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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE

PEDRO MERAZ-VALENCIA, on behalf of the
State of California, and Aggrieved Employees,

Plaintiff,

v.

WESTLAKE ROYAL ROOFING, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No. 30-2022-01262267-CU-OE-CXC

Hon. David A. Hoffer

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

Date: January 5, 2026

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Dept.: CX103

The Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement (“Motion”), filed by Plaintiff Pedro Meraz-Valencia, came on regularly for hearing before this Court on January 5, 2026, at 1:30 P.M. The Court, having considered the Class and Representative Action Settlement Agreement and Release (“Settlement”) between Plaintiff and Defendant, filed as **Exhibit A** to the Declaration of Carolyn H. Cottrell (“Cottrell Decl.”) submitted on January 23, 2025, and the Amendment to the Settlement, filed as **Exhibit A** to the Supplemental Declaration of Philippe M.J. Gaudard (“Gaudard Suppl. Decl.”) submitted to the Court on or about December 22, 2025, as well as the Motion, Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support thereof, supplemental brief in support thereof, supporting declarations, all supporting documents attached thereto, and any arguments presented at the hearing on the Motion, and good cause appearing therefore, **HEREBY ORDERS AND MAKES THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATIONS:**

1 1. This Order incorporates by reference the parties' Settlement, and all defined terms
2 herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Settlement.

3 2. The Court **GRANTS** preliminary approval of the Settlement, as amended, and finds its
4 terms to be fair, adequate, and within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that ultimately could
5 be finally approved by the Court at a Final Approval Hearing.

6 3. For purposes of the Settlement only, the Court finds that the proposed Class is
7 ascertainable and that there is a sufficiently well-defined community of interest among the Settlement
8 Class Members in questions of law and fact. Therefore, for settlement purposes only, the Court
9 **GRANTS** certification of the Class, which is defined as all current and former hourly, non-exempt
10 employees who were employed by Defendant and worked in California during the time period starting
11 from March 14, 2018 through February 3, 2024. All Class Members who do not opt out are bound by
12 the terms of the Settlement, as amended.

13 4. For settlement purposes, the Court designates Plaintiff Pedro Meraz-Valencia as class
14 representative of the Settlement Class and designates Schneider Wallace Cottrell Kim LLP ("SWCK")
15 as Class Counsel.

16 5. The Court designates Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions ("Phoenix") as
17 the third-party Settlement Administrator for mailing notices, administering the Settlement, and
18 carrying out all the other administrative responsibilities outlined in the Settlement, as amended.

19 6. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Class Action Settlement and
20 Hearing Date for Final Court Approval ("Class Notice"), in the amended form submitted to the Court
21 on or about December 22, 2025, and the exclusion request form submitted therewith. Minor, non-
22 substantive changes are permitted to the extent required to facilitate notice administration.

23 7. The Court finds that the form of the Class Notice and the methods of giving notice to
24 Class Members as provided in the Settlement, as amended and herein, constitute the best notice
25 practicable under the circumstances and constitute valid, due, and sufficient notice to all Class
26 Members. The form and method of giving notice comply fully with the requirements of Cal. Code
27 Civ. Proc. § 382, Cal. Rules of Court 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions,
28

1 and other applicable law.

2 8. The Court further approves the procedures for Class Members to dispute the
3 information contained in the Class Notice, opt out of the Settlement, or object to the Settlement, as set
4 forth in the Settlement, as amended, and as summarized in the Class Notice.

5 9. The procedures and requirements for submitting written objections in connection with
6 the Final Approval Hearing are intended to ensure the efficient administration of justice and the orderly
7 presentation of any Class Member's objection to the Settlement, in accordance with the due process
8 rights of all Class Members. Class Members are permitted to appear at the Final Approval Hearing
9 and object to the Settlement even if they do not submit written objections.

10 10. The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to send the Class Notice to the Class
11 Members via first-class U.S. Mail in accordance with the terms of the Settlement, as amended.

12 11. The Class Notice shall provide 45 days' notice from the date of initial mailing for Class
13 Members to dispute the information therein, opt out of the Settlement, or object to the Settlement.

14 12. The Final Approval Hearing on whether the Settlement should be finally approved as
15 fair, reasonable, and adequate is set for May 5, 2026 [or _____, 2026] at ____ a.m. / p.m. in
16 Department CX103.

17 13. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will consider: (a) whether to certify this action
18 and Settlement Class as a class action under California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 for purposes of
19 settlement only; (b) whether dissemination of the Class Notice was accomplished as directed and met
20 the requirements of due process; (c) whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair,
21 reasonable, and adequate; (d) whether Plaintiff's application for a service award should be granted;
22 (e) whether Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and costs should be granted; (f) whether to
23 direct distribution of the Settlement funds in accordance with the Settlement Agreement; (g) whether
24 to dismiss this action finally, fully, forever, and with prejudice and in full and final discharge of any
25 and all Released Claims as set forth in the Settlement; (h) whether to enter a Final Judgment; and (i)
26 whether to retain continuing jurisdiction over this action for purposes only of overseeing all settlement
27 administration matters.

1 14. Class Counsel shall file memoranda, declarations, and other materials in support of
2 their request for final approval of the Settlement, attorneys' fees and costs, Plaintiff's service award,
3 and settlement administration costs prior to the Final Approval Hearing according to the time limits
4 set by the Code of Civil Procedure and the California Rules of Court and in accordance with the terms
5 of the Settlement, as amended.

6 15. Administration of the Settlement shall proceed according to the schedule set forth in
7 Plaintiff's Notice of Motion and Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA
8 Settlement.

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

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

15 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

16
17 Dated: _____

HON. DAVID A. HOFFER
JUDGE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT