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on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated
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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SONOMA**

ABEL HERNANDEZ, an individual, and on
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

NORTH BAY REHABILITATION
SERVICES, INC., a California Nonprofit
Corporation doing business as North Bay
Industries; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 25CV02734

[Assigned for all purposes to the Hon.
Dana Beernink Simonds, Department 18]

**CLASS AND PAGA SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT**

Action Filed: April 18, 2025

Trial Date: None Set

This Class and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between plaintiffs Abel Hernandez (“Plaintiff”) and defendant North Bay Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1. “Action” means the Plaintiff’s lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendant, captioned *Abel Hernandez v. North Bay Rehabilitation Services, Inc.*, Case No. 25CV02734, initiated on April 18, 2025, and pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Sonoma.

1.2. “Administrator” means Apex Class Action Administration (“Apex”), 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 of the Settlement.

1.4. “Allegedly Aggrieved Employees” means all persons currently or formerly employed by Defendant classified as non-exempt, hourly-paid employees during the PAGA Period in the State of California.

1.5. “Class” means all persons currently or formerly employed by Defendant as non-exempt, hourly-paid employees during the putative Class Period in the State of California.

1.6. “Class Counsel” means David D. Bibiyan, Jason Rothman, Vedang J. Patel, and Megan R. Lazar of Bibiyan Law Group, P.C..

1.7. “Class Counsel Fees Payment” and “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” mean the amounts allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses, respectively, incurred to prosecute the Action.

1.8. “Class Data” means putative Class Member identifying information in Defendant’s custody, possession, or control, including the Class Member’s (1) name; (2) last known address(es); (3) last known telephone number(s); (4) last known Social Security Number(s); and

(5) the dates of employment (i.e., hire dates, and, if applicable, re-hire date(s) and/or separation date(s)).

1.9. “Class Member” or “Settlement Class Member” means a member of the putative Class, as either a Participating Class Member or Non-Participating Class Member (including a Non-Participating Class Member who qualifies as an Allegedly Aggrieved Employee).

1.10. “Class Member Address Search” means the Administrator’s investigation and search for current putative Class Member’s 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 putative Class Members.

1.11. “Class Notice” means the COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL, to be mailed to putative Class Members in English and Spanish in the form, without material variation, attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.12. “Class Period” means the period from April 18, 2021 through December 16, 2025.

1.13. “Class Representative” means the named Plaintiff in the operative complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as the putative Class Representative.

1.14. “Class Representative Service Payment” means the payment to the putative Class Representative for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.

1.15. “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma.

1.16. “Defendant” means named defendant North Bay Rehabilitation Services, Inc.

1.17. “Defense Counsel” means Arthur J. Harris, M. Nicole Engler and Shiva Gaskari of Murphy, Pearson, Bradley & Feeney.

1.18. “Effective Date” means the later of the following: (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 putative Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating putative Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment; or if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the

1 appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

2 1.19. "Final Approval" means the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement on
3 substantially the same terms provided herein or as may be modified by subsequent agreement of
4 the Parties or order of the Court.

5 1.20. "Final Approval Hearing" means the Court's hearing on the Motion for Final Approval
6 of the Settlement.

7 1.21. "Final Judgment" means the Judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final
8 Approval.

9 1.22. "Gross Settlement Amount" means \$1,215,000.00 (One Million Two Hundred Fifteen
10 Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents) which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the
11 Settlement, except as provided in Paragraph 8.1 below and any and all employer payroll taxes
12 owed on the Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments. The Gross Settlement Amount will
13 be paid via wire transfer to the Administrator. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay
14 Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class
15 Counsel Fees, Class Counsel Expenses, Class Representative Service Payment, and
16 Administrator's Expenses.

17 1.23. "Individual Class Payment" means the Participating Class Member's pro rata share of the
18 Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the
19 Class Period.

20 1.24. "Individual PAGA Payment" means the Allegedly Aggrieved Employee's pro rata share
21 of 25% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of Pay Periods worked during
22 the PAGA Period.

23 1.25. "Judgment" means the judgment entered by the Court based upon Final Approval.

24 1.26. "LWDA" means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency
25 entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

26 1.27. "LWDA PAGA Payment" means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA
27 under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

28 1.28. "Net Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following

1 payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA
2 Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel
3 Litigation Expenses Payment, and Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be
4 paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.

5 1.29. “Non-Participating Class Member” means any putative Class Member who opts out of
6 the Settlement by sending the Administrator a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.

7 1.30. “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Allegedly Aggrieved
8 Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period, based on hire
9 dates, re-hire dates (as applicable), and termination dates (as applicable).

10 1.31. “PAGA Period” means the period from April 18, 2024 through the end of the Class
11 Period.

12 1.32. “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. *et seq.*).

13 1.33. “PAGA Notice” the Plaintiff’s April 14, 2025 letter to Defendant and the LWDA, alleging
14 that Defendants engaged in violations of the California Labor Code and California Wage Order(s)
15 and providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3 subd. (a).

16 1.34. “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the
17 Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$ 45,562.50) and the
18 75% to the LWDA (\$136,687.50) in settlement of PAGA claims. In sum, a total of One Hundred
19 Eighty Two Thousand Two Hundred And Fifty Dollars (\$182,250.00) of the Gross Settlement
20 Amount will be paid as PAGA civil penalties.

21 1.35. “Participating Class Member” means a putative Class Member who does not submit a
22 valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.

23 1.36. “Plaintiff” means Abel Hernandez, the named plaintiff in the Action.

24 1.37. “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the
25 Settlement.

26 1.38. “Preliminary Approval Order” means the proposed Order granting Preliminary Approval
27 and Approval of PAGA Settlement.

28 1.39. “Released Class Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2

below.

1.40. “Released PAGA Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.4 below.

1.41. “Released Parties” means: Defendant, and each of its former, present and future owners, parents, and subsidiaries, and all of their current, former, and future officers, directors, members, managers, employees, consultants, partners, shareholders, joint venturers, agents, predecessors, successors, assigns, accountants, insurers, reinsurers, and/or legal representatives and any individual or entity which could be jointly liable with any of the foregoing.

1.42. “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.

1.43. “Response Deadline” means forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails Notice to Class Members and Allegedly Aggrieved Employees, and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) mail Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, or (b) mail his or her Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional 15 days beyond the Response Deadline.

1.44. “QSF” means the Qualified Settlement Fund set up by the Settlement Administrator for the benefit of the Final Settlement Class, and from which the settlement payments shall be made, and which is intended to be a fund that qualifies under Internal Revenue Code Section 468B-1.

1.45. “Settlement” means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.46. “Workweek” means any week during which a Class Member worked for Defendant, for at least one day during the Class Period, based on hire dates, re-hire dates (as applicable), and termination dates (as applicable).

2. RECITALS

2.1. On April 14, 2025, Plaintiff filed with the LWDA and served on Defendant a notice under Labor Code section 2699.3, stating Plaintiff intended to serve as a proxy of the LWDA to recover

1 civil penalties on behalf of Aggrieved Employees for alleged Labor Code violations (“PAGA
2 Notice”).

3 2.2. On April 18, 2025, Plaintiff commenced this Action by filing a class action complaint
4 alleging causes of action against Defendant for: (1) failure to pay overtime wages; (2) failure to
5 pay minimum wages; (3) failure to provide meal periods or compensation in lieu thereof; (4)
6 failure to provide rest periods or compensation in lieu thereof; (5) failure to pay all wages due
7 upon separation; (6) failure to provide accurate wage statements; (7) failure to timely pay wages
8 during employment; (8) failure to indemnify for business expenses; (9) failure to pay unused
9 vested vacation time; and (10) engaging in unfair competition (the “Action”).

10 2.3. Thereafter, the Parties agreed to exchange informal discovery and attend mediation.

11 2.4. Prior to mediation Plaintiff obtained, through informal discovery: (a) time and payroll
12 records for the estimated 287 putative class members from April 18, 2021 through mediation; (b)
13 data points, including the number of putative class members, workweeks and pay periods from
14 April 18, 2021 through mediation, the number of pay periods and putative aggrieved employees
15 from April 15, 2024 through mediation, the number of employees separated in the waiting time
16 penalty period, and the average hourly rate of pay; (c) all applicable policy documents of
17 Defendant; and (d) all documents pertaining to Plaintiff available to Defendant.

18 2.5. Plaintiff’s investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in
19 *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 and *Kullar v. Foot Locker*
20 *Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 (“*Dunk/Kullar*”).

21 2.6. On February 12, 2026, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by
22 Allison Eckstrom, Esquire. The mediation was successful, and the Parties agreed to globally
23 resolve all class and PAGA claims in the Action. As part and parcel to the Agreement, the Parties
24 agreed to stipulate to Plaintiff’s filing a First Amended Complaint in the Action, to include all
25 claims asserted in the PAGA Notice for purposes of consolidation in support of settlement
26 purposes only. For the purposes of this settlement agreement, the First Amended Complaint in
27 the Action is the operative complaint (“Operative Complaint”). The Parties’ stipulation to file a
28 First Amended Complaint is proper and shall not be admissible in this or in any other action

1 except for the sole purposes of enforcing this Agreement. Should, for whatever reason, the Court
2 fail to issue Final Approval, the Parties' stipulation to the First Amended Complaint as part of
3 the Settlement shall become null and void *ab initio* and shall have no bearing on and shall not be
4 admissible in connection with the issue of whether or not the First Amended Complaint remains
5 operative in a non-settlement context. Defendants expressly reserve their rights and declare that
6 they will oppose the filing of this First Amended Complaint, and the substantive merits of the
7 case, should the Court fail to issue Final Approval.

8 2.7. The Court has not granted class certification.

9 2.8. The Parties, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel agree that neither this Settlement nor
10 the acts to be performed or judgments to be entered pursuant to this Settlement shall be construed
11 as an admission by Defendants of any wrongdoing or violation of any statute or law or liability
12 on the claims or allegations in the Action. The parties also represent that they are not aware of
13 any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the
14 Settlement.

15 2.9. Defendant denies Plaintiff's claims and allegations in his PAGA Notice, the original Class
16 Action Complaint, and the First Amended Complaint filed for settlement purposes only, in their
17 entirety and contend that the Action is meritless and is not suitable for class certification and/or
18 representation treatment. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to or will be construed as an
19 admission by Defendant that the claims in this Action have merit or that Defendant bears any
20 liability to Plaintiffs, the Class Members, or the Allegedly Aggrieved Employees on those claims
21 or any other claims. Nevertheless, Defendant has taken into account the uncertainty and risk
22 inherent in any litigation and has also concluded that further defense of the Action would be
23 protracted and expensive. Defendant, therefore, has determined that it is desirable and beneficial
24 that the Action be settled in a manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this
25 Agreement.

26 2.10. Stipulation for Class Certification and Representative Treatment. For settlement purposes
27 only, Defendants will stipulate that the Settlement Class Members described herein, who do not
28 Request Exclusion from the Settlement Class, may be conditionally certified as a settlement class

1 and that the Allegedly Aggrieved Employees are appropriate for representative treatment for the
2 purposes of settlement. This stipulation to certification and representative treatment is proper
3 and shall not be admissible in this or in any other action except for the sole purposes of enforcing
4 this Agreement. Should, for whatever reason, the Court fail to issue Final Approval, the Parties'
5 stipulation to class certification and representative treatment as part of the Settlement shall
6 become null and void ab initio and shall have no bearing on and shall not be admissible in
7 connection with the issue of whether or not class certification or representative treatment would
8 be appropriate in a non-settlement context. Defendants expressly reserve their rights and declare
9 that they will continue to oppose class certification, representative treatment, and the substantive
10 merits of the case should the Court fail to issue Final Approval. Plaintiffs expressly reserve their
11 rights and declare that they will continue to pursue class certification and representative treatment
12 and a trial should the Court fail to issue Final Approval.

13 **3. MONETARY TERMS**

14 3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8.1 below,
15 Defendant promises to pay \$1,215,000.00 as the Gross Settlement Amount, unless increased
16 pursuant to Paragraph 8.1 of this Agreement, and to separately pay any and all employer payroll
17 taxes owed on the Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments. Defendant has no obligation
18 to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline stated in
19 Paragraph 4.3 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement
20 Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to
21 submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to
22 Defendant.

23 3.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct
24 the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court
25 in the Final Approval:

26 3.2.1. To Plaintiff: Class Representative Service Payment of not more than \$10,000.00
27 to Plaintiff, in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA
28 Payment Plaintiff 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 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.

3.2.2. To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than 35% of the Gross Settlement Amount, which, unless escalated pursuant to Paragraph 8.1 of this Agreement, is currently estimated to be \$425,250.00 and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$40,000.00. Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments provided that do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will endeavor to file a motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment 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 assume 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. There will be no additional charge of any kind to either the Settlement Class Members or request for additional consideration from Defendant for such work unless, Defendant materially breaches this

Agreement, including any term regarding funding, and further efforts are necessary from Class Counsel to remedy said breach, including, without limitation, moving the Court to enforce the Agreement. Should the Court approve attorneys' fees and/or litigation costs and expenses in amounts that are less than the amounts provided for herein, then the unapproved portion(s) shall be a part of the Net Settlement Amount.

3.2.3. To the Administrator: An Administrator Expenses Payment not to exceed \$7,500.00 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Expenses are less or the Court approves payment less than \$7,500.00 the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.

3.2.4. 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.

3.2.4.1. 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 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.

3.2.4.2. 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.

3.2.5. To the LWDA and Allegedly Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$182,250.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$136,687.50) allocated

1 to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$45,562.50) allocated to the Individual PAGA
2 Payments.

3 3.2.5.1. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a)
4 dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties
5 (\$45,562.50) by the total number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved
6 Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved
7 Employee's PAGA Period Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility
8 and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

9 3.2.5.2. If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested,
10 the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The
11 Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

12 **4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS**

13 4.1. Class Workweeks and Allegedly Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. Based on a review of
14 its records to date, Defendant estimates there are 287 Class Members who collectively worked a
15 total of 36,292 Workweeks, and 218 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 7,119 PAGA
16 Pay Periods.

17 4.2. Class Data. Not later than 20 days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the
18 Settlement, Defendant will simultaneously deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the
19 form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the
20 Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes
21 of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator
22 employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement.
23 Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class
24 Data omitted class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class
25 Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant
26 must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously
27 use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or
28 omitted Class Data.

1 4.3. Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement
2 Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by
3 transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 25 days after the Effective Date.

4 4.4. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 14 days after Defendant funds the
5 Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class Payments,
6 all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Expenses
7 Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and
8 the Class Representative Service Payment. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment,
9 the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and the Class Representative Service Payment
10 shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments, and the Individual PAGA
11 Payments.

12 4.4.1. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or
13 Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Participating Class Members via First
14 Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the
15 date (not less than 180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided.
16 The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. The Administrator
17 will send checks for Individual Class Settlement Payments to all Participating Class
18 Members (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The
19 Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Allegedly
20 Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as
21 Allegedly Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned
22 undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check
23 combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before
24 mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator must update the recipients' mailing
25 addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

26 4.4.2. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other
27 putative Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS
28 forwarding address. Within 7 days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must

1 re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained
2 through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further
3 steps to deliver checks to putative Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned
4 as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any
5 putative Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the
6 putative Class Member prior to the void date.

7 4.4.3. For any putative Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or
8 Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, the
9 Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California State
10 Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the putative Class Member
11 leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil
12 Procedure Section 384, subd. (b).

13 4.4.4. The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall
14 not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional
15 payments to putative Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond
16 those specified in this Agreement.

17 **5. RELEASE OF CLAIMS**

18 Effective upon entry of Judgment, the Order granting Final Approval of this Settlement,
19 and on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement Amount and funds all
20 employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff,
21 the LWDA, and each Allegedly Aggrieved Employee and Participating Class Members, and
22 Class Counsel will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

23 5.1. Plaintiff's Release. Plaintiff and their respective former and present spouses, domestic
24 partners, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns
25 generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences,
26 including, but not limited to: (a) all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged,
27 based on the facts contained, in the Operative Complaint and (b) all PAGA claims that were, or
28 reasonably could have been, alleged based on facts contained in the Operative Complaint and

1 Plaintiff's PAGA Notice. ("Plaintiffs' Release.") Plaintiff's Release does not extend to any
2 claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment
3 benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, or workers' compensation benefits that arose
4 at any time, or based on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiff acknowledges that
5 Plaintiff may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiff
6 now knows or believes to be true but agrees, nonetheless, that Plaintiff's Release shall be and
7 remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiff's
8 discovery of them.

9 5.1.1. Plaintiff's Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542. For
10 purposes of Plaintiff's Release only, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes the
11 provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code,
12 which reads:

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

17 5.2. Release by Participating Class Members: For the duration of the Class Period, all
18 Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present
19 representatives, agents, partners, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release
20 the Released Parties from all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged,
21 based on the facts stated in the Operative Complaint.

22 5.3. Except as set forth in Section 5.2 of this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not
23 release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of
24 the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security,
25 workers' compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

26 5.4. Release by Allegedly Aggrieved Employees: For the duration of the PAGA Period, all
27 Allegedly Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their
28 respective former and present representatives, agents, partners, attorneys, heirs, administrators,

successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts stated in the Operative Complaint and the PAGA Notice.

6. 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 current checklist for Preliminary Approvals.

6.1. Plaintiff’s Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare and to 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 putative 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 putative Class Members; and the nature and extent of any financial relationship with Plaintiffs, Class Counsel or Defense Counsel; (v) a signed declaration from Plaintiffs confirming willingness and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members; (vi) 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)); (vii) a redlined version of the parties’ Agreement showing all modifications made to the Model Agreement ready for filing with the Court and (viii) all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflict of interest with Class Members and the Administrator.

6.2. Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible

1 for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval after the full
2 execution of this Agreement; obtaining a prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary
3 Approval; and for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the Motion for Preliminary
4 Approval. Class Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court's Preliminary Approval to the
5 Administrator.

6 6.3. Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for
7 Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and
8 Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting and
9 conferring, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant Preliminary
10 Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this Agreement, Class
11 Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by
12 meeting and conferring, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the
13 Court's concerns.

14 7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION

15 7.1. Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected Apex to serve as the
16 Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, Apex agrees to be bound by this
17 Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for
18 payment of Administration Expenses. The Parties and their Counsel represent that they have no
19 interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional
20 relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.

21 7.2. Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer
22 Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports
23 state and federal tax authorities.

24 7.3. Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets
25 the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section
26 468B-1.

27 7.4. Notice to Class Members

28 7.4.1. No later than three (3) business days after receipt of the putative Class Data, the

1 Administrator shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the
2 number of putative Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, Workweeks, and Pay
3 Periods in the putative Class Data.

4 7.4.2. Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14
5 days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all putative Class
6 Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service
7 (“USPS”) mail, the Class Notice with Spanish translation, substantially in the form
8 attached to this Agreement as **Exhibit A**. The first page of the Class Notice shall
9 prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment and/or Individual
10 PAGA Payment payable to the putative Class Member, and the number of Workweeks and
11 PAGA Pay Periods (if applicable) used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class
12 Notices, the Administrator shall update putative Class Member addresses using the National
13 Change of Address database.

14 7.4.3. Not later than 3 business days after the Administrator’s receipt of any Class Notice
15 returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice
16 using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a
17 forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct a putative Class Member Address
18 Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. The
19 Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send Class Notice
20 to putative Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.

21 7.4.4. The deadlines for putative Class Members’ written objections, Challenges to
22 Workweeks and/or Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an
23 additional 15 days beyond the 45 days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all
24 putative Class Members whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the
25 putative Class Member of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

26 7.4.5. If the Administrator, Defendant or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise
27 discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data
28 and should have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer,

1 and in good faith. in an effort to agree on whether to include them as putative Class
2 Members. If the Parties agree, such persons will be putative Class Members entitled to
3 the same rights as other putative Class Members, and the Administrator will send, via
4 email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this
5 Agreement not later than 15 days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in
6 the Class Notice, which ever are later.

7 **7.5. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).**

8 7.5.1. Putative Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class
9 Settlement must send the Administrator, by mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion
10 not later than 45 days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional
11 15 days for putative Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for
12 Exclusion is a letter from a putative Class Member or his/her representative that
13 reasonably communicates the putative Class Member's election to be excluded from the
14 Settlement and includes the putative Class Member's name, address and email address
15 or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely postmarked
16 by the Response Deadline.

17 7.5.2. The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it
18 fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall
19 accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain
20 the identity of the person as a putative Class Member and the putative Class Member's
21 desire to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not
22 appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. If the Administrator has reason to
23 question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand
24 additional proof of the putative Class Member's identity. The Administrator's
25 determination of authenticity shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible
26 to challenge.

27 7.5.3. Every putative Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for
28 Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled

1 to all benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the
2 Participating Class Members' Releases under Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of this Agreement,
3 regardless whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice
4 or objects to the Settlement.

5 7.5.4. Every putative Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for
6 Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class
7 Payment or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement.
8 Because future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the
9 Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are
10 deemed to release the claims identified in Paragraph 5.4 of this Agreement and are
11 eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.

12 7.6. Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each putative Class Member shall have 45 days
13 after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional 15 days for putative Class
14 Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and
15 PAGA Pay Periods (if any) allocated to the putative Class Member in the Class Notice. The
16 putative Class Member may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator
17 via mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging putative Class Member to submit
18 supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is
19 entitled to presume that the Workweeks contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they
20 are consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each putative Class
21 Member's allocation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or
22 otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all
23 challenges to calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class
24 Counsel and the Administrator's determination the challenges.

25 7.7. Objections to Settlement

26 7.7.1. Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of
27 the Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the
28 Settlement, and/or amounts requested for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class

Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Class Representative Service Payment.

7.7.2. Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by mail. In the alternative, 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 45 days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus an additional 15 days for putative Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed).

7.7.3. Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action components of the Settlement.

7.8. 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.

7.8.1. Website, Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will maintain and use an internet website to post information of interest to putative 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 putative Class Member calls and emails.

7.8.2. Requests 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 5 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 putative Class Members who have submitted invalid

1 Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from Settlement
2 submitted (whether valid or invalid).

3 7.8.3. Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written
4 reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number
5 of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for
6 Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to
7 Workweeks and/or Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for
8 Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments (“Weekly Report”). The
9 Weekly Reports must include provide the Administrator’s assessment of the validity of
10 Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections
11 received.

12 7.8.4. Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to
13 address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all
14 Class Member challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods. The
15 Administrator’s decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to
16 challenge.

17 7.8.5. Administrator’s Declaration. Before the date by which Plaintiff is required to file
18 the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Administrator will provide to Class
19 Counsel and Defense Counsel, a declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its
20 due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement,
21 including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as
22 undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate putative Class Members,
23 the total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or
24 invalid), the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The
25 Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties
26 and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator’s
27 declaration(s) in Court.

28 7.8.6. Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within 10 days after the Administrator

disburses all funds in 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.

8. CLASS SIZE ESTIMATES AND ESCALATOR CLAUSE

Based on its records, Defendant estimates that, as of the end of the stipulated Class Period defined within this Settlement Agreement, (1) there are 287 putative Class Members and 36,292 Total Workweeks during the Class Period and (2) there are 218 Allegedly Aggrieved Employees who worked 7,119 Pay Periods during the PAGA Period.

8.1. Increase in Workweeks. Defendant represents that there are no more than 36,292 Workweeks during the Class Period. In the event the number of Workweeks during the Class Period increases by more than 10%, or 3,629 Workweeks, then the Gross Settlement Amount shall be increased proportionally by the Workweeks in excess of 39,921 Workweeks multiplied by the Workweek Value. The Workweek Value shall be calculated by dividing the originally agreed-upon Gross Settlement Amount (\$1,215,000.00) by 36,292, which amounts to a Workweek Value of \$33.48. Thus, for example, should there be 40,000 Workweeks during the Class Period, then the Gross Settlement Amount shall be increased by \$2,644.92 ((40,000 Workweeks – 39,921 Workweeks) x \$33.48 per Workweek.)

8.2. DEFENDANTS' 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 successfully noticed after the final number of workweeks is calculated and any disputes related to same are resolved, Defendants may elect, but are not obligated, to withdraw from the Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendants withdraw, 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, Defendants will remain responsible for

1 paying all Settlement Administration Expenses incurred to that point. Defendants must notify
2 Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than 10 days after the
3 Administrator sends the final Exclusion List to Defense Counsel; late elections will have no
4 effect.

5 **9. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL**

6 Prior to the calendared Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff will file in Court, a motion for
7 final approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement
8 under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l), a Proposed Final Approval Order and a proposed
9 Judgment (collectively “Motion for Final Approval”). Plaintiff shall endeavor to provide drafts
10 of these documents to Defense Counsel prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class
11 Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer, and in good faith, to resolve
12 any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

13 9.1. Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by
14 a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later
15 than 5 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the
16 Court.

17 9.2. Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final
18 Approval on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of
19 release to be granted by putative Class Members), the Parties will expeditiously work together in
20 good faith to address the Court’s concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain Final
21 Approval. The Court’s decision to award less than the amounts requested for the Class
22 Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation
23 Expenses Payment, Administrator Expenses Payment and/or individual claims of plaintiff for
24 alleged wrongful termination, shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement
25 within the meaning of this paragraph.

26 9.3. Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the
27 Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes of
28 (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters,

and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

9.4. Waiver of 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.

9.5. 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 putative 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 a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration Expenses reasonably incurred after 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.

10. 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.

11. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

11.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims.

1 Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendant that
2 any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendant has any liability
3 for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that
4 Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and
5 representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does
6 grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or enter Judgment, Defendant reserves the right to
7 contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendant reserves all available defenses
8 to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any
9 grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and
10 Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in
11 connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement
12 and this Agreement).

13 11.2. Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant and
14 Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement
15 is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or cause or permit
16 another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the Agreement directly
17 or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government
18 agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Parties' attorneys, accountants, or spouses, domestic
19 partners, all of whom will be instructed to keep this Agreement confidential; (2) counsel in a
20 related matter; (3) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4)
21 in response to a court order or subpoena; (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a
22 state or federal government agency; or (6) to comply with required financial reporting. Each
23 Party agrees to immediately notify each other Party of any judicial or agency order, inquiry, or
24 subpoena seeking such information. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant and Defense Counsel
25 separately agree not to, directly or indirectly, initiate or respond to any conversation or other
26 communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, with any third party
27 regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that
28 "the matter was resolved," or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class

Counsel's communications with putative Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to putative Class Members.

11.3. No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees will not solicit any putative 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 putative Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to putative Class Members.

11.4. Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties, 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.

11.5. 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.

11.6. 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.

11.7. No 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.

11.8. No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are

1 providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied
2 upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR
3 Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

4 11.9. Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended,
5 modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed or agreed to by all
6 Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court. Plaintiff and Defendant expressly
7 agree that should the Parties agree to amend, modify, change, or waive this Agreement, or any
8 part of it, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are authorized to submit to the Court any
9 amendments of this Agreement, amended Agreements, or amendments to the Agreement, on
10 behalf of the Parties once fully executed, which includes, but is not limited to, authorization of
11 the use of signatures previously provided by the Parties.

12 11.10. Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to
13 the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.

14 11.11. Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be
15 governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without
16 regard to conflict of law principles.

17 11.12. Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of
18 this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the
19 Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

20 11.13. Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered
21 during Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive
22 the execution of this Agreement.

23 11.14. Non-Disparagement. A material and important part of this Agreement is that from the
24 date it is signed, moving forward, each Party hereto expressly warrants and represents that it will
25 not make any defamatory, slanderous or derogatory comments to third parties concerning each
26 other. Each Party agrees that he/she/it will not engage in any conduct or communications with a
27 third party, public or private, designed to, or that a Party should reasonably know would,
28 disparage any of the Parties. Each Party agrees that he/she/it will not directly or indirectly, in any

1 capacity or manner, make, express, transmit, speak, write, verbalize, or otherwise communicate
2 in any way (or cause, further, assist, solicit, encourage, support or participate in any of the
3 foregoing), any remark, comment, message, information, declaration, communication or other
4 statement of any kind, whether verbal, in writing, electronically transferred or otherwise, that
5 might reasonably be construed to be derogatory or critical of, or negative toward any of the
6 Parties or any of their executives, directors, officers, agents, trustees, or beneficiaries or otherwise
7 take any action which could reasonably be expected to adversely affect the personal or
8 professional reputation of any of the other Parties.

9 11.15. Use of Class Data. Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code
10 §1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendant
11 in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the
12 Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not
13 be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court.

14 11.16. Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is
15 inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.

16 11.17. Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to “days” in this Agreement shall
17 be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a
18 weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day
19 thereafter.

20 11.18. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts
21 by facsimile, electronically (i.e., DocuSign), or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall
22 be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one
23 and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed
24 counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and
25 contents of this Agreement.

26 11.19. Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the
27 litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further
28 agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend

1 the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement
2 process.

3 11.20. Severability. In the event that one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement
4 shall for any reason be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity,
5 illegality, or unenforceability shall in no way effect any other provision if Defendant's Counsel
6 and Class Counsel, on behalf of the Parties and the Settlement Class, mutually elect in writing
7 to proceed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been included in this
8 Agreement.

9 ///

10 **IT IS SO AGREED:**

11 *Abel Hernandez*

06/01/2026

12 Plaintiff, Abel Hernandez

For Defendant, North Bay Rehabilitation
Services, Inc.

15 **AGREED AS TO FORM ONLY:**

16 *Vedang J. Patel*

06/01/2026

17 David D. Bibiyan
18 Vedang J. Patel
19 Megan R. Lazar
Counsel for Plaintiff, Abel Hernandez

Arthur J. Harris
M. Nicole Engler
Shiva Gaskari
Counsel for Defendant, North Bay
Rehabilitation Services, Inc.

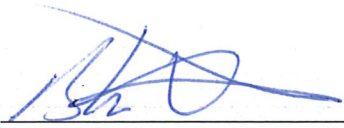
1 the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement
2 process.

3 11.20. Severability. In the event that one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement
4 shall for any reason be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity,
5 illegality, or unenforceability shall in no way effect any other provision if Defendant's Counsel
6 and Class Counsel, on behalf of the Parties and the Settlement Class, mutually elect in writing
7 to proceed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been included in this
8 Agreement.

9 ///

10 **IT IS SO AGREED:**

11
12 _____
13 Plaintiff, Abel Hernandez

11  6/9/26
12 _____
13 For Defendant, North Bay Rehabilitation
14 Services, Inc.

15 **AGREED AS TO FORM ONLY:**

16
17 _____
18 David D. Bibiyan
19 Vedang J. Patel
20 Megan R. Lazar
21 Counsel for Plaintiff, Abel Hernandez

16  6/9/26
17 _____
18 Arthur J. Harris
19 M. Nicole Engler
20 Shiva Gaskari
21 Counsel for Defendant, North Bay
22 Rehabilitation Services, Inc.