

John G. Yslas (SBN 187324)
john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com
William M. Pao (SBN 219847)
william.pao@wilshirelawfirm.com
WILSHIRE LAW FIRM
660 South Figueroa Street, Sky Lobby
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: (213) 381-9988
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

Attorneys for Plaintiff
JESSE MENA

Brian E. Koegle (SBN 218800)
bkoegle@koeglelaw.com
Lucas E. Rowe (SBN 298697)
lrowe@koeglelaw.com
Caleb A. Miller (SBN 327094)
cmiller@koeglelaw.com
Ransom D. Boynton (SBN 333262)
rboynton@koeglelaw.com
KOEGLER LAW GROUP, APC
27240 Turnberry Lane, Suite 200
Valencia, California 91355
Telephone: 661-362-0813

Attorneys for *Defendant*
AFTER BEFORE CREATIONS, INC. dba THE FOUNDATION WORKS

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
COMPLEX CIVIL LITIGATION

JESSE MENA, individually, and on behalf of
all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

AFTER BEFORE CREATIONS, INC. dba
THE FOUNDATION WORKS, a California
corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 24STCV34744

ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO:
Hon. Samantha Jessner, Department 7

**CLASS ACTION AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Complaint Filed: December 31, 2024

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiff JESSE MENA (“Plaintiff”) and Defendant AFTER BEFORE CREATIONS, INC. dba THE FOUNDATION WORKS (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

1. **DEFINITIONS.**

1.1 “Action” means Plaintiff’s lawsuit alleging class and representative action wage and hour violations against Defendant captioned *Jesse Mena v. After Before Creations, Inc. dba The Foundation Works*, Case No. 24STCV34744, filed on December 31, 2024 in Los Angeles County Superior Court; and a subsequent First Amended Complaint alleging an additional cause of action for civil penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Lab. Code §§ 2698 *et seq.*) filed on July 15, 2025.

1.2 “Administrator” means xPand Legal Consulting LLC, the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.

1.3 “Administration Costs” 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 “Aggrieved Employee” means all persons who worked for Defendant in California as an hourly-paid or non-exempt employee at any time during the PAGA Period.

1.5 “Class” means all persons who worked for Defendant in California as an hourly-paid or non-exempt employee at any time during the Class Period.

1.6 “Class Counsel” means John G. Yslas and William M. Pao of Wilshire Law Firm, PLC.

1.7 “Class Counsel Fees Payment” means an award of attorneys’ fees granted to Class Counsel and paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Parties have agreed Plaintiff will request approval from the Court of up to one-third (1/3) of the GSA in the amount of One Hundred Eight-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars and Thirty-Three Cents (\$183,866.33).

1.8 “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” means the amount allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable expenses and costs incurred to prosecute the Action, not to exceed Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) and paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.

1.9 “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendant’s possession including the Class Member’s name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, and number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.

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

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

1.12 “Class Notice” means the Court approved Notice of Settlement and hearing date for Final Approval, to be mailed to Class Members in English in the form, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.13 “Class Period” or “Class Settlement Period” means the period from December 31, 2020 through May 22, 2026 (“Settlement Class Period”).

1.14 “Class Representative” means the named Plaintiff Jesse Mena in the Action.

1.15 “Class Representative Service Payment” or “Enhancement Award” means the payment to the Class Representative for initiating the Actions and providing services in support of the Action.

1.16 “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.

1.17 “Defendant” means named Defendant After Before Creations, Inc. dba The Foundation Works.

1.18 “Defense Counsel” means Brian E. Koegle, Lucas E. Rowe, Caleb A. Miller and Ransom D. Boynton of the Koegle Law Group, APC.

1.19 “Effective Date” means the date by which both of the following have occurred: (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 Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment; or (c) if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

1.20 “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement.

1.21 “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.22 “Final Judgment” means the Judgment entered by the Court upon granting Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.23 “Gross Settlement Amount” or “GSA” means Five Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$551,600.00), which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement, except as provided in Paragraph 8 below.

1.24 “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Member’s pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period.

1.25 “Individual PAGA Payment” means the Aggrieved Employee’s pro rata share of 35% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.

1.26 “Judgment” means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final Approval.

1.27 “LWDA” means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

1.28 “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 65% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

1.29 “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: PAGA Penalties payment, Class Representative

Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Administration Costs Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.

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

1.31 “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.

1.32 “PAGA Period” means the period from December 31, 2023 through May 22, 2026.

1.33 “PAGA” means the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Lab. Code §§ 2698 *et seq.*).

1.34 “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiff’s May 7, 2025 letter (LWDA-CM-1097117-25) to the LWDA and Defendant providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).

1.35 “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$27,580.00) in PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 35% or Nine Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$9,653.00) to the Aggrieved Employees and 65% or Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$17,927.00) to the LWDA in settlement of PAGA claims.

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

1.37 “Plaintiff” means Jesse Mena, the named plaintiff in the Action.

1.38 “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.

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 5.3 below.

1.41 “Released Parties” means Defendants in the Action and all of their present and former parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, related or affiliated companies, shareholders, members,

officers, directors, employees, agents, attorneys, insurers, successors, and assigns, and any individual or entity which could be liable for any of the Released Class Claims and/or Released PAGA Claims.

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 Aggrieved Employees and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) fax, email, or mail Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, or (b) fax, email, or 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 fourteen (14) calendar days beyond the Response Deadline has expired.

1.44 "Settlement" means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.45 "Workweek" means any week during which a Class Member worked for Defendant for at least one day, during the Class Period.

2. **RECITALS.**

2.1 On December 31, 2024, Plaintiff filed a Class Action Complaint alleging causes of action against Defendant for (1) Failure to Pay Minimum and Straight Time Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages; (3) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; (4) Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods; (5) Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination; (6) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements; (7) Failure to Indemnify Employees for Expenditures; and (8) Unfair Business Practices.

2.2 On May 7, 2025, pursuant to Labor Code §2699.3, subd.(a), Plaintiff gave notice to the LWDA and Defendant that Plaintiff intended to proceed with a representative action under PAGA (LWDA-CM-1097117-25). On July 15, 2025, after the 65-day statutory period passed, Plaintiff filed the First Amended Complaint, adding an additional claim for penalties pursuant to PAGA.

2.3 Defendant denies the allegations in the Action, denies any failure to comply with the laws identified in the Action, and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged in the Actions.

2.4 On March 24, 2026, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by mediator Eve Wagner. The Parties were able to reach a settlement that day and agreed on general settlement terms which were memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding executed that same day.

2.5 In advance of mediation, Class Counsel conducted a thorough investigation into the facts of, and applicable law to, the Actions. Prior to mediation, Plaintiff obtained and analyzed a representative sampling of time and payroll data for Class Members and the necessary policy documents through informal discovery to properly evaluate the strengths and weakness of the claims and engage in meaningful settlement discussions. Plaintiff's investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.*, 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 (1996) and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.*, 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 (2008) ("*Dunk/Kullar*").

2.6 The Court has not granted class certification because the Parties engaged in mediation before any class certification.

2.7 The Parties, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel represent that they are not aware of any other pending matters or actions asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the Settlement.

3. **MONETARY TERMS.**

3.1 Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below, Defendant will pay Five Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$551,600.00) to fully settle, resolve, and extinguish all claims asserted in the Action, including without limitation all claims asserted in the PAGA Notice. The Gross Settlement Amount is non-reversionary and does not include employer payroll taxes owed on the wage portions of the Individual Class Payments, which Defendant will pay separately.

1 3.2 Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct
2 the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court
3 in the Final Approval:

4 3.2.1 To Plaintiff: A payment for the Class Representative Service Payment to Plaintiff
5 of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00). in addition to any Individual Class Payment
6 and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a
7 Participating Class Member. Defendant will not oppose Plaintiff's request for a Class
8 Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of the motion for the
9 Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Expenses Payments, Plaintiff will seek Court approval for any
10 Class Representative Service Payment no later than sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final
11 Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court. If the Court approves a Class
12 Representative Service Payment less than the amount requested, the Administrator will retain the
13 remainder in the Net Settlement Amount to be distributed to Participating Class Members. The
14 Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service Payment using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiff
15 assumes full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on the Class Representative
16 Service Payment.

17 3.2.2 To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than one-third of the
18 Gross Settlement Amount, in the amount of ne Hundred Eight-Three Thousand Eight Hundred
19 Sixty-Six Dollars and Thirty-Three Cents (\$183,866.33) and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses
20 Payment for actual costs, not to exceed Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (35,000.00). Defendant
21 will not oppose requests for these payments. Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for
22 Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Expenses Payment no later than sixteen (16) court days prior
23 to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court. If the Court approves a Class
24 Counsel Fees Payment and/or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts
25 requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount for
26 distriubution to Participating Class Members. Released Parties shall have no liability to Class
27 Counsel or any other Plaintiff's counsel arising from any claim to any portion of Class Counsel
28 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 assumes 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.

3.2.3 To the Administrator: An Administrator Costs Payment not to exceed Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Costs are less or the Court approves payment of less than \$15,000.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount to be distributed to Participating Class Members.

3.2.4 To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment is 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 individual Participating Class Member's Workweeks.

3.2.4.1 Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. Twenty percent (20%) of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the Settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portion is subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. The remaining eighty percent (80%) of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the settlement of claims for interest, reimbursement, 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 Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of Twenty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$27,800.00) to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 65% or Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$17,927.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 35% or Nine Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$9,653.00) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.

3.2.5.1 The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 35% share of PAGA Penalties of \$9,653.00 by the total number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each individual Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

3.2.5.2 If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount to be distributed to Participating Class Members. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.

4.1 Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. Based on a review of its records, Defendant represents there are 352 Class Members who collectively worked a total of 16,203 workweeks during the Class Period, and 173 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 7,438 PAGA Pay Periods during the PAGA Period.

4.2 Class Data. Not later than ten (10) days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant will deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted

class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.

4.3 Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount and the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator according to the following schedule:

- a. a. First payment of Two Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$275,800.00) due 60 days after final approval or 12 months from the date when the long form settlement agreement is executed, whichever is later (the "First Payment").
- b. Second payment of Two Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$275,800.00) will be due six (6) months after the First Payment (the "Second Payment").

4.4 Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within ten (10) days after Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Costs Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.

4.4.1 The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members via First Class U.S. Mail. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided ("Void Date"). The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the Void Date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Settlement Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom the Class Notice was returned

undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

4.4.2 The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding address. Within seven (7) days of receiving a returned check, the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Class Member prior to the Void Date.

4.4.3 For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and canceled after the Void Date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b).

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

5. **RELEASES OF CLAIMS.** Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount and all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff, Class Members, and Class Counsel will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

5.1 **Plaintiff's Release.** Plaintiff discharges Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences, that occurred during the Class Period, including all claims that were,

1 or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained in the Operative Complaint;
2 and claims under the Fair Employment and Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Title
3 VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the California Labor Code, and all equivalent claims under
4 federal law ("Plaintiff's Release"). Plaintiff's Release does not extend to any claims or actions to
5 enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability
6 benefits, social security benefits, workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based
7 on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiff acknowledges that Plaintiff may discover facts
8 or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiff now knows or believes to be
9 true but agrees, nonetheless, that Plaintiff's Release shall be and remain effective in all respects,
10 notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiff's discovery of them.

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

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

18 5.2 Released Class Claims: All Participating Class Members will release all claims, rights,
19 demands, liabilities, and causes of action, alleged or which could have reasonably been alleged
20 based on the facts alleged in the operative Complaint, including but not limited to: (1) failure to
21 pay minimum and straight time wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, 1197
22 and 1197.1); (2) failure to pay overtime wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 510, 1194, and
23 1198); (3) failure to provide meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512); (4)
24 failure to authorize and permit rest periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7); (5) failure to
25 timely pay final wages at termination (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 201-203); (6) failure to
26 provide accurate itemized wage statements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226); (7) failure to
27 indemnify employees for expenditures (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 2802); (8) failure to
28 produce requested employment records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 432, and 1198.5);

1 and (9) unfair business practices (pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*). The
2 enumeration of these specific claims shall neither enlarge nor narrow the scope of *res judicata*
3 based on the claims that were asserted in the Action or could have been asserted in the Action
4 based on the facts and circumstances alleged in the Complaint. The Released Class Claims are
5 those that accrued during the Class Period.

6 5.3 Released PAGA Claims: All Aggrieved Employees will release all claims for PAGA
7 civil penalties that are alleged or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged
8 in the operative Complaint and in Plaintiff's November 1, 2024 and November 18, 2024 PAGA
9 Notices, including but not limited to: (1) failure to pay minimum and straight time wages
10 (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 210, 510, 1194, 1194.2, 1197 and 1197.1); (2) failure to
11 pay overtime wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 510, 1194 and 1198); (3) failure to provide
12 meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 210, 226.7 and 512); (4) failure to authorize and
13 permit rest periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 210 and 226.7); (5) failure to timely pay final
14 wages at termination (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 201 – 203 and 213(d)); (6) failure to provide
15 accurate itemized wage statements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226 and 226.3); (7) failure to
16 indemnify employees for expenditures (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 2802); (8) failure to
17 produce requested employment records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 432, and 1198.5);
18 (9) failure to pay all earned wages twice per month and unlawfully withholding accrued wages
19 (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 210 and 216); (10) failure to maintain accurate records of
20 hours worked and meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 1174, and 1174.5); (11)
21 recordkeeping requirement violations (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.6, 558.1, 1174,
22 1174.5, 1198 and 1199); (12) willful misclassification (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226.8);
23 (13) retaliation (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 1102.5); and (14) civil penalties for wage and hour
24 violations (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 558). The Released PAGA Claims are those that
25 accrued during the PAGA Period.

26 6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL. Plaintiff will prepare and file a motion for
27 preliminary approval ("Motion for Preliminary Approval").
28

1 6.1 Plaintiff's Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare all documents necessary for obtaining
2 Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the
3 Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar*
4 and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2));
5 (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement;
6 (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from Plaintiff confirming willingness
7 and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of
8 interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator; (v) a signed declaration from Class
9 Counsel firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission
10 to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section
11 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement
12 (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)); and (vi) all facts relevant to any actual or potential
13 conflict of interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator. In their Declarations, Plaintiff
14 and Class Counsel shall aver that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action
15 asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement.

16 6.2 Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible
17 for expeditiously finalizing the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel will obtain a
18 prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval, file the Motion for Preliminary
19 Approval no later than sixteen (16) court days before the hearing, unless otherwise ordered by the
20 Court, and deliver the Court's Preliminary Approval Order to the Administrator.

21 6.3 Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for
22 Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and
23 Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person
24 or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant
25 Preliminary Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this
26 Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of
27 the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and
28 otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

1 **7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

2 7.1 Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected xPand Legal Consulting
3 LLC to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, the
4 Administrator agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties
5 specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Costs. The Parties and
6 their Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the
7 Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering
8 settlements.

9 7.2 Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own
10 Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and
11 providing reports to state and federal tax authorities.

12 7.3 Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that
13 meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation
14 section 468B-1 for the funding of the GSA. Any interest that accrues on the GSA sums paid into
15 the QSF prior to distribution by the Administrator will become part of the NSA for distribution
16 to Participating Class Members.

17 7.4 Notice to Class Members.

18 7.4.1 No later than five (5) calendar days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator
19 shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members,
20 Aggrieved Employees, Workweeks, and Pay Periods in the Class Data.

21 7.4.2 Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14
22 (fourteen) days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members
23 identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service ("USPS") mail, the Class
24 Notice with substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A. The first page of
25 the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment
26 and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, and the number of Workweeks
27 and PAGA Pay Periods used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the
28

1 Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the National Change of Address
2 database.

3 7.4.3 Not later than five (5) calendar days after the Administrator's receipt of any Class
4 Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice
5 using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding
6 address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class
7 Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further
8 attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the
9 USPS a second time.

10 7.4.4 The deadlines for Class Members' written objections, challenges to Workweeks
11 and/or Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional fourteen days (14)
12 days beyond the forty-five (45) days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members
13 whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended
14 deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

15 7.4.5 If the Administrator, Defendant, or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise
16 discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should
17 have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by
18 telephone, and in good faith in an effort to agree on whether to include them as Class Members.
19 If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class
20 Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice
21 requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than fourteen (14) days after
22 receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever are later.

23 7.5 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

24 7.5.1 Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement
25 must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not
26 later than forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional
27 fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion
28 is a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class

Member's election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, emailed, or postmarked by the Response Deadline. The Parties agree that none of them will encourage any Class Members to opt-out. If 5% or more Class Members opt-out of the settlement, Defendant has the right (but not obligation) to void the settlement.

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

7.5.3 Every Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Participating Class Members' Releases under paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of this Agreement, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.

7.5.4 Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement. Because future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release the Released PAGA Claims identified in Paragraph 5.3 of this Agreement and are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.

7.6 Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks

1 and PAGA Pay Periods allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member
2 may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email or mail.
3 The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting
4 documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to
5 presume that the Workweeks contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are
6 consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's
7 allocation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or otherwise
8 susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to the
9 calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the
10 Administrator's determination of the challenges.

11 **7.7 Objections to Settlement.**

12 7.7.1 Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of the
13 Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the Settlement, and/or
14 amounts requested for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses
15 Payment and/or Class Representative Service Payment.

16 7.7.2 Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by
17 fax, email, or mail. In the alternative, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire
18 an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing. A
19 Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator must do
20 so not later than forty-five (45) days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus
21 an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed).

22 7.7.3 Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action
23 components of the Settlement.

24 **7.8 Administrator Duties.** The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be
25 performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.

26 7.8.1 Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish, maintain
27 and use an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes
28 and emails.

1 7.8.2 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will
2 promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity. Not later
3 than five (5) days after the expiration of the deadline for submitting Requests for Exclusion, the
4 Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel containing (a) the names
5 and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests
6 for Exclusion (“Exclusion List”); (b) the names and other identifying information of Class
7 Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for
8 Exclusion from Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid).

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

17 7.8.4 Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to
18 address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class Member
19 challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods. The Administrator’s decision
20 shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

21 7.8.5 Administrator’s Declaration. Not later than fourteen (14) days before the date by
22 which Plaintiff is required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the
23 Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable
24 for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under
25 this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices
26 returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the
27 total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the
28 number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement

its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

7.8.6 Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within ten (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 fifteen (15) 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. The GSA is based on Defendant's estimate that 352 Class Members worked a total of 16,203 workweeks during the Class Period from December 31, 2020 through May 22, 2026. If the actual number of workweeks worked by the Class Members exceeds this estimate by more than 10%, Defendant has the option to: (1) terminate the Class Period on the date when the number of workweeks surpasses 110% of the estimated 17,823 workweeks, or (2) increase the GSA proportionally to match the percentage increase beyond the 10% threshold. For example, if the number of workweeks increases by 11%, Defendant may choose to increase the GSA by 1% or end the Class Period on the date the total number of workweeks exceeds 110% of the initial estimate of 16,203 workweeks. If this provision is triggered, the Parties agree that the portion of the GSA allocated to attorneys' fees will increase proportionally such that the total amount of attorneys' fees remains one-third (1/3) of the GSA after the upward adjustment required by this provision is implemented.

9. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL. Not later than sixteen (16) court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, unless otherwise scheduled by the Court, Plaintiff will file in Court, a Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l); a Proposed Final Approval Order; and a proposed Judgment (collectively "Motion for Final Approval"). Plaintiff shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class

Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

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

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

9.3 Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, the Actions, and the Settlement solely for purposes of (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 as 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

1 finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final, except as to matters that do not affect the amount
2 of the Net Settlement Amount.

3 9.5 Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the
4 reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material
5 modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted
6 by Class Members), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless
7 expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain
8 Final Approval and Entry of Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration
9 Costs reasonably incurred after remittitur. An appellate decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the
10 Court's award of the Class Representative Service Payment or any payments to Class Counsel
11 shall not constitute a material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph,
12 as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.

13 10. **AMENDED JUDGMENT.** If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil
14 Procedure section 384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit a proposed
15 amended judgment.

16 11. **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

17 11.1 No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for
18 Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed
19 claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by
20 Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint has merit or that Defendant has
21 any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by
22 Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Actions have merit. The Parties agree that class
23 certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any
24 reason, the Court does grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval, or enter Judgment, Defendant
25 reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reason, Defendant reserves all
26 available defenses to the claims in the Actions, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class
27 certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this
28 Agreement and Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be

admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

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

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

11.4 Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, 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.

1 11.5 Attorney Authorization. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and
2 represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate
3 action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate
4 its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this
5 Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.

6 11.6 Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their
7 best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the
8 Settlement Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence and supplementing points and
9 authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form
10 or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the
11 Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the
12 assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution.

13 11.7 No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not
14 directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or
15 encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of
16 action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.

17 11.8 No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are
18 providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied
19 upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR
20 Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

21 11.9 Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended,
22 modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their
23 representatives, and approved by the Court.

24 11.10 Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure
25 to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.

26 11.11 Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be
27 governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without
28 regard to conflict of law principles.

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

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

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

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

11.16 Notice. All notices, demands, or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

<u>To Plaintiff:</u>	<u>To Defendant:</u>
John G. Yslas (SBN 187324) john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com William M. Pao (SBN 219846) william.pao@wilshirelawfirm.com WILSHIRE LAW FIRM PLC 660 South Figueroa Street Sky Lobby Los Angeles, California 90017 Telephone: (213) 381-9988 Facsimile: (213) 381-99	Brian E. Koegle (SBN 218800) bkoegle@koeglelaw.com Lucas E. Rowe (SBN 298697) lrowe@koeglelaw.com Caleb A. Miller (SBN 327094) cmiller@koeglelaw.com Ransom D. Boynton (SBN 333262) rboynton@koeglelaw.com KOEGLER LAW GROUP, APC 27240 Turnberry Lane, Suite 200 Valencia, California 91355 Telephone: 661-362-0813

11.17 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e. DocuSign), or by email which for purposes of this Agreement

shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

11.18 Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

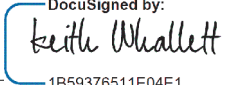
11.19 Binding Agreement. The Parties intend that this Agreement shall be fully enforceable and binding upon all Parties within the provisions of Cal. Civil Proc. § 664.6, and that it shall be admissible and subject to disclosure in any proceeding to enforce its terms pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code §§ 1122(a)(1) and 1123(b), notwithstanding the confidentiality provisions that otherwise might apply under federal or state law. The Parties further agree and intend that the Los Angeles County Superior Court may enforce this Agreement pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6.

IT IS SO AGREED.

DATED: _____

Plaintiff Jesse Mena

DATED: 6/15/2026

DocuSigned by:

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 Defendant After Before Creations, Inc. dba The Foundation Works

By: Keith Whallett

Position: CEO

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

2 DATED: _____

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM PLC

3
4 BY: _____

5 JOHN G. YSLAS

6 WILLIAM M. PAO

Counsel for Plaintiff

7 JESSE MENA

8 DATED: _____

KOEGLE LAW GROUP, APC

9
10
11 BY:  _____

12 BRIAN E. KOEGLE

LUCAS E. ROWE

13 CALEB A. MILLER

RANSOM D. BOYNTON

14 Counsel for Defendant

15 AFTER BEFORE CREATIONS, INC. dba THE
16 FOUNDATION WORKS
17
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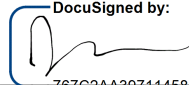
shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

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IT IS SO AGREED.

DATED: 6/4/2026

DocuSigned by:

767C2AA39711458...
Plaintiff Jesse Mena

DATED: _____

Defendant After Before Creations, Inc. dba The Foundation Works

By: _____

Position: _____

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

2 DATED: 6/4/2026

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM PLC

3
4 BY: 

5 JOHN G. YSLAS

6 WILLIAM M. PAO

7 Counsel for Plaintiff

JESSE MENA

8 DATED: _____

KOEGLE LAW GROUP, APC

9
10
11 BY: _____

12 BRIAN E. KOEGLE

13 LUCAS E. ROWE

14 CALEB A. MILLER

RANSOM D. BOYNTON

Counsel for Defendant

AFTER BEFORE CREATIONS, INC. dba THE
FOUNDATION WORKS