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

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

SAMUEL JOHNSON, individually, on a
representative basis, and on behalf of all
others similarly situated; and JAZMIN
VALERIO individually, on a representative
basis, and on behalf of all others similarly
situated;

Plaintiffs,

vs.

THE J.G. WENTWORTH COMPANY, a
California Corporation; SETTLEMENT
FUNDING LLC, a California Corporation;
and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive;

Defendants.

Case No.: 37-2022-00048277-CU-OE-CTL
[Assigned to Hon. Katherine Bacal, Dept C-69,
for all purposes]

**DECLARATION OF MAYRA GONZALEZ
WITH RESPECT TO NOTICE AND
SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION**

Hearing

Date: August 16, 2024

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Dept.: C-69

Complaint filed: 12/1/2022

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1. I am a Case Manager at Phoenix Settlement Administrators (“Phoenix”), the Court-appointed Class Action Settlement Administrator for *Johnson et al. v. The J.G. Wentworth Company and Settlement Funding, LLC*. (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.

3. On March 22, 2024, Phoenix received a data file from Defense Counsel that contained names, last known mailing addresses, Social Security numbers, and workweeks for each Class Member (“Class List”) during the Class Period. The final mailing list contained seventy-one (71) individuals identified as Class Members.

1 4. On March 26, 2024, Phoenix conducted a National Change of Address (“NCOA”)
2 search in an attempt to update the class list of addresses as accurately as possible. A search of this
3 database provides updated addresses for any individual who has moved in the previous four (4)
4 years and notified the U.S. Postal Service of their change of address.

5 5. On April 5, 2024, Phoenix mailed the Notice via U.S. first class mail to all one
6 seventy-one (71) Class Members on the Class List. A true and correct copy of the mailed Notice is
7 attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

8 6. As of the date of this declaration, zero (0) Notices have been returned to Phoenix.

9 7. As of the date of this declaration, Phoenix has received zero (0) Requests for
10 Exclusion from Class Members. The deadline to request exclusion from the Class Settlement was
11 May 6, 2024.

12 8. As of the date of this declaration, Phoenix has received zero (0) Notices of Objection
13 from Class Members. The deadline for objecting to the Class Settlement was May 6, 2024.

14 9. As of the date of this declaration, Phoenix has received zero (0) Workweek disputes
15 from Class Members. The deadline for submitting a dispute was May 6, 2024.

16 10. There are seventy-one (71) Class Members who did not submit timely and valid
17 Requests for Exclusion and are therefore deemed to be Participating Class Members, representing
18 100% of the Class. Of the 71 Class Members, there are 15 Previously Paid Class Members (who
19 will receive a flat \$250 each) and 56 Class Members who will receive a pro rata share of the Net
20 Settlement Amount. The 56 Class Members worked a collective total of two thousand four hundred
21 eighty (2,480) Workweeks during the Class Period. Each Workweek is valued at approximately
22 \$22.83.

23 11. The Net Settlement Amount of \$60,360.21 available to pay 71 Participating Class
24 Members was determined by subtracting the requested Class Counsel attorneys' fees (\$130,800.00)
25 and Class Counsel costs (\$12,839.79), requested Class Representatives Service Payment (\$7,500.00
26 each for a total of \$15,000.00), PAGA Penalties (\$25,000.00), the requested Settlement
27 Administration Costs (\$6,000.00), and the \$186,000 Prior Payment (to the Previously Paid Class
28 Members) from the Gross Combined Amount (\$436,000.00). After allocating a flat \$250 to the 15

1 Previously Paid Class Members (totaling \$3,750 from the NSA), the remainder of \$56,610.21 is
2 available to pay the remaining 56 Participating Class Members.

3 12. Based upon the calculations above for the remaining 56 Participating Class
4 Members, the highest Individual Class Payment to be paid is approximately \$4,455.83, the lowest
5 Individual Class Payment to be paid is approximately \$42.44, while the average Individual Class
6 Payment to be paid is approximately \$1,010.90. Participating Class Members will be issued
7 payment of their Individual Settlement Shares subject to reduction for the employee's share of taxes
8 and withholdings with respect to the wages portion of the Individual Settlement Share (the net
9 payment is their "Individual Settlement Payment").

10 13. As noted, there are fifteen (15) Previously Paid Class Members that will receive a
11 Flat Payment in the amount of \$250.00, totaling \$3,750.00, to be paid from the Net Settlement
12 Amount.

13 14. Additionally, \$25,000.00 of the Gross Settlement Amount has been allocated toward
14 penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA Amount"), of which 75%, or
15 \$18,750.00, shall be paid to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"), and 25%,
16 or \$6,250.00, of which shall be paid to all current and former hourly non-exempt individuals who
17 are or were employed by Defendant during the PAGA Period. There are seventy-one (71) Aggrieved
18 Employees who worked a total of seven hundred fifty-four (754) workweeks during the PAGA
19 Period. The highest Individual PAGA Payment to be paid is approximately \$348.14, and the average
20 Individual PAGA Payment to be paid is approximately \$88.03.

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

23 16. Phoenix's costs associated with the administration of this matter are \$6,000.00. This
24 includes all costs incurred to date, as well as estimated costs involved in completing the settlement
25 distribution. A true and correct copy of the invoice from Phoenix is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

26
27 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
28 true and correct.

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Executed this 16th day of July 2024, at Orange, California.


MAYRA GONZALEZ

Exhibit A

COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Johnson et al. v. The J.G. Wentworth Company and Settlement Funding, LLC

(San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2022-00048277-CU-OE-CTL)

*The San Diego County Superior Court authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!**It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.*

TO: All current and former non-exempt employees employed by Defendants The J.G. Wentworth Company and/or Settlement Funding LLC in California at any time from December 1, 2018, to December 4, 2023.

You may be eligible to receive money from a class action lawsuit (“Action”) against The J.G. Wentworth Company and Settlement Funding, LLC (collectively, “Defendants”) for alleged unpaid wage claims. The Action was filed by former employees of Defendants, and seeks payment of (1) alleged unpaid wages, statutory penalties, interest and attorneys’ fees on behalf of all current and former non-exempt employees employed by The J.G. Wentworth Company and/or Settlement Funding LLC in California at any time during the Class Period (which is December 1, 2018, through December 4, 2023) (the “Class Members”); and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all current and former non-exempt employees employed by The J.G. Wentworth Company and/or Settlement Funding LLC in California at any time during the PAGA Period (which is December 1, 2021 to December 4, 2023) (the “Aggrieved Employees”).

The proposed Settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class Settlement requiring Defendants to fund Individual Class Payments to Class Members (except that Previously Paid Class Members (defined below) will receive a flat \$250 payment), and (2) a PAGA Settlement requiring Defendants to fund Individual PAGA Payments to Aggrieved Employees and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

«First_Name» «Last_Name»

«PSA_ID»

Two Parts	Time credited as a Class Member and PAGA Member	Your Estimated Share
Class Member	«Total Weeks» WORKWEEKS (During Class Period)	«ESA Before Paga» (Individual Class Payment)
PAGA Member	«PAGA Pay Periods» WORKWEEKS (During PAGA Period)	«PAGA Amount» (Individual PAGA Payment)

Your Individual Class Payment (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment are shown in the chart above, along with the workweeks you are credited with working during the Class Period and pay periods you are credited during the PAGA Period, respectively, according to Defendants’ records. If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendants’ records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you did not work during the PAGA Period. Also, if “N/A” is stated for time credited as a Class Member along with a \$250 share, then you are determined to be a “Previously Paid Settlement Class Member” because you previously received a settlement payment directly from Defendants for the claims alleged, and you are eligible to receive a \$250 payment in addition to your prior payment.

The numbers reflected in the above chart only include workweeks in which you actually performed work. For example, if you were on a leave of absence for a full workweek or pay period, those workweeks are excluded. If you believe that you worked more weeks during either period than Defendants’ records show in the chart above, you can submit a challenge by May 6, 2024 (“**Response Deadline**”). See **Section 4** 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 Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs’ attorneys (“Class Counsel”). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Defendants to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendants in exchange for those payments.

If you worked for Defendants in California during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have a few options as shown in the Chart below:

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT	
DO NOTHING AND RECEIVE A SETTLEMENT PAYMENT	If you want to receive your full settlement payment, then no further action is required on your part. You will automatically receive a settlement payment if the Settlement receives final approval by the Court. You will be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement and will give up your right to sue on the Released Class Claims described in Section 3 .
EXCLUDE YOURSELF	If you do <u>not</u> wish to participate in the Settlement or give up your right to sue on the Released Class Claims, you may “opt-out” of the settlement of the Released Class Claims. If you choose to opt-out, you must submit a Request for Exclusion by May 6, 2024 (see Section 6 for more details on how to opt-out). If you opt-out, you will no longer be a Class Member, and you will (1) <u>not</u> receive an Individual Class Payment, but you will not give up your right to sue on the Released Class Claims, and (2) be barred from filing an objection to the Settlement. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. If approved, Defendants must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released PAGA Claims. See Section 6 of this Notice.
OBJECT	If you decide to object to the Settlement with respect to the Released Class Claims, you must submit an Objection stating why you object to the Settlement by May 6, 2024 (see Section 7 for details on how to object).
DISPUTE THE NUMBER OF WEEKS WORKED OR PAY PERIODS	If you believe the number of workweeks that you were credited with working in the chart above is incorrect, you may submit a written dispute to the Settlement Administrator (see Section 4 for more details on how to dispute your credited Weeks Worked). Defendants’ records will be presumed correct, but you may provide evidence to the Settlement Administrator showing how many Workweeks you believe you should be credited.

YOU MAY ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING, BUT IT’S NOT REQUIRED	
DATE: AUGUST 16, 2024 TIME: 1:30 P.M.	At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the Settlement. 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 8 of this Notice.

1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiffs and Class Representatives, Samuel Johnson and Jazmin Valerio, are former employees of Defendants. The Action alleges violations of California labor laws due to the alleged: failing to pay all required minimum and overtime wages, failing to provide meal periods and rest breaks, failing to timely pay final wages, and failing to provide accurate and complete wage statements during the Class Period. Based on the same claims, Plaintiffs also asserted a claim for civil penalties under PAGA. Plaintiffs are represented by attorneys in the Action (“Class Counsel”). See Section 9 below for their contact information.

Defendants strongly deny violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contend they complied (and continue to comply) with all applicable laws.

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

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Defendants or Plaintiffs are correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiffs and Defendants hired an experienced, neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating to end the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were eventually successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement (“Agreement”) and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, Plaintiffs and Defendants 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, Defendants do not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims.

Plaintiffs and Class Counsel strongly believe the Settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Defendants have 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) the Settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine Final Approval.

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

1. The Settlement Amount is \$250,000. During the course of litigation, Defendants paid the Previously Paid Class Members a total of \$186,000, which will be referred to as the “Prior Payment.” The Settlement Amount of \$250,000, plus the \$186,000 Prior Payment is referred to as the Gross Combined Under the terms of the Settlement, Defendants will pay an additional \$250,000 to settle the remaining claims (the “Settlement Amount”). The following amounts, if approved by the Court, will be subtracted from the \$250,000 Settlement Amount: (1) the Flat \$250 Payments to each Previously Paid Class Member; (2) Attorneys’ Fees and Costs Award, (3) the Service Award to the Class Representatives as awarded by the Court, (4) the Settlement Administration Costs, and (5) PAGA Penalties. Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Defendants will fund the Settlement 15 days after the Judgment entered by the Court becomes final. The Judgment will be final 60 days after final approval and judgment is entered if no notice is filed within that time seeking to appeal or vacate that final approval and judgment; or (b) if a notice to appeal or vacate is filed, the date upon which all appellate and/or other proceedings resulting from the notice of appeal or challenge have been finally resolved, and the case is no longer subject to further judicial review.

2. Court Approved Deductions from Settlement. At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiffs and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Combined Payment, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:

- A. The \$186,000 Prior Payment to the Previously Paid Class Members, as well as the new \$250 flat payment to the Previously Paid Class Members.
- B. Up to 30% of the Gross Combined Payment to Class Counsel for attorneys’ fees (\$130,800) and up to \$20,000 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment and will continue their work until the matter is finalized and payments are issued to the Class Members.
- C. Up to \$7,500 each to the Class Representatives as a Class Representative Service Awards for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. The Class Representatives Service Awards will be the only monies Plaintiffs will receive other than their Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
- D. Up to \$6,000 to the Settlement Administrator for costs and services administering the Settlement.
- E. Up to \$25,000 for PAGA Penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% to Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees, which will be divided based on their proportion of Weeks Worked for Defendants during the PAGA Period.

3. Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Settlement Administrator will distribute the rest of the remainder (the “Net Settlement”) by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Weeks Worked during the Class Period.

4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiffs and Defendant are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 33.33% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages (“Wage Portion”) and 66.67% to penalties and interest (“Non-Wage Portion”). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Defendants 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 Settlement Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiffs and Defendants 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), which will be 180 days from the date that the check is issued. 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 are sent to the Controller’s Unclaimed Property, 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 opt-out of the Settlement, not later than the Response Deadline. See Section 6 of this Notice for details on how to Opt-Out.

7. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void If the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will decline to grant Final Approval of the Settlement or decline to enter a Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiffs and Defendants have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Defendants will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendants.

8. Settlement Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral company, Phoenix Settlement Administrators (the “Settlement Administrator”) to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members’ Requests for Exclusion and Objections (if any). The Settlement Administrator will also decide any Disputes over weeks worked, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the Settlement. The Settlement Administrator’s contact information is contained in Section 9 of this Notice.

9. Participating Class Members’ Release. After the Judgment is final and Defendants have fully funded the Settlement Amount 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 Defendants, or any of them, or related entities and individuals, for wages based on the facts alleged in the Action for the duration of the Class Period and PAGA Period, which are resolved by this Settlement.

The Participating Class Members shall fully and finally release and discharge the Released Parties (defined in Section 3.11 below), and each and all of them, of and from all claims which were pled or reasonably could have been pled arising out of the same facts the Complaint and the PAGA notice, including, but not limited to: (a) failure to pay minimum wages, (b) failure to pay overtime wages, (c) failure to provide meal periods, (d) failure to provide rest breaks, (e) failure to failure to timely pay wages upon separation of employment, (f) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, (g) unfair and unlawful competition, and (h) all other claims for statutory penalties based on the facts or claims alleged in the Complaint. The time period governing the Released Class Claims shall be any time during the Class Period. The time frame of the Released Class Claims shall be the time period from December 1, 2018 up through and including December 4, 2023 (“Class Period”).

10. Release of Released PAGA Claims. After the Court’s judgment is final, and Defendants have paid the Settlement Amount, Plaintiffs, all Aggrieved Employees, the State of California and the LWDA shall release the Released Parties of and from any and all PAGA claims that Plaintiffs alleged against the Released Parties based on the facts alleged in the relevant LWDA notice letters or the Complaint, including all PAGA claims seeking civil penalties premised upon: (1) failure to pay minimum wages, (2) failure to pay overtime wages, (3) failure to provide meal periods, (4) failure to provide rest breaks, (5) failure to timely pay wages each period, (6) failure to timely pay wages upon separation of employment, (7) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, and (9) all other claims for civil penalties recoverable under the Private Attorneys General Act, Labor Code §§ 2698 *et seq.* based on the facts or claims alleged in the LWDA notice letters and Complaint. The time frame of the Released PAGA Claims shall be the time period from December 1, 2021 up through and including December 4, 2023 (the “PAGA Period”).

11. Released Parties. Released Parties means Defendants The J.G. Wentworth Company and Settlement Funding, LLC, and their agents and affiliates (e.g., JGW Debt Resolution, LLC), their parents, subsidiaries, directors, owners, shareholders, officers, attorneys, servants, joint employers and employees, past and present, and each of them and anyone acting in concert with foregoing.

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

1. Individual Class Payments. Previously Paid Class Members are not eligible for an Individual Class Payment, but instead are eligible to receive a flat \$250 payment each from the Net Settlement Amount. Then for all other Class Members, the Settlement Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of workweeks which the Class Members actually performed work during the Class Period, and (c) multiplying the result by the number of workweeks by each individual Participating Class Member during the Class Period.

2. Individual PAGA Payments. The Settlement Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$6,250 by the total number of weeks worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by the number of weeks the individual Aggrieved Employee performed work for Defendants during the PAGA Period.

3. Disputing Workweeks. The number of weeks you actually performed work during the Class Period and PAGA Period, as recorded in Defendants’ records, are stated in the first page of this Notice. You have until May 6, 2024 (“Response Deadline”) to dispute the number of workweeks and credited to you by submitting evidence to the Settlement Administrator.

You need to support your dispute by sending copies of pay stubs or other reliable evidence. The Settlement Administrator will accept Defendants’ calculations as accurate unless you send copies of records or other reliable evidence containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Settlement Administrator will resolve workweek and/or pay period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel and Defendants’ Counsel. The Settlement Administrator’s decision is final. You can’t appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

5. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

1. Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. The Settlement Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (*i.e.*, every Class Member who does not opt-out) and PAGA Member. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment (or alternatively, the flat \$250 payment) and the Individual PAGA Payment.

2. Aggrieved Employees Only. If you opted out of the Class settlement, but qualify as an Aggrieved Employee, or never were a Class Member but are an Aggrieved Employee, then the Settlement Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee, including those Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees but who opt 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 Settlement Administrator as soon as possible. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

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

You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Settlement, unless you opt-out of the Settlement, not later than the Response Deadline. To opt-out, send to the Settlement Administrator a letter/card postmarked no later than May 6, 2024 with your full name, address, telephone number, last four digits of your social security number, your date of birth, and signature. The Request for Exclusion should state:

“I WISH TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASS IN THE JG WENTWORTH LAWSUIT. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I ASK TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASS, I WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY MONEY FROM THE SETTLEMENT.”

Send the Request for Exclusion directly to the Settlement Administrator at the address in Section 9 below, postmarked on or before the Response Deadline (as a reminder, **the “Response Deadline” is May 6, 2024**).

Any person who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Class Claims (1) will not have any rights under this Settlement, including the right to object, appeal or comment on the Settlement; (2) will not be entitled to receive an Individual Class Payment or flat \$250 payment; (3) will preserve the right to pursue the Released Class Claims, and (4) will not be bound by this Settlement, or the Judgment.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement. Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement, but who still qualify as Aggrieved Employees, will still be subject to the Released PAGA Claims and receive an Individual PAGA Payment.

7. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is May 6, 2024 (the “Response Deadline”).**

If you wish to object to the proposed Settlement, you or your own attorney must submit a written objection and include any and all evidence and supporting papers. The Objection and any accompanying evidence and papers must be sent to the Settlement Administrator at the address listed in Section 9, **postmarked on or before the Response Deadline**. If you do not comply with these procedures and the deadline for objections, the Court may not consider your objection at the Final Approval Hearing, and you may lose the right to contest the approval of the Settlement. You are still eligible to receive a Settlement payment should the Settlement become Final even if you object to the Settlement.

Alternatively, 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 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing.

8. WHEN IS THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

On August 16, 2024, the Court will hold a public hearing in Department 69 of the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 W Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101, for the purposes of determining whether the proposed Settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable and should be given final approval, whether to approve Class Counsel's applications for attorneys' fees and costs, whether to approve the payments to the LWDA, and whether to approve Plaintiffs' request for the service award. This hearing may be continued or rescheduled by the Court. Objectors to the proposed Settlement will be provided notice in the event that the Final Approval Hearing is continued to a later date. Class Members who support the proposed Settlement do not need to appear at the hearing and do not need to take any other action to indicate their approval. Class Members who object to the proposed Settlement are not required to attend the Final Approval Hearing.

9. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

If you have questions about this Notice, the process to opt-out or object, or the Settlement, or if you did not receive this Notice in the mail and you believe that you are or may be a member of the Class, you should contact the Administrator for more information or to request that a copy of this Notice be sent to you in the mail.

Settlement Administrator
Phoenix Settlement Administrators P.O. Box 7208 Orange, CA 92863 Telephone: (800) 523-5773

For your convenience, the Administrator has uploaded various documents for this case to the following website: johnson-et-al-v-the-jg-wentworth-company-and-settlement-funding-llc.phoenixcases.com. Should you desire any additional information, or if you wish to communicate directly with Class Counsel, you may contact them at the contact information noted here:

Class Counsel
Brian Mankin, Esq. brian@LMLfirm.com Misty Lauby, Esq. misty@LMLfirm.com Lauby Mankin Lauby LLP 5198 Arlington Ave, PMB 513 Riverside, CA 92504 Tel: (951) 320-1444

You may also seek advice and guidance from your own private attorney at your own expense, if you so desire.

This Notice is only a summary. For more detailed information, you may review the Settlement Agreement, containing the complete terms of the proposed Settlement at the URL link above. It is also on file with the Court and attached to the Declaration of Brian Mankin in Support of Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement filed on December 8, 2023 and which is available to be inspected at any time during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk, San Diego County Superior Court, at 330 W Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101.

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SUPERIOR COURT OR DEFENDANTS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT

10. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Settlement 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.

11. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

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

Exhibit B



CASE ASSUMPTIONS

Class Members	100
Opt Out Rate	1%
Opt Outs Received	1
Total Class Claimants	99
Subtotal Admin Only	\$6,671.56

Flat Fee Total **\$6,000.00**
For 100 Class Members

Pricing Good for Scope of Estimate Only

All Aspects of Escheating to the State of CA Included

September 21, 2023

Case: Johnson v. JG Wentworth , Opt-Out Administration

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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 **100** 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 day

Case & Database Setup / Toll Free Setup & Call Center / NCOA (USPS)

Administrative Tasks:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item	Estimate
Programming Manager	\$100.00	2		\$200.00
Programming Database & Setup	\$100.00	2		\$200.00
Toll Free Setup*	\$150.00	1		\$150.00
Call Center & Long Distance	\$2.00	10		\$20.00
NCOA (USPS)	\$20.00	1		\$20.00
Total				\$590.00

* Up to 120 days after disbursement

Data Merger & Scrub / Notice Packet, Opt-Out Form & Postage / Website / Reminder Postcard

Project Action	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item	Estimate
Notice Packet Formatting	\$100.00	2		\$200.00
Data Merge & Duplication Scrub	\$0.10	100		\$10.00
Notice Packet & Opt-Out Form	\$1.35	100		\$135.00
Estimated Postage (up to 2 oz.)*	\$0.64	100		\$64.00
Static Website	\$200.00	1		\$200.00
Check Cashing Reminder Postcard	\$0.60	21		\$12.47
Postage Included				
Total				\$621.47

* 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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CLASS ACTION ADMINISTRATION SOLUTIONS

Skip Tracing & Remailing Notice Packets / Tracking & Programming Undeliverables

Project Action:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item	Estimate
Case Associate	\$55.00	4		\$220.00
Skip Tracing Undeliverables	\$1.00	20		\$20.00
Remail Notice Packets	\$0.75	17		\$12.75
Estimated Postage	\$0.64	17		\$10.88
Programming Undeliverables	\$50.00	1		\$50.00
			Total	\$313.63

Database Programming / Processing Opt-Outs, Deficiencies or Disputes

Project Action:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item	Estimate
Programming Database	\$150.00	2		\$300.00
Non Opt-Out Processing	\$200.00	1		\$200.00
Case Associate	\$55.00	3		\$165.00
Opt-Outs/Deficiency/Dispute Letters	\$10.00	4		\$40.00
Case Manager	\$85.00	2		\$170.00
			Total	\$875.00

Calculation & Disbursement Programming/ Create & Manage QSF/ Mail Checks

Project Action:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item	Estimate
Programming Calculations	\$135.00	1		\$135.00
Disbursement Review	\$135.00	1		\$135.00
Programming Manager	\$95.00	2		\$190.00
QSF Bank Account & EIN	\$135.00	1		\$135.00
Check Run Setup & Printing	\$135.00	4		\$540.00
Mail Class Checks *	\$0.90	99		\$89.10
Estimated Postage	\$0.64	99		\$63.36
			Total	\$1,287.46

* Checks are printed on 8.5 x 11 in. sheets with W2/1099 Tax Filing & Instructions for downloading tax forms from PHX secure portal



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CLASS ACTION ADMINISTRATION SOLUTIONS

Tax Reporting & Reconciliation / Re-Issuance of Checks / Conclusion Reports and Declarations				
Project Action:	Rate	Hours/Units	Line Item	Estimate
Case Supervisor	\$115.00	2		\$230.00
Remail Checks (Postage Included)	\$1.70	20		\$34.00
Case Associate	\$55.00	3		\$165.00
Reconcile Uncashed Checks	\$85.00	5		\$425.00
Conclusion Reports	\$115.00	2		\$230.00
Case Manager Conclusion	\$85.00	3		\$255.00
Final Reporting & Declarations	\$115.00	3		\$345.00
IRS & QSF Annual Tax Reporting * (1 State Tax Reporting Included)	\$1,000.00	1		\$1,000.00
Check to Cy-Pres	\$150.00	1		Included
Uncashed Checks to the State of California Controllers Office Estimated <u>19</u> Total Class Members	\$300.00	1		\$300.00
Total				\$2,984.00

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

Estimate Total: \$6,671.56



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CLASS ACTION ADMINISTRATION SOLUTIONS

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.