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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA – UNLIMITED JURISDICTION

SOCORRO MATA CRUZ on behalf of) Case Number: C22-00538
herself and on behalf of all persons)
similarly situated, and on behalf of herself,) DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF SOCORRO
the Labor Workforce Development Agency,) MATA CRUZ IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
and similarly situated aggrieved current and) FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
former employees) ACTION SETTLEMENT AND PAGA
) SETTLEMENT

Plaintiff
vs.

RTSF PETRO VENTURES, INC., doing business as SUPERSTATION CAR WASH; RAYMOND YU, an individual; and TIM YU, an individual; and DOES 1-20 inclusive

Defendants

Case Number: C22-00538

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF SOCORRO
MATA CRUZ IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT

Date: January 25, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Dept.: 12

Judge: The Honorable Charles S. Treat

DECLARATION OF SOCORRO MATA CRUZ

I, Socorro Mata Cruz, declare if called as a witness I could and would testify competently based upon personal knowledge as follows:

1. I am a competent adult, over the age of eighteen, and I am the named Plaintiff and the Class Representative in this lawsuit. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement and PAGA Settlement.

2. I have worked for SuperStation located at 627 Contra Costa Boulevard in Pleasant Hill, California as an hourly employee washing cars since the mid 2000s. I remain currently employed by RTSF Petro Ventures, Inc. ("RTSF") at its SuperStation location in Pleasant Hill.

3. During my employment, I have been subject to RTSF's policies and procedures that have been alleged in the Complaint filed in this action and the notice sent to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, including RTSF's failure to provide meal periods, failure to provide rest periods, failure to pay wages, failure to pay reporting time wages, and failure to provide accurate wage statements, which also provide the basis for the unfair competition and Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") claims in this action.

4. I have never been a plaintiff in a class action lawsuit before deciding to be a plaintiff in this case. At no time in this litigation was I promised money to serve as the proposed Class Representative. My main goal as a Class Representative has been to seek the best result for all Class Members. I reviewed the Joint Stipulation of Settlement and Release of Claims ("Settlement Agreement") reached in this case, and I approved of the Settlement Agreement because I believe it was a good result for current and former employees of RTSF.

5. Prior to filing this lawsuit, I assisted my attorneys with the investigation of my claims, including conferring with them regarding events I and other employees have experienced at RTSF related to meal periods, rest periods, reporting time pay, and wage statements. Additionally, I conferred with my attorneys regarding RTSF's practices and policies in these area, both as it related to me and other employees.

6. Once the lawsuit was filed, I actively assisted my attorneys in all the phases of this litigation to advance the interests of the Class to the best of my abilities. Over the course of this

1 litigation, I have stayed in regular contact with my attorneys and have had regular phone calls with
2 my attorneys in which we discussed facts, legal theories, sources of evidence, and information and
3 documents provided by RTSF during discovery.

4 7. I had several discussions with my attorneys to prepare for the December 21, 2022
5 mediation with JAMS before Michael Loeb, Esq., which included the parties' positions regarding the
6 facts and liability, and the potential for settlement.

7 8. On December 21, 2022, the day of the mediation, I remained home and available
8 throughout the entire day to assist in the mediation, which began at 9:30 a.m. I had several
9 telephone calls with my attorneys during the mediation and I concluded my participation at
10 approximately 7:45 p.m. after the parties signed a Memorandum of Settlement.

11 9. Following the mediation, I reviewed the Joint Stipulation of Settlement and Release
12 of Claims with my attorneys.

13 10. At all times, I have tried to fairly represent the other current and former employees of
14 RTSF. From when I first contacted my attorney's office for an intake until now, I have stayed
15 actively involved in the litigation. As I describe in more detail above, I have kept in regular contact
16 with Patrick R. Co and G. Martin Velez, as a way to monitor the progress of the case and contribute
17 however I can. Overall, I estimate that I spent between 30 and 35 hours on this case.

18 11. I do not have interests that are antagonistic to or in conflict with other Class
19 Members. I do not have interests that might otherwise hinder my ability to represent the Class or
20 that prevent me from being confirmed as Class Representative in this lawsuit. I am not related in
21 any way to my attorneys and I have no business dealings or other involvement with Class Counsel
22 beyond this lawsuit and this representation. I do not have any interest, financial or otherwise, with
23 Class Action Claims Administration, Inc.

24 12. I believe that the proposed settlement obtained on behalf of the Class is fair and
25 reasonable in light of the issues involved in this case.

26 13. It is my opinion that the settlement provides for a fair and adequate enhancement for
27 me as a Class Representative in the amount of \$10,000.00. I believe that this is fair and reasonable
28 in light of all of the work that I have performed in my role as Class Representative, as detailed

1 above, and of the actual and potential risks I have incurred should there have been an adverse
2 outcome in this litigation. In addition to the potential stigma of being a Class Representative in a
3 class action dispute against an employer, I have experienced conduct from RTSF which I believe
4 constitutes harassment and retaliation due to my being the Plaintiff in this action. Since I have filed
5 this action, my superiors have made jokes at my expense and ridiculed me, have criticized me about
6 the shoes and shirts I have worn to work, have told me I was going to lose this lawsuit, and have
7 threatened to fire me. On occasion, I have showed up for my scheduled shifts, but I have been made
8 to wait, up to several hours, before I was allowed to start my shift. Despite this conduct, I have been
9 determined to continue with this lawsuit to its conclusion. As a Class Representative, I have always
10 maintained the best interests of the Class while performing my Class Representative duties.

11 14. I believe that I have diligently, adequately, and fairly represented the Class and
12 request that the Court finally approve this settlement and confirm me as Class Representative. I have
13 not placed my own interests above those of any member of the Class but have always kept the Class
14 Members' best interests at heart in this litigation.

15 I declare under penalty under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and
16 correct. Executed this 1/2/2024 day of January 2024 in Pacheco, California.

17 DocuSigned by:
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20 Socorro Mata Cruz
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