

Brian J. Mankin, Esq. [CSB No. 216228]
brian@lmlfirm.com
Misty M. Lauby [CSB No. 243009]
misty@lmlfirm.com
LAUBY, MANKIN & LAUBY LLP
5198 Arlington Avenue, PMB 513
Riverside, CA 92504
Tel: (951) 320-1444 | Fax: (951) 320-1445

Attorneys for Plaintiff, on a representative basis and on behalf of all others similarly situated

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SUSANA CALDERON, individually, on a
representative basis, and on behalf of all
others similarly situated;

Plaintiff,

vs.

PRUDENTIAL INS CO OF AMERICA, a
New Jersey Corporation; and DOES 1
through 20, inclusive;

Defendants.

Case No.: 22STCV13172

*[Assigned to Hon. Elihu M. Berle, Dept 6, for all
purposes]*

**DECLARATION OF SUSANA
CALDERON IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR FINAL
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT**

Hearing

Date: February 5, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Dept.: 6

Complaint filed: April 20, 2022

I, Susana Calderon, state and declare:

1. I am the Plaintiff in the above captioned action and have personal knowledge of all matters stated herein and could competently testify thereto. I make this declaration in support of the motion for preliminary approval of the class action settlement. I believe that the settlement is fair and reasonable and constitutes a fair resolution of the claims alleged.

2. When I first retained my attorneys (Lauby, Mankin & Lauby), I chose to pursue this case on a class action basis rather than as an individual claim. In that regard, I understood

1 that I had specific burdens as the “Class Representative,” which included: (a) representing the
2 interests of all class members, (2) considering the interests of all class members above my own
3 personal interests, (3) participating actively in the lawsuit, including potential testimony at
4 deposition and trial, and keeping generally aware of the status and progress of the lawsuit.
5 Moreover, I understood that any resolution of the lawsuit is subject to court approval and must
6 be designed in the best interests of the class as a whole.

7 3. Since first initiating this action on behalf of the proposed class, I believe that I
8 have more than adequately performed my duties as a class representative. I have been an active
9 participant in this litigation, including assisting my attorneys in various ways and making myself
10 available when needed. For example, I have assisted my attorneys by compiling and analyzing
11 substantial documentation regarding the claims in this case. I have also helped to explain and
12 discuss the company’s practices and their general practices and procedures, locating and
13 analyzing company documents, among others. I have also reviewed all settlement documents and
14 believe that this settlement is fair for the class. Finally, I will continue to take all steps necessary
15 to finalize this settlement and obtain court approval.

16 4. I have no conflicts with the proposed class members and will continue to assist
17 with the litigation and prosecute the case on behalf of the other employees.

18 5. I respectfully request that the court preliminarily approve the service award. As
19 outlined above, I have performed substantial services for the Class and helped obtain a highly
20 beneficial settlement for my fellow employees. And I have also agreed, as part of this Class
21 action settlement, to waive all of my claims against the company as part of this settlement and in
22 exchange for the service award – which goes well beyond the release given by other class
23 members.

24 6. Since first initiating this action, I estimate that I have spent at least forty (40)
25 hours engaged in activities to benefit the class. I have assisted my attorneys in numerous ways,
26 including helping to explain and discuss the company’s practices and their general practices and
27 procedures, and locating and analyzing company documents. These efforts occurred through
28 telephone conferences with Class Counsel, letters, and email communications. I also assisted in

1 preparation for mediation and helped obtain a positive result for the class.

2 7. Moreover, in bringing this case, I was concerned that I could be “blackballed” as
3 a whistleblower, and this was a substantial risk that weighed heavily on my mind every day,
4 leading to substantial anxiety and stress.

5 8. For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request that the Court approve the
6 agreed-upon service award of \$7,500 for serving as a Class Representative.

7 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
8 foregoing is true and correct. Executed on Nov 29, 2023, at La Verne, California.

9
10 By: *Susana Calderon*
Susana Calderon (Nov 29, 2023 15:47 PST)
11 Susana Calderon
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28