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(Additional Plaintiffs' counsel on the next page)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA-COOK DIVISION

JOHN HILL, an individual; MARK GRAY, an
individual, on behalf of themselves and all others
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

PACIFIC PETROLEUM CALIFORNIA, INC.,
and DOES 1-100, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 15CV03056

[Complaint filed September 16, 2015]
[Assigned to Hon. James F. Rigali, Dept. SM-2]

CLASS ACTION

**DECLARATION OF CHRISTINE M.
ADAMS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

*(Filed Concurrently with Notice of Motion
and Motion; Memorandum of Points and
Authorities; Declarations of Marcus J.
Bradley, Davis Pourati, John Hill and Mark
Gray)*

DATE: April 4, 2017
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
DEPT: SM 2

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2 I, Christine Adams, declare as follows:

3 1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of California and I am counsel
4 for the Plaintiffs in *Hill v. Pacific Petroleum California, Inc.* I had numerous conversations with
5 Plaintiff, John Hill, before filing this action and throughout the pendency of this litigation. I have
6 personal knowledge of the facts set forth below and if called to testify I could and would do so
7 competently.

8 2. I was the attorney who was initially retained by Plaintiff, John Hill, to represent him in
9 this matter in mid-2015. I, along with co-counsel, have been primarily responsible for the litigation of
10 the matter from the drafting of pleadings to the prosecution of the case, including discovery and law
11 and motion. I am submitting this declaration in support of the motion for preliminary approval of the
12 class settlement in the above-referenced case.

13 **ATTORNEY EXPERIENCE**

14 3. I have been an attorney for over 19 years.

15 4. I have been practicing labor law since 2004, and have handled a significant number of
16 cases in all aspects of employment and labor law including, but not limited to, state wage and hour
17 cases, wrongful discharge litigation, discrimination cases, and other employment issues.

18 5. My firm's focus is on all aspects of employment law and wage and hour litigation and
19 I have an extensive background in the prosecution and settlement of these types of actions.

20 **ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS**

21 6. I have been personally involved in each and every phase of this lawsuit from its
22 inception up through and including its proposed settlement. I was initially retained by the individual
23 class representatives to investigate their matters. Initially, I conducted extensive interviews with the
24 class representatives and reviewed and analyzed documentation provided by them concerning their
25 employment and compensation.

26 7. At the outset of my involvement in this case, it was clear to me that undertaking this
27 lawsuit was a big endeavor, fraught with considerable risks and requiring skill, dedication and a large
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1 commitment of time and resources. Upon investigating the case it became apparent that this matter
2 involved complex issues regarding both class certification questions and wage and hour law.

3 8. Prior to the filing of the complaint, I discussed the facts of the case and potential claim
4 with Marcus Bradley while he was at Marlin & Saltzman, LLP. Mr. Bradley agreed to be my co-
5 counsel.

6 **PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SHOULD BE GRANTED**

7 **AS THE SETTLEMENT IS FAIR, REASONABLE, AND ADEQUATE**

8 9. This settlement fulfills the criteria for class action settlement. After substantial
9 investigation and extensive discovery, the Parties engaged in months of settlement discussions.

10 10. The Parties were able to negotiate a fair settlement, taking into account the costs and
11 risks of continued litigation. The negotiations were conducted professionally and at arm's length, and
12 have produced a result that the Parties believe to be in their respective best interests.

13 11. Plaintiffs have also taken into account the uncertainty and risk of the outcome of further
14 litigation, and the difficulties and delays inherent in such litigation. Plaintiffs are also aware of the
15 burdens of proof necessary to establish liability for the claims asserted in the action, Defendant's
16 defenses thereto, and the difficulties of prevailing in all of the damages and penalties sought.

17 12. Plaintiffs considered the risks of prevailing on the claim that Plaintiffs and the class
18 were denied meal and rest breaks in light of the Supreme Court's decision in *Brinker*. Plaintiffs'
19 likelihood of success on these causes of action carried risks.

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2 13. The result of the litigation history for this case is a \$250,000 settlement. This is an
3 extremely significant settlement for the class. For the reasons set forth above, as the cases discussed
4 in the memorandum of points and authorities, and as shown in the accompanying Declarations of the
5 counsel for all Plaintiffs, the settlement reached here is fair, reasonable, and adequate and comports
6 with the standards for class action settlement. Plaintiffs' counsel also believe that the enhancements
7 sought and the attorneys' fees sought of up to one-third of the settlement sum are within the realm of
8 reasonableness and should both be approved by the Court.

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

11 Executed this 15th day of February, 2017, in Santa Barbara, California.

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13 Christine M. Adams
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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

COUNTY OF VENTURA)

I am employed in the County of Ventura, State of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within action; my business address 2815 Townsgate Road, Suite 130, Westlake Village, California 91361.

On **February 27, 2017**, I served the foregoing documents described as **DECLARATION OF CHRISTINE M. ADAMS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT** on all interested parties in this action as follows: **SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST**

☒ **(VIA US MAIL)** I caused such envelope(s) to be deposited in the mail at Westlake Village, California with postage thereon fully prepaid. I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. It is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

☐ **(VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY)** I caused to have served such document(s) by placing a true copy thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope or package designated by _____ addressed as follows and delivered it to an authorized receiving station authorized by _____ to receive documents with delivery fees by our office.

☐ **(VIA FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION)** From Fax No. _____ to the fax numbers listed on the attached service list. The facsimile machine I used complied with Rule 2033(3) and no error was reported by the machine.

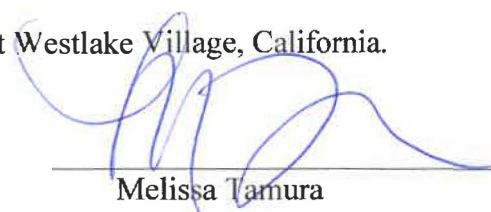
☐ **(VIA PERSONAL SERVICE)** I delivered such envelope(s) by hand to the offices of the addressee(s).

☐ **(VIA E-MAIL)** I caused to have such documents sent by electronic service [Fed. Rule Civ. Proc. Rule 5(b)(2)(a)] by electronically mailing a true and correct copy through _____ electronic mail system to the e-mail address(s) set forth below, or as stated on the attached service list per agreement in accordance with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure rule 5(b).

☒ **(STATE)** I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

☐ **(FEDERAL)** I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Executed on February 27, 2017 at Westlake Village, California.



Melissa Tamura