4/7/2022	0.2	Review and revise settlement agreement
4/11/2022	0.5	Review and revise settlement agreement; draft correspondence re the same
4/12/2022	0.7	Draft and review correspondence re settlement; review and revise settlement agreement
4/25/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
4/26/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/3/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/8/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/9/2022	0.5	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/10/2022	0.6	Review and revise memorandum of understanding
5/11/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/12/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/16/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/18/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
5/24/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
6/5/2022	1	Review and revise settlement agreement
6/21/2022	0.7	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
6/27/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
6/29/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
7/5/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
7/6/2022	1.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement; review settlement agreement
7/7/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
7/13/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
7/18/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
8/3/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement; review edits re the same
8/10/2022	0.4	Draft and review correspondence re settlement; review edits re the same
8/23/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/2/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/8/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/9/2022	0.4	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/13/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/19/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/20/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/20/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
9/28/2022	0.3	Draft and file documents filing

9/28/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
10/3/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
10/13/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
10/21/2022	0.3	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
10/27/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
11/11/2022	0.8	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
11/15/2022	0.1	Draft correspondence re settlement
11/16/2022	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
11/17/2022	0.4	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/2/2022	0.4	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/5/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/7/2022	0.3	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/7/2022	1.3	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/8/2022	1.7	Review and revise preliminary approval motion; draft declaration
12/8/2022	0.3	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/11/2022	0.6	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/13/2022	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
12/16/2022	0.5	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
1/3/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
1/5/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
1/10/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
3/17/2023	0.1	Draft correspondence re preliminary approval
5/23/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
5/24/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/6/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/8/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/9/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/12/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/14/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/20/2023	0.3	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/21/2023	0.4	Draft and review correspondence re settlement
6/21/2023	0.7	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/22/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/23/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re preliminary approval
6/26/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re motion for preliminary approval
7/19/2023	0.1	Draft and review correspondence re motion for preliminary approval
7/26/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re class list
8/25/2023	0.2	Draft and review correspondence re settlement