

Brian J. Mankin, Esq. [CSB No. 216228]
brian@lmlfirm.com
Kristina Bui Carlson, Esq. [CSB No. 294924]
kristina@lmlfirm.com
5198 Arlington Avenue, PMB 513
Riverside, CA 92504
Tel: (951) 320-1444 | Fax: (951) 320-1445

Attorneys for Plaintiffs, on a representative basis and on behalf of all others similarly situated

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

KENNETH PEFFER and REGINA
VILLEGAS, individually, on a representative
basis, and on behalf of all others similarly
situated;

Plaintiff,

vs.

DILLARD-LEWIS, INC., a North Carolina
Corporation; and DOES 1 through 20,
inclusive;

Defendants.

Case No.: CIVSB2223428

*[Assigned to Hon. Christian Towns, Dept
S26, for all purposes]*

**DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF
KENNETH PEFFER IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

I, Kenneth Pepper, state and declare:

1. I am a Plaintiff in the above captioned action and have personal knowledge of all matters stated herein and could competently testify thereto. I make this declaration in support of the motion for preliminary approval of the class action settlement. I believe that the settlement is fair and reasonable and constitutes a fair resolution of the claims alleged.

2. When I first retained my attorneys (Lauby, Mankin & Lauby), I chose to pursue this case on a class action basis rather than as an individual claim. In that regard, I understood that I had specific burdens as the "Class Representative," which included: (a) representing the interests of all class members, (2) considering the interests of all class members above my own

1 personal interests, (3) participating actively in the lawsuit, including potential testimony at
2 deposition and trial, and keeping generally aware of the status and progress of the lawsuit.
3 Moreover, I understood that any resolution of the lawsuit is subject to court approval and must
4 be designed in the best interests of the class as a whole.

5 3. Since first initiating this action on behalf of the proposed class, I believe that I
6 have more than adequately performed my duties as a class representative. I have been an active
7 participant in this litigation, including assisting my attorneys in various ways and making myself
8 available when needed. For example, I have assisted my attorneys by compiling and analyzing
9 substantial documentation regarding the claims in this case. I have also helped to explain and
10 discuss the company's practices and their general practices and procedures, locating and
11 analyzing company documents, among others. I have also reviewed all settlement documents and
12 believe that this settlement is fair for the class. Finally, I will continue to take all steps necessary
13 to finalize this settlement and obtain court approval.

14 4. I have no conflicts with the proposed class members and will continue to assist
15 with the litigation and prosecute the case on behalf of the other employees.

16 5. I respectfully request that the court preliminarily approve the service award. As
17 outlined above, I have performed substantial services for the Class and helped obtain a highly
18 beneficial settlement for my fellow employees. And I have also agreed, as part of this Class
19 action settlement, to waive all of my claims against the company as part of this settlement and in
20 exchange for the service award – which goes well beyond the release given by other class
21 members. At the final approval stage, I will submit an additional declaration setting forth all the
22 work I did for this case, including an estimated number of hours spent assisting the Class and my
23 attorneys.

24 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
25 foregoing is true and correct. Executed on Oct 12, 2024, at Bakersfield, California.

26
27 By: 
28 Kenneth Peffer (Oct 12, 2024 12:56 PDT)
Kenneth Peffer