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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

AARON COFFEY, individually and on behalf
of others similarly situated, and as an aggrieved
employee and Private Attorney General,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CATALINA CHANNEL EXPRESS, INC., a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through
50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 21STCV41396

Honorable Stuart M. Rice
Department 1

~~REVISED PROPOSED~~ **FINAL**
APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT

Date: June 13, 2025
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Dept.: 1

Complaint Filed: November 10, 2021
FAC Filed: March 29, 2022
Trial Date: Not Set

1 Plaintiff Aaron Coffey’s (“Plaintiff”) Motion for Final Approval of Class Action and PAGA
2 Settlement, Attorneys’ Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment, and Settlement Administration Costs
3 came before this Court on **June 13, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.** before the Honorable Stuart M. Rice in
4 Department 1 of the above-captioned Court located at Spring Street Courthouse, 312 North Spring
5 Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

6 Having received and considered the First Amended Joint Stipulation of Class Action and
7 PAGA Settlement (“Settlement Agreement” or “Settlement”), Plaintiff’s Motion for Final Approval
8 of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, Attorneys’ Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment, and
9 Settlement Administration Costs, the supporting papers filed by the Parties, the Declarations of Class
10 Counsel (Alexandra Rose), the Class Representative (Aaron Coffey), and the Settlement Administrator
11 (Tim Cunningham on behalf of CPT Group, Inc.), and the evidence and argument received by the
12 Court in conjunction with the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement
13 and documents thereto, the Court grants final approval of the Settlement and HEREBY ORDERS
14 AND MAKES THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATION:

15 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the above-captioned action and
16 over Plaintiff and Defendant Catalina Channel Express, Inc. (“Defendant”) (together, with Plaintiff,
17 the “Parties”), including all members of the Class.

18 2. The Court finds that the following Class is properly certified as a class for settlement
19 purposes only: “All current and former non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant within the
20 State of California at any time during the Class Period.” The “Class Period” is defined as the period
21 from November 10, 2017 through November 7, 2021.

22 3. The Court appoints Plaintiff Aaron Coffey as the Class Representative for settlement
23 purposes only.

24 4. The Court appoints Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Joana Fang, Alexandra
25 Rose, and Jared C. Osborne of Blackstone Law, APC as Class Counsel for settlement purposes only.

26 5. The Notice of Class Action Settlement (“Class Notice”) provided to the Class conforms
27 with the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382, California Civil Code section
28 1781, California Rules of Court 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and

1 any other applicable law, and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances, by
2 providing individual notice to all Class Members who could be identified through reasonable effort,
3 and by providing due and adequate notice of the proceedings and of the matters set forth therein to the
4 other Class Members. The Class Notice fully satisfied the requirements of due process.

5 6. The Court finds the Settlement was entered into in good faith, that the Settlement is
6 fair, reasonable, and adequate, and that the Settlement satisfies the standards and applicable
7 requirements for final approval of this class action settlement under California law, including the
8 provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and California Rules of Court, Rule
9 3.769.

10 7. The Settlement Agreement is not an admission by Defendant, or by any other Released
11 Party, nor is this Order and Judgment a finding of the validity of any allegations or of any wrongdoing
12 by Defendant or any other Released Party. Neither this Order and Judgment, the Settlement, nor any
13 document referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Settlement, may be construed as, or
14 may be used as, an admission of any fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, or liability whatsoever
15 by or against Defendant or any of the other Released Parties.

16 8. The Court finds that no Class Members have validly and timely opted out of the Class
17 Settlement and no Settlement Class Members have objected to the Class Settlement.

18 9. In addition to any recovery that Plaintiff may receive under the Settlement, and in
19 recognition of Plaintiff's efforts on behalf of the Class, the Court hereby approves the payment from
20 the Gross Settlement Amount of an Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff in the amount of \$5,000.00.

21 10. The Court approves the payments from the Gross Settlement Amount of attorneys' fees
22 to Class Counsel in the sum of \$333,333.33 and reimbursement of actual litigation costs and expenses
23 to Class Counsel in the sum of \$24,303.75. The attorneys' fees and reimbursement of litigation costs
24 and expenses to Class Counsel are reasonable amounts. The reasonableness of the fee award is
25 determined based on a reasonable percentage of the common fund obtained for the Class. Awarding
26 fees on a percentage basis encourages efficient litigation practices and reflects the actual benefit
27 obtained for the Class.

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11. The Court approves and orders payment from the Gross Settlement Amount in the amount of \$12,500.00 to CPT Group, Inc. for performance of settlement administration services.

12. The Court approves and orders payment in the amount of \$75,000.00 to the California Labor Workforce and Development Agency (“LWDA”) as 75% of the payment allocated toward PAGA penalties.

13. The Net Settlement Amount that is to be distributed to the Settlement Class Members is \$524,862.92, which is the Gross Settlement Amount (\$1,000,000.00) less the Court-approved attorneys’ fees (\$333,333.33), attorneys’ actual litigation costs and expenses (\$24,303.75), Enhancement Payment (\$5,000.00), PAGA Amount (\$100,000.00), and Settlement Administration Costs (\$12,500.00).

14. It is hereby ordered that within ten (10) business days after the Effective Date, Defendant will deposit the Gross Settlement Amount into a Qualified Settlement Fund (“QSF”) within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.468B-1, et seq., to be established by the Settlement Administrator, in accordance with the terms and methodology set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

15. It is hereby ordered that within five (5) business days after Defendant funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator will distribute the Individual Settlement Payments to Settlement Class Members, Individual PAGA Payments to PAGA Employees, Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to Class Counsel, Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff, LWDA Payment to the LWDA, and Settlement Administration Costs to itself.

16. Each Individual Settlement Payment and Individual PAGA Payment check will be valid and negotiable for one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days from the date the checks are issued, and thereafter, will be canceled. Any funds associated with such canceled checks will be distributed by the Settlement Administrator to the State of California’s Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Settlement Class Member and/or PAGA Employee.

17. Upon the full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff and all Settlement Class Members will be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, settled, compromised, relinquished, and discharged the Released Parties of any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, guarantees, costs, expenses, attorneys’ fees, damages, or causes of action which were

1 alleged or which could have been alleged based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint,
2 arising during the Class Period, under any federal, state, or local law, and shall specifically include
3 claims for Defendant's alleged failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide compliant meal
4 and rest periods and associated premium payments, timely pay wages during employment and upon
5 termination, provide accurate wage statements, and reimburse necessary business-related expenses in
6 violation of California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.7, 510, 512(a), 1194,
7 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, and any other claims which were alleged or which could have
8 been alleged based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, arising during the Class
9 Period, for failure to properly pay wages or compensate employees under the California Labor Code
10 or the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and all claims for attorneys' fees and
11 costs and statutory interest in connection therewith, California Business and Professions Code sections
12 17200, *et seq.*, and any other claims, including claims for statutory penalties, pertaining to the Class
13 Members (collectively, "Released Class Claims").

14 18. Upon the full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff, the State of California
15 with respect to all PAGA Employees, and all PAGA Employees will be deemed to have fully, finally,
16 and forever released, settled, compromised, relinquished, and discharged the Released Parties of any
17 and all claims arising from any of the factual allegations in the PAGA Letter, arising during the PAGA
18 Period, for civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, California Labor Code
19 Sections 2698 *et seq.*, including all claims for attorneys' fees and costs related thereto, for Defendant's
20 alleged failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide compliant meal and rest periods and
21 associated premium payments, timely pay wages during employment and upon termination, provide
22 accurate wage statements, maintain complete and accurate payroll records, and reimburse necessary
23 business-related expenses in violation of California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a),
24 226.7, 510, 512(a), 1174(d), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, and the applicable Industrial
25 Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), including *inter alia*, Wage Order 9-2001 (collectively,
26 "Released PAGA Claims").

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1 19. Upon the full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff, individually and on
2 his own behalf, will be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, settled, compromised,
3 relinquished, and discharged the Released Parties from any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands,
4 obligations, guarantees, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, damages, or causes of action of any kind or
5 nature whatsoever, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, which
6 Plaintiff, at any time of execution of the Settlement Agreement, had or claimed to have or may have,
7 including but not limited to any and all claims arising out of, relating to, or resulting from his
8 employment and/or separation of employment with the Released Parties, including any claims arising
9 under any federal, state, or local law, statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation or Executive Order relating
10 to employment, including, but in no way limited to, any claim under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act
11 of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 1981; the Americans with Disabilities Act; the Family and Medical
12 Leave Act; the Employee Retirement Income Security Act; the California Family Rights Act; the
13 California Fair Employment and Housing Act; all claims for wages or penalties under the Fair Labor
14 Standards Act; all claims for wages or penalties under the California Labor Code; Business and
15 Professions Code sections 17200 *et seq.*; all laws relating to violation of public policy, retaliation, or
16 interference with legal rights; any and all other employment or discrimination laws; whistleblower
17 claims; any tort, fraud, or constitutional claims; and any breach of contract claims or claims of
18 promissory estoppel. It is agreed that this is a general release and is to be broadly construed as a
19 release of all claims, provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing, this Paragraph expressly does not
20 include a release of any claims that cannot be released hereunder by law. Plaintiff understands and
21 expressly agrees that the Settlement Agreement extends to claims that he has against Defendant, of
22 whatever nature and kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, vested or contingent, past,
23 present, or future, arising from or attributable to an incident or event, occurring in whole or in part, on
24 or before the execution of the Settlement Agreement. Any and all rights granted under any state or
25 federal law or regulation limiting the effect of the Settlement Agreement, including the provisions of
26 Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, ARE HEREBY EXPRESSLY WAIVED. Section 1542 of
27 the California Civil Code reads as follows: A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO
28 CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT

1 TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND
2 THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER
3 SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

4 20. "Released Parties" means Defendant and its current and former officers, directors,
5 members, insurers, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, predecessors, successors, and assigns.

6 21. This Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters related to the
7 administration and consummation of the Settlement, and any and all claims, asserted in, arising out of,
8 or related to the subject matter of the lawsuit, including but not limited to all matters related to the
9 Settlement and the determination of all controversies relating thereto.

10 22. Notice of entry of this Order and Judgment shall be given to the Class Members by
11 posting a copy of this Order and Judgment on the Settlement Administrator's website for a period of
12 at least sixty (60) calendar days after the date of entry of this Order and Judgment.

13 23. A Non-Appeal Case Review re: Final Report is set for June 12, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.
14 at Los Angeles County Superior Court, Spring Street Courthouse in Department 1 of this Court located
15 at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The Settlement Administrator shall file a
16 Final Report five (5) court days prior.

17 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

18 Dated: 06/13/2025



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart M. Rice". The signature is stylized with a large, bold "S" and "M".

Honorable Stuart M. Rice
Stuart M. Rice / Judge

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I, Karina Hernandez, certify and declare as follows:

I am over eighteen years of age and not a party to the within action; my business address is 8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 745, Beverly Hills, California 90211. On June 16, 2025, I served a copy of the following document(s):

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF JUDGMENT OR ORDER

On the interested parties as follows:

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Attorneys for Defendant Catalina Channel Express, Inc.

☒ **BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE (CASE ANYWHERE):** I caused said document(s) to be sent to the addressee(s) listed above via Case Anywhere. I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any electronic message or other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful.

☒ **BY ONLINE SUBMISSION:** The above-referenced documents were transmitted to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency through the online system established for the submission of notices and documents, in conformity with California Labor Code section 2699(I). I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any electronic message or other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful.

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STATE:

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

Executed on June 16, 2025 at Beverly Hills, California.

/s/ Karina Hernandez

Karina Hernandez