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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

AARON HALLUM and AMY RAMOS, on
behalf of themselves and all others similarly
situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

FCA US, LLC, doing business as FIAT
CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES, a Delaware
Corporation; and DOES 1-50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: CIVDS1936782

*[Case assigned for all purposes to the Hon.
Joseph T. Ortiz, Dept. S17]*

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: January 22, 2024
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Dept.: S17

Action Filed: December 5, 2019
Trial Date: None Set

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[PROPOSED] ORDER

The Motion of Plaintiffs Aaron Hallum and Amy Ramos (“Plaintiffs”) for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement came regularly for hearing before this court on January 22, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. The Court, having considered the proposed Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement (“Settlement Agreement” or “Settlement”), attached as Exhibit A to the Declaration of Matthew K. Moen filed concurrently with the Motion; having considered Plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, the memorandum of points and authorities in support thereof, and supporting declarations filed therewith; and good cause appearing, HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Court GRANTS preliminary approval of the class action settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, and finds its terms to be within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that ultimately could be granted approval by the Court at a Final Fairness hearing.

2. The Court preliminarily approves the terms of the Settlement Agreement and finds that they fall within the range of approval as fair, adequate and reasonable. Based on a review of the papers submitted by Plaintiffs, the Court finds that the Settlement is the result of arms’-length negotiations conducted after Plaintiffs and/or Plaintiffs’ counsel adequately investigated the claims and became familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of the claims. The assistance of an experienced mediator in the settlement process supports the Court's conclusion that the Settlement is non-collusive and reasonable. The Settlement is presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

3. For purposes of the Settlement, the Court finds that the proposed Settlement Class is ascertainable and that there is a sufficiently well-defined community of interest among the members of the Settlement Class in questions of law and fact. Therefore, for settlement purposes only, the Court grants conditional certification of the following Settlement Class:

All current and former non-exempt employees of Defendant FCA US, LLC (“Defendant”) who worked in California during the time period from December 5, 2015, through and including July 9, 2023 (the “Class Period”). Should any Settlement Class member be incompetent, deceased, or unavailable due to military

1 service, the Settlement Class shall include that person's legal representative or
2 successor in interest evidenced by reasonable verification.

3 4. For purposes of the Settlement, the Court designates named Plaintiffs Aaron
4 Hallum and Amy Ramos as Class Representatives, and designates James R. Hawkins and
5 Christina M. Lucio of James Hawkins APLC, and Paul K. Haines, Fletcher W. Schmidt, Matthew
6 K. Moen, and Susan J. Perez of Haines Law Group, APC as Class Counsel.

7 5. The Court designates Phoenix Settlement Administrators as the third-party
8 Settlement Administrator for mailing notices.

9 6. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Class Action Settlement
10 ("Class Notice") and the Notice of Individual Settlement Award (collectively referred to as the
11 "Notice Packet") attached as Exhibit B to the Declaration of Matthew K. Moen.

12 7. The Court finds that the form of notice to the Settlement Class regarding the
13 pendency of the action and of the Settlement, and the methods of giving notice to Settlement Class
14 Members, constitute the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constitute valid, due,
15 and sufficient notice to all Settlement Class Members. The form and method of giving notice
16 complies fully with the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382, California
17 Rules of Court 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and other
18 applicable law.

19 8. The Court further approves the procedures for Settlement Class Members to opt-
20 out of or object to the Settlement, as set forth in the Class Notice and the Settlement Agreement.

21 9. The procedures and requirements for submitting objections in connection with the
22 Final Approval Hearing are intended to ensure the efficient administration of justice and the
23 orderly presentation of any Settlement Class Member's objection to the Settlement, in accordance
24 with the due process rights of all Settlement Class Members.

25 10. The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to mail the Notice Packet to the
26 Settlement Class Members in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.

27 11. The Class Notice shall provide at least 60 calendar days' notice for Settlement
28 Class Members to submit disputes, opt-out of, or object to the Settlement.

12. The Final Approval Hearing on the question of whether the Settlement Agreement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate is scheduled on _____, 2024 at _____ a.m. / p.m. in Department S-17 of this Court, located at 247 W. 3rd Street, San Bernardino, California 92415. The Court reserves the right to continue the date of the Final Approval Hearing without further notice to the Settlement Class Members. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in connection with the Settlement Agreement.

13. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will consider: (a) whether the Settlement Agreement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate for the Settlement Class; (b) whether a judgment granting final approval of the Settlement should be entered; and (c) whether Plaintiffs' application for incentive awards, settlement administration costs, payment to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") for its 75% share of civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA"), Labor Code section 2698 *et seq.*, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs should be granted.

14. Plaintiffs' Counsel shall file memoranda, declarations, or other statements and materials in support of their request for final approval of the Settlement and Plaintiffs' application for enhancement payments, settlement administration costs, payment to the LWDA for its share of PAGA penalties, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs prior to the Final Approval Hearing according to the time limits set by the Code of Civil Procedure and the California Rules of Court.

15. An implementation schedule is provided below (assuming the Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement on January 22, 2024):

Event	Date
Defendant to provide class contact information to Settlement Administrator no later than:	February 5, 2024
Settlement Administrator to mail the Notice Packet to the Settlement Class Members no later than:	February 21, 2024
Deadline for Class Members to submit disputes, request exclusion from, or object to the Settlement:	April 22, 2024

Deadline for Plaintiffs to file Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement:	At least 16 court days prior to Final Approval Hearing
Final Approval Hearing	☐ May 31, 2024 at _____ a.m./p.m. ☐ _____, 2024

16. Pending the Final Approval Hearing, all proceedings in this action, other than proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of the Settlement and this Order, are stayed.

17. Counsel for the parties are hereby authorized to utilize all reasonable procedures in connection with the administration of the Settlement which are not materially inconsistent with either this Order or the terms of the Settlement.

18. In the event the Settlement is not finally approved, or otherwise does not become effective in accordance with the terms of the Settlement, this Order shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated, and the parties shall revert to their respective positions as of before entering into the Settlement.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: _____, 2024

Honorable Joseph T. Ortiz
Judge of the Superior Court