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Attorneys for Plaintiff
Ronald Evans and the Proposed Class

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

RONALD EVANS; individually, and on behalf of other members of the general public similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SWEETENER PRODUCTS CO., an unknown business entity; SWEETENER PRODUCTS, INC., a California corporation; VERNON WAREHOUSE CO., an unknown business entity; VERNON CENTRAL WAREHOUSE, INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,

Defendants.

RONALD EVANS; individually, and on behalf of other aggrieved employees pursuant to the California Private Attorneys General Act,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SWEETENER PRODUCTS CO., an unknown business entity; SWEETENER PRODUCTS, INC., a California corporation; VERNON WAREHOUSE CO., an unknown business entity; VERNON CENTRAL WAREHOUSE, INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 22STCV38329 (LEAD)
[*Consolidated with Case No. 22NWCV01544*]

DECLARATION OF TAYLOR MITZNER WITH RESPECT TO NOTICE AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Hearing Information:

Date: December 10, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Dept.: 9
Judge: Hon. Elaine Lu

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Attorneys for Plaintiff
Ronald Evans and the Proposed Class

DECLARATION OF TAYLOR MITZNER

I, Taylor Mitzner, declare as follows:

1. I am a Case Manager at Phoenix Settlement Administrators ("Phoenix"), the Court-appointed Class Action Settlement Administrator for *Ronald Evans v. Sweetener Products Co., et al.* (the "Action"). I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and, if called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently to such facts.

2. Phoenix was selected by the Parties to provide notice of the Settlement and perform class administration duties in this Action. Pursuant to the Amended Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement" or "Settlement") for this matter, Phoenix was responsible for: (i) preparing, printing, and mailing the *Court Approved Notice of Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval* ("Notice"); (ii) responding to inquiries from Class Members; (iii) calculating the number of weeks each Class Member worked during the period from December 8, 2018 to December 8, 2025 ("Class Period") and the number of pay periods that each Aggrieved Employee worked during the time period from October 3, 2021 to December 8, 2025 ("PAGA Period"); (iv) determining the validity of letters indicating a request to be excluded from the Class Settlement ("Requests for Exclusion"), written objections to the Class Settlement ("Objections"), and/or dispute regarding the number of Workweeks submitted by Class Members; (v) calculating the Net Settlement Amount and the Individual Settlement Shares to Class Members; (vi) calculating and issuing the Individual Settlement Payments and distributing them to Settlement Class Members and Individual PAGA Payments to Aggrieved Employees; (vii) issuing the payment to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and costs, the Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff, and the employer/employee payroll taxes to the appropriate taxing authorities; and (viii) such other tasks as set forth in the Settlement Agreement or as the Parties mutually agree or as the Court orders.

3. On July 16, 2026, Phoenix received a data file from Defense Counsel ("Class List") that contained names, last known mailing addresses, and dates of employment for each Class Member during the Class Period. On August 7, 2026, Phoenix received a supplemental file from Defense Counsel that contained Social Security numbers for the Class Members. The final mailing list contained one hundred eighty-eight (188) individuals identified as Class Members.

4. On August 2, 2026, Phoenix conducted a National Change of Address ("NCOA") search in an attempt to update the class list of addresses as accurately as possible. A search of this database provides updated addresses for any individual who has moved in the previous four (4) years and notified the U.S. Postal Service of their change of address.

5. On August 14, 2026, Phoenix mailed the Notice via U.S. first class mail to all one hundred eighty-eight (188) Class Members on the Class List. A true and correct copy of the mailed Notice is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

6. As of the date of this declaration, ten (10) Notices have been returned to Phoenix. None were returned with a forwarding address. For the ten (10) Notices returned from the Post Office without a forwarding address, Phoenix attempted to locate a current mailing address using TransUnion TLOxp, one of the most comprehensive address databases available for skip tracing. Of the ten (10) Notices that were skip traced, nine (9) updated addresses were obtained and the Notice was promptly re-mailed to those Class Members via first class mail.

7. As of the date of this declaration, one (1) Notice remains undeliverable.

8. As of the date of this declaration, Phoenix has received zero (0) Requests for Exclusion from Class Members. The deadline to request exclusion from the Class Settlement was October 13, 2026, and October 27, 2026, for the Class Members whose Notice was re-mailed.

9. As of the date of this declaration, Phoenix has received zero (0) Notices of Objection from Class Members. The deadline for objecting to the Class Settlement was October 13, 2026, and October 27, 2026, for the Class Members whose Notice was re-mailed.

10. As of the date of this declaration, Phoenix has received zero (0) Workweek disputes from Class Members. The deadline for submitting a dispute was October 13, 2026, and October 27, 2026, for the Class Members whose Notice was re-mailed.

11. There are one hundred eighty-eight (188) Class Members who did not submit timely and valid Requests for Exclusion and are therefore deemed Settlement Class Members, representing 100% of the Class. Settlement Class Members have worked a collective total of thirty-six thousand ninety-one (36,091) Workweeks during the Class Period.

12. The Net Settlement Amount of $356,276.49 available to pay Settlement Class Members was determined by subtracting the requested Class Counsel attorneys' fees ($240,263.10), and Class Counsel costs ($24,426.41), requested Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff Evans ($7,500.00), the PAGA Amount ($50,000.00), and the requested Settlement Administration Costs ($8,000.00) from the Gross Settlement Amount ($686,466.00).

13. Based upon the calculations stipulated in the Settlement, the highest Individual Settlement Share to be paid is approximately $3,613.01, the lowest Individual Settlement Share to be paid is approximately $9.87, while the average Individual Settlement Share to be paid is approximately $1,895.09. Settlement Class Members will be issued payment of their Individual Settlement Shares subject to reduction for the employee's share of taxes and withholdings with respect to the wages portion of the Individual Settlement Share (the net payment is their "Individual Settlement Payment").

14. Additionally, $50,000.00 of the Gross Settlement Amount has been allocated toward penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA Amount"), of which 75%, or $37,500.00, shall be paid to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"), and 25%, or $12,500.00, of which shall be paid to the Aggrieved Employees. There are one hundred forty-eight (148) Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of eleven thousand one hundred ninety-one (11,191) pay periods during the PAGA Period. The highest Individual PAGA Payment to be paid is approximately $122.87, the lowest Individual PAGA Payment to be paid is approximately $1.12, and the average Individual PAGA Payment to be paid is approximately $84.46.

15. Pursuant to the Settlement, Defendant has agreed to fund the employer-side taxes due separately and apart from the Gross Settlement Amount.

16. Phoenix's costs associated with the administration of this matter are $8,000.00. This includes all costs incurred to date, as well as estimated costs involved in completing the settlement distribution. A true and correct copy of the invoice from Phoenix is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

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

\\

Executed this October 22, 2026, at Orange, California.

Taylor Mitzner

TAYLOR MITZNER

Exhibit A

COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL

***Ronald Evans v. Sweetener Products Co., Et. Al.*, Case Number 22STCV38329**

The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!
It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.

You may be eligible to receive money from an employee class action lawsuit ("Action") against Vernon Central Warehouse, Inc. dba Sweetener Products Co., and Sweetener Products, Inc. ("Sweetener" or "Defendants") for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by a former Sweetener employee Ronald Evans ("Plaintiff") and seeks payment of (1) back wages, missed meal breaks, missed rest breaks, and other relief for various alleged wage and hour violations for a class of hourly, non-exempt employees who worked for Sweetener in California during the Class Period of December 8, 2018 to December 8, 2025 ("Class Members"); and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act ("PAGA") for all hourly, non-exempt employees who worked for Sweetener in California during the PAGA Period of October 3, 2021 to December 8, 2025 ("Aggrieved Employees").

The proposed settlement has two main parts: (1) a class settlement requiring Sweetener to fund individual class payments, and (2) a PAGA settlement requiring Sweetener to fund individual PAGA payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA").

Based on Sweetener's records, and the parties' current assumptions, **your individual class payment is estimated to be «ESA_Before_Paga» (less withholding) and your individual PAGA payment is estimated to be «PAGA_Amount»**. The actual amount you may receive likely will be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your individual PAGA payment, then according to Sweetener's records you are not eligible for an individual PAGA payment under the settlement because you didn't work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Sweetener's records showing that **you worked «Total_Weeks» workweeks** during the Class Period and **you worked «PAGA_Pay_Periods» Pay Periods** during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more workweeks during the Class Period or more Pay Periods during the PAGA Period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section IV of this Notice.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed settlement and approved this notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully read and understood it. At the final approval hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the settlement and how much of the settlement will be paid to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's attorneys ("Class Counsel"). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Sweetener to make payments under the settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Sweetener.

You Don't Have to Do Anything to Participate in the Settlement	If you do nothing, you will be a Participating Class Member, eligible for an individual class payment and an individual PAGA payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert the wage claims against Sweetener that are covered by this settlement ("Released Claims").
You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement **The Opt-out Deadline is October 13, 2026.**	If you don't want to fully participate in the proposed settlement, you can opt-out of the class settlement by sending the Administrator a written request for exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer eligible for an individual class payment. Non-Participating Class Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed settlement. See Section VI of this notice. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed settlement. Sweetener must pay individual PAGA payments to all Aggrieved Employees, and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released Claims (defined below).
Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement **Written Objections Must be Submitted by October 13, 2026**	All Class Members who do not opt-out ("Participating Class Members") can object to any aspect of the proposed settlement. The Court's decision whether to finally approve the settlement will include a determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel or Plaintiff, but every dollar paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff reduces the overall amount paid to Participating Class Members. You can object to the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff if you think they are unreasonable. See Section VII of this notice.

If you worked for Sweetener during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have two basic options under the settlement:

(1) **Do Nothing**. You don't have to do anything to participate in the proposed settlement and be eligible for an individual class payment and/or an individual PAGA payment. As a participating class member, though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims against Sweetener.

(2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement**. You can exclude yourself from the class settlement (opt-out) by submitting a written request for exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the settlement, you will not receive an individual class payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Sweetener, and, if you are an Aggrieved Employee, remain eligible for an individual PAGA payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed settlement.

Sweetener will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed settlement.

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT

You Can Participate in the Final Approval Hearing	The Court's final approval hearing is scheduled to take place on December 10, 2026. You don't have to attend but you do have the right to appear (or hire an attorney to appear on your behalf at your own cost), in person, by telephone or by using the Court's virtual appearance platform. Participating Class Members can verbally object to the settlement at the final approval hearing. See Section VIII of this notice.
You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks/Pay Periods **Written Challenges Must be Submitted by October 13, 2026**	The amount of your individual class payment and individual PAGA payment (if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one day during the Class Period and how many pay periods you worked at least one day during the PAGA Period, respectively. The number of Class Period workweeks and number of PAGA Period pay periods you worked according to Sweetener's records is stated on the first page of this notice. If you disagree with the number of Class Period workweeks, you must challenge it by October 13, 2026. See Section IV of this notice.

I. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiff is a former Sweetener employee. The Action accuses Sweetener of violating California labor laws by failing to pay overtime wages, minimum wages, wages due upon termination and reimbursable expenses and failing to provide meal periods, rest breaks and accurate itemized wage statements. Based on the same claims, Plaintiff has also asserted a claim for civil penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act (Lab. Code, § 2698, et seq.).

Plaintiff is represented by attorneys in the Action: Lawyers for Justice, PC and Domb & Rauchwerger, LLP ("Class Counsel.").

Sweetener strongly denies violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contends it complied with all applicable laws.

II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?

So far the Court has made no determination whether Sweetener or Plaintiff is correct on the merits.

In the meantime, Plaintiff and Sweetener hired an experienced, neutral mediator and engaged in other informal negotiations in an effort to resolve the Action (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a settlement agreement and agreeing to ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action, Plaintiff and Sweetener have negotiated a proposed settlement that is subject to the Court's final approval. Both sides agree the proposed settlement is a compromise of disputed claims. By agreeing to settle, Sweetener does not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims. Plaintiff and Class Counsel strongly believe the settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Sweetener has agreed to pay a fair, reasonable and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine final approval.

III. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

1. Sweetener Will Pay $686,466 as the Gross Settlement Amount ("Gross Settlement"). Sweetener has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement into an account controlled by the Administrator of the settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement to pay the individual class payments, individual PAGA payments, a class representative service payment, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the Administrator's expenses, and penalties to be paid to the LWDA. Assuming the Court grants final approval, Sweetener will fund the Gross Settlement not more than 14 days after the judgment entered by the Court becomes final. The judgment will be final on the date the Court enters judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed settlement or the judgment is appealed.

2. Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement. At the final approval hearing, Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court:

A. Up to $240,263.10 (35% of the Gross Settlement) to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and up to $26,000 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.

B. Up to $7,500 to Plaintiff as a class representative award for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. A class representative award will be the only monies Plaintiff will receive other than Plaintiff's individual class payment and any individual PAGA payment.

C. Up to $8,000 to the Administrator for services administering the settlement.

D. Up to $50,000 for PAGA penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA and 25% to individual PAGA payments to Aggrieved Employees based on their pay periods during the PAGA Period.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions except the PAGA penalties. The Court will consider all objections.

3. Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement (the "Net Settlement") by making individual class payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period workweeks.

4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Sweetener are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each individual class payment to taxable wages ("Wage Portion") and 80% to ("Non-Wage Portion"). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. (Sweetener will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes on the Wage Portion.) The individual PAGA payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the individual PAGA payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the individual class payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiff and Sweetener have agreed to these allocations, neither side is giving you any advice on whether your payments are taxable or how much you might owe in taxes. You are responsible for paying all taxes (including penalties and interest on back taxes) on any payments received from the proposed settlement. You should consult a tax advisor if you have any questions about the tax consequences of the proposed settlement.

5. Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks. The front of every check issued for individual class payments and individual PAGA payments will show the date when the check expires (the void date). If you don't cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be deposited with the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

If the monies represented by your check is sent to the Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund, you should consult the rules of the fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.

6. Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs). You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the class settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than October 13, 2026, that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed request for exclusion by the October 13, 2026, response deadline. The request for exclusion should be a letter from the Class Member or Class Member's representative setting forth the Class Member's name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the settlement. Class Members who opt out will not receive individual class payments, but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Sweetener.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the settlement. Class Members who opt out of the class settlement remain eligible for individual PAGA payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Sweetener based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

7. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will not grant final approval of the settlement or not enter a judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiff and Sweetener have agreed that, in either case, the settlement will be void, Sweetener will not pay any money, and Class Members will not release any claims against Sweetener.

8. Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral company, Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions (the "Administrator") to send this notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' requests for exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member challenges over Workweeks, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the settlement. The Administrator's contact information is contained in Section IX of this notice.

9. Participating Class Members' Release. After the Judgment is final and Sweetener has fully funded the Gross Settlement (and separately paid all employer payroll taxes), Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the settlement. This means that unless you opted out by validly excluding yourself from the class settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue or be part of any other lawsuit against Sweetener or related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA penalties based on PAGA Period facts, as alleged in the Action and resolved by this settlement.

The Participating Class Members will be bound by the following release:

All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, administrators, successors and assigns, release Released Parties from all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts and allegations in the Operative Complaint that are alleged to have occurred during the Class Period. Released Parties means Defendants and each of their former and present directors, officers, shareholders, owners, members, attorneys, insurers, predecessors, successors, assigns, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and related entities.

10. Aggrieved Employees' PAGA Release. After the Court's judgment is final, and Sweetener has paid the Gross Settlement (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), all Aggrieved Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against

Sweetener, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and those who opt-out of the class settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue or participate in any other PAGA claim against Sweetener or its related entities based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action and resolved by this settlement.

The Aggrieved Employees' Release is as follows:

All Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, administrators, successors and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA Penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts and allegations in the Operative Complaint or the PAGA Notice that are alleged to have occurred during the PAGA Period.

IV. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

1. Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will calculate individual class payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member.

2. Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will calculate individual PAGA payments by (a) dividing $12,500 by the total number of PAGA Period pay periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Period pay periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.

3. Workweek Challenges. The number of Workweeks you worked during the Class Period, as recorded in Sweetener's records, is stated in the first page of this notice. You have until October 13, 2026, to challenge the number of Workweeks credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail, email or fax. Section IX of this notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Sweetener's calculation of Workweeks based on Sweetener's records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Sweetener's Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

V. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

1. Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who doesn't opt-out) including those who also qualify as Aggrieved Employees. The single check will combine the individual class payment and the individual PAGA payment (if any).

2. Non-Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single individual PAGA payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts out of the class settlement.

Your check will be sent to the same address as this notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section IX of this notice has the Administrator's contact information.

VI. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

To opt out of the class action settlement, submit a written and signed letter with your name, present address, telephone number and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing communicating your request be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Ronald Evans v. Sweetener Products Co., Et. Al.*, Case Number 22STCV38329, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number, approximate dates of employment and social security number for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. **You must send your request to be excluded to the Administrator by October 13, 2026, or it will be invalid.** Section IX of the notice has the Administrator's contact information.

VII. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiff and Sweetener are asking the Court to approve. At least 16 Court days before the December 10, 2026, final approval hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed settlement is fair and states (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; and (ii) the amount Plaintiff is requesting as a class representative service award. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section IX of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Administrator's website evans-v-sweetener-products.phoenixcases.com or the Court's website **https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/.**

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the settlement or the Motion for Final Approval may wish to object, for example, that the proposed settlement is unfair, or that the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff are too high or too low. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is October 13, 2026**. Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action as *Ronald Evans v. Sweetener Products Co., Et. Al.*, Case Number 22STCV38329, and include your name, current address, telephone number and approximate dates of

employment for Sweetener, and sign the objection. Section IX of this notice has the Administrator's contact information.

A Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the final approval hearing. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section VIII of this notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the final approval hearing.

VIII. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the final approval hearing on December 10, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in Department 9 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. At the hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant final approval of the settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiff and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel and defense counsel before making a decision. You can attend (or hire a lawyer to attend) either personally or virtually via LACourtConnect (https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/). Check the Court's website for the most current information.

It's possible the Court will reschedule the final approval hearing. You should check the Administrator's website evans-v-sweetener-products.phoenixcases.com beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the final approval hearing.

IX. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The settlement agreement sets forth everything Sweetener and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed settlement. The easiest way to read the settlement agreement, the judgment or any other settlement documents is to go to Phoenix's website at evans-v-sweetener-products.phoenixcases.com.

You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to (http://www.lacourt.org/casesummary/ui/index.aspx) and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. 22STCV38329. You can also make an appointment to personally review court documents in the Clerk's Office at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse by calling (213) 830-0800.

Class Counsel:

Name of Attorney: Zack Domb and Devin Rauchwerger
Email Address: zack@dombrauchwerger.com; devin@dombrauchwerger.com
Name of Firm: Domb & Rauchwerger LLP
Mailing Address: 1055 E. Colorado Blvd., 5th Floor, Pasadena, California 91106
Telephone: 213-537-9225

Counsel for Sweetener:

Name of Attorneys: Michelle Cuenca Terry and Andrew Kaplan
Email Address: mterry@wksllp.com; Akaplan@wksllp.com
Name of Firm: Webster Kaplan LLP
Mailing Address: 16830 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 130, Encino, California 91436
Telephone: 310-282-9494

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT

Settlement Administrator:
Name of Company: Phoenix Settlement Administrators
Email Address: info@phoenixclassaction.com
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7208, Orange, CA 92863
Telephone: (800) 523-5773
Fax Number: (949) 209-2503

X. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void, you should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

XI. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.

Exhibit B

PHOENIX

CLASS ACTION ADMINISTRATION SOLUTIONS

CASE ASSUMPTIONS	
Class Members	210
Opt Out Rate	1%
Opt Outs Received	2
Total Class Claimants	208
Subtotal Admin Only	**$8,000.00**
Not-to-Exceed Total	**$8,000.00**

For 210 Members

Pricing Good for Scope of Estimate Only

April 15, 2026

Case: Evans v. Sweetener Products Opt-Out Administration wTranslation

Phoenix Contact: Jodey Lawrence
Contact Number: 949.566.1455
Email: Jodey@phoenixclassaction.com

Requesting Party: Devin Rauchwerger
Firm: Domb Rauchwerger
Contact Number: (213)537-9225
Email: devin@dombrauchwerger.com

Assumptions and Estimate are based on information provided by counsel. If class size changes, PHX will need to adjust this Estimate accordingly. Estimate is based on **210** Class Members. Class data **Must** be sent in Microsoft Excel or uploaded in the same format. Class Data Must be sent in one spreadsheet, with no additional programming needed. A rate of $150 per hour will be charged for any additional analysis or programming. Pricing good for 90 days.

Case & Database Setup / Toll Free Setup & Call Center / NCOA (USPS)			
Administrative Tasks:	**Rate**	**Hours/Units**	**Line Item Estimate**
Programming Manager	$125.00	2	$250.00
Programming Database & Setup	$125.00	2	$250.00
Toll Free Setup*	$148.64	1	$148.64
Call Center & Long Distance	$2.00	16	$32.00
NCOA (USPS)	$100.00	2	$200.00
		Total	**$880.64**

* Up to 120 days after disbursement

Data Merger & Scrub / Notice Packet, Opt-Out Form & Postage /Translation / Reporting			
Project Action	**Rate**	**Hours/Units**	**Line Item Estimate**
Notice Packet Formatting	$125.00	3	$375.00
Data Merge & Duplication Scrub	$0.50	210	$105.00
Notice Packet & Opt-Out Form	$2.00	210	$420.00
Estimated Postage (up to 2 oz.)*	$0.79	210	$165.90
Static Website	$200.00	1	$200.00
Language Translation	$1,000.00	1	$1,000.00
		Total	**$2,265.90**

* Prices good for 90 days. Subject to change with the USPS Rate or change in Notice pages or Translation, if any.

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Skip Tracing & Remailing Notice Packets / Tracking & Programming Undeliverables			
Project Action:	**Rate**	**Hours/Units**	**Line Item Estimate**
Case Associate	$55.00	3	$165.00
Skip Tracing Undeliverables	$2.00	21	$42.00
Remail Notice Packets	$2.00	21	$42.00
Estimated Postage	$0.79	21	$16.59
Programming Undeliverables	$50.00	3	$150.00
		Total	**$415.59**

Database Programming / Processing Opt-Outs, Deficiencies or Disputes			
Project Action:	**Rate**	**Hours/Units**	**Line Item Estimate**
Programming Claims Database	$125.00	2	$250.00
Non Opt-Out Processing	$100.00	1	$100.00
Case Associate	$55.00	2	$110.00
Opt-Outs/Deficiency/Dispute Letters	$10.00	3	$30.00
Case Manager	$75.00	2	$150.00
		Total	**$640.00**

Calculation & Disbursement Programming/ Create & Manage QSF/ Mail Checks			
Project Action:	**Rate**	**Hours/Units**	**Line Item Estimate**
Programming Calculations	$125.00	2	$250.00
Disbursement Review	$125.00	2	$250.00
Programming Manager	$95.00	2	$190.00
QSF Bank Account & EIN	$125.00	1	$125.00
Check Run Setup & Printing	$125.00	2	$250.00
Mail Class Checks *	$1.50	208	$311.85
Estimated Postage	$0.79	208	$164.24
		Total	**$1,541.09**

* Checks are printed on 8.5 x 11 in. sheets with W2/1099 Tax Filing

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Tax Reporting & Reconciliation / Re-Issuance of Checks / Conclusion Reports and Declarations			
Project Action:	**Rate**	**Hours/Units**	**Line Item Estimate**
Case Supervisor	$125.00	2	$250.00
Remail Undeliverable Checks (Postage Included)	$2.25	21	$46.78
Case Associate	$55.00	2	$110.00
Reconcile Uncashed Checks	$85.00	4	$340.00
Conclusion Reports	$100.00	2	$200.00
Case Manager Conclusion	$85.00	1	$85.00
Final Reporting & Declarations	$125.00	2	$250.00
IRS & QSF Annual Tax Reporting * (1 State Tax Reporting Included)	$975.00	1	$975.00
		Total	**$2,256.78**

* All applicable California State & Federal taxes, which include SUI, ETT, and SDI, and FUTA filings. Additional taxes are Defendant's responsibilty.

Estimate Total:	**$8,000.00**

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Provisions: The case estimate is in good faith and does not cover any applicable taxes and fees. The estimate does not make any provision for any services or class size not delineated in the request for proposal or stipulations. Proposal rates and amounts are subject to change upon further review, with Counsel/Client, of the Settlement Agreement. Only pre-approved changes will be charged when applicable. No modifications may be made to this estimate without the approval of PSA (Phoenix Settlement Administrators). All notifications are mailed in English language only unless otherwise specified. Additional costs will apply if translation into other language(s) is required. Rates to prepare and file taxes are for Federal and California State taxes only. Additional charges will apply if multiple state tax filing(s) is required. **Pricing is good for ninety (90) days.**

Data Conversion and Mailing: The proposal assumes that data provided will be in ready-to-use condition and that all data is provided in a single, comprehensive Excel spreadsheet. PSA cannot be liable for any errors or omissions arising due to additional work required for analyzing and processing the original database. A minimum of two (2) business days is required for processing prior to the anticipated mailing date with an additional two (2) business days for a National Change of Address (NCOA) update. Additional time may be required depending on the class size, necessary translation of the documents, or other factors. PSA will keep counsel apprised of the estimated mailing date.

Claims: PSA's general policy is to not accept claims via facsimile. However, in the event that facsimile filing of claims must be accepted, PSA will not be held responsible for any issues and/or errors arising out of said filing. Furthermore, PSA will require disclaimer language regarding facsimile transmissions. PSA will not be responsible for any acts or omissions caused by the USPS. PSA shall not make payments to any claimants without verified, valid Social Security Numbers. All responses and class member information are held in strict confidentiality. Additional class members are $10.00 per opt-out.

Payment Terms: All postage charges and 50% of the final administration charges are due at the commencement of the case and will be billed immediately upon receipt of the data and/or notice documents. PSA bills are due upon receipt unless otherwise negotiated and agreed to with PSA by Counsel/Client. In the event the settlement terms provide that PSA is to be paid out of the settlement fund, PSA will request that Counsel/Client endeavor to make alternate payment arrangements for PSA charges that are due at the onset of the case. The entire remaining balance is due and payable at the time the settlement account is funded by Defendant, or no later than the time of disbursement. Amounts not paid within thirty (30) days are subject to a service charge of 1.5% per month or the highest rate permitted by law.

Tax Reporting Requirements

PSA will file the necessary tax returns under the EIN of the QSF, including federal and state returns. Payroll tax returns will be filed if necessary. Under the California Employment Development Department, all taxes are to be reported under the EIN of the QSF with the exception of the following taxes: Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Employment Training Tax (ETT), employer-side taxes, and State Disability Insurance (SDI), an employee-side tax. These are reported under Defendant's EIN. Therefore, to comply with the EDD payroll tax filing requirements we will need the following information:

1. Defendant's California State ID and Federal EIN.

2. Defendant's current State Unemployment Insurance (UI) rate and Employment Training Tax (ETT) rate. This information can be found in the current year DE 2088, Notice of Contribution Rates, issued by the EDD.

3. Termination dates of the class members, or identification of current employee class members, so we can account for the periods that the wages relate to for each class member.

4. An executed Power of Attorney (Form DE 48) from Defendant. This form is needed so that we may report the UI, SDI, and ETT taxes under Defendant's EIN on their behalf. If this form is not provided we will work with the EDD auditors to transfer the tax payments to Defendant's EIN.

5. Defendant is responsible for reporting the SDI portion of the settlement payments on the class member's W-2. PSA will file these forms on Defendant's behalf for an additional fee and will issue an additional W-2 for each class member under Defendant's EIN, as SDI is reported under Defendant's EIN rather than the EIN of the QSF. The Power of Attorney (Form DE 48) will be needed in order for PSA to report SDI payments.