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Attorneys for Plaintiff Victor Mendoza

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE**

GABRIEL TARIN, individually, and on
behalf of other members of the general
public similarly situated; VICTOR
MENDOZA, individually, and on behalf of
other members of the general public
similarly situated and on behalf of other
aggrieved employees pursuant to the
California Private Attorneys General Act;

Plaintiff,

vs.

HD SUPPLY, INC., a Delaware corporation;
HD SUPPLY MANAGEMENT, INC., a
Florida corporation; HD SUPPLY
MANAGEMENT, LLC, a Florida corporation,
and DOES 3 through 100, inclusive.

Defendants.

Case No.:21STCV42524

Honorable Elihu M. Berle
Department SSC-6

CLASS ACTION

**DECLARATION OF VICTOR
MENDOZA IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

[Notice of Motion and Motion for
Preliminary Approval of Class Action and
PAGA Settlement; Declaration of Proposed
Class Counsel (Selena Matavosian); and
[Proposed] Order filed concurrently
herewith]

Date: August 13, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Department: SSC-6

Complaint Filed: November 18, 2021
FAC Filed: May 25, 2023
Doe Amendment Filed: October 5, 2023
Trial Date: None Set

DECLARATION OF VICTOR MENDOZA

I, **Victor Mendoza**, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age and a resident of California. I am the named plaintiff in the above-captioned case. I have personal knowledge of the facts and statements set forth in this declaration, and if called upon to testify, I could and would competently testify thereto.

2. I was employed by HD Supply, Inc., HD Supply Management, Inc., and HD Supply Management, LLC (collectively, “HD Supply”) as an hourly-paid, non-exempt employee from approximately October 2021 to approximately April 2022. I decided to seek legal advice about my work experiences with HD Supply and about pursuing my grievances. I contacted Lawyers *for* Justice, PC and spoke with attorneys there. I wanted to do whatever I could to make sure HD Supply was held accountable for not properly compensating their employees for all hours worked and non-compliant meal and rest breaks. After speaking with the attorneys, I investigated complex wage-and-hour and class action lawsuits on my own and did some research into the leading class action and employment law firms in California for approximately **8 hours**. Thereafter, I consulted with the attorneys at Lawyers *for* Justice, PC for **8 hours** discussing my situation, complex wage-and-hour class actions and representative actions under the Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”) in general, and what it meant to join a lawsuit as a named plaintiff, class representative, and PAGA representative.

3. I have spent over **13 hours** meeting with my attorneys regarding the case and fulfilling my responsibilities as a class and PAGA representative, which included gathering documents concerning my employment with HD Supply, reviewing documents with my attorneys, answering questions, providing guidance regarding the duties of other hourly-paid or non-exempt employees, and helping develop a strategy as to what documents and information to obtain from HD Supply. I routinely checked in with my attorneys and their staff to make sure that they had all of my most current information and any additional information that I had obtained.

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1 4. Throughout the case, I was available to answer any questions my attorneys had,
2 and available to speak and meet with my attorneys whenever they needed me. I responded to
3 them as quickly as possible and gave them as much information and identified as many
4 documents as I could. I spent at least **11 additional hours** speaking with my attorneys about the
5 cases, identifying potential witnesses, providing my attorneys with documents and information
6 concerning the case, and also describing policies, practices, and procedures of HD Supply.

7 5. As far as the settlement is concerned, I was available to review documents and
8 answer any questions my attorneys had. I spent about **4 hours** reviewing the settlement
9 agreement and about **3 hours** asking questions and discussing the potential settlement with my
10 attorneys before signing the settlement agreement.

11 6. I believe that I have done everything that my attorneys have asked of me and have
12 tried, to the best of my ability, to represent the class and seek relief for the aggrieved employees
13 and the State of California. I think my efforts helped to get the result obtained in the case, and as
14 a class and PAGA representative, I respectfully request that the Court award me an enhancement
15 award in the amount of \$7,000.00 for my active participation in the case. Taking into
16 consideration the time that I have dedicated to this case, I believe that this amount is reasonable.

17 7. I am not related to anyone associated with Lawyers *for* Justice, PC.

18 8. I have not entered into any undisclosed agreements, nor have I received any
19 undisclosed compensation in the case. The only compensation I will receive is whatever amount
20 the Court awards as an enhancement award, as well as my share of the settlement as a class
21 member and as an aggrieved employee.

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

24 07/19/2024
Executed this ____ day of July 2024, at City of Industry, California.

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Electronically Signed
Victor Manuel Mendoza
Nintex AssureSign® 2024-07-20 01:32:34 UTC - 189.240.48.155 49374e98-c8b4-4279-8235-b1b200223017

26 _____
Victor Mendoza