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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

DONALD MATHEWS, an individual, on
behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

HANSEN & ADKINS AUTO
TRANSPORT, INC., a California
Corporation; and DOES 1 through 50,
inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE No. **CVRI2203075**
[Consolidated with CVRI2203224]

DECLARATION OF KYLE
NORDREHAUG IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY
APPROVAL OF CLASS SETTLEMENT

Hearing Date: November 14, 2023
Hearing Time: 8:30 a.m.
[Hearing set by Order dated Sept 26, 2023]

Judge: Hon. Harold W. Hopp
Dept: 1

Action Filed: July 21, 2022
Trial Date: Not Set

1 I, Kyle Nordrehaug, declare as follows:

2 1. I am a partner of the law firm of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP,
3 counsel of record for Plaintiff Donald Mathews ("Plaintiff") in this matter. As such, I am fully
4 familiar with the facts, pleadings and history of this matter. The following facts are within my own
5 personal knowledge, and if called as a witness, I could testify competently to the matters stated
6 herein.

7 2. This declaration is being submitted in support of Plaintiff's unopposed motion for
8 preliminary approval of the proposed class action settlement with Defendant Hansen & Adkins
9 Auto Transport, Inc. ("Defendant"), which motion seeks entry of an order: (1) preliminarily
10 approving the proposed settlement of this class action with Defendant; (2) for settlement purposes
11 only, conditionally certifying the following Class: "all individuals who are or previously worked for
12 Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt at any time during the Class Period",
13 which is July 21, 2018 to September 8, 2023.; (3) provisionally appointing Plaintiff as the
14 representative of the Class; (4) provisionally appointing Norman B. Blumenthal, Kyle Nordrehaug,
15 and Aparajit Bhowmik of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP as Class Counsel for
16 the Class; (5) approving the form and method for providing class-wide notice; (6) directing that
17 notice of the proposed settlement be given to the class; (7) appointing ILYM Group as
18 Administrator, and (8) scheduling a final approval hearing date to consider Plaintiff's motion for
19 final approval of the settlement and entry of the Judgment, and Plaintiff's motion for approval of
20 attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. Attached hereto as Exhibit #1 is a copy of the fully executed
21 Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") along with exhibits thereto. The
22 form of the Agreement is based upon the Los Angeles County Superior Court model form for a
23 class and PAGA settlement. This Declaration incorporates by reference the definitions in the
24 Agreement, and all terms defined therein shall have the same meaning as set forth in the
25 Agreement.

26
27 Fairness of Settlement

28 3. As consideration for this Settlement, the Gross Settlement Amount is Five Hundred

1 Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$575,000) (the “Gross Settlement Amount”) to be paid by
2 Defendant, as set forth in the Agreement. The Gross Settlement Amount will settle all issues
3 pending in the Action between the Parties and will be made in full and final settlement of the
4 Released Class Claims in exchange for the payments to Participating Class Members from the Net
5 Settlement Amount, and includes (a) the costs of administration of the settlement, (b) all attorneys'
6 fees and costs, (c) Class Representative Service Payment, and (d) the PAGA Penalties payment to
7 the LWDA and the Aggrieved Employees. The Settlement is all-in with no reversion to Defendant
8 and no need to submit a claim form.

9 4. **CMO ¶G(3)(a)(iv) - Relief to the Class** - The relief provided in the Settlement will
10 benefit all members of the Class. The Settlement does not grant preferential treatment to Plaintiff
11 or segments of the Class in any way. Payments to the Class Members are all determined under a
12 neutral methodology. Each Participating Class Member will receive the same opportunity to
13 participate in and receive payment through a neutral formula that is based upon the Workweeks for
14 that individual. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(e).)

15 5. On June 7, 2023, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation session presided
16 over by Tripper Ortman, a respected and experienced mediator of wage and hour class actions. In
17 preparation for the mediation, Defendant provided Class Counsel with payroll and employment data
18 and other information regarding the Class Members, various internal documents, and other
19 compensation and employment-related materials. Class Counsel analyzed the data with the
20 assistance of damages expert Berger Consulting and prepared and submitted a mediation brief to the
21 mediator. The final settlement terms were negotiated and set forth in the Agreement now presented
22 for this Court’s approval. Importantly, Plaintiff and Class Counsel believe that this Settlement is
23 fair, reasonable and adequate.

24 6. **CMO ¶G(3)(a)(ii) - Estimated Maximum Recovery / ¶G(3)(a)(i) - Class Size** -
25 Based upon 328 Class Members who collectively worked 25,020 Workweeks (Agreement at ¶4.1),
26 the Gross Settlement Amount provides an average value of \$1,753 per Class Member and \$22 per
27 Workweek and after deductions the Net Settlement Amount provides an average recovery of
28 \$987.29 per Class Member and a recovery of \$12.94 per Workweek. This means that a Class

1 Member who worked the entire Class Period (268 weeks) will have a net recovery of \$3,467, and a
2 Class Member who worked only a single week in the Class Period will have a net recovery of
3 \$12.94. The calculations to compensate for the amount due for the Class at the time of the
4 mediation were calculated by Berger Consulting, Plaintiff's damage expert. As to the Class whose
5 claims are at issue in this Action, Plaintiff used this expert to analyze the data and determine the
6 potential unpaid wages for the employees. The maximum potential damages were calculated to be
7 \$815,769 for the potential unpaid wages due to alleged off-the-clock work, \$5,000 for the potential
8 unpaid overtime, meal period premiums and sick pay due to the miscalculation of the regular rate,
9 \$107,821 for alleged rest period damages based upon a 9.5% potential violation rate, \$31,295 for
10 alleged unreimbursed business expenses for personal cell phone usage at \$5 per month. Other than
11 the alleged miscalculation of the regular rate, the meal break claim for missed meal periods had
12 nominal value because Defendant established that it paid more meal period premiums than the
13 number of violations apparent in the time records. As a result, the total damage valuation was
14 calculated that Defendant was subject to a maximum damage claim in the amount of \$959,884. As
15 to potential penalties, Plaintiff calculated that potential waiting time penalties were a maximum of
16 \$879,214 and potential wage statement penalties were \$532,000.¹ Defendant vigorously disputed
17 Plaintiff's calculations and exposure theories. In light of these uncertainties, the Gross Settlement
18 Amount of \$575,000 is fair and reasonable. This amount represents more than 59% of the maximum
19 value of the alleged damages at issue in this case at the time this Settlement was negotiated.² In
20 addition, the above maximum calculations should then be adjusted in consideration for both the risk
21

22 ¹ While Plaintiff alleged claims for statutory penalties pursuant to Labor Code Sections 203 and
23 226, at mediation Plaintiff recognized that these claims were subject to additional, separate defenses
24 asserted by Defendants, including, a good faith dispute defense as to whether any wages were owed
25 given Defendants' position that Plaintiff were properly compensated and classified. *See Nordstrom*
26 *Commission Cases*, 186 Cal. App. 4th 576, 584 (2010) ("There is no willful failure to pay wages if
the employer and employee have a good faith dispute as to whether and when the wages were
due.").

27 ² Because the PAGA claim is not a class claim and primarily is paid to the State of California,
28 Plaintiff has not included the PAGA claim in this discussion of the value of the class claims. The
PAGA claim is addressed in the Decl. Nordrehaug at ¶33.

1 of class certification and the risk of establishing class-wide liability on all claims. Given the
2 amount of the settlement as compared to the potential value of claims in this case and the defenses
3 asserted by Defendant, this settlement is fair and reasonable.

4 a. **CMO ¶G(3)(a)(iii) - Estimated Realistic Recovery** - The above provides
5 the estimate of the maximum recoveries on the class claims. The above maximum calculations
6 should then be adjusted in consideration for both the risk of certification and the risk of establishing
7 class-wide liability on all claims. The claim for unpaid wages (overtime, sick pay, meal period
8 premiums) based upon the miscalculation was a strong claim both in terms of liability and
9 certification. I would expect a high likelihood of certification of this regular rate claim (75%), and
10 a similarly high likelihood of establishing liability on this claim (75%). Using these risk ratios, the
11 reasonable class recovery on this regular claim would be \$2,812.50. The alleged unpaid wages due
12 to alleged off-the-clock work presents a medium likelihood of certification (50%) because of the
13 potential for variances between employees, and a medium likelihood of liability (50%) in light of
14 the Defendant's argument that this time was recorded. Using these risk ratios, the reasonable class
15 recovery on this claim would be \$203,942.25. The rest period claim presents a medium likelihood
16 of certification (50%) and a low likelihood of liability (25%) because of the Defendant's defense
17 that they have facially lawful policies that instruct employees to take the required rest breaks, and
18 because Plaintiff's theory is based upon evidence from time records as to meal periods to create an
19 inference that the rest break was missed. Using these risk ratios, the reasonable class recovery on
20 this rest period claim would be \$13,477.63. The expense reimbursement claim presents a high
21 likelihood of certification (75%), but a medium likelihood of liability (50%) because of the
22 Defendant's defense that personal cell phone usage was a required expense, as opposed to merely
23 convenient which is not recoverable. Using these risk ratios, the reasonable class recovery on this
24 reimbursement claim would be \$11,735.63. Other than the alleged miscalculation of the regular
25 rate, the meal break claim for missed meal periods had nominal value because Defendant
26 established that it paid more meal period premiums than the number of violations apparent in the
27 time records. The waiting time claim is entirely derivative of the above claims for failure to pay
28 wages, and therefore bear the same risks, and also have the additional risk of Defendant's "good

1 faith defense, which I estimate would reduce the likelihood further. Using the best possible
2 predicate ratios from the predicate claims, and then apply a further reduction of 75% for the good
3 faith defense, leads to a reasonable class recovery on this waiting time claim of \$370,918. As to the
4 wage statement claim, this claim is derivative and perhaps could only be recovered based upon a
5 theory that the hours worked were not accurately stated. If we apply the risks from the reporting
6 time claim, and then an additional 75% risk for the unique defenses to this claim which are lack of
7 wilfulness and not intentional because of alleged lawful policies, leads to a reasonable class
8 recovery on this wage statement claim of \$224,437. All combined, these realistic recoveries total
9 \$827,323, which compares favorably to the amount of the settlement in this case, which is
10 guaranteed and without delay and appeal.

11
12 Procedural History of the Litigation

13 7. On May 19, 2022 , Plaintiff filed with the LWDA and served on Defendant a
14 notice under Labor Code section 2699.3 identifying the alleged Labor Code violations to recover
15 civil penalties on behalf of Aggrieved Employees for various Labor Code violations ("PAGA
16 Notice"). A true and correct copy of this PAGA Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit #3. On July
17 21, 2022, Plaintiff filed a class action Complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court of the
18 State of California, County of Riverside ("Class Action"). In the Class Action Complaint, Plaintiff
19 asserted claims against Defendant for: (1) unfair competition in violation of Cal. Bus & Prof. Code
20 §§ 17200, et seq.; (2) failure to pay minimum wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194,
21 1197, and 1197.1; (3) failure to pay overtime wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 510,
22 1194 & 1198; (4) failure to provide required meal periods in violation of Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7
23 and 512; (5) failure to provide required rest periods in violation of Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7 and
24 512; (6) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements in violation of California Labor Code
25 § 226; (7) failure to reimburse employees for required expenses in violation of California Labor
26 Code § 2802; (8) failure to provide wages when due in violation of California Labor Code §§ 201,
27 202 and 203; and, (9) failure to pay sick wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 201-204,
28 233, 246.

1 8. On August 3, 2022, Plaintiff filed a Representative Action Complaint against
2 Defendant in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside, asserting a single
3 cause of action for violation of the Private Attorney General Act, Cal. Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.
4 ("PAGA"), Case No. CVRI2104986 ("PAGA Action"), citing to underlying Labor Code violations
5 of sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802,
6 1194, 1197, 1197.1 and 1198.

7 9. On July 24, 2023, the Parties filed a stipulation to consolidate the Class Action and
8 the PAGA Action (collectively referred to as the "Actions") and file the First Amended
9 Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint. On August 11, 2023, Plaintiff filed the
10 First Amended Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint. The First Amended
11 Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint is the operative complaint in the Action
12 (the "Operative Complaint").

13 10. **CMO ¶G(3)(a)(v) - Investigation** - Over the course of litigation, the Parties
14 engaged in the investigation of the claims, including production of documents, class data, and other
15 information, allowing for the full and complete analysis of liabilities and defenses to the claims in
16 the Action. Plaintiffs served formal written discovery including requests for production, special
17 interrogatories, form interrogatories, and requests for admission. The information for mediation
18 obtained by Plaintiff included: (1) data concerning the class (2) payroll data for the class; (3) a
19 sampling of time records; (4) Defendant's wage and hour policies and job descriptions; (5) the
20 employment file for the Plaintiff; and, (6) samples of wage statements provided by Defendant. As
21 such, Class Counsel received the data and information for the Class, which was sufficient for
22 Plaintiff's expert to prepare the valuation of the claims for the Class.

23 11. Class Counsel has extensive experience in litigating wage and hour class actions in
24 California. The Parties have vigorously litigated the Actions since inception. During the course of
25 litigation, the Parties each performed analysis of the merits and value of the claims. Plaintiff and
26 Defendant have engaged in substantial research and investigation in connection with the Action.
27 Class Counsel has thoroughly analyzed the value of the claims during the prosecution of this Action
28 and utilized an expert to perform an analysis of the data and valuation of the claims.

1 12. Plaintiff and Defendant agreed to discuss resolution of the Action through a
2 mediation. Prior to mediation, the Parties engaged in the above investigation and the exchange of
3 documents and information in connection with the Action. On June 7, 2023, the Parties participated
4 in an all-day mediation presided over by Tripper Ortman, a respected and experienced mediator of
5 wage and hour class actions. Following the mediation, each side, represented by its respective
6 counsel, were able to agree to settle the Action based upon a mediator's proposal which was
7 memorialized in a memorandum of understanding. The Parties then negotiated the final terms of
8 the settlement as set forth in the Agreement. At all times, the negotiations were arm's length and
9 contentious.

10 13. Although a settlement has been reached, Defendant denies any liability or
11 wrongdoing of any kind associated with the claims alleged in the Actions and further deny that, for
12 any purpose other than settlement, the Actions are appropriate for class and/or representative
13 treatment. Defendant contends, among other things, that it has complied at all times with the
14 California Labor Code, applicable Wage Order, and all other laws and regulations. Further,
15 Defendant contends that class certification is inappropriate for any reason other than for settlement.
16 Plaintiff contends that Defendant violated California wage and hour laws. Plaintiff further contends
17 that the Action is appropriate for class certification on the basis that the claims meet the requisites
18 for class certification. Without admitting that class certification is proper, Defendant has stipulated
19 that the above Class may be certified for settlement purposes only. (Agreement at ¶ 2.7.) The
20 Parties agree that certification for settlement purposes is not an admission that class certification is
21 proper. Further, the Agreement is not admissible in this or any other proceeding as evidence that
22 the Class could be certified absent a settlement. Solely for purposes of settling the Action, the
23 Parties stipulate and agree that the requisites for establishing class certification with respect to the
24 Class are satisfied.

25 14. Class Counsel conducted an investigation into the facts of the class action. Class
26 Counsel engaged in a thorough review and analysis of the relevant documents and data with the
27 assistance of an expert. Accordingly, the agreement to settle did not occur until Class Counsel
28 possessed sufficient information to make an informed judgment regarding the likelihood of success

1 on the merits and the results that could be obtained through further litigation. In addition, Class
2 Counsel previously negotiated settlements with other employers in actions involving nearly
3 identical issues and analogous defenses. Based on the foregoing data and their own independent
4 investigation, evaluation and experience, Class Counsel believes that the settlement with Defendant
5 on the terms set forth in the Agreement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interest of
6 the Class in light of all known facts and circumstances, including the risk of significant delay,
7 defenses asserted by Defendant, and potential appellate issues.

8
9 Settlement Terms and Plan of Allocation

10 15. The Gross Settlement Amount is Five Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars
11 (\$575,000). (Agreement at ¶ 1.22.) Under the Settlement, the Gross Settlement Amount consists of
12 the following elements: (1) payment of the Individual Class Payments to the Participating Class
13 Members; (2) Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment; (3)
14 Administration Expenses Payment; (4) the Class Representative Service Payment to Plaintiff; and
15 (5) the PAGA Penalties payment. (Agreement at ¶ 1.22.) The Gross Settlement Amount does not
16 include Defendant's share of payroll taxes. (Agreement at ¶ 3.1.) The Gross Settlement Amount
17 shall be all-in with no reversion to Defendants. (Agreement at ¶ 3.1.)

18 16. Within fifteen (15) days of the Effective Date, Defendant shall deposit the Gross
19 Settlement Amount with the Administrator. (Agreement at ¶ 4.3.) The distribution of Individual
20 Class Payments to Participating Class Members along with the other Court-approved distributions
21 shall be made by the Administrator within fourteen (14) days after Defendant funds the Gross
22 Settlement Amount. (Agreement at ¶ 5.1.)

23 17. The amount remaining in the Gross Settlement Amount after the deduction of
24 Court-approved amounts for Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Class
25 Representative Service Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation
26 Expenses Payment, and the Administration Expenses Payment (called the "Net Settlement
27 Amount") shall be allocated to Class Members as their Individual Class Payments. (Agreement at
28 ¶¶ 1.23, 1.28 and 3.2.) From the Net Settlement Amount, the Individual Class Payment for each

1 Participating Class Member will be calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the
2 total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and
3 (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's Workweeks. (Agreement at ¶
4 3.2(e).) Workweeks will be based on Defendant's records, however, Class Members will have the
5 right to challenge the number of Workweeks.

6 18. **CMO ¶G(7) and G(8) - Exclusions and Objections** - Class Members may choose
7 to opt-out of the Settlement by following the directions in the Class Notice. (Agreement at ¶ 8.5,
8 Ex. A.) The Class Notice Packet will include an Exclusion Form and an Objection Form.
9 (Agreement at ¶¶ 8.5(a), 8.7(b), Ex. A.) All Class Members who do not "opt out" will be deemed
10 Participating Class Members who will be bound by the Settlement and will be entitled to receive an
11 Individual Class Payment. (Agreement at ¶ 8.5(c).) All Aggrieved Employees, including those
12 who submit an opt-out request, will still be paid their allocation of the PAGA Penalties and will
13 remain subject to the release of the Released PAGA Claims regardless of any request for exclusion.
14 (Agreement at ¶¶ 6.3 and 8.5(d).) Finally, the Class Notice will advise the Class Members of their
15 right to object to the Settlement and/or dispute their Workweeks. (Agreement at ¶¶ 8.6 and 8.7, Ex.
16 A.)

17 19. **CMO ¶G(3)(c)(i) - Uncashed Checks**- A Participating Class Member must cash his
18 or her Individual Class Payment check within 180 days after it is mailed. (Agreement at ¶ 5.2.)
19 Any settlement checks not cashed within 180 days will be voided and any funds from such
20 uncashed checks will be sent to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of
21 the Class Member thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California
22 Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b). (Agreement at ¶ 5.4.) Class Members can then
23 claim their funds through the Controller's website.

24 20. Subject to Court approval, the Parties have agreed on ILYM Group to administer the
25 settlement in this action ("Administrator"). (Agreement at ¶ 1.2.) The Administrator will be paid
26 for settlement administration in an amount not to exceed \$12,000. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(c).)

27 21. Subject to Court approval, the Agreement provides for Class Counsel to be awarded
28 a sum not to exceed one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount, as the Class Counsel Fees Payment.

(Agreement at ¶ 3.2(b).) Class Counsel will also be allowed to apply separately for an award of Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(b).) Subject to Court approval, the Agreement provides for a payment of no more than \$12,500 to the Plaintiff as the Class Representative Service Payment. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(a).)

22. Subject to Court approval, the PAGA Penalties will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount for PAGA penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act, Cal. Labor Code Section 2698, *et seq.* ("PAGA"). The PAGA Penalties are \$15,000. (Agreement at ¶¶ 1.34 and 3.2(d).) Pursuant to the express requirements of Labor Code § 2699(i), the PAGA Payment shall be allocated as follows: 75% shall be allocated to the Labor Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") as its share of the civil penalties and and 25% allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments to be distributed to the Aggrieved Employees based on the number of their respective PAGA Pay Periods. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(d).) As set forth in the accompany proof of service, the LWDA has been served with this motion and the Agreement.

Risks of Continued Litigation and Standards for Approval

23. Plaintiff and Class Counsel recognize the expense and length of continuing to litigate and trying this Action against Defendant through possible appeals which could take several years. Class Counsel has also taken into account the uncertain outcome and risk of litigation, especially in complex class actions such as this Action. Class Counsel is also mindful of and recognize the inherent problems of proof under, and alleged defenses to, the claims asserted in the Action. Based upon their evaluation, Plaintiff and Class Counsel have determined that the Settlement set forth in the Agreement is in the best interest of the Class Members.

24. A number of defenses asserted by Defendant, however, present serious threats to the claims of the Plaintiff and the other Class Members. Defendant asserted that Defendant's practices complied with all applicable Labor laws. Defendant argued that Class Members were properly paid for all time worked and that all work time was properly recorded. Defendants contend that their meal and rest period policies fully complied with California law and Defendant did not fail to provide the opportunity for legally required meal and rest breaks. Defendant contended that there

1 was no failure to pay for business expenses and any cell phone usage was merely convenient and
2 voluntary such that reimbursement was not legally required. Finally, Defendant could argue that
3 the Supreme Court decision in *Brinker v. Superior Court*, 53 Cal. 4th 1004 (2012), weakened
4 Plaintiff's claims, on liability, value, and class certifiability as to the meal and rest period claims.
5 Defendant also argues that based on its facially lawful practices, Defendant acted in good faith and
6 without willfulness, which if accepted would negate the claims for waiting time penalties and/or
7 inaccurate wage statements. If successful, Defendant's defenses could eliminate or substantially
8 reduce any recovery to the Class. While Plaintiff believes that these defenses could be overcome,
9 Defendant maintains these defenses have merit and therefore present a serious risk to recovery by
10 the Class.

11 25. In additional, there was also a significant risk that, if the Action was not settled,
12 Plaintiff would be unable to obtain a certified class and maintain the certified class through trial,
13 and thereby not recover on behalf of any employees other than herself. At the time of the
14 mediation, Defendant forcefully opposed the propriety of class certification, arguing that individual
15 issues precluded class certification. Further, as demonstrated by the California Supreme Court
16 decision in *Duran v. U.S. Bank National Assn.*, 59 Cal. 4th 1 (2014), there are significant hurdles to
17 overcome for a class-wide recovery even where the class has been certified. While other cases have
18 approved class certification in wage and hour claims, class certification in this action was hotly
19 disputed and the maintenance of a certified class through trial was by no means a foregone
20 conclusion.

21 26. This settlement is therefore certainly entitled to preliminary approval. Were this
22 case to go to trial, the Plaintiff and the other class members would need to prove, among other
23 things, that wages were owed on a class-wide basis. This was and is a substantial risk.

24 27. Plaintiff will apply to the Court for Class Representative Service Payment in
25 consideration for his service and for the risks undertaken on behalf of the Class. (Agreement at ¶
26 3.2(a).) Plaintiff performed his duties admirably by working with Class Counsel for over a year.
27 The Declaration of the Plaintiff is submitted herewith in support. At this stage, the requested
28 service award of \$12,500 is well within the accepted range of awards for purposes of preliminary

1 approval. *See e.g. Mathein v. Pier 1 Imps. (U.S.), Inc.*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71386 (E.D. Cal.
2 2018) (awarding \$12,500 where average class member payment was \$351); *Holman v. Experian*
3 *Info. Solutions, Inc.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 173698 (N.D. Cal. 2014) (approving \$10,000 service
4 award where class member recovery was \$375); *Rausch v. Hartford Fin. Servs. Grp.*, 2007 U.S.
5 Dist. LEXIS 14740, 2007 WL 671334 (D. Or. 2007) (approving award of \$10,000 where class
6 member recoveries were as little as \$150); *Louie v. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.*, 2008 WL
7 4473183, *7 (S.D.Cal. Oct. 06, 2008) (awarding \$25,000 service award to each of six plaintiffs in
8 overtime class action); *Glass v. UBS Fin. Servs.*, 2007 WL 221862, *16-17 (N.D.Cal. Jan. 27 2007)
9 (awarding \$25,000 service award in overtime class action and a pool of \$100,000 in enhancements
10). As explained in *Glass*, service awards are routinely awarded to class representatives to
11 compensate the employees for the time and effort expended on the case, for the risk of litigation, for
12 the fear of suing an employer and retaliation there from, and to serve as an incentive to vindicate the
13 statutory rights of all employees. 2007 WL 221862 at *16-17. Below, I provided a long list of
14 similar Court-approved service awards.

15 28. The stage of the proceedings at which this Settlement was reached also militates in
16 favor of preliminary approval and ultimately, final approval of the Settlement. Class Counsel has
17 conducted a thorough investigation into the facts of the class action. Class Counsel began
18 investigating the Class Members' claims before the Action was filed. Class Counsel conducted a
19 review and analysis of the relevant documents and data. Class Counsel was also experienced with
20 the claims at issue here, as Class Counsel previously litigated and settled similar claims in other
21 actions. Accordingly, the agreement to settle did not occur until Class Counsel possessed sufficient
22 information to make an informed judgment regarding the likelihood of success on the merits and the
23 results that could be obtained through further litigation.

24 29. Based on the foregoing data and their own independent investigation and evaluation,
25 Class Counsel is of the opinion that the Settlement with Defendant for the consideration and on the
26 terms set forth in the Agreement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interest of the
27 Class in light of all known facts and circumstances, including the risk of significant delay, defenses
28 asserted by Defendant, and numerous potential appellate issues. There can be no doubt that

1 Counsel for both parties possessed sufficient information to make an informed judgment regarding
2 the likelihood of success on the merits and the results that could be obtained through further
3 litigation.

4
5
6 Class Certification Issues

7 30. Plaintiff contends that the proposed settlement meet all of the requirements for class
8 certification under California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 as demonstrated below, and therefore,
9 the Court may appropriately approve the Class as defined in the Agreement. This Court should
10 conditionally certify the Class for settlement purposes only, defined as follows:

11 All individuals who are or previously worked for Defendant in California who were
12 classified as non-exempt at any time during the Class Period.

13 (Agreement at ¶ 1.5.)

14 The Class Period is July 21, 2018 through September 8, 2023 (Agreement at ¶ 1.13.)

15 a. **Numerosity** - Here, Plaintiff asserts that the 328 current and former
16 employees that comprise the Class can be identified based on Defendant's records and are
17 sufficiently numerous for class certification.

18 b. **Common Issues Predominate** - Here, Plaintiff contends that common
19 questions of law and fact are present, specifically the common questions of whether Defendant's
20 employment practices were lawful, whether Class members were lawfully compensated for all
21 hours worked, whether Defendant miscalculated the regular rate, whether Defendant failed to
22 provide meal and rest periods to Class Members, whether Defendant failed to provide required
23 expense reimbursement, and whether Class Members are entitled to damages and penalties as a
24 result of these practices. Plaintiff contends that certification of this Class is appropriate because
25 Defendant allegedly engaged in uniform practices with respect to the Class Members. As a result,
26 these common questions of liability could be answered on a class wide basis.

27 c. **Typicality** - In this Action, Plaintiff contends that the typicality requirement
28 is fully satisfied. Plaintiff, like every other member of the Class, was employed by Defendant as a

1 non-exempt employee during the Class Period, and, like every other member of the Class, was
2 subject to the same employment practices. Plaintiff, like every other member of the Class, also
3 claims owed compensation as a result of the Defendant's uniform company policies and practices.
4 Thus, the claims of Plaintiff and the members of the Class arise from the same course of conduct by
5 Defendant, involve the same issues, and are based on the same legal theories.

6 d. **Adequacy** - Plaintiff contends that the Class Members are adequately
7 represented here because Plaintiff and representing counsel (a) do not have any conflicts of interest
8 with other class members, and (b) will prosecute the case vigorously on behalf of the Class. This
9 requirement is met here. First, Plaintiff is well aware of his duties as the representative of the Class
10 and has actively participated in the prosecution of this case to date. Plaintiff effectively
11 communicated with Class Counsel, provided documents and information to Class Counsel, and
12 participated in the investigation and resolution of the Action. The personal involvement of the
13 Plaintiff was essential to the prosecution of the Action and the monetary settlement reached.
14 Second, Plaintiff retained competent counsel who are experienced in employment class actions and
15 who have no conflicts. Third, there is no antagonism between the interests of the Plaintiff and those
16 of the Class. Both the Plaintiff and the Class Members seek monetary relief under the same set of
17 facts and legal theories.

18 31. Class Counsel's Adequacy of Representation and Absence of Conflict: Blumenthal
19 Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP is experienced in prosecuting class action lawsuits and can
20 competently represent the Class. Other lawyers at my firm and I have extensive class litigation
21 experience. We have handled a number of class actions and complex cases and have acted both as
22 counsel and as lead and co-lead counsel in a variety of these matters. We have successfully
23 prosecuted and obtained significant recoveries in numerous class action lawsuits and other lawsuits
24 involving complex issues of law and fact. My firm is particularly experienced in wage and hour
25 employment law class actions, including claims for misclassification, overtime, expense
26 reimbursement, unlawful deduction of wages, and missed rest and meal periods. Blumenthal
27 Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP has been involved as class counsel in over hundreds of wage
28 and hour class actions. Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP has been found to be

adequate counsel by the courts throughout California. We have been approved as experienced class counsel by both state and federal courts in California in contested class certification proceedings. A true and correct copy of the resume of my firm is attached hereto as Exhibit #2. The Class in this settlement is defined as “all individuals who are or previously worked for Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt at any time during the Class Period.” I have reviewed my firm’s cases and representation of other plaintiffs and there is no conflict or representation which would prevent my firm from representing the interests of the Class this case. My firm only represents employees, and not employers. My firm has never represented Defendant nor any affiliate of the Defendant. My firm’s only interest in the subject matter of this litigation is to ensure a recovery to the Class and to maximize that recovery. Finally, our allegiance to the Class and the claims of the Class is not inconsistent with our allegiance to pursue the claims on behalf of other employees and classes as the claims are all against different and distinct employers. I can think of no conflict that would arise in our representation of the Class and our adequate representation of the Class is evidenced by the successful prosecution of the class claims to reach an excellent recovery for the Class. Moreover, neither the Plaintiff nor Class Counsel have any affiliation with the Settlement Administrator for this settlement. Thus, the adequacy requirement for my firm is satisfied.

32. **CMO ¶G(5) - Class Notice** - The Parties have used a form for the class notice which this Court previously approved. The Class Notice, drafted jointly and agreed upon by the Parties through their respective counsel and to be approved by the Court, includes all relevant information. (*See* Exhibit “A” to the Agreement.) The Class Notice will include, among other information: (i) information regarding the Action; (ii) the impact on the rights of the Class Members if they do not opt out, including a description of the applicable release; (iii) information to the Class Members regarding how to opt out and how to object to the Settlement; (iv) the estimated Individual Class Payment for each of the Class Members; (iii) the amount of attorneys’ fees and expenses to be sought; (v) the amount of the Plaintiff’s service award request; and (vi) the anticipated expenses of the Administrator. An Objection form and a Request for Exclusion form will accompany the Class Notice, the forms of which are part of Exhibit A to the Agreement. The Class Notice Packet will include a Spanish translation. (Agreement at ¶ 1.11.) The Class Notice

1 will state that the Class Members shall have sixty (60) days from the date that the Notice is mailed
2 to them (the "Response Deadline") to request exclusion (opt-out) or to submit a written objection.
3 (Agreement at ¶¶ 1.42, 8.5, 8.7.) In the event of a re-mailing, the Response Deadline will be
4 extended by an additional 14 days. (Id.) Class Members shall be given the opportunity to object to
5 the Settlement and/or requests for attorneys' fees and expenses and to appear at the Final Approval
6 Hearing. (Agreement at ¶ 8.7.) Class Members who do not submit a timely and proper request to
7 opt-out will automatically receive a payment of their Individual Class Payment. This notice
8 program was designed to meaningfully reach the Class Members and it advises them of all pertinent
9 information concerning the Settlement.

10
11 **33. CMO ¶G(9) - The PAGA Claim -**

12 a. **Approval of PAGA Settlements.** The decision in *O'Connor v. Uber*, 201
13 F.Supp.3d 1110, 1133 (N.D. Cal. 2016), and the LWDA's Response therein is illustrative. The
14 LWDA first states that "when viewing the monetary relief allocated to PAGA claims under a
15 settlement, the LWDA recognizes that the PAGA sum need not necessarily be viewed through the
16 same lens as the relief obtained by absent class members on other claims (i.e., the percentage of
17 recovery-to-exposure on the PAGA claims need not necessarily equal the percentage of recovery on
18 the other claims)." (LWDA Response at p.3). The LWDA also indicated that the payment of
19 money to the aggrieved employees furthers the purposes of PAGA and that the Court considers that
20 primary consideration. "The LWDA recognizes that this Court does not review the PAGA
21 allocation in isolation, but rather reviews the settlement as a whole, to determine whether it is
22 fundamentally fair, reasonable and adequate, with primary consideration for the interests of absent
23 class members." (LWDA Response at p.4).

24 b. **Valuation of the PAGA Claim.** For mediation, Plaintiff calculated the
25 value of the alleged PAGA claim as to Aggrieved Employees for civil penalties to be between
26 \$408,350 and \$816,700 for a single violation in every one of the 8,167 pay periods at issue in the
27 PAGA Period, depending on whether the violation was \$50 per pay period as in the case of Labor
28 Code § 558(a)(1) or the standard amount of \$100 per pay period for violation of Labor Code §

1 1198. This valuation assumed that PAGA civil penalties would be awarded at the maximum rate
2 per pay period but without stacking.³

3 c. **Stacking of Penalties** - The violations alleged for PAGA penalties are the
4 same as the grounds for the class claims, which are alleged unpaid wages violations (Labor Code §§
5 1194, 1197, 1198); rest period violations (Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512, 1198), expense
6 reimbursement violations (Labor Code §§ 1198, 2802) waiting time violations (Labor Code §§
7 203), and wage statement violations (Labor Code §§ 226 and 1198). While these are each
8 individual grounds for the class recovery, it is not at all clear whether PAGA penalties can be
9 “stacked”. This is because all but one of the listed violations violated Labor Code §1198 as a
10 predicate violation for the PAGA claim, as well as other Labor Code sections. The exception would
11 be PAGA penalties for waiting penalties under Labor code § 203 would only apply to 55 pay
12 periods where there was a termination of employment, which totals \$5,50. I am not aware of any
13 Court that has awarded PAGA penalties through stacking of penalties because the alleged conduct
14 violated the same statute for multiple reasons or because the same conduct violates multiple Labor
15 Code sections. Here, if stacking were permitted, there is alleged conduct that would violate two or
16 three Labor Code statutes (i.e. a missed meal period could violate Labor Code §§ 226.7, 512 and
17 1198), and there is conduct resulting in multiple violations of the same Labor Code statute (i.e.
18 failure to pay wages, failure to provide rest periods, and failure of accurate pay records all could be
19 in violation of Labor Code §1198), which if taken together could mean that PAGA penalties could
20 be calculated to be six times the unstacked value, which would be \$4 million to \$5 million in
21 stacked PAGA penalties for the 8,167 pay periods at issue in the PAGA claim. This stacking issue
22 would implicate the requirement of Section 2699(c)(2) that the court “the court “may award a lesser
23 amount than the maximum civil penalty amount specified by this part if, based on the facts and
24 circumstances of the particular case, to do otherwise would result in an award that is **unjust**,

25
26 ³ Stacking is where more than one civil penalty is imposed in a pay period for the same conduct.
27 The valuation of between \$408,350 and \$816,700 is the civil penalty amount without stacking. If
28 stacking is permitted, then the valuation increases with each additional penalty added to each pay
period. Plaintiff, however, are not aware of any PAGA award which permitted stacking and in the
cases cited herein, only one penalty per pay period was assessed.

1 **arbitrary and oppressive, or confiscatory.”** It may be argued that awarding PAGA penalties
2 multiple times because the alleged conduct violated the same statute for multiple reasons or because
3 the same conduct violates multiple Labor Code sections is unjust, oppressive and confiscatory. For
4 this reason, Plaintiff believes that a single un-stacked penalty per pay period is the more realistic
5 valuation.

6 d. **Reasonableness of the PAGA Allocation.** The PAGA allocation in the
7 Settlement is \$15,000. This allocation is justified by several important considerations. First, the
8 PAGA claim was subject to the same risks as the underlying class claims. Second, Defendant
9 asserted additional defenses to the PAGA claim, not only as to liability but also as to the amount of
10 the penalties. Defendant could also argue that no penalties prior to the PAGA notification should
11 be awarded, and I am aware of one Court which has so ruled. These additional defenses present a
12 risk to the PAGA claim and the potential that some or all of the PAGA penalties sought may not be
13 awarded. Second, in *Carrington v. Starbucks Corp.*, 30 Cal. App. 5th 504 (2018), the court
14 affirmed a judgment which only provided for a PAGA penalty of \$5 per violation. Therefore, at
15 trial, any PAGA penalties awarded could be significantly less than Plaintiff’s calculation even
16 where Plaintiff prevailed on the PAGA claim. Even if we assume that violations for all 8,167 pay
17 periods were established, using the valuation from *Carrington* results in a potential recovery of only
18 \$40,835 under PAGA. This means that the PAGA allocation in the Agreement is a reasonable
19 percentage (37%) of this potential PAGA recovery. Fourth, the interests of PAGA are also served
20 by the Class recovery under the reasoning of the LWDA in *O'Connor v. Uber*.

21 e. **Similar PAGA Settlements.** In reaching the settlement of the PAGA
22 claim, Class Counsel was also aware of what allocations other Courts have approved for similar
23 PAGA settlements as compared to the total settlement amount. A class settlement that allocates
24 approximately 2.5% of the total settlement value to resolve the PAGA claims applicable to the class
25 is also supported by what has been approved in other wage-and-hour class settlements. Indeed,
26 Courts typically approve PAGA settlement amounts in the range of between 0.27 to 2 percent of the
27 total settlement. See *Davis v. Brown Shoe Co.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149010 (E.D. Cal. 2015)
28 (PAGA Payment of \$5,000 in a \$1.5 million class settlement); *Zamora v. Ryder Integrated*

1 *Logistics, Inc.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 184096 (S.D. Cal. 2014) (\$7,500 payment to LWDA for
2 PAGA on a \$1.5 million class settlement); *Lusby v. Gamestop Inc.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 42637
3 (N.D. Cal. 2015) (PAGA Payment of \$5,000 in a \$500,000 class settlement); *Cruz v. Sky Chefs,*
4 *Inc.*, 2014 U.S. Dist Lexis 17693 (N.D. Cal. 2014) (approving payment of \$10,000 to the LWDA
5 for PAGA out of \$1,750,000 class settlement); *Chu v. Wells Fargo Investments, LLC*, 2011 WL
6 672645, *1 (N.D. Cal. 2011) (approving PAGA payment of \$7,500 to the LWDA out of \$6.9
7 million common-fund settlement); *Franco v. Ruiz Food Products, Inc.*, 2012 WL 5941801, *13
8 (E.D. Cal. 2012) (approving PAGA payment of \$7,500 to the LWDA out of \$2.5 million
9 common-fund settlement); *Hopson v. Hanesbrands Inc.*, 2009 WL 928133, *9 (N.D. Cal. 2009)
10 (approving PAGA allocation that was .49% of \$408,420.32 gross settlement); *Garcia v. Gordon*
11 *Trucking, Inc.*, 10-cv-00324-AWI-SKO, Dkt. 149-3, 165 (E.D. Cal.) (approving a class settlement
12 of \$3,700,000, with \$10,000 allocated to the PAGA claim); *McKenzie v. Federal Express Corp.*,
13 CV 10-02420 GAF (PLAx), Dkt. 139 & 141 (C.D. Cal.) (court approved a settlement in an amount
14 of \$8.25 million, with \$82,500 allotted to the PAGA claim); *DeStefan v Frito-Lay,*
15 8:10-cv-00112-DOC (C.D. Cal.) (court approved a class settlement of \$2 million, with \$10,000
16 allocated to PAGA); *Martino v. Ecolab Inc.*, No. 3:14CV04358 (N.D. Cal. 2017) (\$100,000 allotted
17 as PAGA penalties or 0.48% of \$21,000,000 settlement amount); *East v. Comprehensive*
18 *Educational Services Inc.*, Fresno Superior Court Case No. 11-CECG-04226 (2015) (\$10,000
19 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.13% of \$7,595,846 settlement amount); *Bararsani v. Coldwell*
20 *Banker Residential Brokerage Company*, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC495767 (2016)
21 (\$10,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.22% of \$4,500,000 settlement amount); *Moppin v. Los*
22 *Robles Medical Center*, No. 5:15CV01551 (C.D. Cal. 2017) (\$15,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or
23 0.40% of \$3,775,000 settlement amount); *Scott-George v. PVH Corporation*. No., 2:13CV00441
24 (E.D. Cal. 2017) (\$15,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.46% of \$3,250,000 settlement amount);
25 *Nehrlich v. RPM Mortgage Inc.*, Orange County Superior Court Case No.
26 30-2013-00666783-CU-OE-CXC (2017) (\$10,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.40% of
27 \$2,500,000 settlement amount); *Rubio v. KTI Incorporated*, San Bernardino Superior Court Case
28 No. CIVDS-14-06132 (2015) (\$1,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.18% of \$550,000 settlement

1 amount); *Gray v. Mountain View Child Care Inc.*, San Bernardino Superior Court Case No.
2 CIVDS-14-02285 (2016) (\$2,500 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.37% of \$675,000 settlement
3 amount); *Perez v. West Coast Liquidators Inc. d/b/a Big Lots*, San Bernardino Superior Court Case
4 No. CIVDS-14-17863 (2016) (\$3,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.33% of \$900,000 settlement
5 amount); *Penaloza vs. PPG Industries Inc.*, Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC471369 (2013)
6 (\$5,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or 0.38% of \$1,300,000 settlement amount); *Mejia v. DHL*
7 *Express (USA) Inc.*, No. 2:15CV00890 (C.D. Cal. 2017) (\$5,000 allotted as PAGA penalties or
8 0.34% of \$1,450,000 settlement amount).

9
10 34. Attorneys' Fees - The Class Counsel Fees Payment is capped at one-third of the
11 Gross Settlement Amount. A fee award that is capped at one-third of the common fund is fair and
12 reasonable, and at the time of final approval, my firm will present lodestar to further support the
13 reasonableness of the requested fee award. My firm has been regularly awarded attorney's fees
14 equal to one-third of the common fund in Court-approved wage and hour class settlements. Some
15 of the class action awards obtained by Class Counsel in similar employment actions throughout the
16 state bear out the reasonableness of a fee and costs award equivalent to one-third (1/3) of the total
17 settlement value: On December 4, 2018, in *Panda Express Wage and Hour Cases* (Los Angeles
18 Superior Court, Case No. JCCP 4919) Judge Carolyn Kuhl awarded Class Counsel a one-third fee
19 award in a wage and hour class settlement. On February 1, 2019, in *Solarcity Wage and Hour*
20 *Cases* (San Mateo Superior Court, Case No. JCCP 4945) Judge Marie Weiner awarded Class
21 Counsel a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement. On July 30, 2019, in *Erickson v.*
22 *John Muir Health*, (Contra Costa Superior Court Case No. MSC18-00307) Judge Edward Weil
23 awarded Class Counsel a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement. On December
24 18, 2019, in *Velasco v. Lemonade Restaurant Group*, (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.
25 BC672235) Judge William Highberger awarded Class Counsel a one-third fee award in a wage and
26 hour class settlement. On January 31, 2020, in *El Pollo Loco Wage and Hour Cases* (Orange
27 County Superior Court Case No. JCCP 4957) Judge William Claster awarded Class Counsel a one-
28 third award in a wage and hour class settlement. On October 23, 2020, in *Ontiveros v. Baker*

1 *Concrete*, (Santa Clara Superior Court Case No. 18CV328679) Judge Brian Walsh awarded Class
2 Counsel a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement. On December 3, 2020, in
3 *Blackshear v. California Fine Wine & Spirits* (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 34-2018-
4 00245842) Judge Christopher Krueger awarded BNBD a one-third fee award in a wage and hour
5 class settlement. On June 2, 2021, in *Pacia v. CIM Group, L.P.* (Los Angeles Superior Court Case
6 No. BC709666), Judge Amy D. Hogue awarded Class Counsel a one-third fee award in a wage and
7 hour class settlement. On September 24, 2021, in *Prologistics Wage and Hour Cases* (Los Angeles
8 Superior Court Case No. JCCP 4881), Judge William Claster awarded Class Counsel a one-third fee
9 award in a wage and hour class settlement. On November 8, 2021, in *Securitas Wage and Hour*
10 *Cases* (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. JCCP4837) Judge David Cunningham awarded a
11 one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement. On March 17, 2022, in *See's Candies*
12 *Wage and Hour Cases* (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. JCCP5004) Judge Maren Nelson
13 awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class action settlement. On April 12, 2022, in
14 *O'Donnell v. Okta, Inc.*, (San Francisco Superior Court Case No. CGC-20-587665) Judge Richard
15 Ulmer awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class action settlement. On May 23, 2022,
16 in *Ettegui v. WB Studio Enterprises Inc.*, (United States District Court, Central District of
17 California Case No. 2:20-cv-08053-MCS-JDE) Judge Mark C. Scarsi awarded a one-third fee
18 award in a wage and hour class action settlement. On June 30, 2022, in *Armstrong, et al. v.*
19 *Prometric LLC* (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV29967), Judge Maren E. Nelson
20 awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class action. On July 13, 2022, in *Crum v. S&D*
21 *Carwash Management LLC*, (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 2019-00251338), Judge
22 Christopher E. Krueger awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class action settlement.
23 On August 10, 2022, in *Spears, et al. v. Health Net of California, Inc.*, (Sacramento Superior Court
24 Case No. 34-2017-00210560-CU-OE-GDS), Judge Christopher E. Krueger awarded a one-third fee
25 award in a wage and hour class action settlement. On September 7, 2022, in *Lucchese, et al. v.*
26 *Kone, Inc.*, (San Francisco Superior Court Case No. CGC-20-588225), Judge Richard B. Ulmer, Jr.
27 awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class action settlement. On November 4, 2022, in
28 *Infinity Energy Wage and Hour Cases* (San Diego Superior Court, Case No. JCCP5139), Judge

1 Keri Katz awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class action settlement. On February
2 1, 2023, in *Hogan v. AECOM Tecnical Services, Inc.* (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.
3 19STCV40072), Judge Stuart Rice awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class
4 settlement. On February 28, 2023, in *Farthing v. Milestone Technologies* (San Francisco Superior
5 Court Case No. CGC-21-591251), Judge Richard B. Ulmer, Jr. awarded a one-third fee award in a
6 wage and hour class action settlement. On March 2, 2023, in *Leon v. Calaveras Materials* (Kings
7 County Superior Court Case No. 21C-0105), Judge Melissa D'Morias awarded a one-third fee
8 award in a wage and hour class settlement. On June 20, 2023, in *Gonzalez v. Pacific Western Bank*
9 (San Bernardino County Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2127657) Judge David Cohn awarded a
10 one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement, On June 30, 2023, in *Aguirre v. Headlands*
11 *Ventures* (Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2021-00297290), Judge Jill Talley
12 approved a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement. On October 16, 2023, in *Flores*
13 *v. Walmart*, (San Bernardino County Superior Court Case No. CIVDS2023061) Judge Hoseph T.
14 Ortiz awarded a one-third fee award in a wage and hour class settlement. A fee award equal to one-
15 third of the common fund is therefore reasonable in light of the fees that have been awarded in other
16 similar cases.

17
18 35. Class Representative Service Payment - The reasonableness of the requested service
19 award is also established by reference to the amounts that other California courts have found to be
20 reasonable in wage and hour class action settlements: *Zamora v. Balboa Life & Casualty, LLC*,
21 Case No. BC360036, Los Angeles County Superior Court (Mar. 7, 2013)(awarding \$25,000 service
22 award); *Aguiar v. Cingular Wireless, LLC*, Case No. CV 06-8197 DDP (AJWx)(C.D. Cal. Mar. 17,
23 2011)(awarding \$14,767 service award); *Magee v. American Residential Services, LLC*, Case No.
24 BC423798, Los Angeles County Superior Court (Apr. 21, 2011)(awarding \$15,000 service award);
25 *Mares v. BFS Retail & Commercial Operations, LLC*, Case No. BC375967, Los Angeles County
26 Superior Court (June 24, 2010)(awarding \$15,000 service award); *Baker v. L.A. Fitness Int'l, LLC*,
27 Case No. BC438654, L.A. County Superior Court (Dec. 12, 2012)(awarding \$10,000 service
28 awards to three named plaintiffs); *Blue v. Coldwell banker Residential Brokerage Co.*, Case No.

1 BC417335, Los Angeles County Superior Court (Mar. 21, 2011)(awarding \$10,000 service award);
2 *Buckmire v. Jo-Ann Stores, Inc.*, Case No. BC394795, Los Angeles County Superior Court (June,
3 11, 2010)(awarding \$10,000 service awards); *Coleman v. Estes Express Lines, Inc.*, Case No.
4 BC429042, Los Angeles County Superior Court (Oct. 3, 2013)(awarding \$10,000 service award);
5 *Ethridge v. Universal Health Services, Inc.*, Case No. BC391958, Los Angeles County Superior
6 Court (May 27, 2011)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Hickson v. South Coast Auto Ins.*
7 *Marketing, Inc.*, Case No. BC390395, Los Angeles County Superior Court (Mar. 27,
8 2012)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Hill v. sunglass Hut Int'l, Inc.*, Case No. BC422934, Los
9 Angeles County Superior Court (July 2, 2012)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Kambamba v.*
10 *Victoria's Secret Stores, LLC*, Case No. BC368528, Los Angeles County Superior Court, (Aug. 19,
11 2011)(awarding \$10,000 service award together with additional compensation for their general
12 release); *Nevarez v. Trader Joe's Co.*, Case No. BC373910, Los Angeles County Superior Court
13 (Jan. 29, 2010)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Ordaz v. Rose Hills Mortuary, L.P.*, Case No.
14 BC386500, Los Angeles County Superior Court, (Mar. 19, 2010)(awarding \$10,000 service award);
15 *Sheldon v. AHMC Monterey Park Hosp. LP*, Case No. BC440282, Los Angeles County Superior
16 Court (Feb. 22, 2013)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Silva v. Catholic Mortuary Services, Inc.*,
17 Case No. BC408054, Los Angeles County Superior Court (Feb. 8, 2011)(awarding \$10,000
18 enhancement award); *Weisbarth v. Banc West Investment Services, Inc.*, Case No. BC422202, Los
19 Angeles County Superior Court (May 24, 2013)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Lazar v. Kaiser*
20 *Foundation Health Plan*, Case No. 14-cv-273289, Santa Clara County Superior Court (Dec. 28,
21 2015) (awarding \$10,000 service award); *Acheson v. Express, LLC*, Case No. 109CV135335, Santa
22 Clara County Superior Court (Sept. 13, 2011)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Bejarano v.*
23 *Amerisave Mortgage Corp.*, Case No. EDCV 08-00599 SGL (Opx)(C.D. Cal. June 22,
24 2010)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Carbajal v. Sally Beauty Supply LLC*, Case No. CIVVS
25 1004307, San Bernardino County Superior Court (Aug. 6, 2012)(awarding \$10,000 service award);
26 *Contreras v. Serco Inc.*, Case No. 10-cv-04526-CAS-JEMx (C.D. Cal. Sep. 10, 2012)(awarding
27 \$10,000 service award); *Guerro v. R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co.*, Case No. RIC 10005196, Riverside
28 County Superior Court (July 16, 2013)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Kisliuk v. ADT Security*

1 *Services Inc.*, Case No. CV08-03241 DSF (RZx)(C.D. Cal. Jan. 10, 2011)(awarding \$10,000
2 service award); *Morales v. BCBG Maxazria Int'l Holdings, Inc.*, Case No. JCCP 4582, Orange
3 County Superior Court (Jan. 24, 2013)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Barrett v. Doyon Security*
4 *Services, LLC*, Case No. BS900199, BS900517, San Bernardino County Superior Court (Apr. 23,
5 2010)(awarding \$10,000 service award); *Zirpolo v. UAG Stevens Creek II*, Santa Clara Superior
6 Court Case no. 17CV313457 (July 10, 2018) (awarding \$10,000 service award); *Taylor v. TIC - The*
7 *Inductrial Complany*, U.S.D.C. Central District of California Case No. EDCV 16-186-VAP (Aug.
8 1, 2018) (awarding \$10,000 service award).

9
10 Additional Issues From the CMO:

11 36. **CMO ¶ G(3)(a)(vii) - Other Actions.** I am unaware of any class, representative or
12 other collective action in any other Court or jurisdiction which asserts similar claims to the claims
13 resolved by this settlement. I have inquired of the attorneys in my firm, and they are also no aware
14 of any other proceeding. I have also searched the LWDA database for PAGA actions, and the
15 search revealed no other actions. The Agreement at paragraph 2.8 confirms the Parties lack of
16 awareness of any other matter that would be impacted. Defendant will be providing a declaration as
17 to any related actions as well.

18
19 37. **CMO ¶ G(3)(d)(i) - Settlement Administration** - After seeking bids from two
20 qualified administrators, the estimate from ILYM Group is was selected, as ILYM provided the best
21 assurances of security with a not to exceed estimate of \$9,495 to perform the settlement
22 administration for a Class of up 350, with any difference between the actual expenses and the
23 budget of \$12,000 to be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to the Class. I have
24 used ILYM Group successfully as the administrator in more than twenty class settlements in the last
25 few years and know them to be competent and experienced. My firm has no relationship or
26 connection with ILYM Group, and thus no conflict of interest exists. Attached hereto as Exhibit #4
27 is a true and correct copy of the Declaration from ILYM Group which establishes its experience and
28 security procedures, and also attaches the estimate for administration.

1 a. **CMO ¶G(3)(d)(ii) - Declaration from ILYM** - A declaration from ILYM
2 Group as the proposed Administrator is attached hereto as Exhibit #4.
3

4 38. **Service on the LWDA**: At the same time as the filing and service of this declaration,
5 I am also serving the LWDA with the entire motion for preliminary approval which includes the
6 Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement. This service is verified by the accompanying proof
7 of service.
8

9 40. **CMO ¶G(3)(c)(iii) - Uncashed Checks and Cy Pres** - The Agreement provides for
10 uncashed check funds “to be sent to the to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in
11 the name of the Class Member thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of
12 California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b).” (Agreement at ¶ 5.4.) This disposition
13 of uncashed check funds is a term of the Los Angeles Superior Court model form agreement, which
14 is why this procedure was used for this settlement. Moreover, this procedure provides a means for
15 the class member to recover their funds long after the 180 check cashing period as these funds are
16 held for years. The Controller provides a simple procedure at
17 https://www.sco.ca.gov/upd_msg.html for class members to claim their funds. This is the same
18 process that financial institutions use for unclaimed funds. We selected this process because it
19 results in all Class Members recovering their share, which is the intention of the settlement, as
20 opposed to a redistribution to just a portion of the Class.
21

22 41. **CMO ¶G(3)(e) - The Released Class Claims** - The release applicable to the Class
23 is appropriately tethered to allegations in the Action and the “Released Class Claims” are narrowly
24 defined as “all class claims pled or could have been pled under state, federal or local law, whether
25 statutory, common law or administrative law, based on the factual allegations contained in the
26 Operative Complaint, including claims under the Business & Professions Code section 17200 et
27 seq; the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; claims for minimum wage
28 violations; failure to pay overtime wages; unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal

1 period violations; failure to keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; failure to pay
2 sick wages; waiting time penalties; unfair competition; and, claims for violations of Labor Code
3 sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802,
4 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, which occurred during the Class Period. Except as expressly set forth in
5 this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for
6 vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act,
7 unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims based on
8 facts occurring outside the Class Period.” (Agreement at ¶¶ 1.38 and 6.2.)
9

10 42. **CMO ¶G(3)(f) - G(3)(i) - Proposed Order** - The [Proposed] Preliminary Approval
11 Order complies with the instructions in sections H(3)(f), H(3)(g), H(3)(h), and H(3)(i). The
12 proposed date for the Final Approval Hearing in the proposed order is April 2, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.
13

14 43. **CMO ¶G(3)(j) - Tax Allocation** - The Individual Class Payments to Class
15 Members are to be allocated 20% for wages and 8% for non-wages, which includes statutory
16 penalties, expenses reimbursement and interest. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(e)(i).) This allocation was
17 negotiated between the Parties and were based upon the relative values of the claims as measured
18 by the Parties respective views on the viability of such claims. Plaintiff believed that the claims for
19 missed rest breaks and off-the-clock work would be difficult to establish on class wide basis, and
20 the miscalculation of the regular rate claim had a small dollar value. By contrast, Plaintiff believed
21 that the expense reimbursement and penalties claims were more easily established and could
22 reasonably result full recovery of the calculated value of the claims asserted. This resulted in an
23 agreement that the majority of the recovery be allocated to these non-wage recoveries, which
24 Plaintiff accepted in light of Plaintiff’s experience that Class Members want a significant
25 percentage of their recovery to be reported on 1099 because of their preference for a recovery
26 without withholdings and other employee-side deductions. The Individual PAGA Payments are
27 allocated entirely to penalties. (Agreement at ¶ 3.2(d)(ii).)
28

1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
2 is true and correct. Executed this 19th day of October, 2023, at La Jolla, California.

3
4 By: /s/ Kyle Nordrehaug
Kyle Nordrehaug
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CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between plaintiff Donald Mathews (“Plaintiff”) and defendant Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc. (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as the “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

1. DEFINITIONS

In addition to other terms defined in this Agreement, the terms below have the following meaning in this Agreement:

- 1.1. “Actions” means the Plaintiff’s two lawsuits alleging wage and hour violations against Defendant captioned *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.*, Case No. CVRI2203075, initiated on July 21, 2022 and pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside, and *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.*, Case No. CVRI2203224, initiated on August 3, 2022 and pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside.
- 1.2. “Administrator” means ILYM Group, the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.
- 1.3. “Administration Expenses Payment” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the Administrator’s “not to exceed” bid submitted to the Court in connection with Preliminary Approval.
- 1.4. “Aggrieved Employees” means all individuals who worked for Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt at any time during the PAGA Period.
- 1.5. “Class” means all individuals who are or previously worked for Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt at any time during the Class Period.
- 1.6. “Class Counsel” means Norman B. Blumenthal, Kyle R. Nordrehaug, and Aparajit Bhowmik of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP.
- 1.7. “Class Counsel Fees Payment” and “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” mean the amounts to be paid to Class Counsel for fees and expenses, respectively, as approved by the Court, to compensate Class Counsel for their legal work in connection with the Action, including their pre-filing investigation, their filing of the Action, all related litigation activities, all Settlement work, all post-Settlement compliance procedures, and related litigation expenses billed in connection with the Action.
- 1.8. “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendant’s

possession including the Class Member's name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, email address (if known and available to Defendant), and number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.

- 1.9. "Class Member" means a member of the Class, as either a Participating Class Member or Non-Participating Class Member (including a Non- Participating Class Member who qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee).
- 1.10. "Class Member Address Search" means the Administrator's investigation and search for current Class Member mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, methods and means including, but not limited to, the National Change of Address database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Class Members by use of available email addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, credit reports, LinkedIn and Facebook.
- 1.11. "Class Notice" means the COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL, to be mailed to Class Members in English with a Spanish translation, in the form, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- 1.12. "Class Notice Packet" means the Class Notice, Request for Exclusion Form and Objection Form to be provided to the Class Members by the Administrator in the form set forth as Exhibit A to this Agreement (other than formatting changes to facilitate printing by the Administrator).
- 1.13. "Class Period" means the period of time from July 21, 2018 to the earlier of Preliminary Approval or September 8, 2023
- 1.14. "Class Representative" means the named Plaintiff in the Operative Complaint in the Actions seeking Court approval to serve as a Class Representative.
- 1.15. "Class Representative Service Payment" means the service payment made to the Plaintiff as Class Representative in order to compensate for initiating the Actions, performing work in support of the Actions, undertaking the risk of liability for Defendant's expenses, and for the general release of all claims by the Plaintiff.
- 1.16. "Court" means the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside.
- 1.17. "Defendant" means Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.
- 1.18. "Defense Counsel means Todd B. Scherwin, Shaun J. Voigt and Areen Babajanian of Fisher & Phillips LLP.
- 1.19. "Effective Date" means the date by when both of the following have occurred: (a)

the Court enters a Judgment on its Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement; and (b) the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment; or (c) if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

1.20. “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.21. “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement to determine whether to approve finally and implement the terms of this Agreement and enter the Judgment.

1.22. “Gross Settlement Amount” means Five Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$575,000) which is the total amount to be paid by Defendant as provided by this Agreement except as provided in Paragraph 9 below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment and the Administration Expenses Payment. This Gross Settlement Amount is an all-in amount without any reversion to Defendant, and excludes any employer payroll taxes, if any, due on the portion of the Individual Class Payments allocated to wages which shall not be paid from the Gross Settlement and shall be the separate additional obligation of Defendant.

1.23. “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Member’s pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period.

1.24. “Individual PAGA Payment” means the Aggrieved Employee’s pro rata share of 25% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.

1.25. “Judgment” means the judgment entered by the Court based upon Final Approval substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.26. “LWDA” means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

1.27. “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

- 1.28. “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The Net Settlement Amount is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.
- 1.29. “Non-Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who opts out of the Class Settlement by submitting a valid and timely Request for Exclusion to the Administrator.
- 1.30. “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.
- 1.31. “PAGA Period” means the period of time from May 30, 2023 to the earlier of Preliminary Approval or September 8, 2023.
- 1.32. “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).
- 1.33. “PAGA Notice” means the Plaintiff’s May 19, 2022 letter to Defendant and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).
- 1.34. “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$3,750) and the 75% to LWDA (\$11,250) in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.35. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.
- 1.36. “Plaintiff” means Donald Mathews, the named plaintiff in the Actions.
- 1.37. “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B to this Agreement and incorporated by this reference herein.
- 1.38. “Released Class Claims” means all class claims pled or could have been pled under state, federal or local law, whether statutory, common law or administrative law, based on the factual allegations contained in the Operative Complaint, including claims under the Business & Professions Code section 17200 et seq; the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; claims for minimum wage violations; failure to pay overtime wages; unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal period violations; failure to keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; failure to pay sick wages; waiting time penalties; unfair competition; and, claims for violations of Labor Code sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3,

233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, which occurred during the Class Period. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

1.39. "Released PAGA Claims" means all PAGA claims pled or could have been pled based on the factual allegations contained in the Operative Complaint and PAGA letters sent by Plaintiff that occurred during the PAGA Period as to the Aggrieved Employees, including PAGA claims predicated on the following: violations of the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; minimum wage violations; violations for failure to pay overtime wages; violations for unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal period violations; violations for failure to keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; violations for failure to pay sick wages; and violations for failure to pay waiting time penalties; and thereby violations of Labor Code sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198. The Released PAGA Claims do not include other PAGA claims, underlying wage and hour claims, claims for wrongful termination, discrimination, unemployment insurance, disability and worker's compensation, and claims outside of the PAGA Period.

1.40. "Released Parties" means: Defendant and Defendant's officers, directors, employees, managing agents, and agents.

1.41. "Request for Exclusion" means a Class Member's submission of a written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement signed by the Class Member.

1.42. "Response Deadline" means sixty (60) calendar days after the Administrator mails Class Notice Packet to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) submit Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, or (b) submit his or her Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Class Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional 14 calendar days beyond the Response Deadline has expired.

1.43. "Settlement" means the disposition of the Actions and all related claims effectuated by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.44. "Workweek" means any week during the Class Period in which a Class Member worked for Defendant as a Class Member for at least one day.

2. RECITALS

2.1. On July 21, 2022, Plaintiff filed a complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court

of the State of California, County of Riverside (“Class Action”). Plaintiff’s complaint in the Class Action asserted claims under the Labor Code, including but not limited to sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1 and 1198, that Defendant:

- (a) Violated California Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.;
- (b) Failed to pay minimum wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
- (c) Failed to pay overtime wages in violation of California Labor Code § 510, et seq.;
- (d) Failed to provide required meal periods in violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7 & 512 and the applicable IWC Wage Order;
- (e) Failed to provide required rest periods in violation of California Labor Code §§ 226.7 & 512 and the applicable IWC Wage Order;
- (f) Failed to provide accurate itemized wage statements in violation of California Labor Code § 226;
- (g) Failed to reimburse employees for required expenses in violation of California Labor Code § 2802;
- (h) Failed to provide wages when due in violation of California Labor Code §§ 201, 202 and 203; and,
- (i) Failed to pay sick wages in violation of California Labor Code §§ 201-204, 233, 246.

2.2. On August 3, 2022, Plaintiff filed a complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside (“PAGA Action”). Plaintiff’s complaint in the PAGA Action asserted a claim, citing to underlying Labor Code, including but not limited to sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1 and 1198, in that Defendant:

- (a) Violated the Private Attorney General Act, Cal. Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq. (“PAGA”).

2.3. On June 7, 2023, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Tripper Ortman, a respected mediator of wage and hour representative and class actions. Following the mediation, each side, represented by its respective counsel, were able to agree to settle the Actions based upon a mediator’s proposal which was memorialized in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding. This Agreement replaces and supersedes the Memorandum of Understanding and any other agreements, understandings, or representations between the Parties.

2.4. On July 24, 2023, the Parties filed a stipulation to consolidate the Class Action and the PAGA Action (collectively referred to as the “Actions”) and file the First Amended Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint. On August 11, 2023, Plaintiff filed the First Amended Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint, which is referred to as the “Operative Complaint”.

- 2.5. Defendant denies the allegations in the Operative Complaint, denies any failure to comply with the laws identified in in the Operative Complaint and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.
- 2.6. Prior to mediation, Plaintiff obtained sufficient documents and information to sufficiently investigate the claims such that Plaintiff's investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 ("*Dunk/Kullar*").
- 2.7. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission by Defendant that the claims in the Actions of Plaintiff or the Class have merit or that Defendant bears any liability to Plaintiff or the Class or the Aggrieved Employees on those claims or any other claims, or as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Actions have merit. The Parties agree to certification of the Class for purposes of this Settlement only. If for any reason the settlement does not become effective, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reason and reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action.
- 2.8. The Parties, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel represent that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the Settlement.

3. MONETARY TERMS

- 3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 9 below, Defendant promises to pay \$575,000 and no more as the Gross Settlement Amount. This amount is all-inclusive of all payments contemplated in this resolution, excluding any employer-side payroll taxes on the portion of the Individual Class Payments allocated to wages which shall be separately paid by Defendant to the Administrator. Defendant has no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline stated in Paragraph 4.3 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendant.
- 3.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Administrator will make the following payments out of the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court in the Final Approval.
- (a) To Plaintiff: A Class Representative Service Payment to the Class Representative of not more than \$12,500 (in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a Participating Class Member). Defendant will not oppose Plaintiff's request for a Class Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of the

motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment, Plaintiff will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Service Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Representative Service Payment less than the amount requested, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service Payment using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiff assumes full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on the Class Representative Service Payment.

- (b) To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$191,666, and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$20,000. Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments provided that do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released Parties shall have no liability to Class Counsel or any other Plaintiff's Counsel arising from any claim to any portion any Class Counsel Fee Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Expenses Payment using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full responsibility and liability for taxes owed on the Class Counsel Fees Payment and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and holds Defendant harmless, and indemnifies Defendant, from any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these payments.
- (c) To the Administrator: An Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed \$12,000 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Expenses Payment is less or the Court approves payment less than \$12,000, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members.
- (d) To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$15,000 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$11,250) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$3,750) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.
 - i. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties (\$3,750) by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

- ii. If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.
- (e) To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's Workweeks.
- i. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. 20% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. 80% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of claims for non-wages, expense reimbursement, interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.
 - ii. Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual Class Payments. Non-Participating Class Members will not receive any Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will retain amounts equal to their Individual Class Payments in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis.

4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING

- 4.1. Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. Based on its records, Defendant has represented that the Class consists of 328 Class Members who collectively worked a total of 25,020 Workweeks, and 140 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 8,167 PAGA Pay Periods through June 7, 2023.
- 4.2. Class Data. Not later than 15 days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant will deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted Class Member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.

- 4.3. Funding of the Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 15 days after the Effective Date.

5. PAYMENTS FROM THE GROSS SETTLEMENT AMOUNT

- 5.1. Within 14 days after Defendant funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Expenses Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment.
- 5.2. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the "void date", which is 180 days after the date of mailing, when the check will be voided. Before checks are mailed, the Administrator shall update address information through the National Change of Address database. The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Class Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database. If a Participating Class Member's or Aggrieved Employee's check is not cashed within 120 days after its last mailing to the affected individual, the Administrator will also send the individual a notice informing him or her that unless the check is cashed by the void date, it will expire and become non-negotiable, and offer to replace the check if it was lost or misplaced but not cashed.
- 5.3. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding address. Within 7 days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Class Member prior to the void date.
- 5.4. For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed

Property Fund in the name of the Class Member thereby leaving no “unpaid residue” subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b).

5.5. The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.

6. RELEASE OF CLAIMS. Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff, Participating Class Members, Aggrieved Employees and the LWDA will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

6.1. Plaintiff’s Release. Plaintiff and his or her respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences that occurred during the Class Period, including, but not limited to: (a) all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained, in the Operative Complaint, under the Labor Code, including but not limited to sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1 and 1198, and (b) all PAGA claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on facts contained in the Operative Complaint, Plaintiff’s PAGA Notice, including underlying violations under the Labor Code, including but not limited to sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1 and 1198, (“Plaintiff’s Release”). Plaintiff’s Release does not extend to any claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, or workers’ compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiff acknowledges that Plaintiff may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiff now knows or believes to be true but agrees, nonetheless, that Plaintiff’s Release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiff’s discovery of them.

(a) Plaintiff’s Waiver of Rights Under Civil Code Section 1542. For purposes of Plaintiff’s Release, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, and that if known by him or her would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or Released Party.

6.2. Release by Participating Class Members. All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties from the Released Class Claims.

6.3. Release of PAGA Claims. All Aggrieved Employees and the LWDA are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims.

7. **MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL.** The Parties agree to jointly prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval (“Motion for Preliminary Approval”) that complies with the Court’s procedures and instructions.

7.1. Defendant’s Responsibilities. Within 14 days of the full execution of this Agreement, Defendant will prepare and deliver to Class Counsel a signed Declaration disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with the Administrator. In the Declaration, Defendant shall aver whether they are aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement.

7.2. Plaintiff’s Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare and deliver to Defense Counsel all documents necessary for obtaining Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar* and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2)); (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement; (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from the Administrator attaching its “not to exceed” bid for administering the Settlement and attesting to its willingness to serve; competency; operative procedures for protecting the security of Class Data; amounts of insurance coverage for any data breach, defalcation of funds or other misfeasance; all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members; and the nature and extent of any financial relationship with Plaintiff, Class Counsel or Defense Counsel; (v) a signed declaration from Plaintiff confirming willingness and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator; (v) a signed declaration from each Class Counsel firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)); (vi) a redlined version of the parties’ Agreement showing all modifications made to the Model Agreement ready for filing with the Court; and (vii) all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflict of interest with Class Members, the Administrator. In their Declarations, Plaintiff and Class Counsel Declaration shall aver that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement.

7.3. Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval no later than 30 days after the full execution of this Agreement; obtaining a prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval; and for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of

the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court's Preliminary Approval to the Administrator.

- 7.4. Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

8. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION

- 8.1. Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected ILYM Group to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, ILYM Group agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Expenses. The Administrator's duties will include preparing, printing, and mailing the Class Notice Packet to all Class Members; conducting a National Change of Address search to update Class Member addresses before mailing the Class Notice Packets; re-mailing Class Notice Packets that are returned to the Class Member's new address; setting up a toll-free telephone number and email and a fax number to receive communications from Class Members; receiving and reviewing for validity completed Requests for Exclusion; providing the Parties with weekly status reports about the delivery of Class Notice Packets and receipt of Requests for Exclusion, objections and disputes; calculating Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments; issuing the checks to effectuate the payments due under the Settlement; issuing the tax reports required under this Settlement; and otherwise administering the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement. The Parties and their Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.
- 8.2. Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports state and federal tax authorities.
- 8.3. Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.
- 8.4. Notice to Class Members.
- (a) No later than three (3) business days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members, PAGA Members, Workweeks, and Pay Periods in the Class Data.

- (b) Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14 days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service (“USPS”) mail, the Class Notice with Spanish translation, substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, and the number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if applicable) used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the National Change of Address database.
- (c) Not later than 7 days after the Administrator’s receipt of any Class Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.
- (d) The deadlines for Class Members’ written objections, Challenges to Workweeks and/or Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the Response Deadline provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.
- (e) If the Administrator, the Parties, Defense Counsel or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith. In an effort to agree on whether to include them as Class Members. If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than 14 days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the class Notice, which ever are later.

8.5. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

- (a) Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not later than the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member’s election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member’s name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, emailed, or postmarked by the Response

Deadline. The Request for Exclusion Form shall be included in the Notice Packet in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A

- (b) The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain the identity of the person as a Class Member and the Class Member's desire to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. If the Administrator has reason to question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's determination of authenticity shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.
- (c) Every Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Participating Class Members' Releases under Paragraph 6.2 of the Agreement, regardless whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.
- (d) Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement. Because future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. If a Class Member submits both a Request for Exclusion and an objection, only the Request for Exclusion will be accepted and the objection will be void.

8.6. Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have until the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if any) allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email or mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Workweeks contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the Administrator's determination as to the challenges.

8.7. Objections to Settlement.

- (a) Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of the Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the Settlement, and/or amounts requested for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Class Representative Service Payment.
 - (b) Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail. In the alternative, or in addition to a written objection, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing. A Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator must do so not later than the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed). The Objection Form shall be included in the Notice Packet in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.
 - (c) Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action components of the Settlement. If a Class Member submits both a Request for Exclusion and an objection, only the Request for Exclusion will be accepted and the objection will be void.
- 8.8. Administrator Duties. The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.
- (a) Website, Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish and maintain and use an internet website to post information of interest to Class Members including the date, time and location for the Final Approval Hearing and copies of the Settlement Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval, the Class Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, the Motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and Class Representative Service Payment, the Final Approval and the Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes and emails.
 - (b) Request for Exclusion (Opt-Outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity. Not later than 7 days after the expiration of the deadline for submitting Requests for Exclusion, the Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel containing (a) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion (“Exclusion List”); (b) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid).
 - (c) Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class Member challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods. The

Administrator's decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

- (d) Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Workweeks and/or Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments ("Weekly Report"). The Weekly Reports must include provide the Administrator's assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received.
- (e) Administrator's Declaration. Not later than 7 days before the date by which Plaintiff is required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.
- (f) Final Report by Administrator. Within 10 days after the Administrator disburses all funds of the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least 7 days before any deadline set by the Court, the Administrator will prepare, and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration in Court. If a second declaration attesting to the distribution of uncashed checks is required, the Administrator shall provide this second declaration at least 7 days before any deadline for a second declaration and Class Counsel shall be responsible for filing the second declaration with the Court.

9. CLASS SIZE MODIFICATION AND ESCALATOR CLAUSE. Based on its records, Defendant provided figures as to the Class size as set forth in paragraph 4.1 above through June 7, 2023. In the event the actual number of Workweeks increases by more than 10% above 25,020 (27,522), the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase proportionately by the percentage increase above 10%.

10. DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW. If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List exceeds 10% of the total of all Class Members, Defendant

may, but is not obligated, elect to withdraw from the Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendant withdraws, the Settlement shall be void ab initio, have no force or effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however, Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Administration Expenses incurred as of the date Defendant makes this election to withdraw. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than 7 days after the Administrator sends the final Exclusion List to Defense Counsel. Invalid Requests for Exclusion will have no effect on this threshold for an election.

11. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, not later than 16 court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff will file in Court, a motion for final approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code section 2699(l), a Proposed Final Approval Order and a proposed Judgment (collectively “Motion for Final Approval”). Plaintiff shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel not later than 7 days prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer and in good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

11.1. Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later than 5 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the Court.

11.2. Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final Approval on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), the Parties will expeditiously work together in good faith to address the Court’s concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain Final Approval. The Court’s decision to award less than the amounts requested for a Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Administration Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.

11.3. Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement under C.C.P. section 664.6 solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

11.4. Waiver of the Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment reflected set forth in this Settlement, the Parties, their respective counsel, and all Participating Class Members who did not object to the Settlement as provided in this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to post-judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose such motions,

writs or appeals. If an objector appeals the Judgment, the Parties' obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final, except as to matters that do not affect the amount of the Net Settlement Amount.

11.5. Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain Final Approval and entry of Judgment, sharing, on an equal basis, any additional Administration Expenses reasonably incurred at the time of remittitur. An appellate decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the Court's award of the Class Representative Service Payment or any payments to Class Counsel shall not constitute a material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.

12. AMENDED JUDGMENT. If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil Procedure section 384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit and a proposed amended judgment.

13. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

13.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendant has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Actions have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or Judgment pursuant to this Agreement, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendant reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and Parties' willingness to settle the Actions will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

13.2. Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant and Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or cause or permit another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the Agreement directly or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Parties' attorneys, accountants, or spouses, all of whom will be instructed to keep this Agreement

confidential; (2) counsel in a related matter; (3) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4) in response to a court order or subpoena; or (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal government agency. Each Party agrees to immediately notify each other Party of any judicial or agency order, inquiry, or subpoena seeking such information. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant and Defense Counsel separately agree not to, directly or indirectly, initiate any conversation or other communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, any with third party regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that “the matter was resolved,” or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class Counsel’s communications with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

13.3. No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees have not and will not solicit any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Judgment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel’s ability to communicate with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

13.4. Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.

13.5. Attorney Authorization. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.

13.6. Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the Settlement Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence and supplementing points and authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution.

13.7. Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.

13.8. Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement

be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

- 13.9. Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court.
- 13.10. Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
- 13.11. Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.
- 13.12. Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.
- 13.13. Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered during Actions and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive the execution of this Agreement.
- 13.14. Use and Return of Class Data. Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code §1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendant in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court. Not later than 90 days after the date when the Court discharges the Administrator's obligation to provide a Declaration confirming the final pay out of all Settlement funds, Plaintiff shall destroy, all paper and electronic versions of Class Data received from Defendant.
- 13.15. Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.
- 13.16. Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to "days" in this Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.
- 13.17. Notice. All notices, demands or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff and the Class:

Norman B. Blumenthal
Kyle R. Nordrehaug
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
2255 Calle Clara
La Jolla, CA 92037
Tel.: (858) 551-1223
Fax: (858) 551-1232
E-Mail: norm@bamlawca.com
kyle@bamlawca.com

To Defendant:

Todd B. Scherwin
Shaun J. Voigt
Areen Babajanian
Fisher & Phillips LLP
444 South Flower Street, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90071
Tel.: (213) 330-4500
Fax: (213) 330-4501
E-Mail: tscherwin@fisherphillips.com
svoigt@fisherphillips.com
ababajanian@fisherphillips.com

- 13.18. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e. DocuSign), or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
- 13.19. Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process from the mediation on June 7, 2023 until the earlier of the Effective Date or the date this Agreement shall no longer be of any force or effect.
- 13.20. Fair Settlement. The Parties, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel believe and warrant that this Agreement reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Actions and have arrived at this Agreement through arms-length negotiations, taking into account all relevant factors, both current and potential.

14. EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL

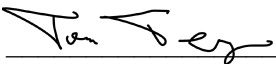
The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.

Dated: Aug 24, 2023


Donald Mathews (Aug 24, 2023 17:17 PDT)

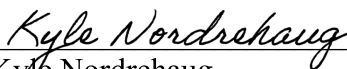
Plaintiff Donald Mathews

Dated: 08/29/2023



Tom Terry [name]
For Defendant Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.

Dated: 8/25/23



Kyle Nordrehaug
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff

Dated: Aug 29, 2023



Shaun J. Voigt
Fisher & Phillips LLP
Attorney for Defendant

EXHIBIT A

[NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION AND HEARING DATE FOR
FINAL COURT APPROVA; REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FORM; OBJECTION FORM L]

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS AND PAGA ACTION
AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL**

Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc., Superior Court of the
State of California, County of Riverside, Case No. CVRI2203075

**YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED WHETHER YOU ACT OR DO NOT
ACT. PLEASE READ THIS CLASS NOTICE CAREFULLY.**

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT:	
Do Nothing and Receive a Payment	To receive a cash payment from the Settlement, you do not have to do anything. After final approval by the Court, the payment will be mailed to you at the same address as this notice. In exchange for the settlement payment, you will release claims against the Defendant as detailed in Section 4 below. If your address has changed, you must notify the Administrator as explained in Section 6 below.
Exclude Yourself	To exclude yourself, you must send a written request for exclusion to the Administrator as provided below. If you request exclusion, you will receive no money from the class action portion of the Settlement and you will not be bound by the class action portion of the Settlement. Instructions are set forth in Section 7 below.
Object	Write to the Administrator about why you do not agree with the settlement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing to make an oral objection. Directions are provided in Section 8 below.
Final Approval Hearing	The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at _____ on _____, 2023 at the Riverside County Superior Court, located at 4050 Main Street, Riverside, California, in Department 1 before Judge Harold Hopp. The hearing may be rescheduled by the Court without further notice to you.

Your options are further explained in this Class Notice. To exclude yourself from, or object to, the settlement you must take action by certain deadlines. If you want the Settlement as proposed, you don't need to do anything to obtain your share of the Settlement. Defendant will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the Settlement.

1. Why did I get this Notice?

A proposed class and PAGA action settlement (the "Settlement") of the above-captioned action pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Riverside (the "Court") has been reached between Plaintiff Donald Mathews ("Plaintiff") and Defendant Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc. ("Defendant") and has been granted preliminary approval by the Court. You may be entitled to receive money from this Settlement.

You have received this Class Notice because you have been identified as a member of the Class, which is defined as:

All individuals who are or previously worked for Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt at any time during the Class Period (“Class Members” or “Class”).

The “Class Period” is July 21, 2018 through September 8, 2023.

This Class Notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, and your legal rights. It is important that you read this Class Notice carefully as your rights may be affected by the Settlement.

2. What is the lawsuit about?

On July 21, 2022, Plaintiff initiated a class action against Defendant, entitled *Donald Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.* Riverside Superior Court, Case No. CVRI2203075 (“Class Action”). The Class Action asserted the following class claims against Defendant: unfair competition, failure to pay minimum wages, failure to pay overtime wages, failure to provide meal periods, failure to provide rest periods, failure to provide expense reimbursement, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to pay wages timely at termination, and failure to pay sick wages.

On August 3, 2022, Plaintiff filed a Representative Action Complaint against Defendant in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside, Case No. CVRI2203224 (“PAGA Action”). The PAGA Action asserted a single cause of action seeking civil penalties for the violation of the Private Attorney General Act, California Labor Code section 2698 (“PAGA”).

On July 27, 2023, the Court issued an Order consolidating for all purposes the PAGA Action and the Class Action and granting leave to file an amended complaint. On August 11, 2023, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint which combined both the class claims and the PAGA claim against Defendant into a single action. The First Amended Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint is the operative complaint in the Action (the “Operative Complaint”).

Defendant denies and disputes all such claims. Specifically, Defendant contends Plaintiff and the Class Members were properly compensated for all wages under California law; Plaintiff and the Class Members were provided with meal and rest periods in compliance with California law; Defendant did not fail to provide required reimbursement of expenses; Defendant did not fail to timely pay Plaintiff or any Class Members any wages allegedly due at the time of their termination; Defendant complied with California wage statement requirements; Defendant did not engage in unlawful or unfair business practices; Defendant is not liable for any of the penalties claimed or that could be claimed in the Action; and the Action cannot be maintained as a class action or a PAGA action.

The Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement on <<INSERT PRELIMINARY APPROVAL DATE>> and determined only that there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the proposed settlement might be fair, adequate, and reasonable, and that any final determination of those issues will be made at the final approval hearing. The Court also preliminarily approved

the Plaintiff to serve as the Class Representatives, and the law firm Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP as Class Counsel.

3. What are the terms of the Settlement?

Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant has agreed to pay an “all in” amount of Five Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$575,000) (the “Gross Settlement Amount”) to fund the settlement of the Action. The Gross Settlement Amount includes all payments of Individual Class Payments to Class Members, the Administration Expenses Payment, the Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the PAGA Penalties for civil penalties. Any employer-side payroll taxes on the portion of the Individual Class Payments allocated to wages shall be separately paid by Defendant.

Within fifteen (15) days of the Effective Date, Defendant will fund the Gross Settlement Amount by depositing the money with the Administrator. The “Effective Date” means the date the Judgment is entered by the Court, or if there are objections or any appeal of the Judgment, the date when any appeal of the Judgment has been resolved (i.e. when the Judgment is no longer subject to appeal). Fourteen (14) days after the settlement is funded, the Administrator will mail checks for the Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members.

Amounts to be Paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Settlement provides for certain payments to be made from the Gross Settlement Amount as follows, which will be subject to final Court approval, and which will be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount before Individual Class Payments are made to Participating Class Members:

- Administration Expenses Payment. Payment to the Administrator, estimated not to exceed \$12,000, for expenses, including without limitation expenses of notifying the Class Members of the Settlement, processing opt outs, and distributing settlement funds and tax forms, and handling inquiries and uncashed checks.
- Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. Payment to Class Counsel of reasonable attorneys’ fees not to exceed one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is presently \$191,666, and an additional amount to reimburse actual litigation costs incurred by Class Counsel not to exceed \$20,000. Class Counsel has been prosecuting the Action on behalf of Plaintiff and the Class and Aggrieved Employees on a contingency fee basis (that is, without being paid any money) and has been paying all litigation costs and expenses.
- Class Representative Service Payment. Class Representative Service Payment in an amount not to exceed \$12,500 to the Plaintiff, or such lesser amount as may be approved by the Court, to compensate him for services on behalf of the Class in initiating and prosecuting the Action, and for the risks he undertook.
- PAGA Penalties. A PAGA Penalties payment of \$15,000 to resolve the claim for civil penalties under PAGA, \$11,250 of which will be paid to the State of California’s Labor and Workforce Development Agency. The remaining \$3,750 will be distributed to the Aggrieved Employees based on their respective pay periods worked during the PAGA Period, which is May 30, 2021 through September 8, 2023. “Aggrieved Employees” are all individuals who worked for Defendant in California who were classified as non-

exempt at any time during the PAGA Period. All Aggrieved Employees will be sent their Individual PAGA Payment and be subject to the release of the Released PAGA Claims as set forth below, whether or not they opt out of the class portion of the Settlement.

Calculation of Individual Class Payments to Class Members. After all of the payments of the court-approved Class Representative Service Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, the PAGA Penalties, and the Administration Expenses Payment are deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount, the remaining portion, called the “Net Settlement Amount”, shall be distributed as Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members (meaning those Class Members who do not opt out or exclude themselves from the Class). The Net Settlement Amount is estimated to be \$ _____. The Administrator will pay an Individual Class Payment from the Net Settlement Amount to each Participating Class Member. The Individual Class Payment for each Participating Class Member will be calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member’s Workweeks. “Workweek” means any week during the Class Period in which a Class Member worked for Defendant as a Class Member for at least one day. The number of Workweeks will be based on Defendant’s records; however, Class Members may challenge the number of Workweeks as explained below. A Class Member who worked only one Workweek is estimated to recover approximately \$12.94 for that single Workweek, minus applicable withholdings and deductions. A Class Member who worked every Workweek during the Class Period (268 weeks) could recover as much as \$3,467.92 minus applicable withholdings and deductions. The average Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$987.29. These amounts are subject to change, however, depending on the number of Class Members and Workweeks involved, among other factors. Your estimated Individual Class Payment is set forth in Section 5 below.

Calculation of Individual PAGA Payments to Aggrieved Employees: The Individual PAGA Payment for each Aggrieved Employee will be calculated by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees’ 25% share of PAGA Penalties (\$3,750) by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee’s PAGA Pay Periods. “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period. The number of PAGA Pay Periods will be based on Defendant’s records, however, Aggrieved Employees have the right to challenge the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked as explained below. Your estimated Individual PAGA Payment is set forth in Section 5 below. You will receive your Individual PAGA Payment (if any) even if you opt out or exclude yourself from the Class.

Tax Matters. Twenty percent (20%) of each Individual Class Payment is in settlement of wage claims which are subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS Form W-2. Eighty percent (80%) of each Individual Class Payment is in settlement of claims for non-wages, expense reimbursement, interest and penalties, which are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS Form 1099. Your Individual PAGA Payment (if any) is also not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS Form 1099. The employee portion of all applicable income and payroll taxes will be the responsibility of the Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. Neither Class Counsel nor Defendant’s Counsel intend anything contained in this Notice to constitute advice regarding taxes or taxability. Your tax issues are

unique to you, and you may want to consult a tax advisor concerning the tax consequences of the payments received under the Settlement.

Conditions of Settlement. This Settlement is conditioned upon the Court entering an order granting final approval of the Settlement and entering judgment.

If the Settlement is approved by the Court and you do not exclude yourself, you will automatically be mailed a check for your Individual Class Payment to the same address as this Class Notice. You do not have to do anything to receive a payment. If your address has changed, you must contact the Administrator to inform them of your correct address to ensure you receive your payment.

4. What Do I Release Under the Settlement?

Released Class Claims. As of the Effective Date and upon full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, all Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties from the Released Class Claims. The “Released Class Claims” are all class claims pled or could have been pled under state, federal or local law, whether statutory, common law or administrative law, based on the factual allegations contained in the Operative Complaint, including claims under the Business & Professions Code section 17200 et seq; the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; claims for minimum wage violations; failure to pay overtime wages; unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal period violations; failure to keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; failure to pay sick wages; waiting time penalties; unfair competition; and, claims for violations of Labor Code sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, which occurred during the Class Period. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

This means that, if you do not timely and formally exclude yourself from the Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant or any other Released Party about the Released Class Claims resolved by this Settlement. It also means that all of the Court’s orders in the Actions will apply to you and legally bind you.

Released PAGA Claims. As of the Effective Date and upon full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Aggrieved Employees and the LWDA are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims. The “Released PAGA Claims” are all PAGA claims pled or could have been pled based on the factual allegations contained in the Operative Complaint and PAGA letters sent by Plaintiff that occurred during the PAGA Period as to the Aggrieved Employees, including PAGA claims predicated on the following: violations of the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; minimum wage violations; violations for failure to pay overtime wages; violations for unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal period violations; violations for failure to keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; violations for

failure to pay sick wages; and violations for failure to pay waiting time penalties; and thereby violations of Labor Code sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198. The Released PAGA Claims do not include other PAGA claims, underlying wage and hour claims, claims for wrongful termination, discrimination, unemployment insurance, disability and worker's compensation, and claims outside of the PAGA Period.

Released Parties. The Released Parties are: Defendant and Defendant's officers, directors, employees, managing agents, and agents.

5. How much will my payment be?

Your Individual Class Payment: Defendant's records reflect that you have <<____>> Workweeks during the Class Period (July 21, 2018 through September 8, 2023). **Based on this information, your estimated Individual Class Payment is <<____>>**, minus applicable withholdings and deductions.

Your Individual PAGA Payment: Defendant's records reflect that you have <<____>> PAGA Pay Periods during the PAGA Period (May 30, 2021 through September 8, 2023). **Based on this information, your estimated Individual PAGA Payment is <<____>>**.

Your Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA Payments may be paid together in a single check, at the discretion of the Administrator.

If you wish to challenge the information set forth above, then you must submit a written, signed dispute challenging the information along with supporting documents, to the Administrator at the address provided in this Notice no later than the Response Deadline, which is _____ [sixty (60) days after the mailing of the Notice or 74 days in the event of a re-mailing]. You may also fax the dispute to _____ or email the dispute to _____ by no later than the Response Deadline. Any dispute should include credible written evidence and will be resolved by the Administrator.

6. How can I get a payment?

To get money from the settlement, you do not have to do anything. A check for your share of the Settlement will be mailed automatically to the same address as this Class Notice. If your address is incorrect or has changed, you must notify the Administrator. The Administrator is: _____ (800) _____.

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on _____ at _____ to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Please note the hearing could be rescheduled by the Court without further notice to you. If the Court approves the Settlement and there are no objections or appeals, the settlement payments will be mailed approximately two months after this hearing. If there are objections or appeals the payments will be delayed because resolving them can take time, usually more than a year. Please be patient.

Your settlement check must be cashed within 180 days after it is mailed. If your check is lost or misplaced, you should contact the Administrator immediately by phone to request a replacement ((800) _____). For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, the Administrator shall

transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member.

7. What if I don't want to be a part of the Settlement?

If you do not wish to participate in the Settlement, you may exclude yourself from the Class or "opt out." **If you opt out, you will NOT receive your Individual Class Payment and you will not be bound by the release of Released Class Claims.** However, Aggrieved Employees who opt out of the Class will still be paid their Individual PAGA Payment and will remain subject to the release of the Released PAGA Claims, regardless of their request for exclusion from the Class.

To opt out of the Class, you must mail to the Administrator, by First Class Mail, a written, signed and dated request to opt-out postmarked no later than the Response Deadline which is _____ [sixty (60) days after the mailing of the Notice or 74 days in the event of a re-mailing]. You may also fax your request to opt out to _____ or email the dispute to _____ by no later than the Response Deadline. A Request for Exclusion form is included with this Notice. The Request for Exclusion should state in substance: "I wish to be excluded from the Class in the *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport* lawsuit." The Request for Exclusion must state the Class Member's full name, address, telephone number, last four digits of social security number for verification purposes, the approximate dates of employment in California by Defendant, and the name and number of the case, which is *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport*, Case No. CVRI2203075. The request to opt-out must be completed and signed by you. No other person may opt-out for a living member of the Class.

The address for the Administrator is _____. Absent good cause found by the Court, written requests for exclusion that are postmarked after _____, or are incomplete or unsigned will be rejected, and those Class Members will remain bound by the Settlement and the release described above.

8. How do I tell the Court that I don't agree with the Settlement?

Any Class Member who has not opted out and believes that the Settlement should not be finally approved by the Court for any reason may object to the proposed Settlement, the attorneys' fees, the costs and/or the service award, either in writing or in person. Objections that are in writing should include the Class Member's name, current address, telephone number, and the dates of employment in California by Defendant, and describe why you believe the Settlement is unfair. All written objections or other correspondence should also state the name and number of the case, which is *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport*, in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside, Case No. CVRI2203075. An Objection form is included with this Class Notice.

All written objections must be mailed to the Administrator at _____ no later than the Response Deadline which is _____ [sixty (60) days after the mailing of the Notice or 74 days in the event of a re-mailing]. You may also fax the dispute to _____ or email the dispute to _____ by no later than this Response Deadline.

Alternatively, Class Members may appear at the Final Approval Hearing on _____ at _____ to make an oral objection without submitting a written objection. The hearing may also be rescheduled by the Court without further notice to you. If you need assistance, you may contact Class Counsel. Please check the Court's tentative ruling website for current information concerning appearances and how to attend Court proceedings remotely: <https://www.riverside.courts.ca.gov/OnlineServices/TentativeRulings/tentative-rulings.php>.

To object to the Settlement, you must not opt out, and if the Court approves the Settlement despite your objection, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement in the same way as Class Members who do not object and you will still be mailed a check for your Individual Class Payment. Absent good cause found by the Court, any Class Member who does not object in the manner provided in this Notice shall have waived any objection to the Settlement, whether by appeal or otherwise.

The addresses for Parties' counsel are as follows:

Class Counsel:

Norman Blumenthal
Kyle Nordrehaug
Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP
2255 Calle Clara
La Jolla, CA 92037
Tel: 858-551-1223 / Fax: 858-551-1232
Email: kyle@bamlawca.com
Website: www.bamlawca.com

Counsel for Defendant:

Todd B. Scherwin
Shaun J. Voigt
Areen Babajanian
Fisher & Phillips LLP
444 South Flower Street, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90071

9. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at _____ on _____, in Department 1 of the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, located at 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501, before Judge Harold W. Hopp. While the Court determined at preliminary approval that there is sufficient evidence to suggest the proposed settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable, the Court will make a final determination on these issues at the Final Approval Hearing. The purpose of this hearing is for the Court to determine whether to grant final approval to the Settlement and to approve the amount of attorneys' fees, costs and service award to be awarded. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. This hearing may be rescheduled by the Court without further notice to you. **You are not required to attend the Final Approval Hearing**, although any Class Member is welcome to attend the hearing.

10. How do I get more information about the Settlement?

You may call the Administrator at _____ or write *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport* Administrator, c/o _____; or contact Class Counsel.

This Notice summarizes the proposed settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement. You may receive a copy of the Settlement Agreement, the Final Judgment or other Settlement documents by going to Class Counsel's website at www.bamlawca.com under "Class Notices" for *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport*. You may also get more details by examining the Court's file via the Public Access site for the California Superior Court for the County of

Riverside (<https://ecomm1.riverside.courts.ca.gov/>) and entering the Case No. CVRI2203075. The Settlement Agreement can be found in the Court file located at 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501 as Exhibit #1 to the Declaration of Kyle Nordrehaug, filed on _____, 2023.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT ABOUT THIS NOTICE.

IMPORTANT:

- You must inform the Administrator of any change of address to ensure receipt of your settlement payment.
- Settlement checks will be null and void 180 days after issuance if not deposited or cashed. The Administrator shall pay all unclaimed funds to the California State Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of and for the benefit of the individual who did not cash their check. The funds may be claimed at https://www.sco.ca.gov/upd_msg.html.
- If your check is lost or misplaced, you should contact the Administrator immediately to request a replacement.

REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FORM

Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc., Case No. CVRI2203075
California Superior Court for the County of Riverside

To exclude yourself or “opt out” from the Class, complete, sign, and date this form, and then mail it on or before _____, to the Administrator at the following address:

Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.
c/o ILYM GROUP
P.O. Box 2031
Tustin, CA 92781

INSTRUCTIONS

A. Only complete and return this form if you do **NOT** want to be included in the class action portion of the Settlement. You will **NOT** receive an Individual Class Payment if you return this form and you will not be bound by the release of Released Class Claims, as described in the settlement notice. However, Aggrieved Employees who opt-out of the Class will still be paid their Individual PAGA Payment and will remain subject to the release of the Released PAGA Claims regardless of their request for exclusion.

B. To exclude yourself or “opt out”, complete, sign, date and return this form. To be effective, this form should be filled out completely and postmarked on or before _____.

C. You are responsible for maintaining a copy of the fully completed form and proof of mailing.

I want to **OPT-OUT** of the Class in the lawsuit entitled *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport*, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside, Case No. CVRI2203075. I understand that by requesting to be excluded from the Class, I will not receive an Individual Class Payment, as described in the accompanying Class Notice.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Last 4 Digits of SSN: _____

Dates of Employment with Defendant Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport:

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

(Sign your name here)

Date

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

DONALD MATHEWS, an individual, on
behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

HANSEN & ADKINS AUTO TRANSPORT,
INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1
through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: **CVRI2203075**
[Consolidated with CVRI2203224]

OBJECTION FORM

Hearing Date: _____
Hearing Time: _____

Judge: Hon. Harold W. Hopp
Dept.: 1

OBJECTION FORM

USE THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU WANT TO OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT. TO OBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT, YOU MUST SIGN AND COMPLETE THIS FORM ACCURATELY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND YOU MUST MAIL IT BY FIRST CLASS U.S. MAIL TO THE ADMINISTRATOR (ILYM GROUP) AT THE ADDRESS BELOW SO THAT IT IS POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE ____.

The Court will consider your objection at the Final Approval Hearing if you submit a timely and valid written statement of objection.

[] I OBJECT to the *Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc.* Settlement for the following reasons:

[Form continues on reverse side]

(Your Signature)

(Date)

(Print Your Name)

(Your Address)

(Print Last Four Digits of Social Security Number)

(City/State/Zip Code)

Submit your fully completed and signed Objection Form as follows:

MAIL TO THE ADMINISTRATOR, BY U.S. MAIL, POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN
_____:

Mathews v. Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport Administrator
c/o ILYM Group
P.O. Box 2031
Tustin, CA 92781

EXHIBIT B

[ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL]

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

DONALD MATHEWS, an individual, on
behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

HANSEN & ADKINS AUTO TRANSPORT,
INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1
through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: **CVRI2203075**
[Consolidated with CVRI2203224]

**[PROPOSED] PRELIMINARY
APPROVAL ORDER**

Hearing Date:
Hearing Time:

Judge: Hon. Harold W. Hopp
Dept.: 1

Action Filed:
Trial Date: Not set

1 This matter came on for a noticed motion hearing before the Honorable Harold Hopp of
2 the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County Riverside, on _____,
3 for the motion by Plaintiff Donal Mathews (“Plaintiff”) for preliminary approval of the Class and
4 PAGA Settlement with Defendant Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc. (“Defendant”). The
5 Court, having considered the briefs, argument of counsel and all matters presented to the Court
6 and good cause appearing, hereby GRANTS Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class
7 Action and PAGA Settlement.

8 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

9 1. The Court preliminarily approves the Class Action and PAGA Settlement
10 Agreement (“Agreement”) submitted as Exhibit #1 to Declaration of Kyle Nordrehaug in Support
11 of Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement. This is
12 based on the Court’s determination that the Settlement set forth in the Agreement is within the
13 range of possible final approval, pursuant to the provisions of Section 382 of the California Code
14 of Civil Procedure and California Rules of Court, rule 3.769.

15 2. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Agreement, and all
16 terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order as set forth in the Agreement.

17 3. The Gross Settlement Amount is Five Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars
18 (\$575,000.00). It appears to the Court on a preliminary basis that the settlement amount and terms
19 are fair, adequate and reasonable as to all potential Class Members, when balanced against the
20 probable outcome of further litigation and the significant risks relating to certification, liability and
21 damages issues. It further appears that investigation and research have been conducted such that
22 counsel for the Parties are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions and that settlement
23 at this time will avoid substantial additional costs by all Parties, as well as avoid the delay and
24 risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the Action. The Settlement appears to
25 have been reached as the result of serious and non-collusive, arms-length negotiations. The Court
26 therefore preliminarily finds that the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable when balanced
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1 against the probable outcome of further litigation and the significant risks relating to certification,
2 liability, and damages issues.

3 4. The Agreement specifies for an attorneys' fees award not to exceed one-third of the
4 Gross Settlement Amount, an award of litigation expenses incurred, not to exceed \$20,000, and
5 proposed Class Representative Service Payment to the Plaintiff in an amount not to exceed
6 \$12,500. The Court will not approve the amount of attorneys' fees and costs, nor the amount of
7 any service award, until the Final Approval Hearing. Plaintiff will be required to present evidence
8 supporting these requests, including lodestar, prior to final approval.

9 5. The Court recognizes that Plaintiff and Defendant stipulate and agree to
10 certification of a class for settlement purposes only. This stipulation will not be deemed
11 admissible in this or any other proceeding should this Settlement not become final. For settlement
12 purposes only, the Court conditionally certifies the following Class: "all individuals who are or
13 previously worked for Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt at any time
14 during the Class Period." The Class Period is July 21, 2018 through September 8, 2023.

15 6. The Court concludes that, for settlement purposes only, the Class meets the
16 requirements for certification under section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure in that:
17 (a) the Class is ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members of the Class is
18 impracticable; (b) common questions of law and fact predominate, and there is a well-defined
19 community of interest amongst the members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the
20 litigation; (c) the claims of the Plaintiff are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d)
21 the Plaintiff can fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class
22 action is superior to other available methods for the efficient resolution of this controversy; and (f)
23 counsel for the Class is qualified to act as counsel for the Class and the Plaintiff is an adequate
24 representative of the Class.

25 7. The Court provisionally appoints Plaintiff as the representative of the Class. The
26 Court provisionally appoints Norman B. Blumenthal, Kyle R. Nordrehaug, and Aparajit Bhowmik
27 of Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP as Class Counsel.

1 8. The Court hereby approves, as to form and content, the Court Approved Notice of
2 Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval (“Class Notice”) along with
3 the Objection Form and Request for Exclusion Form, submitted as Exhibit A to the Agreement,
4 and attached to this Order as Exhibit #1. The Court finds that the Class Notice appears to fully
5 and accurately inform the Class Members of all material elements of the proposed Settlement, of
6 the Class Members’ right to be excluded from the Class by submitting a written opt-out request,
7 and of each member’s right and opportunity to object to the Settlement. The Court further finds
8 that the distribution of the Class Notice substantially in the manner and form set forth in the
9 Agreement and this Order meets the requirements of due process, is the best notice practicable
10 under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled
11 thereto. The Court orders the mailing of the Class Notice Packet by first class mail pursuant to the
12 terms set forth in the Agreement. If a Class Notice Packet is returned because of an incorrect
13 address, the Administrator will promptly search for a more current address and re-mail the Notice
14 Packet no later than seven days after the receipt of the undelivered Class Notice Packet. The
15 Administrator shall provide a declaration detailing the notice process and authenticating a copy of
16 every exclusion form received by the Administrator. Class Counsel shall file this declaration of
17 the Administrator concurrently with the filing of any motion for final approval.

18 9. The Court hereby appoints ILYM Group as Administrator. No later than fifteen
19 (15) calendar days after preliminary approval of the Settlement by the Court, Defendant shall
20 provide to the Administrator an electronic spreadsheet with the Class Data. The Administrator
21 will perform address updates and verifications as necessary prior to the mailing of the Class
22 Notice. Using best efforts to mail it as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14 days after
23 receiving the Class information spreadsheet, the Administrator will mail the Class Notice to all
24 Class Members via first-class U.S. Mail.

25 10. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the proposed procedure for exclusion
26 from the Settlement. Any Class Member may individually choose to opt out of and be excluded
27 from the Class as provided in the Class Notice by following the instructions for requesting
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1 exclusion from the Class that are set forth in the Class Notice. All requests for exclusion must be
2 postmarked by no later than the Response Deadline, which is sixty (60) calendar days after the
3 date of the mailing of the Class Notice Packet. If the Notice Packet is re-mailed, the Response
4 Deadline will be extended an additional 14 days. Any such person who chooses to opt out of and
5 be excluded from the Class will not be entitled to any recovery under the Settlement and will not
6 be bound by the Settlement or have any right to object, appeal or comment thereon. Class
7 Members who have not requested exclusion shall be bound by all determinations of the Court, the
8 Agreement and the Judgment. A request for exclusion may only opt out that particular individual,
9 and any attempt to effect an opt out of a group, class, or subclass of individuals is not permitted
10 and will be deemed invalid.

11 11. Any Class Member who has not opted out may appear at the final approval hearing
12 and may object or express the Member's views regarding the Settlement and may present evidence
13 and file briefs or other papers that may be proper and relevant to the issues to be heard and
14 determined by the Court as provided in the Notice. Class Members will have until the Response
15 Deadline to submit their written objections to the Administrator in accordance with the
16 instructions in the Class Notice. If the Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the Response Deadline
17 for written objections will be extended an additional 14 days. Alternatively, Class Members may
18 appear at the Final Approval Hearing to make an oral objection.

19 12. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court on _____ at
20 _____ a.m. in Department 1 at the Riverside Historic Courthouse of the Riverside County
21 Superior Court located at 4050 Main Street, Riverside, California, to determine all necessary
22 matters concerning the Settlement, including: whether the proposed settlement of the Action on
23 the terms and conditions provided for in the Agreement is fair, adequate and reasonable and
24 should be finally approved by the Court; whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should
25 be entered herein; whether the plan of allocation contained in the Agreement should be approved
26 as fair, adequate and reasonable to the Class Members; and to finally approve attorneys' fees and
27 costs, the service award, and the expenses of the Administrator. All papers in support of the
28

1 motion for final approval and the motion for attorneys' fees, costs and service awards shall be
2 filed with the Court and served on all counsel no later than sixteen (16) court days before the Final
3 Approval Hearing and both motions shall be heard at the Final Approval Hearing. Class Counsel
4 shall provide service of these motions on any objecting party and notice to any objecting party of
5 any continuance of the hearing on the motion for final approval.

6 13. Neither the Settlement nor any exhibit, document, or instrument delivered
7 thereunder shall be construed as a concession or admission by Defendant in any way that the
8 claims asserted have any merit or that this Action was properly brought as a class or representative
9 action, and shall not be used as evidence of, or used against Defendant as, an admission or
10 indication in any way, including with respect to any claim of any liability, wrongdoing, fault or
11 omission by Defendant or with respect to the truth of any allegation asserted by any person.
12 Whether or not the Settlement is finally approved, neither the Settlement, nor any exhibit,
13 document, statement, proceeding or conduct related to the Settlement, nor any reports or accounts
14 thereof, shall in any event be construed as, offered or admitted in evidence as, received as or
15 deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to the Defendant, including, but not limited to,
16 evidence of a presumption, concession, indication or admission by Defendant of any liability,
17 fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession or damage.

18 14. In the event the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms
19 of the Agreement, or the Settlement is not finally approved, or is terminated, canceled or fails to
20 become effective for any reason, this Order shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated,
21 and the Parties shall revert to their respective positions as of before entering into the Agreement,
22 and expressly reserve their respective rights regarding the prosecution and defense of this Action,
23 including all available defenses and affirmative defenses, and arguments that any claim in the
24 Action could not be certified as a class action and/or managed as a representative action. In such
25 an event, the Court's orders regarding the Settlement, including this Order, shall not be used or
26 referred to in litigation for any purpose. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to alter the terms of
27 the Agreement with respect to the effect of the Agreement if it is not approved.

1 15. The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the date of the final approval
2 hearing and all dates provided for in the Agreement without further notice to Class Members and
3 retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with the
4 proposed Settlement.

5 16. The Action is stayed and all trial and related pre-trial dates are vacated, subject to
6 further orders of the Court at the Final Approval Hearing.

7 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

8
9 Dated: _____

HON. HAROLD W. HOPP
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

EXHIBIT C

[FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT]

EXHIBIT "C"

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

DONALD MATHEWS, an individual, on
behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

HANSEN & ADKINS AUTO TRANSPORT,
INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1
through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: CVRI2203075
[Consolidated with CVRI2203224]

**[PROPOSED] FINAL APPROVAL
ORDER AND JUDGMENT**

Hearing Date: _____
Hearing Time: _____

Judge: Hon. Harold W. Hopp
Dept.: 1

Action Filed:
Trial Date: Not set

FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT

1 The motion of Plaintiff Donald Mathews (“Plaintiff”) for an order finally approving the
2 Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) with Defendant Hansen & Adkins
3 Auto Transport, Inc. (“Defendant”), attorneys’ fees and costs, service payment, and the fees and
4 expenses of the Administrator duly came on for hearing on _____ before the
5 Honorable Harold Hopp.

6
7 **I.**

8 **FINDINGS**

9 Based on the oral and written argument and evidence presented in connection with the
10 motion, the Court makes the following findings:

- 11 1. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Agreement.
- 12 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this litigation pending before
13 the California Superior Court for the County of Riverside, and over all Parties to this litigation,
14 including the Class.
- 15 3. Based on a review of the papers submitted by Plaintiff and a review of the
16 applicable law, the Court finds that the Gross Settlement Amount of \$575,000 and the terms set
17 forth in the Agreement are fair, reasonable, and adequate.
- 18 4. The Court further finds that the Settlement was the result of arm’s length
19 negotiations conducted after Class Counsel had adequately investigated the claims and became
20 familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of those claims. In particular, the amount the
21 Settlement, the significant risks relating to certification, liability, and damages issues, and the
22 assistance of an experienced mediator in the settlement process, among other factors, support the
23 Court’s conclusion that the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate.

24 **Preliminary Approval of the Settlement**

- 25 5. On _____, the Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement. At
26 this same time, the Court approved conditional certification of the Class for settlement purposes
27 only.

1 **Notice to the Class**

2 6. In compliance with the Preliminary Approval Order, the Court-approved Class
3 Notice was mailed by first class mail to members of the Class at their last known addresses on or
4 about _____. Mailing of the Class Notice to their last known addresses was the best
5 notice practicable under the circumstances and was reasonably calculated to communicate actual
6 notice of the litigation and the proposed settlement to the Class. The Class Notice fully and
7 accurately informed the Class Members of all material elements of the proposed Settlement and of
8 their opportunity to object to or comment thereon or to seek exclusion from the Class; was valid,
9 due, and sufficient notice to all Class Members; and complied fully with the laws of the State of
10 California, the United States Constitution, due process and other applicable law. The Class Notice
11 fairly and adequately described the Settlement and provided adequate instructions and a variety of
12 means to obtain additional information.

13 7. The deadline for opting out of the Class or submitting written objections to the
14 Settlement was _____ (“Response Deadline”), which Response Deadline was extended
15 by 14 days in the event of a re-mailing. There was an adequate interval between notice and the
16 deadline to permit Class Members to choose what to do and act on their decision. A full
17 opportunity has been afforded to the Class Members to participate in this hearing, and all Class
18 Members and other persons wishing to be heard have been heard. Class Members also have had a
19 full and fair opportunity to exclude themselves from the Class. Accordingly, the Court determines
20 that all Class Members who did not timely and properly submit a request for exclusion are bound
21 by the Settlement and this Final Approval Order and Judgment.

22 **Fairness Of Settlement**

23 8. The Agreement is entitled to a presumption of fairness. *Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.*
24 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 (1996).

25 a. The settlement was reached through arm's-length bargaining between the
26 parties during an all-day mediation before Tripper Ortman, a respected and experienced mediator
27
28

1 of wage and hour class actions. There has been no collusion between the parties in reaching the
2 proposed settlement.

3 b. Plaintiff's investigation and discovery have been sufficient to allow the
4 Court and counsel to act intelligently.

5 c. Counsel for both parties are experienced in similar employment class action
6 litigation. All counsel recommended approval of the Agreement.

7 d. The percentage of objectors and requests for exclusion is small. ____
8 objections were received. _____ requests for exclusion were received.

9 e. The participation rate was high. _____ Class Members will be mailed a
10 settlement payment, representing ____% of the overall Class.

11 9. The consideration to be given to the Class Members under the terms of the
12 Agreement is fair, reasonable and adequate considering the strengths and weaknesses of the claims
13 asserted in this action and is fair, reasonable and adequate compensation for the release of the
14 Released Class Claims, given the uncertainties and significant risks of the litigation and the delays
15 which would ensue from continued prosecution of the Action.

16 10. The Agreement is approved as fair, adequate and reasonable and in the best
17 interests of the Class Members.

18 **Attorneys' Fees and Costs**

19 11. An award of \$191,666 for attorneys' fees, representing one-third (1/3) of the Gross
20 Settlement Amount, and \$ _____ for litigation costs and expenses, is reasonable, in
21 light of the contingent nature of Class Counsel's fee, the hours worked by Class Counsel, and the
22 results achieved by Class Counsel. The requested award has been supported by Class Counsel's
23 lodestar and billing statement.

24 **Class Representative Service Payment**

25 12. The Agreement provides for a Class Representative Service Payment of not more
26 than \$12,500 to the Plaintiff, subject to the Court's approval. The Court finds that Class
27 Representative Service Payment in the amount of \$ _____ to the Plaintiff is reasonable in light
28

1 of the risks and burdens undertaken by the Plaintiff in the litigation, for the time and effort in
2 bringing and prosecuting this matter on behalf of the Class, and for the execution of a general
3 release.

4 **Administration Expenses Payment**

5 13. The Administrator shall calculate and administer the payments to be made to the
6 Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, transmit payment for attorneys' fees and costs to Class
7 Counsel, transmit the Class Representative Service Payment to the Plaintiff, distribute the LWDA
8 PAGA Payment, issue any required tax reporting forms, calculate withholdings and perform the
9 other remaining duties set forth in the Agreement. The Administrator has documented \$ _____
10 in fees and expenses, and this amount is reasonable in light of the work performed by the
11 Administrator.

12 **PAGA Penalties**

13 14. The Agreement provides for a PAGA Penalties payment out of the Gross
14 Settlement Amount of \$15,000, which shall be allocated \$11,250 to the LWDA as the LWDA's
15 75% share of the settlement of civil penalties paid pursuant to the PAGA and \$3,750 to be
16 distributed to the Aggrieved Employees based on their respective PAGA Pay Periods worked
17 during the PAGA Period. The Court finds this PAGA Penalties payment to be reasonable. All
18 Aggrieved Employees will be sent their Individual PAGA Payment and will be subject to the
19 release of the Released PAGA Claims as set forth below, whether or not they opt out of the
20 Settlement. The LWDA was provided notice of the Agreement and these settlement terms and has
21 indicated no objection thereto. The Court finds the PAGA Penalties to be reasonable.

22
23 **II.**

24 **ORDERS**

25 Based on the foregoing findings, and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

26 1. The certification of the Class for the purposes of settlement is confirmed. The
27 Class is defined as follows:

1 All individuals who are or previously worked for Defendant in California who were
2 classified as non-exempt at any time during the Class Period (July 21, 2018 through
September 8, 2023).

3 2. All persons who meet the foregoing definition are members of the Class, except for
4 those individuals who filed a valid request for exclusion (“opt out”) from the Class. [INSERT
5 REFERENCE TO IDENTIFY ANY OPT OUTS].

6 3. The Agreement is hereby finally approved as fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the
7 best interest of the Class. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund
8 the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant’s share of payroll taxes in accordance with the
9 Agreement, by transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 15 days after the Effective
10 Date as provided by the Agreement.

11 4. Class Counsel are awarded attorneys' fees in the amount of \$_____ and
12 costs in the amount of \$_____. Class Counsel shall not seek or obtain any other
13 compensation or reimbursement from Defendant, Plaintiff or members of the Class.

14 5. The payment of the Class Representative Service Payment in the amount of \$
15 _____ to the Plaintiff is approved.

16 6. The payment of \$_____ to the Administrator for their fees and expenses
17 is approved.

18 7. The PAGA Penalties payment of \$15,000 is approved and shall be allocated in
19 accordance with the Agreement.

20 8. The Agreement and this Settlement are not an admission by Defendant, nor is this
21 Final Approval Order and Judgment a finding, of the validity of any claims in the Action or of any
22 wrongdoing by Defendant or that this Action is appropriate for class treatment (other than for
23 settlement purposes). Neither this Final Approval Order and Judgment, the Agreement, nor any
24 document referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Agreement is, may be construed
25 as, or may be used as an admission by or against Defendant of any fault, wrongdoing or liability
26 whatsoever. The entering into or carrying out of the Agreement, and any negotiations or
27 proceedings related thereto, shall not in any event be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, an
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1 admission or concession with regard to the denials or defenses by Defendant. Notwithstanding
2 these restrictions, Defendant may file in the Action or in any other proceeding this Final Approval
3 Order and Judgment, the Agreement, or any other papers and records on file in the Action as
4 evidence of the Settlement to support a defense of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, or other
5 theory of claim or issue preclusion or similar defense as to the Released Class Claims and/or
6 Released PAGA Claims.

7 9. Notice of entry of this Final Approval Order and Judgment shall be given to all
8 Parties by Class Counsel on behalf of Plaintiffs and all Class Members. The Final Approval Order
9 and Judgment shall be posted on Class Counsel's website as set forth in the Class Notice to the
10 Class. It shall not be necessary to send notice of entry of this Final Approval Order and Judgment
11 to individual Class Members.

12 10. If the Agreement does not become final and effective in accordance with the terms
13 of the Agreement, then this Final Approval Order and Judgment, and all orders entered in
14 connection herewith, shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated, and the Parties shall
15 revert to their respective positions as of before entering into the Agreement, and expressly reserve
16 their respective rights regarding the prosecution and defense of this Action, including all available
17 defenses and affirmative defenses, and arguments that any claim in the Action could not be
18 certified as a class action and/or managed as a representative action.

19
20 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDICATED AND DECREED THAT:**

21 1. Except as set forth in the Agreement and this Final Approval Order and Judgment,
22 Plaintiff, Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees, shall take nothing in the Action.

23 2. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6, the Court shall retain
24 jurisdiction to construe, interpret, implement and enforce the Agreement, to hear and resolve any
25 contested challenge to a claim for settlement benefits, and to supervise and adjudicate any dispute
26 arising from or in connection with the distribution of settlement benefits.

1 3. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs, except as otherwise
2 provided in the Agreement and in this Final Approval Order and Judgment.

3 4. Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement
4 Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class
5 Payments, all Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former
6 and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns,
7 release Released Parties from the Released Class Claims. The "Released Class Claims" are all
8 class claims pled or could have been pled under state, federal or local law, whether statutory,
9 common law or administrative law, based on the factual allegations contained in the Operative
10 Complaint, including claims under the Business & Professions Code section 17200 et seq; the
11 applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; claims for minimum wage violations;
12 failure to pay overtime wages; unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal period
13 violations; failure to keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; failure to pay sick
14 wages; waiting time penalties; unfair competition; and, claims for violations of Labor Code
15 sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802,
16 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, which occurred during the Class Period. Except as expressly set forth in
17 this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for
18 vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act,
19 unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims based on
20 facts occurring outside the Class Period.

21 5. Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement
22 Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class
23 Payments, all Aggrieved Employees and the LWDA are deemed to release, on behalf of
24 themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs,
25 administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims.
26 The "Released PAGA Claims" are all PAGA claims pled or could have been pled based on the
27 factual allegations contained in the Operative Complaint and PAGA letters sent by Plaintiff that
28

1 occurred during the PAGA Period as to the Aggrieved Employees, including PAGA claims
2 predicated on the following: violations of the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage
3 Orders; minimum wage violations; violations for failure to pay overtime wages; violations for
4 unreimbursed expenses; rest period violations; meal period violations; violations for failure to
5 keep proper records; itemized wage statement violations; violations for failure to pay sick wages;
6 and violations for failure to pay waiting time penalties; and thereby violations of Labor Code
7 sections 201-204, 210, 218, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 558, 2800, 2802,
8 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198. The Released PAGA Claims do not include other PAGA claims,
9 underlying wage and hour claims, claims for wrongful termination, discrimination, unemployment
10 insurance, disability and worker's compensation, and claims outside of the PAGA Period.

11 6. As used herein, the "Released Parties" are: Defendant and Defendant's officers,
12 directors, employees, managing agents, and agents.

13 7. Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement
14 Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class
15 Payments, Plaintiff and his or her respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents,
16 attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released
17 Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences that occurred during the Class Period as set
18 forth fully in the Agreement ("Plaintiff's Release").

19 **LET JUDGMENT BE FORTHWITH ENTERED ACCORDINGLY. IT IS SO ORDERED.**

20
21 Dated: _____

22 _____
23 HON. HAROLD W. HOPP
24 JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
25
26
27
28

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FIRM RESUME

Areas of Practice: Employee, Consumer and Securities Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions, Civil Litigation, Business Litigation.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHIES

Norman B. Blumenthal

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Consumer and Securities Class Action, Civil Litigation, Wage and Hour Class Actions, Transactional Law

Admitted: 1973, Illinois; 1976, California

Biography: Law Clerk to Justice Thomas J. Moran, Illinois Supreme Court, 1973-1975, while on Illinois Court of Appeals. Instructor, Oil and Gas Law: California Western School of Law, 1981; University of San Diego School of Law, 1983. Sole Practitioner 1976-1987. Partner, Blumenthal & Ostroff, 1988-1995. Partner, Blumenthal, Ostroff & Markham, 1995-2001. Partner, Blumenthal & Markham, 2001-2007. Partner, Blumenthal & Nordrehaug, 2007. Partner, Blumenthal, Nordrehaug & Bhowmik, 2008-2018. Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP, 2018 - present.

Member: San Diego County, Illinois State and American Bar Associations; State Bar of California.

Educated: University of Wisconsin (B.A., 1970); Loyola University of Chicago (J.D., 1973);

Summer Intern (1971) with Harvard Voluntary Defenders

Kyle R. Nordrehaug

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Consumer and Securities Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions, Civil Litigation

Admitted: 1999, California

Biography: Associate, Blumenthal, Ostroff & Markham, 1999-2001. Associate, Blumenthal & Markham, 2001-2007. Partner, Blumenthal & Nordrehaug, 2007. Partner, Blumenthal, Nordrehaug & Bhowmik, 2008-2017

Member: State Bar of California, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Third Circuit Court of Appeals

Educated: University of California at Berkeley (B.A., 1994); University of San Diego School of Law (J.D. 1999)

Awards: Top Labor & Employment Attorney 2016; Top Appellate Reversal - Daily Journal 2015; Super Lawyer 2015-2018

Aparajit Bhowmik

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2006, California

Educated: University of California at San Diego (B.A., 2002); University of San Diego School of Law (J.D. 2006)

Biography: Partner, Blumenthal, Nordrehaug & Bhowmik, 2008-2017

Awards: Rising Star 2015

Nicholas J. De Blouw

Partner, Blumenthal Nordrehaug Bhowmik De Blouw LLP (2018 to present)

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2011, California

Educated: Wayne State University (B.A. 2008); California Western School of Law (J.D. 2011)

Piya Mukherjee

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2010, California

Educated: University of California, San Diego (B.S. 2006); University of Southern California, Gould School of Law (J.D. 2010)

Victoria Rivapalacio

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Consumer Class Actions, Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2011, California

Educated: University of California at San Diego (B.A., 2003); George Washington University Law School (J.D. 2010)

Ricardo Ehmann

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2018, California; 2004, Nevada

Educated: University of California, San Diego (B.A. 1998); Loyola Law School (J.D. 2001)

Jeffrey S. Herman

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2011, California; 2016 Arizona

Educated: University of Michigan (B.A. 2008); California Western School of Law (J.D. 2011)

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Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2016, California

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Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2012, California

Educated: University of California, Irvine; California Western School of Law

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Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2016, California

Educated: Arizona State University; University of San Diego School of Law

Scott Blumenthal

Associate Attorney

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation; Wage and Hour Class Actions

Admitted: 2020, New Mexico

Educated: University of Southern California; California Western School of Law

REPORTED CASES

Sakkab v. Luxottica Retail N. Am., Inc., 803 F.3d 425 (9th Cir. 2015) (The panel reversed the district court's order granting Luxottica Retail North America, Inc.'s motion to compel arbitration of claims and dismissing plaintiff's first amended complaint, in a putative class action raising class employment-related claims and a non-class representative claim for civil penalties under the Private Attorney General Act.);

Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. v. Superior Court, 234 Cal. App. 4th 1109 (Cal. Feb. 27, 2015) (Court of Appeal concluded the trial court correctly ruled that *Iskanian* rendered the PAGA waiver within the parties' dispute resolution agreement unenforceable. However, the Court of Appeal then ruled the trial court erred by failing to invalidate the non-severable class action waiver from the agreement and remanded the entire complaint, including class action and PAGA claims, be litigated in the Superior Court);

Sussex v. United States Dist. Court for the Dist. of Nev., 781 F.3d 1065 (9th Cir. 2015) (The panel determined that the district court clearly erred in holding that its decision to intervene mid-arbitration was justified under *Aerojet-General*. Specifically, the panel held that the district court erred in predicting that an award issued by the arbitrator would likely be vacated because of his "evident partiality" under 9 U.S.C. § 10(a)(2).);

Provost v. YourMechanic, Inc., 2020 Cal. App. Lexis 955 (Oct. 15, 2020) (Court of Appeals affirmed denial of arbitration of PAGA claim, and held in a case of first impression, that there was no additional standing rules for PAGA claim brought by independent contractor);

In re Tobacco Cases II, 41 Cal. 4th 1257 (2007); Washington Mutual Bank v. Superior Court, 24 Cal. 4th 906 (2001); Rocker v. KPMG LLP, 148 P.3d 703; 122 Nev. 1185 (2006); PCO, Inc. v. Christensen, Miller, Fink, Jacobs, Glaser, Weil & Shapiro, LLP, 150 Cal. App. 4th 384 (2007); Hall v. County of Los Angeles, 148 Cal. App. 4th 318 (2007); Coshov v. City of Escondido, 132 Cal. App. 4th 687 (2005); Daniels v. Philip Morris, 18 F.Supp 2d 1110 (S.D. Cal.1998); Gibson v. World Savings & Loan Asso., 103 Cal. App. 4th 1291 (2003); Jordan v. Department of Motor Vehicles, 75 Cal. App. 4th 445 (1999); Jordan v. Department of Motor Vehicles, 100 Cal.App. 4th 431 (2002); Norwest Mortgage, Inc. v. Superior Court, 72 Cal.App.4th 214 (1999); Hildago v. Diversified Transp. Sya, 1998 U.S. App. LEXIS 3207 (9th Cir. 1998); Kensington Capital Mgal. v. Oakley, Inc., 1999 U.S. Dist LEXIS 385; Fed.Sec.L.Rep. (CCH) P90, 411 (1999 C.D. Cal.); Lister v. Oakley, Inc., 1999 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 384; Fed. Sec. L. Rep. (CCH) P90,409 (C.D Cal. 1999); Olszewski v. Scripps Health, 30 Cal. 4th 798 (2003); Steroid Hormone Product Cases, 181 Cal. App. 4th 145 (2010); Owen v. Macy's, Inc., 175 Cal. App. 4th 462 (2009); Taiheiyo Cement Corp. v. Superior Court, 117 Cal. App. 4th 380 (2004); Taiheiyo Cement Corp. v. Superior Court, 105 Cal.App. 4th 398 (2003); McMeans v. Scripps Health, Inc., 100 Cal. App. 4th 507 (2002); Ramos v. Countrywide Home Loans, 82 Cal.App. 4th 615 (2000); Tevssier v. City of San Diego, 81 Cal.App. 4th 685 (2000); Washington Mutual Bank v. Superior Court, 70 Cal. App. 4th 299 (1999); Silvas v. E*Trade Mortg. Corp., 514 F.3d 1001 (9th Cir. 2008); Silvas v. E*Trade Mortg. Corp., 421 F. Supp. 2d 1315 (S.D. Cal. 2006); McPhail v. First Command Fin. Planning, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 26544 (S.D. Cal. 2009); McPhail v. First Command Fin. Planning, Inc., 251 F.R.D. 514 (S.D. Cal. 2008); McPhail v. First Command Fin. Planning, Inc., 247 F.R.D. 598 (S.D. Cal. 2007); Barcia v. Contain-A-Way, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17118 (S.D. Cal. 2009); Barcia v. Contain-A-Way, Inc., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27365 (S.D. Cal. 2008); Wise v. Cubic Def. Applications, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11225 (S.D. Cal. 2009); Gabisan v. Pelican Prods., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 1391

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Division, Case No. 16-CV-00906-DB; Mrazik v. C.H. Robinson Company – U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 12-CV-02067-CAS-PLA; Horn v. Rise Medical Staffing, LLC – U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 2:17-cv-01967-MCE-KJN; Pasallo v. GSG Protective Services CA Inc. – San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00037611-CU-OE-CTL; Smith v. Pacific Personnel Services, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 17-cv-03594-SK; Terrado v. Accredited Debt Relief, LLC – San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00014181-CU-OE-CTL; Escobedo v. Pacific Western Bank – Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC682686; Wade v. Automobile Club of Southern California – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2017-00960268-CU-OE-CXC; Montano v. American Automobile Association of Northern California – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. CIVMSC18-01539; Perez v. Summit Interconnect, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2018-00995403-CU-OE-CXC; Wolleson v. Gosch Imports, Inc. – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC170356; Banuelos v. Ortho Mattress, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01161304-CU-OE-CXC; Castellanos v. Miller Automotive Group, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC699211; Tressler v. Spoonful Management, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC71940; Delph v. Employee Retention Services, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00007885; Romero v. May Trucking Company – U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 5:17-cv-02166-JGB-SHK; Miranda v. Genex Services, LLC – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1700779; Moore v. Zirx Transportation Services, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-566655; Sottile v. Motion Recruitment Partners – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 18CV321677; Shahbazian v. Fast Auto Loans, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 2:18-cv-03076-ODW-KS; Salazar v. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC702468; Conti v. L’Oreal USA S/D, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Fresno, Case No. 1:19-CV-00769-LJO-SKO; Mercado v. Security Industry Specialists, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 17CV320059; Vikili v. Dignity Health – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-569456; Bagby v. Swissport SA, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC691058; Henry v. Motion Entertainment Group, LLC – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC18565643; Dandoy v. West Coast Convenience, LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG20051121; Lanuza v. AccentCare, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-565521; Thomas v. Easy Driving School, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00047639-CU-OE-CTL; Erickson v. Erickson – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC18-00307; Martin v. Menzies Aviation (USA) Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-566072; Mortimer v. Healthsouth Bakersfield Rehabilitation Hospital, LLC – Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-18-102761; Alcaraz v. Red Lion Hotels Corporation – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-570310; Calhoun v. Total Transportation and Distribution, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00058681-CU-OE-CTL; Rataul v. Overton Security Services, Inc. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG18891882; Beltran v. Compass Bank – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00024475-CU-OE-CTL; Kirshner v. Touchstone Golf, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00028865-CU-OE-CTL; Pizarro v. The Home Depot, Inc. – U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia-Atlanta Division; Hatanaka v. Restore Rehabilitation, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00034780-CU-OE-CTL; Faria v. Carriage Funeral Holdings, Inc. – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC18-00606; Ontiveros v. Baker Concrete Construction, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 18CV328679; Morales v. Redlands Automotive Services, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1807525; Ramirez v. Carefusion Resources, LLC – U.S. District Court, Southern District of California; Amster v. Starbucks Corporation – San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1922016; Kutzman v. Derrel’s Mini Storage, Inc. – U.S. District, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:18-cv-00755-AWI-JLT; Marks v. Universal Propulsion Company, Inc. – Solano County Superior Court, Case No. FCS051608; Martinez v. Geil Enterprises,

Inc. – Fresno County Superior Court, Case No. 17CECG01480; Teniente v. Cirrus Asset Management, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV16302; Blackshear v. California Fine Wine & Spirits LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2018-00245842; Warnick v. Golden Gate America West LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC714176; Bennett v. Dnata Aviation USA, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-566911; George v. PF Stockton Fitness LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00261113-CU-OE-GDS; Oshana v. Farmers and Merchants Bank of Central California – Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-19-003427; Vasquez v. Packaging Corporation of America – U.S. District Court, California Central District, Case No. 2:19-cv-01935-PSG-PLA; Palomino v. Zara USA Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2018-00992682-CU-OE-CXC; Simmons v. Joe & The Juice LA, LLC – San Francisco County Superior Court; Pacia v. CIM Group, L.P. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC709666; Flores v. Plastic Express – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. BC71971; Madera v. William Warren Properties, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01055704-CU-OE-CXC; Hernandez v. Quality Custom Distribution – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2018-01010611-CU-OE-CXC; Arango v. Schlumberger Technology Corporation – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01056839-CU-OE-CXC; Dandoy v. West Coast Convenience, LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG20051121; Ramirez v. J E H Enterprises, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-19-574691; Sullen v. First Service Residential California, LLC – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-19-575131; Valentino v. East Bay Tire Co. – Solano County Superior Court, Case No. FCS053067; Murphy v. Rockler Retail Group, Inc. – Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00251220; Shahbazian v. Onewest Bank – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV23722; Bruemmer v. Tempur Retail Stores LLC – Marin County Superior Court, Case No. CIV1803646; Antonios v. Interface Rehab, Inc. – Orange County Superior, Case No. 30-2019-01067547-CU-OE-CXC; Tavallodi v. DC Auto, Inc. – San Bernardino, Case No. CIVDS1833598; Miranda v. The Lloyd Pest Control Co. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00052510-CU-OE-CTL; Soenardi v. Magnussen Imports, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 18CV340003; Thai v. Team Industrial Services, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV21953; Castillo v. A.J. Kirkwood & Associates, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV04435; Moss v. Jabil Inc. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG20050536; Billosillo, Jr. v. Crown Energy Services, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2018-00058254-CU-OE-CTL; Tarkington v. Freetime, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00011473-CU-OE-CTL; McIntyre v. J.J.R. Enterprises, Inc. – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00251220; Bucur v. Pharmaca Integrative Pharmacy, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00009409-CU-OE-CTL; Batin v. McGee Air Services, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV347733; Terry v. McGee Air Services, Inc. – King County Superior Court of Washington, Case No. 19-2-3321-5 KNT; Weiss v. Niznik Behavioral Health Resources, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00039441-CU-OE-CTL; Cavada v. Inter-Continental Hotels Group, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, Case No. 3:19-cv-01675-GPC-AHG; Lesevic v. Spectraforce Technologies, Inc. – U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 5:19-cv-03126-LHK; Mutchler v. Circle K Stores, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00016331-CU-OE-CTL; Azima v. CSI Medical Group – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV345450; Porras v. Baypointe Enterprises, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV31015; Mitchell v. Mack Trucking, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1928334; Watts v. T.R.L. Systems, Incorporated – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01102457-CU-OE-CXC; Price v. DMSD Restaurants Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00024062-CU-OE-CTL; Jacobs v. Nortek Security & Control LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-0019735-CU-OE-CTL; Gonzalez v. Hub International Midwest – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1900463; Cisneros v. Bluepearl California, Inc. – San Mateo Superior Court, Case No. 19-

CIV-05707; Garcia v. Gallagher Basset Services – San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2004140; Callow v. Adventist Health System/West – Placer County Superior Court, Case No. SCV0043607; Dominguez v. Kimco Facility Services, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV37592; Searles v. Robert Heath Trucking, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCY30808; Rangel v. Pioneer Hi-Bred international, Inc. – Yolo County Superior Court, Case No. CV-19-1797; Ivon v. Sinclair Television of California, Humboldt County Superior Court, Case No. DR190699; Williams v. Henkels & McCoy, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2003888; Cano v. Larry Green Chrysler Jeep Dodge, Inc. – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. BLC1900184; Lopez v. Cepheid – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV358827; Hernandez v. Quick Dispense, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV29405; Lopez v. Lacoste USA, Inc. – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS1914626; Duhe v. Hospital Couriers Nevada, LLC – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. MSC19-01377; Law v. Sequoia Equities, Incorporated – Contra Costa Superior Court, Case No. C19-01925; Dvorak v. Rockwell Collins, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2019-00064397-CU-OE-CTL; Noguera v. Metal Container Corporation – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC2003235; Leon v. Miller Event Management, Inc. – San Luis Obispo Superior Court, Case No. 19CV-0435; Leon v. Miller Event Management, Inc. – San Luis Obispo County Superior Court, Case No. 19CV-0435, Camacho-Bias v. Serve U Brands Inc. – Butte County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV00603; La Pietra v. Entertainment Partners Services, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV39529; Celis v. Theatre Box - San Diego, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. ____; Ignacio v. Laboratory Corporation of America – U.S. District Court, California Central District, Case No. 2:19-cv-06079-AB-RAO; Kovnas v. Cahill Contractors LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG19037852; Hersh v. Mrs. Gooch's Natural Food – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 19STCV10444; Miller v. The Permanente Medical Group – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG19045904; Vasquez v. Autoalert, LLC – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2019-01114549-CU-OE-CXC; Cavanaugh v. Morton Golf, LLC – Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2019-00270176; Coley v. Monroe Operations, LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG20063188; Ramirez v. Sierra Aluminum Company – U.S. District Court, California Central District Court, Case No. 5:20-cv-00417-JGB-KK; Marrero v. Stat Med, P.C. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. HG19043214; Enriquez v. Solari Enterprises, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV11129; Craig v. Hometown Heart – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-20-582454; Lopez v. Hy0Lang Electric California, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00012543-CU-OE-CTL; Heuklom v. Clara Medical Group, P.C. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-20-585918; Dominguez v. Lifesafer of Northern California – Monterey County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV002586; Kiseleva v. Totalmed Staffing Inc. – U.S. District Court, California Northern District, Case No. 5:19-cv-06480; Vires v. Sweetgreen, Inc. – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV365918; Kim v. Wireless Vision, LLC – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2000074; Senoren v. Air Canada Corporation – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV13942; Clark v. Quest Diagnostics Incorporated – San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2018707; Green v. Shipt, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV01001; Respass v. The Scion Group LLC – Sacramento County Superior County, Case No. 34-2020-00285265; Jackson v. Decathlon USA LLC – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG2003024; Avacena v. FTG Aerospace Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV28767; Perez v. Butler America, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV20218; Christensen v. Carter's Retail, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01138792-CU-OE-CXC; Astudillo v. Torrance Health Association, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV18424; Hansen v. Holiday AI Management Sub LLC – Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. CIVMSC20-00779; Almahdi v. Vitamin Shoppe Industries Inc – Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV365150; Krisinda v. Loyal Source Government Services LLC – U.S. District Court, California

Southern District, Case No. 3:20-cv-879-LAB-NLS; Ettedgui v. WB Studio Enterprises Inc – U.S. District Court, California Central District, Case No. 2:20-CV-08053-MCS (MAAx); Fernandez v. Nuvision Federal Credit Union – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01161691-CU-OE-CJC; Aviles v. UPS Supply Chain Solutions, Inc. – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC2000727; Alcocer v. DSV Solutions, LLC – San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVDS2010345; Wilson v. Wholesome Harvest Baking, LLC – U.S. District Court, California Northern District, Case No. 4:20-cv-05186-YGR; Gregory v. Verio Healthcare, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV37254; Rose v. Impact Group, LLC – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01141107-CU-OE-CXC; Monasterio v. Citibank, N.A. – San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. 20-CIV-03650; Martinez-Lopez v. Medamerica, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00034393-CU-OE-CTL; Cox v. PRB Management, LLC – Solano County Superior Court, Case No. FCS055514; Nash v. K. Hovnanian Companies, LLC – Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. RIC2003319; Kyler v. Harbor Freight Tools USA, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00015828-CU-OE-CTL; Roberts v. Solantic Corporation – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV41117; Price v. Mistras Group, Inc. – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV22485; Macias v. ABM Electrical & Lighting Solutions, Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00024997-CU-OE-CTL; Basu-Kesselman v. Garuda Labs, Inc. – San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-20-585229; Armstrong v. Prometric LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV29967; Ashlock v. Advantis Medical Staffing, LLC – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00022305-CU-OE-CTL; Wilson v. WXI Global Solutions, LLC – Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 20STCV25007; Gandhale v. Select Rehabilitation, LLC – Monterey County Superior Court, Case No. 20CV002240; Starvoice v. G4S Secure Solutions (USA) Inc. – San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00029421-CU-OE-CTL; Mbise v. Axlehire, Inc. – Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG20067350; Points v. C&J Services, Inc. – Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-20-102483; Marshall v. PHI Air Medical, LLC – Lassen County Superior Court, Case No. 62973; Jauregui v. Cytotec Engineered Materials, Inc. – Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2020-01164932-CU-OE-CXC

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May 19, 2022
CA2640

VIA ONLINE FILING TO LWDA AND CERTIFIED MAIL TO DEFENDANT

Labor and Workforce Development Agency
Online Filing

Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc
Certified Mail #70220410000153343249
CSC - Lawyers Incorporating Service
2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Ste. 150N
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Notice Of Violations Of California Labor Code Sections §§ 201, 202, 203, 204 *et seq.*, 210, 218, 221, 226(a), 226.7, 227.3, 246 *et seq.*, 510, 512, 558(a)(1)(2), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802, California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11040, Subdivision 5(A)-(B), California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11070(14) (Failure to Provide Seating), Violation of Applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and Pursuant To California Labor Code Section 2699.5.

Dear Sir/Madam:

“Aggrieved Employees” refers to all individuals who are or previously were employed by Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc. in California, including any employees staffed with Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc. by a third party, and classified as non-exempt employees during the time period of May 19, 2022 until a date as determined by the Court. Our offices represent Plaintiff Donald Mathews (“Plaintiff”) and other Aggrieved Employees in a lawsuit against Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport, Inc. (“Defendant”). Plaintiff was employed by Defendant in California as a non-exempt employee in the position of Diesel Mechanic from April of 2016 until March of 2022 and entitled to the legally required meal and rest breaks and payment for all time worked under Defendant’s control. Defendant, however, unlawfully failed to record and pay Plaintiff and other Aggrieved Employees for, including but not limited to, all of their time worked, including minimum and overtime wages, for all of their missed meal and rest break (and pay the meal and rest break premiums at the correct regular rates of pay), and for all of their time spent working off the clock. Moreover, when Defendant required Plaintiff and Aggrieved Employees to report for work, but “furnished less than half said employee’s usual or scheduled day’s work,” Defendant violated Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8 § 11040, subd. 5(A) by failing to pay Plaintiff and Aggrieved Employees for at least two (2) hours’ worth of work at their regular rate of pay. In addition, when Defendant required Plaintiff and Aggrieved Employees to respond to and engage in additional work, this resulted in a second reporting for work in a single workday, and Defendant failed to pay these employees reporting time pay as required by Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 11040, subd. 5(B). Further, Defendant failed to advise Plaintiff and the other Aggrieved Employees of their right to take separately and hourly paid duty-free ten (10) minute rest periods. *See Vaquero v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC*, 9 Cal. App. 5th 98, 110 (2017). Additionally, pursuant to Labor Code § 204 *et seq.*, Defendant failed to

timely provide Plaintiff and other Aggrieved Employees with their wages, including the “Retro Pay” payments, which were regular wage payments. Plaintiff further contends that Defendant failed to provide accurate wage statements to Plaintiff, and other Aggrieved Employees, in violation of California Labor Code section 226(a). Specifically, Plaintiff and Aggrieved Employees were paid on an hourly basis. As such, the wage statements should reflect all applicable hourly rates during the pay period and the correct total hours worked, and the applicable pay period in which the wages were earned pursuant to California Labor Code Section 226(a). The wage statements Defendant provided to Plaintiff and other Aggrieved Employees failed to identify such information. More specifically, the wage statements failed to identify the accurate total hours worked each pay period in violation of Cal. Lab. Code Section 226(a)(2) as when the hours were added up they did not equal the actual amount of hours worked each pay period. Additionally, Plaintiff contends that Defendant failed to comply with Industrial Wage Order 7(A)(3) in that Defendant failed to keep time records showing when Plaintiff began and ended each shift and meal period. Plaintiff and other Aggrieved Employees perform tasks that reasonably permit sitting, and a seat would not interfere with their performance of any of their tasks that may require them to stand. Defendant failed to provide Plaintiff and other Aggrieved Employees with suitable seats. Said conduct, in addition to the foregoing, as well as the conduct alleged in the incorporated Complaint, violates Labor Code §§ 201, 202, 203, 204 *et seq.*, 210, 218, 221, 226(a), 226.7, 227.3, 246, 510, 512, 558(a)(1)(2), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802, California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11040, Subdivision 5(A)-(B), California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11070(14) (Failure to Provide Seating), Violation of the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order(s), and is therefore actionable under California Labor Code section 2699.3.

A true and correct copy of the Complaint by Plaintiff against Defendant, which (i) identifies the alleged violations, (ii) details the facts and theories which support the alleged violations, (iii) details the specific work performed by Plaintiff, (iii) sets forth the people/entities, dates, classifications, violations, events, and actions which are at issue to the extent known to Plaintiff, and (iv) sets forth the illegal practices used by Defendant, is attached hereto. This information provides notice to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency of the facts and theories supporting the alleged violations for the agency’s reference. Plaintiff therefore incorporates the allegations of the attached Complaint into this letter as if fully set forth herein. If the agency needs any further information, please do not hesitate to ask.

This notice is provided to enable Plaintiff to proceed with the Complaint against Defendant as authorized by California Labor Code section 2699, *et seq.* The lawsuit consists of other Aggrieved Employees. As counsel, our intention is to vigorously prosecute the claims as alleged in the Complaint, and to procure civil penalties as provided by the Private Attorney General Statue of 2004 on behalf of Plaintiff and all Aggrieved Employees. Your earliest response to this notice is appreciated. If you have any questions of concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above number and address.

Respectfully,

/s/ Nicholas J. De Blouw

Nicholas J. De Blouw, Esq.

BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOWMIK DE BLOUW LLP

Norman B. Blumenthal (State Bar #068687)

Kyle R. Nordrehaug (State Bar #205975)

Aparajit Bhowmik (State Bar #248066)

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2255 Calle Clara

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Telephone: (858)551-1223

Facsimile: (858) 551-1232

Website: www.bamlawca.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

DONALD MATHEWS, an individual, on
behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons
similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HANSEN & ADKINS AUTO TRANSPORT,
INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1
through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. _____

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:

1. UNFAIR COMPETITION IN VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, *et seq.*;
2. FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1;
3. FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 510, *et seq.*;
4. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED MEAL PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
5. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED REST PERIODS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 226.7 & 512 AND THE APPLICABLE IWC WAGE ORDER;
6. FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226; and,
7. FAILURE TO REIMBURSE EMPLOYEES FOR REQUIRED EXPENSES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 2802;
8. FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 201, 202 AND 203; and,
9. 8. FAILURE TO PAY SICK WAGES IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB CODE §§201-204, 233, 246.

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

1 **BLUMENTHAL NORDREHAUG BHOWMIK**
2 **DE BLOUW LLP**

3 Norman B. Blumenthal (State Bar #068687)

4 Kyle R. Nordrehaug (State Bar #205975)

5 Aparajit Bhowmik (State Bar #248066)

6 2255 Calle Clara

7 La Jolla, CA 92037

8 Telephone: (858)551-1223

9 Facsimile: (858) 551-1232

10 Firmsite: www.bamlawca.com

11 Attorneys for Plaintiff

12 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

13 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

14
15 DONALD MATHEWS, an individual, on
16 behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons
17 similarly situated,

18 Plaintiffs,

19 v.

20 HANSEN & ADKINS AUTO TRANSPORT,
21 INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1
22 through 50, inclusive,

23 Defendants.

CASE NO.: **CVRI2203075**
[Consolidated with CVRI2203224]

**DECLARATION OF PROPOSED
ADMINISTRATOR, MICHAEL
SUTHERLAND ON BEHALF OF ILYM
GROUP, INC.**

Hearing Date: November 14, 2023

Hearing Time: 8:30 a.m.

Judge: Hon. Harold W. Hopp

Dept.: 1

Action Filed: July 21, 2022

Trial Date: Not set

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL SUTHERLAND

1. I am a resident of the United States of America and am over the age of 21. I am the President for ILYM Group, Inc., (herein after referred to as “ILYM Group”), a professional class action services provider. I am preparing this declaration at the request of Plaintiffs’ Counsel. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein, and, if called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently to such facts.

2. ILYM Group has extensive experience in disseminating class action notices and administering class action settlements, including direct mail services, telephone, and web-based support, database management, opt-out processing, and settlement fund distribution services for class actions ranging in size from 26 to 4.5 million Class Members. Attached hereto, as **Exhibit A**, is a true and correct copy of ILYM Group’s current CV, reflecting our primary competencies as they relate to class action administration. ILYM Group maintains the highest level of confidentiality. The class data and all forms of communication received by ILYM Group, Inc. will be held in strict confidentiality and will not be disclosed. ILYM Group, will set up a login for Defense Counsel to transmit the class data through our encrypted secure portal. Attached hereto, as **Exhibit B** is ILYM Group’s Security Summary and Protocol. ILYM Group is insured with E&O and Cyber Insurance policies. ILYM Group is insured with E&O Insurance policies up to \$2,000,000 per incident and Cyber Insurance policies up to \$5,000,000 per incident.

3. ILYM Group has never had any financial interests in nor affiliation with the parties or counsel.

4. If appointed by the Court to disseminate the class notice in this case, ILYM Group’s duties will include but not limited to: (a) conducting address traces to locate class member addresses as necessary; (b) mailing the class notice to the class members; (c) handling inquiries from class members concerning the class notice; and (d) performing other such duties as the parties and/or the Court may direct.

5. Upon appointment, ILYM Group will provide a mailing address and toll-free telephone number to receive correspondence and inquiries from class members. After receiving the class data file from Defendant, which should contain the class members’ names, last known addresses, and social security numbers, ILYM Group will upload the data into our database and check for duplicates and other possible

1 discrepancies.

2 6. As part of the preparation for mailing the class notice, ILYM Group will process class
3 members' names and addresses against the National Change of Address ("NCOA") database, maintained
4 by the United States Postal Service ("USPS"), for the purpose of updating and confirming the mailing
5 addresses of the class members before mailing of the class notice and opt-in form. To the extent an updated
6 address is found in the NCOA database, ILYM Group will use the updated address for mailing the class
7 notice. If ILYM Group does not locate an updated address in the NCOA database, it will use the original
8 address provided by Defendant for mailing the class notice.

9 7. Should any class notices be returned to ILYM Group's office as undeliverable, ILYM
10 Group will attempt to locate an updated address using the NCOA database and/or other skip trace efforts
11 and will promptly re-mail the class notice.

12 8. Prior to sending out the notice in English and Spanish, ILYM Group will fill in the specific
13 date for the deadline so that all class members will be apprised of exactly when all applicable forms will
14 be due, depending on the deadlines set by the Court, i.e., 60-day Notice period to opt-out, dispute or file
15 an objection. At the expiration of the deadline, ILYM Group will inform all parties as to the number and
16 name of those individuals who filed a timely opt-out, dispute or objection.

17 9. ILYM Group's Disbursement Process will include but not limited to; (a) applying for the
18 case EIN; (b) establishing Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") Escrow Account), with administering tasks
19 including but limited to overview and reconciliation of account; (c) calculating the individual settlement
20 amounts; (d) preparing, administering and distributing settlement award checks to the Participating Class
21 Members, including necessary tax forms (W2 and/or 1099); (e) calculating and withholding all applicable
22 state and federal taxes; and (f) performing other such duties as the Parties and/or the Courts direct. The
23 above services are included in ILYM Group's initial quote. Attached hereto, as **Exhibit C**, is a true and
24 correct copy of ILYM Group's quote for this matter.

25 10. ILYM Group's fees are charged: hourly, fixed & per person. No additional charges will be
26 incurred unless the class size increases, or additional services are requested. ILYM Group's fees associated
27 with the administration of this settlement are: **\$9,495.00**.

1 I declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State
2 of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 19th day of October 2023, at Tustin,
3 California.

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5 Michael Sutherland

6 Michael Sutherland
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EXHIBIT “A”



ILYM GROUP'S STANDARD SECURITY PROTOCOL

1. General

1.1 Warranty

- a. ILYM Group represents and warrants that:
 - i. it will perform the Services with reasonable care and skill; and the Services and the materials provided by ILYM Group will not infringe or violate any intellectual property rights or other right of any third party.

1.2 Relationship of the Parties

The Services performed by ILYM Group, its employees, agents or sub-contractors shall be as an independent contractor and shall not be deemed to constitute a partnership, joint venture, agency relationship or otherwise between the parties.

1.3 Confidentiality

With respect to any PII that may be disclosed to or processed by ILYM GROUP in connection with performing Services hereunder or that may be derived by ILYM GROUP from such PII, ILYM GROUP agrees that:

1. Definitions.

- a. **"Information Security Incident"** means the unauthorized, unlawful or accidental access, disclosure, transfer, destruction, loss or alteration of PII.
- b. **"PII"** means any information that identifies or can be used to identify, contact, locate, or be traced back to the specific person to whom such information pertains, or from which identification or contact information of an individual person can be derived regardless of the media in which it is contained. PII includes, without limitation, a person's name, postal address, telephone number, fax number, e-mail address, financial profile, medical profile, social security number, and credit card information.
- c. **"Process" or "Processing"** means any operation performed upon PII (whether or not by automatic means) including, without limitation, using, creating, reproducing, publishing, collecting, procuring, obtaining, accessing, recording, organizing, storing, transferring, adapting, altering, retrieving, consulting, disclosing or destroying.
- d. **"Sensitive PII"** means any credit card numbers, passport numbers, financial or bank account information, or medical information about an individual.

- 2. PII Ownership, Processing and Transfer. Transmission of Data from to ILYM GROUP, will be transfered via secure portal with encrypted password protection. ILYM GROUP will not Process or transfer the PII without express written permission, except for the sole purpose of carrying out its obligations set forth. ILYM GROUP will only Process PII in the

STANDARD SECURITY PROTOCOL

United States and will not transfer PII outside the United States, without obtaining express written consent.

3. Safe Harbor and Applicable Law. If ILYM GROUP is certified under the US Safe Harbor Program established by the US Department of Commerce, it agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the program and to comply with clause (a) of this Section 3 when Processing PII hereunder. If ILYM GROUP is not Safe Harbor certified, when Processing PII hereunder ILYM GROUP will: (a) comply with all applicable laws, regulations and rules (including, without limitation, export and data privacy laws), and any additional privacy and security requirements communicated in writing; (b) provide at least the same level of privacy and security protection for PII as is required by the relevant principles of the US Safe Harbor Program which as of the Effective Date are set forth at <http://export.gov/safeharbor/index.asp>; (c) limit access to PII on a need-to-know basis; (d) take appropriate administrative, technical and physical measures to secure and protect the PII; (e) exercise the necessary and appropriate supervision over its relevant personnel and contractors to maintain appropriate privacy, confidentiality and security of PII; and (f) follow all industry best practices to monitor unauthorized access of PII.
4. Encryption. ILYM GROUP will encrypt Sensitive PII while in storage or transit and will encrypt any PII which is being hosted on any non-dedicated server.
5. Subcontractors. ILYM GROUP will not contract any of its rights or obligations concerning PII without the prior written consent and without entering into an agreement in writing with the subcontractor whereby the subcontractor agrees to comply with, and treat the PII in accordance with our Stand Security Protocol. ILYM GROUP will be responsible for third parties and the performance of any approved subcontractors.
6. Disclosure Notification. ILYM GROUP will promptly notify in writing of any Information Security Incident of which ILYM GROUP becomes aware, will promptly take all necessary and advisable corrective actions, and will cooperate fully in all reasonable and lawful efforts to prevent, mitigate or rectify such Information Security Incident. The content of any filings, communications, notices, press releases or reports related to any Information Security Incident must be approved prior to any publication or communication thereof.
7. Hosting Facility. ILYM GROUP will host PII on servers located in a hosting facility operated by ILYM GROUP and located in 14771 Plaza Drive, Unit L, Tustin, California 92780 (the "**Hosting Facility1**") or Microsoft Datacenters (**Hosting Facility2**). ILYM GROUP will provide notice prior to changing the location of the Hosting Facility, and may not move the Hosting Facility outside of the United States without prior written approval.
8. Disclosure. In the case of any legal or regulatory obligation to disclose PII, ILYM GROUP will: (a) promptly notify and cooperate with; (b) limit any disclosure to the minimum required by law; and (c) to the extent possible, request that such information be kept confidential. ILYM GROUP will reasonably cooperate with in any such defense.
9. Actions Upon Termination. ILYM GROUP will, upon closure of this matter or at any other time requested, promptly and in a secure manner return all PII and any copies thereof, or at the written direction, destroy the PII and copies thereof (and provide a completed Officer's Certificate certifying that such return or alternate action occurred). Notwithstanding the foregoing, if applicable legislation or legal action (as confirmed in writing by ILYM GROUP's legal counsel) prevents ILYM GROUP from returning or destroying the PII, ILYM GROUP will, at no additional expense, keep the PII and copies thereof secure and confidential and no longer Process or otherwise use such PII, until such time that such legislation or legal action no longer prevents ILYM GROUP from returning or destroying the PII.
10. Indemnification. ILYM GROUP will indemnify, hold harmless and defend its affiliates and its respective directors and employees, at its expense, from and against any action brought or allegation made against, with respect to any breach of the privacy and security obligations, and for all expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) incurred in connection therewith.

EXHIBIT “B”

ILYM Group, Inc. (ILYM) in conjunction with our security and Information Technology (IT) vendor(s), maintains the highest level of confidentiality of class member data. The class data and all forms of communication received by ILYM, will be held in strict confidentiality and will not be disclosed. Data provided to the administrator for purposes of notice, settlement, or award administration will be used solely for settlement implementation and for no other purpose. ILYM will set up a login for Defense Counsel to transmit the class data through our encrypted secure portal. ILYM processes adhere to the Settlement Administration Data Protection Checklist in the Northern District of California and are summarized in the tables below.

Technical Controls

Firewalls and intrusion detection/prevention systems	Yes
Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) Systems	Yes
Complex Password Requirements	Yes
MultiFactor Authentication for Access to Systems and Data	Yes
Malware Protection and AntiVirus	Yes
Vulnerability Scanning/Pen Testing	Yes
Data Encryption	Yes
Key Management for access to encrypted Data	Yes
Access only provided on need-to-know basis	Yes

Administrative Policies

Personnel and support staff risk assessment and management, including pre-hire background checks and screening processes	Yes
Personnel and support staff required to enter into non-disclosure and confidentiality agreements	Yes
Access controls to systems and data, including guidance for granting, modifying, and reviewing access rights	
Information security and privacy policy training, including policy review, best practices, and data security	Yes
No remote access to systems for Employees	No
Exit interviews/confirmation that terminated/departed employees are immediately cut off from access	Yes
Robust audits of data privacy policies by third-party vendors	Yes – enhanced with SOC 2 efforts
Accreditation in accordance with ISO 27001 and SOC2 (among the industry standards listed below)	SOC 2 in progress
Disclosure of external certifications and any notice of expiration	Yes

Crisis and Risk Management

Incident response/disaster plan for immediate response to security incidents such as data breach.	Yes
Process and timing for notification to attorneys, claimants, and other stakeholders of a data breach and consideration of resources and/or remedies to provide thereto	Yes
Vendor management program that determines and defines requirements to manage risk associated with outsourcing	Core Vendors are limited and have been vetted. New program being implemented as part of SOC 2 efforts

Physical Access Controls

Physical Access Security Security Guards Access Cards to facilities with assignment of identification card subject to approval and review Logs of Access	Logs and “codes” No cards – just codes No security guards Logs are kept
Alarm Systems	Yes
CCTV recording Systems	Yes

Data Collection and Retention

Minimization of collection of personally identifiable information, e.g., social security numbers and banking information	Yes
Data collection only required to extent necessary for settlement administration	Yes
Various methods for ensuring data protection and security of Data classification (including implementation of appropriate safeguards to protect from theft, loss, and/or unauthorized disclosure, use, access, destruction) Compliance with applicable laws and regulations (see below) Secure data transfer	Yes

Data Destruction

Preservation of data only for so long as required for administration of the settlement and any relevant reporting required following the payments or distributions	Yes
Secure data destruction (e.g., 6 months – 1 year or when no longer required)	In Process of codifying as part of SOC 2
Physical media (e.g., paper, CDs) shredded or destroyed to point where they cannot be reconstructed	Yes
Destruction of all derivative copies and/or back-ups	Yes

Applicable Laws, Standards, and Other Regulation

Industry standards: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), HIPAA, FISMA, System and Organization Controls (SOC1 and SOC2) or more advanced assessment, ISO 27001	Yes
Local, national, international privacy regulations (including CCPA)	Yes

Ethical Rules

Administrative policies and/or employee handbook incorporating commitment to ethical rules (e.g., company, court ethical rules) setting forth standards of ethical and legal behavior	Yes
Enforcement clauses, violation resulting in disciplinary action including and up to termination of employment	Yes

Customer Service Measures

Description of settlement website and posting thereto of relevant privacy policies or statements (including portal for reporting suspected loss of confidential data submitted with claim)	Yes
Explanation of role of claims administrator and how to prevent phishing (e.g., clear indication that administrator will not request confidential information by e-mail and how to identify a valid e-mail sent from the administrator)	Yes

EXHIBIT “C”

ILYM | GROUP, Inc.

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION EXPERTS

Case Name: Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport Settlement

Date: 7/11/2023

Requesting Attorneys Name:

Piya Mukherjee

E-Mail:

piya@bamlawca.com

ILYM Contact:

Michael Sutherland

E-Mail:

msutherland@ilymgroup.com

Contact Number:

321-223-5067

ESTIMATE FOR ADMINISTRATION SOLUTIONS

ASSUMPTIONS	
Total Number of Class Members	350
Estimated Mail Returned as Undeliverable	20%
NCOA	Yes
Certified Spanish Translation	Yes
Reminder Notice	Yes
Case Duration (Year(s))	1

Activity	Rate Type	Unit Cost	Volume	Amount
CASE STARTUP				
Initial Setup - Import and Formatting of Data*	Hourly	\$150.00	5	\$750.00
Spanish Translation and Mailing	Flat Fee	\$1,250.00	1	\$1,250.00
Programming of Class Database	Hourly	\$175.00	5	\$875.00

*ILYM assumes that data will be in a standard format. Client will be notified immediately if not in standard format to correct data or ILYM can convert to standard format @ \$150.00 per hour.

Subtotal \$2,875.00

PROJECT MANAGEMENT & NOTICING				
Agreement is in the LA model format, so Class Member responses can be mailed, faxed or emailed to ILYM.				
Project Manager (Case notification and maintenance)	Hourly	\$120.00	4	\$480.00
Staff Hours for Processing Returned Mail	Hourly	\$70.00	1	\$70.00
Staff Hours for Processing Opt-Outs, Disputes & Objections	Hourly	\$70.00	1	\$70.00
Report Processing	Hourly	\$70.00	4	\$280.00
NCOA	Flat Rate	\$50.00	1	\$50.00
Toll Free Customer Service Representative	Flat Rate	\$150.00	1	\$150.00
Weekly Reports	Flat Rate	\$750.00	1	Waived

Subtotal \$1,100.00

NOTIFICATION/MAILING				
Fulfillment of Notice, English	Per Piece	\$1.50	350	\$525.00
USPS First Class Postage	Per Piece	\$0.60	350	\$210.00
Re-Mails (Forward/Skip trace Undeliverables)	Per Piece	\$2.60	21	\$54.60
Storage, Photocopies, Deliveries	Flat Fee	\$250.00	1	\$250.00

Subtotal \$1,039.60

ILYM | GROUP, Inc.
SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION EXPERTS

Activity	Rate Type	Unit Cost	Volume	Amount
DISTRIBUTION (Includes EIN, Bank Acct * /QSF Setup)				
Use of available social security numbers, emails and social media (as may be available) to reach unlocated class members and those who haven't cashed checks at 180 days.				
Distribution Setup & Management	Hourly	\$150.00	3	\$450.00
Account Reconciliation & Distribution Reporting	Hourly	\$125.00	3	\$375.00
Check, Stub & Release - Print & Mail (W-2/1099)	Per Check	\$1.25	350	\$437.50
USPS First Class Postage	Per Piece	\$0.60	350	\$210.00
Re-Mails (Forward/Skip trace Undeliverables up to 10%)	Per Piece	\$2.00	21	\$42.00
Reminder Notice for Check Cashing Deadline	Per Piece	\$1.00	88	\$87.50
Preparation of Taxes	Hourly	\$120.00	10	\$1,200.00
Annual Filing of Tax Return-2023	Per Year	\$1,250.00	1	\$1,250.00

**Additional Bank fees may apply*

Subtotal \$4,052.00

CASE CONCLUSION				
Data Manager Final Reporting	Hourly	\$100.00	2	\$200.00
Escheat Management State Unclaimed Property	Flat Fee	\$250.00	1	\$250.00
Project Manager Final Reporting	Hourly	\$120.00	2	\$240.00
Declaration	Hourly	\$125.00	2	\$250.00

Subtotal \$940.00

TOTAL CASE ESTIMATE: \$10,006.60
DISCOUNTED NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL: \$9,495.00

Terms and Conditions

Provisions: The Case Estimate is in good faith and does not cover any applicable taxes and fees. The estimate does not make provision for any services or class members/ size not delineated in the request for proposal or stipulations. Proposal rates and amounts are subject to change upon further review, with Counsel/Client, of the settlement agreement. Only pre-approved changes will be charged when applicable. No modifications may be made to this estimate without the approval of ILYM Group. All notifications are mailed out in English verbiage only unless specified otherwise. Additional costs will apply if translation for an additional language(s) are required. Rates to prepare and file taxes are for Federal and California State taxes only. Additional charges will apply if the Settlement Agreement requires multiple state tax filing. **Pricing is good for 30 days.**

Mailing and Data Conversion: The proposal assumes that data provided will be in ready-to-use condition and that all data is provided in a single, comprehensive spreadsheet. ILYM Group cannot be liable for any errors or omissions arising due to additional work required for preparation of the original database. A minimum of five (5) business days is required for processing prior to the anticipated mailing date with an additional two (2) business days if a National Change of Address update is requested.

Payment Terms: All postage charges and 50% of the final administration charges are due at the start of the case and will be billed immediately upon receipt of the data and/or Notice Documents. ILYM Group, Inc. bills are due upon receipt unless otherwise negotiated and agreed to with Counsel/Client. In the event settlement terms provide that ILYM Group, Inc. is to be paid out of the Settlement Fund, ILYM Group, Inc. will request that Counsel endeavor to make alternate payment arrangements for ILYM Group, Inc. charges that are due at the onset of the case. The entire remaining balance is due and payable at the time the Settlement Account is funded by Defendant/Plaintiff, or no later than the time of disbursement.

Inclusion: ILYM Group, Inc.'s general policy is to not accept Claims via facsimile. However, in the event that facsimile filing of claims must be accepted, ILYM Group will not be held responsible for any issues and/or errors arising out of said filing. Furthermore, ILYM Group, Inc. will require disclaimer language regarding facsimile transmissions. ILYM Group, Inc. shall not be responsible for any issues caused by the U.S.P.S. ILYM Group, Inc. is not responsible for any information or data that was given to us by Counsel that is not accurate. All responses and data are strictly confidential.

Tax Reporting Requirements:

ILYM Group will file the necessary tax returns including the QSF federal and state returns. Payroll tax returns will be filed if necessary. To comply with the Employment Development Department's payroll tax filing requirements we will need the following information:

1. Defendant's EDD account number
2. Defendant's current unemployment rate. They should have this information in a recent EDD letter DE 2088 titled Notice of Contributions Rates.
3. Hire and dismissal dates of the class members so we can properly account for the periods that the wages relate to for each class member.
4. Power of Attorney form DE 48 from the defendant. This form is needed so we can report the unemployment, SDI and ETT taxes on their behalf. If this form is not provided we will work with the EDD auditors to transfer the tax payments to the defendant's EDD account.
5. The Defendant's are responsible for reporting the SDI portion of the settlement payments on the class member's W-2. ILYM will file these forms on the defendant's behalf, if requested, for an additional fee. This will be an additional W-2 being issued for each class member because the SDI payments are to be reported under the defendant's EDD account and not the QSF's account. The Power of attorney form DE 48 will be needed in order for us to report the SDI payments on the defendant's behalf.