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Attorneys for Plaintiff, Pascual Lujan

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF FRESNO**

PASCUAL LUJAN, individually and on
behalf of other similarly situated employees
and aggrieved employees pursuant to the
California Private Attorneys General Act,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

GUSMER ENTERPRISES, INC.; and DOES
1 through 25, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24CECG00166

*Honorable Kristi Culver Kapetan,
Department 502*

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

Date: March 10, 2026
Time: 3:27 p.m.
Dept.: 502

Complaint Filed: January 11, 2024
FAC Filed: August 26, 2025
Trial Date: Not Set

1 **[PROPOSED] ORDER**

2 On March 10, 2026 at 3:27 p.m. in Department 502 of the above-captioned Court located at
3 Court located at 1130 “O” Street, Fresno, California 93724, Plaintiff Pascual Lujan’s (“Plaintiff”)
4 Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, came on for hearing before
5 the Honorable Kristi Culver Kapetan. Blackstone Law, APC appeared on behalf of Plaintiff and
6 Sagaser, Watkins & Wieland, PC appeared on behalf of Defendant Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.
7 (“Defendant”).

8 The Court, having carefully considered the papers, argument of counsel, and all matters
9 presented to the Court, and good cause appearing, hereby **GRANTS** Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary
10 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

11 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

12 1. The Court preliminarily approves the Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA
13 Settlement (“Settlement” or “Settlement Agreement”) attached as Exhibit 3 to the Declaration of
14 Annabel Blanchard in Support of Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and
15 PAGA Settlement. This is based on the Court’s determination that the Settlement falls within the range
16 of possible approval as fair, adequate, and reasonable.

17 2. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, and
18 all capitalized terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order as set forth in the
19 Settlement Agreement.

20 3. It appears to the Court on a preliminary basis that the Settlement is fair, adequate, and
21 reasonable. It appears to the Court that extensive investigation and research have been conducted such
22 that counsel for the parties at this time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions. It
23 further appears to the Court that the Settlement, at this time, will avoid substantial additional costs by
24 all parties, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of
25 the case. It further appears that the Settlement has been reached as the result of intensive, serious, and
26 non-collusive, arms-length negotiations, and was entered into in good faith.

27 4. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement, including the allocations for the
28 Attorneys’ Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment, LWDA Payment, Settlement Administration
Costs, and payments to the Settlement Class Members and PAGA Employees provided for in the

Settlement Agreement, appear to be within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that could ultimately be given final approval by this Court. Indeed, the Court has reviewed the monetary recovery that is being granted as part of the Settlement and preliminarily finds that the monetary settlement awards made available to the Settlement Class Members and PAGA Employees are fair, adequate, and reasonable when balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to certification, liability, and damages issues and are consistent with the requirements of California Labor Code § 2699(e)(1).

5. The Court concludes that, for settlement purposes only, the proposed Class meets the requirements for certification under section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure in that: (a) the Class is ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable; (b) common questions of law and fact predominate, and there is a well-defined community of interest amongst the members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the litigation; (c) Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d) Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class action is superior to other available methods for the efficient adjudication of the controversy; and (f) Class Counsel is qualified to act as counsel for Plaintiff in his individual capacity and as the representative of the Class.

6. The Court conditionally certifies, for settlement purposes only, the Class, defined as follows:

All current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in the State of California at any time during the Class Period (excluding any employee who, before the inception of this Action, signed a severance or settlement agreement containing a full release of claims).

(The Class Period is defined as the period from January 11, 2020, through Preliminary Approval)

7. The Court provisionally appoints Barbara Du-Van-Clarke, Danielle GruppChang, P.J. Van Ert, and Annabel Blanchard of Blackstone Law, APC as counsel for the Class ("Class Counsel").

8. The Court provisionally appoints Plaintiff Pascual Lujan as the representative of the Class ("Class Representative").

9. The Court provisionally appoints ILYM Group, Inc. to handle the administration of the Settlement ("Settlement Administrator").

1 10. Within fifteen (15) business days after entry of this Order, Defendant will provide the
2 Settlement Administrator with the following information about each Class Member: full name, last
3 known mailing address, Social Security number, hire and termination dates, and the number of
4 Workweeks and Pay Periods for each Class Member worked for Defendant (collectively referred to as
5 the “Class List”) in conformity with the Settlement Agreement.

6 11. The Court approves, both as to form and content, the Notice of Class Action Settlement
7 (“Class Notice”) attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**. The Class Notice shall be provided to Class Members
8 in the manner set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Court finds that the Class Notice appears to
9 fully and accurately inform the Class Members of all material elements of the Settlement, of Class
10 Members’ right to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion, of
11 Class Members’ right to dispute the Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to each of them by
12 submitting a Dispute, and of each Settlement Class Member’s right and opportunity to object to the
13 Class Settlement by submitting a Notice of Objection to the Settlement Administrator. The Court
14 further finds that distribution of the Class Notice substantially in the manner and form set forth in the
15 Settlement Agreement and this Order, and that all other dates set forth in the Settlement Agreement
16 and this Order, meet the requirements of due process and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to
17 all persons entitled thereto. The Court further orders the Settlement Administrator to mail the Class
18 Notice in English and Spanish by First-Class U.S. Mail to all Class Members within seven (7) calendar
19 days of receipt of the Class List, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

20 12. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the proposed procedure, set forth in the
21 Settlement Agreement, for seeking exclusion from the Class Settlement. Any Class Member may
22 choose to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion in conformity
23 with the requirements set forth in the Class Notice, to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked on or
24 before the date that is forty-five (45) calendar days from the initial mailing of the Class Notice by the
25 Settlement Administrator to Class Members (“Response Deadline”), or, in the case of a re-mailed
26 Class Notice, the Response Deadline shall be extended fifteen (15) calendar days from the original
27 Response Deadline. Any such person who timely and validly chooses to opt out of, and be excluded
28 from, the Class Settlement will not be entitled to any recovery under the Class Settlement and will not

1 be bound by the Class Settlement or have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon.
2 Nevertheless, all PAGA Employees will be bound by the PAGA Settlement and issued their Individual
3 PAGA Payment, irrespective of whether they submit a Request for Exclusion. Class Members who do
4 not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion (i.e., Settlement Class Members) shall be bound
5 by the Settlement Agreement and any final judgment based thereon.

6 13. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court on
7 _____ at _____ a.m./p.m. in Department 502 of the Fresno
8 County Superior Court, located at Court located at 1130 "O" Street, Fresno, California 93724, to
9 determine all necessary matters concerning the Settlement, including: whether the proposed settlement
10 of the action on the terms and conditions provided for in the Settlement is fair, adequate, and
11 reasonable and should be finally approved by the Court; whether a judgment, as provided in the
12 Settlement, should be entered herein; whether the plan of allocation contained in the Settlement should
13 be approved as fair, adequate, and reasonable to the Class Members and PAGA Employees; and
14 determine whether to approve the requests for the Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment,
15 Settlement Administration Costs, and allocation for the PAGA Amount.

16 14. Class Counsel shall file a motion for final approval of the Settlement and for Attorneys'
17 Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment, and Settlement Administration Costs, along with the
18 appropriate declarations and supporting evidence, including the Settlement Administrator's
19 declaration, by _____, to be heard at the Final Approval Hearing.

20 15. To object to the Class Settlement, a Settlement Class Member must submit their Notice
21 of Objection to the Settlement Administrator on or before the Response Deadline. The Notice of
22 Objection must be signed and must contain the information that is required, as set forth in the Class
23 Notice, including and not limited to the grounds for the objection. Settlement Class Members,
24 individually or through counsel, may also present their objection orally at the Final Approval Hearing,
25 regardless of whether they have submitted a Notice of Objection.

26 16. In the event the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms of
27 the Settlement Agreement, or the Settlement is not finally approved, or is terminated, canceled, or fails
28 to become effective for any reason, this Order shall be rendered null and void, shall be vacated, and

1 the parties shall revert back to their respective positions as of before entering into the Settlement
2 Agreement. The fact that the Court certified the Class for settlement purposes shall not be admissible
3 or have any bearing on the issue of whether any class should be certified in a non-settlement context.

4 17. The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the date of the Final Approval
5 Hearing and any dates provided for in the Settlement Agreement without further notice to the Class
6 Members and retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with
7 the Settlement.

8 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

9 Dated: _____

Honorable Kristi Culver Kapetan
Judge of the Superior Court

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EXHIBIT 1

NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT
Pascual Lujan v. Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.
Superior Court of California for the County of Fresno, Case No. 24CECG00166

PLEASE READ THIS CLASS NOTICE CAREFULLY.

You have received this Class Notice because Defendant's records indicate that you may be eligible to take part in the class action settlement reached in the above-referenced case.

You do not need to take any action to receive a settlement payment.

This Class Notice is designed to advise you of your rights and options with respect to the settlement, and how you can request to be excluded from the Class Settlement, object to the Class Settlement, and/or dispute the number of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods that you are credited with, if you so choose.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A class and representative action settlement has been reached between Plaintiff Pascual Lujan ("Plaintiff") and Defendant Gusmer Enterprises, Inc. ("Defendant") (Plaintiff and Defendant are collectively referred to as the "Parties") in the case entitled *Pascual Lujan v. Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.*, Fresno County Superior Court, Case No. 24CECG00166 ("Action"), which may affect your legal rights. On [date of Preliminary Approval], the Court granted preliminary approval of the settlement and scheduled a hearing on [hearing date] at [hearing time] ("Final Approval Hearing") to determine whether or not the Court should grant final approval of the settlement.

I. IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

"Class" or "Class Member(s)" means all current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendants in the State of California at any time during the Class Period (excluding any employee who, before the inception of this Action, signed a severance or settlement agreement containing a full release of claims).

"Class Period" means the period from January 11, 2020, through Preliminary Approval.

"Class Settlement" means the settlement and resolution of all Released Class Claims.

"PAGA Employee(s)" means all current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendants in the State of California at any time during the PAGA Period.

"PAGA Period" means the period from March 21, 2024, through Preliminary Approval.

"PAGA Settlement" means the settlement and resolution of all Released PAGA Claims.

II. BACKGROUND OF THE ACTION

On January 11, 2024, Plaintiff commenced a putative class action lawsuit by filing a Class Action Complaint for Damages in the Action. On March 21, 2025, Plaintiff provided written notice to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and Defendant of the specific provisions of the California Labor Code that Plaintiff contends were violated ("PAGA Letter"). On August 26, 2025, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Class and Representative Action Complaint ("Operative Complaint") in the Action.

Plaintiff contends that Defendant failed to properly pay minimum and overtime wages, provide compliant meal and rest breaks and associated premiums, timely pay wages during employment and upon termination of employment and associated waiting-time penalties, provide accurate wage statements, and reimburse business expenses, and thereby engaged in unfair business practices in violation of the California Business and Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*, and conduct that gives rise to penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 pursuant to California Labor Code Section 2698, *et seq.* ("PAGA"). Plaintiff seeks, among other things, recovery of unpaid wages and meal and rest period premiums, unreimbursed business expenses, restitution, penalties, interest, and attorneys' fees and costs.

1 **Defendant denies all of the allegations in the Action or that it violated any law**, and contends that it, at all
2 times, fully complied with all applicable laws. Defendant has entered into the settlement described in this notice
for the purpose of avoiding further expense associated with defending the lawsuit.

The attorneys representing Defendant in this Action are as follows:

3 Ian B. Wieland
4 Justin G. Donner
SAGASER, WATKINS & WIELAND, PC
5 5260 N. Palm Ave., Suite 400
Fresno, California 93704
6 Telephone: (559) 421-7000 / Fax: (559) 473-1483

7 The Parties participated in mediation with a respected class action mediator, and as a result, the Parties reached
a settlement. The Parties have since entered into a Class Action and PAGA Settlement (“Settlement” or
8 “Settlement Agreement”).

9 On [Date of Preliminary Approval], the Court entered an order preliminarily approving the Settlement. The
Court has appointed ILYM Group, Inc. as the administrator of the Settlement (“Settlement Administrator”),
10 Plaintiff Pascual Lujan as representative of the Class (“Class Representative”), and the following Plaintiff’s
attorneys as counsel for the Class (“Class Counsel”):

11 Jonathan M. Genish
Barbara Du-Van-Clarke
12 P.J. Van Ert
Annabel Blanchard
Blackstone Law, APC
13 8383 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 745
Beverly Hills, California 90211
14 Tel: (310) 622-4278 / Fax: (855) 786-6356

15 If you are a Class Member, you need not take any action to receive an Individual Settlement Payment, but you
16 have the opportunity to request exclusion from the Class Settlement (in which case you will not receive an
Individual Settlement Payment), object to the Class Settlement, and/or dispute the Workweeks and/or Pay
17 Periods credited to you, if you so choose, as explained more fully in Sections III and IV below. If you are a
PAGA Employee, you do not need to take any action to receive an Individual PAGA Payment; you will not have
18 the opportunity to object or seek exclusion from the PAGA Settlement and all PAGA Employees will be bound
to the PAGA Settlement if the Court grants final approval of the Settlement.

19 The Settlement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in the Settlement is
intended or will be construed as an admission by Defendant that the claims in the Action have merit or that
20 Defendant has any liability to Plaintiff, Class Members, or PAGA Employees. Plaintiff and Defendant, and their
respective counsel, have concluded and agree that, in light of the risks and uncertainties to each side of continued
21 litigation, the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and is in the best interests of the Class Members, the
State of California, and PAGA Employees.

22 **III. SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT**

23 **A. Settlement Formula**

24 The total gross settlement amount is two hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$295,000) (the “Gross Settlement
Amount”). The portion of the Gross Settlement Amount that is available for payment to Class Members is
25 referred to as the “Net Settlement Amount.” The Net Settlement Amount will be the Gross Settlement Amount
less the following payments which are subject to approval by the Court: (1) attorneys’ fees, in an amount not to
26 exceed one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$98,333), and reimbursement of litigation costs and
expenses, in an amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to Class Counsel; (2) Enhancement
27 Payment in an amount not to exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) to Plaintiff for his services in
the Action; (3) the amount of thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000) allocated toward civil penalties under the
28 Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA Amount”), of which the LWDA will be paid 65% (\$8,450) (“LWDA
Payment”) and the remaining 35% (\$4,550) will be distributed to PAGA Employees (“PAGA Employee

Amount”); and (4) Settlement Administration Costs in an amount not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) to the Settlement Administrator.

Class Members are eligible to receive payment under the Class Settlement of their *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Amount (“Individual Settlement Share”) based on the number of weeks each Class Member worked for Defendant as an hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employee in California during the Class Period (“Workweeks”). The Settlement Administrator has divided the Net Settlement Amount by the Workweeks of all Class Members to yield the “Estimated Workweek Value,” and multiplied each Class Member’s individual Workweeks by the Estimated Workweek Value to yield an estimated Individual Settlement Share that each Class Member may be entitled to receive under the Class Settlement (which is listed in Section III.C below). Class Members who do not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion (“Settlement Class Members”) will be issued their final Individual Settlement Payment.

Each Individual Settlement Share will be allocated as five percent (5%) wages, which will be reported on an IRS Form W-2, five percent (5%) as reimbursement and ninety percent (90%) in consideration for the release and to settlement claims for penalties, interest, and non-wage damages, which will be reported on an IRS Form 1099 (if applicable). Each Individual Settlement Share will be subject to reduction for the employee’s share of payroll taxes and withholdings with respect to the wages portion of the Individual Settlement Shares resulting in a net payment to the Settlement Class Member (“Individual Settlement Payment”). The employer’s share of taxes and contributions in connection with the wages portion of Individual Settlement Shares (“Employer Taxes”) will be paid by Defendant separately and in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount.

PAGA Employees are eligible to receive payment under the PAGA Settlement of their *pro rata* share of the PAGA Employee Amount (“Individual PAGA Payment”) based on the number of pay periods each PAGA Employee worked for Defendant as an hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employee in California during the PAGA Period (“Pay Periods”). The Settlement Administrator had divided the PAGA Employee Amount, i.e., 35% of the PAGA Amount, by the Pay Periods of all PAGA Employees to yield the “PAGA Pay Period Value,” and multiplied each PAGA Employee’s individual Pay Periods by the Pay Period Value to yield each PAGA Employee’s Individual PAGA Payment.

Each Individual PAGA Payment will be allocated as one hundred percent (100%) penalties, will not be subject to taxes or withholdings, and will be reported on IRS Form 1099 (if applicable).

If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, Individual Settlement Payments will be mailed to Settlement Class Members and Individual PAGA Payments will be mailed to PAGA Employees at the address that is on file with the Settlement Administrator. **If the address to which this Class Notice was mailed is not correct, or if you move after you receive this Class Notice, you must provide your correct mailing address to the Settlement Administrator as soon as possible to ensure you receive any payment that you may be entitled to under the Settlement.**

B. Your Workweeks and Pay Periods (if applicable) Based on Defendant’s Records

According to Defendant’s records:

- From January 11, 2020, through [date of Preliminary Approval] (i.e., the Class Period), you are credited as having worked [] Workweeks.
- From March 21, 2024, through [date of Preliminary Approval] (i.e., the PAGA Period), you are credited as having worked [] Pay Periods.

If you wish to dispute the Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you, you must submit your dispute in writing to the Settlement Administrator (“Dispute”). The Dispute must: (a) contain the case name and number of the Action (*Pascual Lujan v. Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.*, Case No. 24CECG00166); (b) contain your full name, signature, address, telephone number, and the last four (4) digits of your Social Security number; (c) clearly state that you dispute the number of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you and what you contend is the correct number; and (d) be returned by mail to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address listed in Section IV.B below, postmarked on or before [Response Deadline].

1 **C. Your Estimated Individual Settlement Share and Individual PAGA Payment (if**
2 **applicable)**

3 As explained above, your estimated Individual Settlement Share and Individual PAGA Payment (if applicable)
4 is based on the number of Workweeks and Pay Periods (if applicable) credited to you.

5 **Under the terms of the Settlement, your Individual Settlement Share is estimated to be**
6 **\$ [REDACTED]. The Individual Settlement Share is subject to reduction for the employee's**
7 **share of taxes and withholdings with respect to the wages portion of the Individual**
8 **Settlement Share and will only be distributed if the Court approves the Settlement and**
9 **after the Settlement goes into effect.**

10 **Under the terms of the Settlement, your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be**
11 **\$ [REDACTED] and will only be distributed if the Court approves the Settlement and after the**
12 **Settlement goes into effect.**

13 The settlement approval process may take multiple months. Your Individual Settlement Share and Individual
14 PAGA Payment (if applicable) reflected in this Class Notice is only an estimate. Your actual Individual
15 Settlement Payment and Individual PAGA Payment (if applicable) may be higher or lower.

16 **D. Release of Claims**

17 Upon the Effective Date and full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff and all Settlement Class
18 Members will be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, settled, compromised, relinquished, and
19 discharged the Released Parties of all Released Class Claims.

20 Upon the Effective Date and full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff, the State of California with
21 respect to all PAGA Employees, and all PAGA Employees will be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever
22 released, settled, compromised, relinquished, and discharged the Released Parties of all Released PAGA
23 Claims.

24 “Released Class Claims” means any and all claims which were alleged or which could have been reasonably
25 alleged based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, arising during the Class Period. This shall
26 include, but not be limited to, claims for Defendant’s alleged failure to pay overtime and minimum wages,
27 provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments, timely pay wages during
28 employment and upon termination, provide accurate wage statements, and reimburse necessary business-related
29 expenses and any associated California Labor Code Sections including, but not limited to, 201, 202, 203, 204,
30 210, 221, 226, 226.7, 246, 248, 510, 512, 558, 558.1, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1185, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198,
31 1199, 2800, and 2802, the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order, and California Business and
32 Professions Code sections 17200, et seq.. There are federal Fair Labor Standards Act provisions that are direct
33 federal law counterparts meeting this definition. By virtue of this release, any claims under the FLSA that are
34 predicated on the Released Class Claims are subject to red judicata pursuant to applicable law including but not
35 limited to *Rangel v. PLS Check Cashers of California Inc.*, 899 F.3d 1106 (9th Cir. 2018) and therefore cannot
36 be asserted in a future action.

37 “Released PAGA Claims” means any and all claims arising from any of the factual allegations in the PAGA
38 Letter and the Operative Complaint, arising during the PAGA Period, for civil penalties under the Private
39 Attorneys General Act of 2004, California Labor Code Sections 2698 et seq. This shall include, but not be
40 limited to, claims for Defendant’s alleged failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide compliant meal
41 and rest periods and associated premium payments, timely pay wages during employment and upon termination,
42 provide compliant wage statements, maintain complete and accurate payroll records, and reimburse necessary
43 business-related expenses and any associated California Labor Code Sections including, but not limited to,
44 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 221, 226, 226.7, 246, 248, 510, 512, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1185, 1194, 1197, 1197.1,
45 1198, 1199, 2800, and 2802, and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order.

1 “Released Parties” means Defendant and its respective past, future, or present agents, employees,
2 representatives, administrators, officers, directors, members, insurers, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates,
3 predecessors, successors, assigns, owners, attorneys, accountants, receivers, advisors, consultants, partners,
partnerships, parents, divisions, subsidiaries, affiliates, heirs, joint venturers, trustees, investors, fiduciaries,
franchisees or franchisors, or commonly controlled corporations.

4 **E. Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to Class Counsel**

5 Class Counsel will seek attorneys’ fees in an amount not to exceed one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement
6 Amount (i.e., \$98,333) and reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses in an amount not to exceed twenty
7 thousand dollars (\$20,000) (collectively, “Attorneys’ Fees and Costs”), subject to approval by the Court. The
8 Attorneys’ Fees and Costs granted by the Court will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. Class Counsel
has been prosecuting the Action on behalf of Plaintiff, Class Members, and PAGA Employees on a contingency
fee basis (that is, without being paid any money to date) and has been paying all litigation costs and expenses.

9 **F. Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff**

10 Plaintiff will seek the amount of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) (“Enhancement Payment”), in
11 recognition of his services in connection with the Action. The Enhancement Payment will be paid from the Gross
Settlement Amount, subject to approval by the Court, and if awarded, it will be paid to Plaintiff in addition to
his Individual Settlement Payment and Individual PAGA Payment that he is entitled to under the Settlement.

12 **G. Settlement Administration Costs to Settlement Administrator**

13 Payment to the Settlement Administrator is estimated not to exceed six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00)
14 (“Settlement Administration Costs”) for the costs of the notice and settlement administration process, including
and not limited to, the expense of notifying the Class Members of the Settlement, processing Requests for
15 Exclusion, Notices of Objection, and Disputes, calculating Individual Settlement Shares, Individual Settlement
Payments, and Individual PAGA Payments, and distributing payments and tax forms under the Settlement, and
16 shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, subject to approval by the Court.

17 **IV. WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS AS A CLASS MEMBER?**

18 **A. Participate in the Settlement**

19 **If you want to participate in the Class Settlement and receive money from the Class Settlement, you do
not have to do anything.** You will automatically be included in the Class Settlement and issued your Individual
Settlement Payment unless you decide to exclude yourself from the Class Settlement.

20 Unless you elect to exclude yourself from the Class Settlement and if the Court grants final approval of the
21 Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Class Settlement and any judgment that may be entered by the
Court based thereon, and you will release the Released Class Claims against the Released Parties as described
22 in Section III.D above.

23 If you are a PAGA Employee and the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, you will automatically be
24 included in the PAGA Settlement and issued your Individual PAGA Payment. This means you will be bound by
the terms of the PAGA Settlement and any judgment that may be entered by the Court based thereon, and you
will release the Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties as described in Section III.D above.

25 As a Class Member and PAGA Employee (if applicable), you will not be separately responsible for the payment
26 of attorney’s fees or litigation costs and expenses, unless you retain your own counsel, in which event you will
be responsible for your own attorney’s fees and expenses.

27 **B. Request Exclusion from the Class Settlement**

28 Class Members may request to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a letter (“Request for
Exclusion”) to the Settlement Administrator, at the following address:

[Settlement Administrator]

[Mailing Address]

A Request for Exclusion must: (a) contain the case name and number of the Action (*Pascual Lujan v. Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.*, Case No. 24CECG00166); (b) contain your full name, signature, address, telephone number, and last four (4) digits of your Social Security number; (c) clearly state that you do not wish to be included in the Class Settlement; and (d) be returned by mail to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address above, postmarked **on or before** [Response Deadline].

If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, any Class Member who submits a timely and valid Request for Exclusion will not be issued an Individual Settlement Payment, will not be bound by the Class Settlement (and the release of Released Class Claims described in Section III.D above), and will not have any right to object to, appeal, or comment on the Class Settlement. Class Members who do not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion will be deemed Settlement Class Members and will be bound by all terms of the Class Settlement, including those pertaining to the release of claims described in Section III.D above, as well as any judgment that may be entered by the Court based thereon. PAGA Employees will be bound to the PAGA Settlement (and the release of Released PAGA Claims described in Section III.D above) and will still be issued an Individual PAGA Payment, irrespective of whether they submit a Request for Exclusion.

C. Object to the Class Settlement

You can object to the Class Settlement as long as you have not submitted a Request for Exclusion by submitting a written objection (“Notice of Objection”) to the Settlement Administrator.

The Notice of Objection must: (a) contain the case name and number of the Action (*Pascual Lujan v. Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.*, Case No. 24CECG00166); (b) contain your full name, signature, address, telephone number, and the last four (4) digits of your Social Security number; (c) contain a written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (d) contain copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based; and (e) be returned by mail to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address listed in Section IV.B above, postmarked **on or before** [Response Deadline].

You may also appear at the Final Approval Hearing and present your objection orally, regardless of whether you have submitted a Notice of Objection.

V. FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing in Department 502 of the Fresno County Superior Court, of the B.F. Sisk Courthouse located at 1130 O Street, Fresno, California 93721, on [date], at [time], to determine whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate. The Court also will be asked to approve and grant the Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to Class Counsel, Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff, and Settlement Administration Costs to the Settlement Administrator.

The Final Approval Hearing may be continued without further notice to the Class Members and PAGA Employees. It is not necessary for you to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, although you may appear if you wish to.

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The above is a summary of the basic terms of the Settlement. For the precise terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, you should review the detailed Settlement Agreement and other papers, which are on file with the Court.

You may view the Settlement Agreement and other documents filed in the Action by visiting the Fresno County Superior Court website at <https://www.fresno.courts.ca.gov/>, navigating to Online Services, then Case Information, and entering the case number 24CECG00166.

You may also visit the Settlement Administrator’s website at [redacted] for key documents in the Action.

1 PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT OR THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK FOR
2 INFORMATION REGARDING THIS SETTLEMENT.
3 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU MAY CALL THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR AT
4 THE FOLLOWING TOLL-FREE NUMBER: [INSERT]
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