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CHRISTINA WILLIAMS

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

CHRISTINA WILLIAMS, as an individual and
on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC., a
Maryland corporation; and DOES 1 through
100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 22STCV14614

*[Assigned for all purposes to the Hon. Carolyn B.
Kuhl, SSC-12]*

**DECLARATION OF SCOTT M.
LIDMAN IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: November 6, 2023
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Dept.: SSC-12

Action filed: May 2, 2022
Trial Date: None set

1 I, SCOTT M. LIDMAN, declare as follows:

2 1. I am a shareholder and principal of the law firm Lidman Law, APC, and counsel for the
3 named Plaintiff Christina Williams (“Plaintiff”) and the proposed Settlement Class in the above-captioned
4 matter. I am a member in good standing of the bar of the State of California and am admitted to practice
5 in this Court. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this declaration and could testify
6 competently to them if called upon to do so.

7 2. I am a 1998 graduate of Santa Clara University School of Law, where I graduated *summa*
8 *cum laude*. During law school, I worked as a summer associate for the international employment law firm
9 of Littler Mendelson, P.C., located in Los Angeles, California.

10 3. Since graduating from law school, my practice has focused exclusively on employment
11 litigation. In September 1998, I began working as an associate attorney at the international law firm of
12 Littler Mendelson P.C., at its Los Angeles office, which according to its website is the largest law firm in
13 the world exclusively devoted to representing management in employment, employee benefits and labor
14 law matters.

15 4. In 2000, I left Littler Mendelson to work at the Los Angeles office of Jones Day, which
16 was at the time one of the largest international firms in the world. During my employment at Jones Day,
17 I worked exclusively in the labor and employment department. In or around 2003, I went to work at the
18 law firm of Loeb & Loeb, again working exclusively in the Labor & Employment department. In 2008, I
19 returned to Littler Mendelson, was promoted to Shareholder in 2009, and from 2008 until the end of 2017,
20 I practiced exclusively labor and employment law, with a strong emphasis and most of my time working
21 on wage and hour class actions venued in both state and federal courts. During that time and my legal
22 career in general, I also worked on a number of single and multi-plaintiff wage and hour matters as well.

23 5. During my employment at Littler Mendelson, I played a significant role in the class actions
24 that I was staffed on, and ran many on my own both as an Of Counsel and as a Shareholder. In particular,
25 I received a wide-array of wage and hour class action experience performing the following types of tasks:
26 drafting demurrers, motions to strike and/or dismiss; removing actions from state court to federal court;
27 drafting and responding to written discovery; drafting and opposing discovery related motions; arguing
28 discovery related motions; drafting motions to consolidate related matters; interviewing putative class

1 members and obtaining declarations in connection with class certification; drafting oppositions to motions
2 for class certification; drafting motions for decertification following class certification; conducting
3 exposure analyses to assess the strengths and weaknesses of asserted claims, the likelihood of prevailing
4 at class certification and potential damages resulting from such claims; drafting mediation briefs; serving
5 as the primary contact to in-house counsel; deposing named plaintiffs and putative class members;
6 deposing retained expert witnesses; and defending the depositions of corporate witnesses. I also was
7 involved in the negotiations and settlements of many large wage and hour class actions. In short, I played
8 an integral role in all aspects of litigation from the inception of a matter through and beyond class
9 certification. I also supervised the work of several junior attorneys who were staffed on the same wage
10 and hour class actions.

11 6. Although not exhaustive, below is a list of many of the wage and hour class and PAGA
12 actions that I performed substantial work on while I was a shareholder at Littler Mendelson:

- 13 ► *Ortega v. J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc.*, Case No. 07-cv-8336-RGK-AFMx, United
14 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Gary Klausner,
15 presiding¹.
- 16 ► *Aceves v. J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc.*, Case No. CIVDS1306133, California Superior
17 Court, County of San Bernardino, Honorable Michael Sachs, presiding.
- 18 ► *Moreno v. J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc.*, Case No. BC388612, California Superior
19 Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Mel Red Recana, presiding.
- 20 ► *Newcomb v. J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc.*, Case No. RG16815734, California Superior
21 Court, County of Alameda, Honorable Winifred Smith, presiding.
- 22 ► *Vaquero v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 12-cv-08590-PA-MAN,
23 United States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Percy
24 Anderson, presiding.

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28 ¹ My work on this matter including proceedings not only in District Court, but also work before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit as well as the United States Supreme Court.

- 1 ► *Vaquero v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC, et al.*, Case No. BC388612, California
2 Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Elihu Berle, presiding.²
- 3 ► *Dugan v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC*, Case No. 16-cv-01125-PA-FFMx, United
4 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Percy Anderson,
5 presiding.
- 6 ► *Klune v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC*, Case No. 14-cv-03986-PA-FFMx, United
7 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Percy Anderson,
8 presiding.
- 9 ► *Diaz v. ABM Industries, Inc.; Ampco Parking*, Case No. BC362932, California
10 Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Jane Johnson, presiding.³
- 11 ► *Adams v. Luxottica Retail North America, Inc.*, Case No. 07CC01346, California
12 Superior Court, County of Orange, Honorable Thierry Patrick Colaw, presiding.
- 13 ► *Sakkab v. Luxottica Retail North America, Inc.*, Case No. 12-cv-00436-GPC-KSC,
14 United States District Court, Southern District of California.⁴
- 15 ► *Page v. Oakley, Inc.*, Case No. FCS041512, California Superior Court, County of
16 Solano, Honorable Paul Berman, presiding.
- 17 ► *Ramirez v. Oakley, Inc.*, Case No. 30-2014-00731617-CU-OE-CJC California
18 Superior Court, County of Orange, Honorable William Claster, presiding.
- 19 ► *Ramirez v. Oakley, Inc.*, Case No. 30-2014-00723846-CU-DE-CXC, California
20 Superior Court, County of Orange, Honorable William Claster, presiding.
- 21 ► *Sierra v. Oakley, Inc.*, Case No. 13-cv-00319-AG-JPR, United States District
22 Court, Central District of California, Honorable Andrew Guilford, presiding.⁵
- 23 ► *Cordova v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 09-cv-08905-MMM-PLAx, United
24 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Margaret Morrow,
25 presiding.

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27 ² My work on this matter included proceedings not only in the trial court, but also before the California Courts of Appeal and the California Supreme Court.

28 ³ This matter was consolidated and litigated collectively with Case Nos. BC380923, BC 381523 and BC 406663.

⁴ The work I performed on this case included work in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

⁵ The work I performed on this case included work in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

- 1 ▶ *Cordova v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 09-cv-08905-MMM-PLAx, United
2 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Margaret Morrow,
3 presiding.
- 4 ▶ *Khelghatian v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 11-cv-7689-DSF-FFMx, United
5 States District Court, Southern District of California, Honorable John A. Houston,
6 presiding.
- 7 ▶ *Babasa v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 11-cv-0595-JAH-BGS, United States
8 District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Margaret Morrow,
9 presiding.
- 10 ▶ *Bernal v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 11-cv-01298-JAH-BGS, United States
11 District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Margaret Morrow,
12 presiding.
- 13 ▶ *Khalili v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 09-cv-08905-MMM-PLAx, United
14 States District Court, Northern District of California.
- 15 ▶ *Granata v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 37-2011-00086316-CU-OE-CTL,
16 California Superior Court, County of San Diego, Honorable Jeffrey B. Barton,
17 presiding.
- 18 ▶ *Mathews v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 111CV194781, California Superior
19 Court, County of Santa Clara.
- 20 ▶ *Gallegos v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. BC455515, California Superior Court,
21 County of Los Angeles, Honorable Terry Green, presiding.
- 22 ▶ *Rumohr v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. CGC-11-508433, California Superior
23 Court, County of San Francisco.
- 24 ▶ *Smith v. Werner Enterprises*, Case No. 15-cv-02978-RS, United States District
25 Court, Northern District of California, Honorable Richard Seeborg, presiding.

26 7. In January 2018, I voluntarily resigned from Littler Mendelson in order to open my own
27 law firm, Lidman Law, APC, to represent employees with work-related claims, including primarily wage
28 and hour claims and almost exclusively on a class-action basis. I am the President and Shareholder of

Lidman Law. Currently, over ninety percent (90%) of my practice is dedicated exclusively to the prosecution of wage and hour class actions, and I am currently responsible for prosecuting over sixty-five (65) wage and hour class actions filed in State courts throughout California, with several of them having been removed to Federal courts. I believe that my professional experience renders me more than qualified to serve as class counsel in this lawsuit involving claims of underpaid overtime and minimum wages, meal and rest period violations, and derivative penalty claims. Not only have I litigated dozens of wage and hour cases throughout my career involving similar claims, including the wage and hour class actions identified above, I have litigated similar claims from both plaintiff and defense perspectives. As a result, I am able to realistically assess and evaluate the facts and legal arguments that can be made in pursuit and defense of similar wage and hour claims, as well as those facts and arguments in support and in opposition to class certification. Consequently, I am able to appreciate the significant risks, uncertainties, and delay involved in wage and hour class action litigation.

8. I have been appointed Class Counsel in: *Guardado v. Wesley Allen, Inc.*, Case No. BC683027, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl presiding; *Rodriguez v. Satco, Inc.*, Case No. BC682137, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Ann I. Jones presiding; *Ong v. Howard's Appliances, Inc.*, Case No. 30-2017-00964213-CU-OE-CXC, California Superior Court, County of Orange, Honorable Judge William Claster presiding; *Hanke v. C&W Facility Services, Inc.*, Case No. CIVDS1814412, California Superior Court, County of San Bernardino, Honorable Judge David Cohn presiding; *Molina v. Mader News, Inc.*, Case No. BC685960, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Yvette M. Palazuelos presiding; *Alvarez v. Salamander Fire Protection, Inc.*, Case No. BC688326, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge William F. Highberger presiding; *Rodriguez v. H.F. Cox, Inc.*, Case No. BC653164, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl presiding; *Fregoso v. Amerigas Propane, Inc.*, Case No. BC697973, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Rafael A. Ongkeko presiding; *Teran v. Western Plastics, Inc.*, Case No. RIC1722619, California Superior Court, County of Riverside, Honorable Judge Sunshine Sykes presiding; *Villegas de Torres v. El Monte Superstore Inc.*, Case No. BC688477, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Daniel J. Buckley

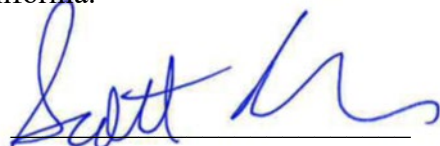
1 presiding; *Huynh v. Polypeptide Laboratories, Inc.*, Case No. BC680872, California Superior Court,
2 County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Rafael A. Ongkeko presiding; *Guzman v. Century Blinds*, Case
3 No. RIC1723654, California Superior Court, County of Riverside, Honorable Judge Sunshine S. Sykes
4 presiding; *George v. Convergence Marketing*, Case No. CIVDS1901039, California Superior Court,
5 County of San Bernardino, Honorable Judge David S. Cohn presiding; *Coffee, et al. v. Flyers*
6 *Transportation Energy, LLC*, Case No. 34-2017-00222084, California Superior Court, County of
7 Sacramento, Honorable Judge Alan G. Perkins presiding; *Romero v. Fillmore Hospitality, LLC*, Case
8 No. BC705667, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Maren E. Nelson
9 presiding; *Wennerstrom, et al. v. Giant Inland Empire R.V. Center*, Case No. CIVDS1617291, California
10 Superior Court, County of San Bernardino, Honorable Judge David S. Cohn presiding; *Contreras, et al.*
11 *v. Letter Ride, LLC*, Case No. 37-2018-00020841-CU-OE-CTL, California Superior Court, County of
12 San Diego, Honorable Judge Eddie C. Sturgeon presiding; *Davis v. WeDriveU*, Case No. 18CV322578,
13 California Superior Court, County of Santa Clara, Honorable Judge Brian C. Walsh presiding; *Acuna v.*
14 *Canton Food Co., Inc.*, Case No. BC685001, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles,
15 Honorable Judge David S. Cunningham presiding; and *Contreras v. Worldwide Flight Services, Inc.*,
16 Case No. 2:18-cv-06036-PSG-SS, United States District Court for the Central District of California, the
17 Honorable Judge Philip S. Gutierrez presiding.

18 9. As co-lead counsel for Plaintiff and the proposed Settlement Class, I have been intimately
19 involved in every aspect of this case from its inception through the present, and I believe that the proposed
20 Settlement is a favorable result for the Settlement Class Members under the circumstances presented.

21 10. The details of the work completed by my firm and/or my co-counsel are set forth in the
22 declaration of Elizabeth Nguyen filed concurrently herewith.

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

25 Executed on September 1, 2023, at El Segundo, California.

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Scott M. Lidman