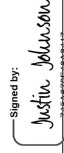


1 telephone during the mediation; (5) reviewing and executing the Settlement Agreement; and (6)
 2 reviewing and signing the declaration submitted to this Court in support of the settlement.
 3 6. Before signing the Joint Stipulation of Settlement and Release under the Private
 4 Attorneys General Act ("Agreement" or "Settlement"), I read the Settlement Agreement and I
 5 discussed the terms with my attorneys. I believe that this settlement is fair, adequate, and
 6 reasonable.
 7 7. I understand that the Settlement Agreement provides a Service Award in the
 8 amount of \$10,000 to me and the other named plaintiffs. I believe this amount is fair
 9 compensation for my time and effort on this case, for helping to prosecute this case, and the risks
 10 with respect to my future employment. In addition, the settlement requires that I enter into a
 11 general release, which I understand is broader than the release that will bind other employees I
 12 am receiving no compensation in addition to that provided for in the settlement.
 13 8. I am proud to have stood up for the other workers who were too afraid to speak
 14 out to management because they did not want to risk losing their jobs or face the stigma
 15 associated with suing an employer.

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

18 Executed on May 15, 2025, at _____ Your City, California.

Signed by:

 Justin Johnson

DECLARATION OF JUSTIN JOHNSON IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO APPROVE
 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT

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21 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
 22 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**

23 SAFAA AL AZZAWI, individually and on
 24 behalf of all others similarly situated,
 25 Plaintiff,
 26 v.
 27 C-STORE SERVICES, INC., a California
 28 corporation; and DOES 1 to 100, inclusive
 Defendants.

Case No.: CIVSB2228712

**DECLARATION OF JUSTIN JOHNSON IN
 SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO
 APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
 PURSUANT TO THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS
 GENERAL ACT**

Date: July 7, 2025
 Time: 9:00 a.m.
 Dept.: S36

Complaint Filed: December 21, 2022
 Trial Date: None

DECLARATION OF JUSTIN JOHNSON IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO APPROVE
 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT

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I, Justin Johnson, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am an individual over the age of 18. I am one of the named plaintiffs in the above-reference action. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below and if called to testify I could and would do so competently.

2. I previously worked for C-Store Services, Inc. (the "Company" or "C-Store") during the approximate period of December 21, 2021 through April 2023. I was the Assistant Manager of the Company's store in Carmichael, California. For the duration of my employment, I was a non-exempt, hourly employee.

3. I initially filed this lawsuit because I was concerned that C-Store employees were not being paid for all hours worked and were pressured to work through their breaks. By bringing a representative action lawsuit, I hoped that I might be able to change the Company's policies to better protect the working conditions of my co-workers.

4. However, I did not make the decision to file a representative action lightly. As a then-current employee, I was deeply aware of the attention that a representative action lawsuit might attract in the workplace, and the potential reputational harm it could cause—including the risk that I would be perceived as difficult to work with. I also understood that pursuing such an action could jeopardize my employment with C-Store and expose me to retaliation or strained relationships with colleagues and supervisors. I was also concerned that a prospective employer might discover that I had filed a lawsuit against my former employer and view that unfavorably. Nevertheless, I felt that important rights were at stake that hurt everyone, and something ought to be done about it.

5. I made it a priority to be actively involved because I wanted to do everything I could to assist my attorneys in prosecuting this case. I have invested a lot of personal time and energy while this lawsuit has been pending, including time spent: (1) participating in telephonic meetings with my attorneys and their staff to discuss the case and review documents prepared on my behalf; (2) providing my attorneys with information and documents relevant to the Company's meal and rest period policies and operations of the store I managed; (3) putting my attorneys in touch with employees who were willing to participate in the lawsuit; (4) making myself available by