

John G. Yslas (SBN 187324)
john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com
Eugene Zinovyev (SBN 267245)
eugene.zinovyev@wilshirelawfirm.com
John Brown (SBN 233605)
john.brown@wilshirelawfirm.com
Emily Borman (SBN 303180)
emily.borman@wilshirelawfirm.com
Lisa B. Iturriaga (SBN 339678)
lisa.iturriaga@wilshirelawfirm.com
Gabriella Solé (SBN 346164)
gabriella.sole@wilshirelawfirm.com
WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC
660 S. Figueroa Street, Sky Lobby
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: (213) 381-9988
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

Attorneys for Plaintiff

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

BONNIE DEVERA, individually, and on behalf
of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MAXZONE VEHICLE LIGHTING CORP., a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CIVSB2502838

Assigned for all purposes to:
Hon. Thomas S. Garza
Dept. S27

**DECLARATION OF BONNIE DEVERA
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

PRELIMINARY APPROVAL HEARING

Date:

Time:

Dept.: S27

I, Bonnie Devera, hereby declare as follows:

1. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration and could and would competently testify to them under oath if called as a witness. I submit this declaration in support of my Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

2. I worked for defendant Maxzone Vehicle Lighting Corp. ("Defendant") as an hourly-paid, non-exempt checker from around September 2018 to November 2024. My job duties included, without limitation, ensuring quality compliance, managing, packaging, and checking orders, and ensuring that they are shipped out.

3. Based on my experience and knowledge of Defendant's wage and hour policies and my familiarity with its employment practices, I worked with my attorneys to bring claims on my own behalf as well as on behalf of other hourly-paid, non-exempt employees of Defendant.

4. I am seeking to become a class representative in this case. I believe my experiences are similar to other hourly-paid, non-exempt employees of Defendant. I believe we were all subject to the same employment policies and practices.

5. I do not have any conflicts with other hourly-paid, non-exempt employees that would interfere with my ability to represent them. I believe I will adequately represent the hourly-paid, non-exempt employees of Defendant.

6. My interests as a named plaintiff in this case are not adverse to the interests of the other hourly-paid, non-exempt employees. I believe my interests are the same as the other employees because we were all subject to the same policies and practices and were similarly injured by Defendant's company-wide policies and practices. I am seeking the same recovery on behalf of myself and the other employees, which is to collect unpaid wages, penalties, and interest that are owed to us by Defendant.

Risks, Both Financial and Otherwise, Faced in Bringing the Suit

7. Further, when I decided to become involved in this lawsuit as a class representative on behalf of other employees of Defendant and as a private attorney general for the State of California, I understood that I was not only seeking unpaid wages and penalties on behalf of myself,

1 but also for other employees who worked for Defendant, and that by doing so, I would be delaying
2 more immediate recovery available to me through the Labor Commissioner's office.

3 8. I was also made aware that being a class representative and private attorney general
4 in an action filed on behalf of others would subject me to a stigma that is sometimes associated with
5 those who bring these kinds of lawsuits. I was aware that, as a class representative and private
6 attorney general, I might be responsible for some or all of Defendant's legal costs if the case was not
7 successfully concluded. Even with knowledge of these risks, I was willing to go forward and to act
8 on behalf of the other employees and the State of California, but I was nervous about losing and
9 having a judgment filed against me for costs or losing job opportunities in the future.

10 9. I understood that there were risks involved in class and representative action lawsuits.
11 I understood that the lawsuit could continue for several years and require my services and attention
12 throughout the entire length of the lawsuit. I learned that even if we won at trial, the case could be
13 further delayed by appeals.

14 **Notoriety and Personal Difficulties Encountered**

15 10. As the named plaintiff, I am the face of the litigation. As of the date of this declaration,
16 the class notice will be mailed in this case to approximately 74 current and former employees of
17 Defendant, which will inform them that I filed a class and representative action against Defendant.
18 Exposing myself to this kind of publicity creates a risk for my future career prospects, since current
19 and former employees of Defendant may move to different companies within the industry or may
20 know people at other companies within the industry who may not wish to hire someone who sued
21 her employer. I also understand that having filed this lawsuit in court means that there is now a
22 permanent public record of this lawsuit available to the general public. Given this additional
23 exposure, there is further risk to my future career prospects.

24 **Amount of Time and Effort Spent and Duration of the Litigation**

25 11. I have always kept the best interests of the other hourly-paid, non-exempt employees
26 in mind while performing my duties as the named plaintiff in this case. I have been committed
27 throughout the course of this case to vigorously prosecuting this case on behalf of myself and the
28 other employees. I believe that I have demonstrated my ability to advocate for the interests of the

1 other hourly-paid, non-exempt employees by initiating this lawsuit and have spent a substantial
2 amount of time and effort on this litigation. My work on this case has specifically included, among
3 other things, searching/gathering and providing my payroll records and other documents and
4 information to my attorneys, discussing potential witnesses, keeping in regular contact with my
5 attorneys regarding the status of the case, assisting my attorneys prepare for mediation (i.e.,
6 reviewing discovery information and data (as needed), discussing my claims and experience), being
7 on-call for my attorneys on the date of mediation in case questions or concerns arose during
8 mediation, and participating in settlement discussions. After mediation, I remained actively involved
9 by reviewing the settlement papers and contacting my counsel for updates. I estimate that since I
10 retained my counsel in January 2025, I have spent approximately 25-30 hours on the activities
11 described above. And I estimate that I will spend an additional 1-5 hours assisting my attorneys
12 through the approval process and staying up to date with the case through disbursement of the
13 settlement checks.

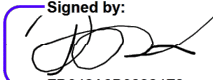
14 **Personal Benefit Received as a Result of the Litigation**

15 12. I am seeking a service payment for my services as the named Plaintiff in the amount
16 of \$10,000.00. Absent the requested service payment, the personal benefit I will receive is the same
17 as all other employees. But unlike the other employees, who are only releasing the wage and hour
18 claims asserted in the lawsuit, I have signed a general release of claims as to Defendant.

19 13. I will continue to actively participate in this lawsuit as necessary, and will continue
20 to make myself available to assist in this case moving forward as needed.

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

23 Executed on 5/6/2026, at Fontana, California.

24
25  Signed by:
26 Bonnie Devera FD043A9B08324F3...