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Attorneys for Plaintiff
RENE LOPEZ

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

RENE LOPEZ, as an individual and on behalf
of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SUNNY DELIGHT BEVERAGES CO., a
Florida corporation; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendant.

Case No. 30-2022-01280502-CU-OE-CXC

*[Assigned for all purposes to the Honorable Melissa
R. McCormick, Dept. CX104]*

**DECLARATION OF ELIZABETH
NGUYEN IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: April 4, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Dept.: CX104

Reservation Number: 74183044

[FAC Filed: November 21, 2022]

[Complaint Filed: September 14, 2022]

1 I, ELIZABETH NGUYEN, declare as follows:

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

7 2. I am a 2005 graduate of Loyola Law School. During law school, I worked as an extern for
8 the Honorable Erithe A. Smith, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. During law
9 school, I also worked as a law clerk in the Enforcement Unit of the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel for
10 the State Bar of California.

11 3. Since graduating from law school, my practice has focused almost exclusively on
12 employment litigation. In October 2007, I began working as an associate attorney at the international law
13 firm of Littler Mendelson P.C., at its Los Angeles office, which according to its website is the “largest
14 law firm in the world exclusively devoted to representing management in employment, employee benefits
15 and labor law matters.”

16 4. In June 2012, I left Littler Mendelson to work at the Los Angeles office of Reed Smith
17 LLP. During my employment at Reed Smith, I worked exclusively in the labor and employment practice
18 group. In June 2013, I returned to Littler Mendelson as an associate attorney, was promoted to Shareholder
19 in 2015, and was elevated to participating Shareholder in 2017. Since October 2007, my practice has been
20 and continues to be exclusively labor and employment law, with a strong emphasis on wage and hour
21 class actions venued in both state and federal courts. During this time period and my legal career in
22 general, I also worked on a number of single and multi-plaintiff wage and hour matters as well. During
23 my employment at Littler Mendelson, I was a member of its Class Action Practice Group.

24 5. During my employment at Littler Mendelson, I played a significant role in the class actions
25 that I was staffed on, and was primarily responsible for managing the litigation both in my role as a Senior
26 Associate and as a Shareholder. In particular, I received a wide-array of wage and hour class action
27 experience performing the following types of tasks: drafting demurrers, motions to strike and/or dismiss;
28 removing actions from state court to federal court; drafting and responding to written discovery; drafting

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

12 6. Although not exhaustive, below is a list of many of the wage and hour class and PAGA
13 actions that I performed substantial work on while I was an Associate and/or Shareholder at Littler
14 Mendelson:

- 15 ► *Branch v. PM Realty Group, Inc.* Case No. BC575759, Los Angeles Superior
16 Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Ann Jones, presiding.
- 17 ► *Herrera v. Pharmavite, LLC*, Case No. BC599201, Los Angeles Superior Court,
18 County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Carolyn Kuhl, presiding.
- 19 ► *Dugan v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC*, Case No. 16-cv-01125-PA-FFMx, United
20 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Percy
21 Anderson, presiding.
- 22 ► *Klune v. Stoneledge Furniture, LLC*, Case No. 14-cv-03986-PA-FFMx, United
23 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Percy
24 Anderson, presiding.
- 25 ► *Diaz v. ABM Industries, Inc.; Ampco Parking*, Case No. BC362932, California
26 Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Jane Johnson, presiding.¹

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28 ¹ This matter was consolidated and litigated collectively with Case Nos. BC380923, BC 381523 and BC 406663.

- 1 ▶ *Adams v. Luxottica Retail North America, Inc.*, Case No. 07CC01346, California
2 Superior Court, County of Orange, Honorable Judge Thierry Patrick Colaw,
3 presiding.
- 4 ▶ *Page v. Luxottica Retail North America, Inc.*, Case No. FCS041512, California
5 Superior Court, County of Solano, Honorable Judge Paul Berman, presiding.
- 6 ▶ *Parker v. FedEx National LTL, Inc.*, Case No. 11-CV-006380-DSF-FFM, United
7 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Dale Fischer,
8 presiding.
- 9 ▶ *Cordova v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 09-cv-08905-MMM-PLAx, United
10 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Margaret
11 Morrow, presiding.
- 12 ▶ *Bernal v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 11-cv-01298-JAH-BGS, United States
13 District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Margaret Morrow,
14 presiding.
- 15 ▶ *Granata v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 37-2011-00086316-CU-OE-CTL,
16 California Superior Court, County of San Diego, Honorable Judge Jeffrey B.
17 Barton, presiding.
- 18 ▶ *Mathews v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. 111CV194781, California Superior
19 Court, County of Santa Clara.
- 20 ▶ *Gallegos v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. BC455515, California Superior Court,
21 County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Terry Green, presiding.
- 22 ▶ *Rumohr v. Comerica Bank, et al.*, Case No. CGC-11-508433, California Superior
23 Court, County of San Francisco.
- 24 ▶ *Robertson v. FedEx National LTL, Inc.*, Case No. 09-CV-05016-DSF-FFM, United
25 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Dale Fischer,
26 presiding.
- 27
28

1 ► *Wittman v. FedEx National LTL, Inc.*, Case No. 09-CV-03663-DSF-FFM, United
2 States District Court, Central District of California, Honorable Judge Dale Fischer,
3 presiding.

4 7. In January 2018, I voluntarily resigned from Littler Mendelson in order to start a law firm
5 with another former Littler Mendelson Shareholder, Scott M. Lidman, to represent employees with work-
6 related claims, including primarily wage and hour claims and almost exclusively on a class-action basis.
7 I am currently a Shareholder of Lidman Law, APC. Currently, over ninety percent (90%) of my practice
8 is dedicated exclusively to the prosecution of wage and hour class actions, and I am currently responsible
9 for prosecuting over sixty-five (65) wage and hour class actions filed in State courts throughout
10 California, with several of them having been removed to Federal courts. I believe that my professional
11 experience renders me more than qualified to serve as class counsel in this lawsuit involving claims of
12 underpaid overtime and minimum wages, meal and rest period violations, and derivative penalty claims.
13 Not only have I litigated dozens of wage and hour cases throughout my career involving similar claims,
14 including the wage and hour class actions identified above, I have litigated similar claims from both
15 plaintiff and defense perspectives. As a result, I am able to realistically assess and evaluate the facts and
16 legal arguments that can be made in pursuit and defense of similar wage and hour claims, as well as those
17 facts and arguments in support and in opposition to class certification. Consequently, I am able to
18 appreciate the significant risks, uncertainties, and delay involved in wage and hour class action litigation.

19 8. I have been appointed Class Counsel in: *Guardado v. Wesley Allen, Inc.*, Case No.
20 BC683027, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl
21 presiding; *Rodriguez v. Satco, Inc.*, Case No. BC682137, California Superior Court, County of Los
22 Angeles, Honorable Judge Ann I. Jones presiding; *Ong v. Howard's Appliances, Inc.*, Case No. 30-2017-
23 00964213-CU-OE-CXC, California Superior Court, County of Orange, Honorable Judge William Cluster
24 presiding; *Hanke v. C&W Facility Services, Inc.*, Case No. CIVDS1814412, California Superior Court,
25 County of San Bernardino, Honorable Judge David Cohn presiding; *Molina v. Mader News, Inc.*, Case
26 No. BC685960, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Yvette M.
27 Palazuelos presiding; *Alvarez v. Salamander Fire Protection, Inc.*, Case No. BC688326, California
28 Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge William F. Highberger presiding; *Rodriguez*

1 v. *H.F. Cox, Inc.*, Case No. BC653164, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable
2 Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl presiding; *Fregoso v. Amerigas Propane, Inc.*, Case No. BC697973, California
3 Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Rafael A. Ongkeko presiding; *Teran v.*
4 *Western Plastics, Inc.*, Case No. RIC1722619, California Superior Court, County of Riverside,
5 Honorable Judge Sunshine Sykes presiding; *Villegas de Torres v. El Monte Superstore Inc.*, Case No.
6 BC688477, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Daniel J. Buckley
7 presiding; *Huynh v. Polypeptide Laboratories, Inc.*, Case No. BC680872, California Superior Court,
8 County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Rafael A. Ongkeko presiding; *Guzman v. Century Blinds*, Case
9 No. RIC1723654, California Superior Court, County of Riverside, Honorable Judge Sunshine S. Sykes
10 presiding; *George v. Convergence Marketing*, Case No. CIVDS1901039, California Superior Court,
11 County of San Bernardino, Honorable Judge David S. Cohn presiding; *Coffee, et al. v. Flyers*
12 *Transportation Energy, LLC*, Case No. 34-2017-00222084, California Superior Court, County of
13 Sacramento, Honorable Judge Alan G. Perkins presiding; *Romero v. Fillmore Hospitality, LLC*, Case
14 No. BC705667, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles, Honorable Judge Maren E. Nelson
15 presiding; *Wennerstrom, et al. v. Giant Inland Empire R.V. Center*, Case No. CIVDS1617291, California
16 Superior Court, County of San Bernardino, Honorable Judge David S. Cohn presiding; *Contreras, et al.*
17 *v. Letter Ride, LLC*, Case No. 37-2018-00020841-CU-OE-CTL, California Superior Court, County of
18 San Diego, Honorable Judge Eddie C. Sturgeon presiding; *Davis v. WeDriveU*, Case No. 18CV322578,
19 California Superior Court, County of Santa Clara, Honorable Judge Brian C. Walsh presiding; *Acuna v.*
20 *Canton Food Co., Inc.*, Case No. BC685001, California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles,
21 Honorable Judge David S. Cunningham presiding; and *Contreras v. Worldwide Flight Services, Inc.*,
22 Case No. 2:18-cv-06036-PSG-SS, United States District Court for the Central District of California, the
23 Honorable Judge Philip S. Gutierrez presiding.

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

27 10. The details of the work completed by my firm and/or my co-counsel are set forth in the
28 declaration of Milan Moore filed concurrently herewith.

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

3 Executed on January 4, 2024 at El Segundo, California.

4 
5 _____
6 Elizabeth Nguyen