

## **PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

This PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiff Angel Padilla (“Plaintiff”) and Defendant Discovery Practice Management, Inc. (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as “Parties” or individually as “Party.”

### **1. DEFINITIONS.**

- 1.1. “Action” means the Plaintiff’s representative PAGA lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendant captioned *Padilla v. Discovery Practice Management, Inc.*, initiated on or about February 9, 2023, Case No. 23-CIV-00637, and pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Mateo.
- 1.2. “Administrator” means Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions, the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.
- 1.3. “Administration Expenses Payment” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the Administrator’s “not to exceed” bid submitted to the Court in connection with approval of this Settlement.
- 1.4. “Aggrieved Employee” means all non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the PAGA Period.
- 1.5. “Aggrieved Employee Data” means Aggrieved Employee identifying information in Defendant’s possession, including the Aggrieved Employee’s name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, and number of PAGA Pay Periods.
- 1.6. “Aggrieved Employee Address Search” means the Administrator’s investigation and search for current Aggrieved Employee mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, methods, and means, including, but not limited to, the National Change of Address database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Aggrieved Employees.
- 1.7. “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo.
- 1.8. “Defense Counsel” means Nancy Rader Whitehead, Esq. of Scott & Whitehead.
- 1.9. “Effective Date” means the date by which the Court enters a Judgment on its Order Approving the PAGA Settlement.
- 1.10. “Gross Settlement Amount” means One Million One Hundred Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,102,500.00), which is the maximum total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement except as provided in Paragraph 8, below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be paid by Defendant in satisfaction of all claims arising in the Action, including, but not limited to, amounts used to pay Plaintiff’s Service Award, the Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the PAGA Counsel Fees Payment, the PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Administrator’s Expenses Payment.

- 1.11. "Individual PAGA Payment" means an Aggrieved Employee's pro rata share of 25% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of Pay Periods the Aggrieved Employee worked during the PAGA Period.
- 1.12. "Judgment" means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Approval Order.
- 1.13. "LWDA" means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled to 75% of the PAGA Penalties recovered by Aggrieved Employees under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.14. "LWDA PAGA Payment" means 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.15. "Net Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Plaintiff's Service Award, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the PAGA Counsel Fees Payment, the PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Aggrieved Employees as Individual PAGA Payments.
- 1.16. "PAGA Counsel" means Mehrdad Bokhour, Esq. of Bokhour Law Group, P.C. and Joshua Falakassa, Esq. of Falakassa Law, PC, the attorneys representing the Plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.17. "PAGA Counsel Fees Payment" and "PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment" mean the amounts allocated to PAGA Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, respectively, incurred to prosecute the Action.
- 1.18. "PAGA Pay Period" means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.
- 1.19. "PAGA Period" means the period from April 19, 2022, through the date of approval of this Settlement.
- 1.20. "PAGA" means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698 *et seq.*).
- 1.21. "PAGA Notices" means Plaintiff's February 8, 2023, letters to Defendant and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a).
- 1.22. "PAGA Penalties" means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees and 75% to LWDA in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.23. "Pay Period" means any pay period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked at least one day of the pay period and was not on vacation or a leave of absence for the entire workweek.
- 1.24. "Plaintiff" means Angel Padilla, the named Plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.25. "Plaintiff's Service Award" means the service award paid to Plaintiff for serving as the

named Plaintiff in this matter, subject to the approval of the Court.

- 1.26. "Approval Order" means the proposed Court Order Granting Approval of PAGA Settlement.
- 1.27. "Released PAGA Claims" means the claims being released by the Plaintiff and Aggrieved Employees as described in Paragraph 5, below.
- 1.28. "Released Parties" means Defendant and any of its past, present, and future parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, employees, partners, members, shareholders, and agents, attorneys, and any other successors, assigns, or legal representatives.
- 1.29. "Settlement" means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.
- 1.30. "Defendant" means Discovery Practice Management, Inc., the named defendant in the Action.

## **2. RECITALS.**

- 2.1. On February 9, 2023, Plaintiff Angel Padilla commenced this Action by filing a Class Action Complaint against Defendant Discovery Practice Management, Inc., alleging wage and hour violations under the California Labor Code and Business and Professions Code (the "Operative Complaint"). Defendant denies the allegations in the Operative Complaint, denies any failure to comply with the laws identified therein, and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.
- 2.2. On February 8, 2023, pursuant to California Labor Code section 2699.3, subdivision (a), Plaintiff gave timely written notice to Defendant and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") by submitting the required Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") Notice.
- 2.3. On November 8, 2023, the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, granted in part and denied in part Defendant's Motion to Compel Arbitration. The Court ordered Plaintiff's individual and class claims to arbitration, and stayed Plaintiff's representative claims under the Private Attorneys General Act pending further proceedings.
- 2.4. On August 21, 2025, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Abe Melamed, Esq., a well-respected and experienced wage and hour mediator, which led to this Agreement to settle the Action.
- 2.5. Before mediation, Plaintiff obtained, through informal discovery, a randomized sampling of time and payroll records, data, and policies, among other documents and information, to aid in the preparation of Plaintiff's evaluation of the claims and formulation of a damages model.

### 3. MONETARY TERMS.

- 3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8, below, Defendant promises to pay One Million One Hundred Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,102,500.00) and no more as the Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant has no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount before the deadline stated in Paragraph 4 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendant.
- 3.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount in the amounts specified by the Court in the Approval Order:
  - 3.2.1. To PAGA Counsel: A PAGA Counsel Fees Payment of not more than one third of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$367,500, and a PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$25,000.00. Defendant will not oppose requests for Court approval of these payments, provided they do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiff and/or PAGA Counsel will file an application or motion for PAGA Counsel Fees Payment and PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. If the Court approves a PAGA Counsel Fees Payment and/or a PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released Parties shall have no liability to PAGA Counsel or any other Plaintiff's Counsel arising from any claim to any portion of any PAGA Counsel Fees Payment and/or PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the PAGA Counsel Fees Payment and PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment using one or more IRS 1099 Forms.
  - 3.2.2. To Plaintiff: From the Gross Settlement amount Plaintiff will receive a Service Award in the amount of \$10,000 for serving as the Plaintiff in this matter, subject to the approval of the Court.
  - 3.2.3. To the Administrator: An Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed \$12,500.00, except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the expenses incurred by the Administrator in connection with this Settlement are less, or the Court approves an Administration Expenses Payment of less than \$12,500.00, the Administrator will allocate the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.
  - 3.2.4. To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties to be paid from the remaining Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% of the remaining Gross Settlement Amount (~\$515,625) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (~\$171,875) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.
    - 3.2.4.1. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA

Penalties by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

3.2.4.2. If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

#### **4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.**

- 4.1. Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. Based on a review of its records to date, Defendant estimates the Aggrieved Employees worked a total of 63,000 PAGA Pay Periods.
- 4.2. Aggrieved Employee Data. Within ten business days of the Effective Date of this Agreement, Defendant will deliver the Aggrieved Employee Data to the Administrator in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Aggrieved Employees' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Aggrieved Employee Data in confidence, use the Aggrieved Employee Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Aggrieved Employee Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Aggrieved Employee Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify PAGA Counsel if they discover that the Aggrieved Employee Data omitted employee identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Aggrieved Employee Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant must send the Aggrieved Employee Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Aggrieved Employee Data.
- 4.3. Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fund the total Gross Settlement Amount of One Million One Hundred Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,102,500.00) in twelve (12) equal monthly installments of Ninety-One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$91,875.00). The first installment shall be due thirty (30) calendar days after final Court approval of the settlement and the Effective Date, with each of the remaining eleven (11) installments due on the same day of each successive month thereafter, until the Gross Settlement Amount has been paid in full.
- 4.4. Default and Acceleration. If Defendant fails to timely make any installment payment, Defendant shall have a cure period of thirty (30) calendar days after written notice from Class Counsel and/or the Settlement Administrator. If Defendant fails to cure within that period, the entire unpaid balance of the Gross Settlement Amount shall become immediately due and payable. In addition, any unpaid amounts shall accrue interest at the legal rate under California law from the date of default until paid in full. Plaintiff and Class Counsel shall be entitled to seek entry of judgment for the remaining balance plus accrued interest, attorneys' fees, and costs incurred in enforcing the judgment.

- 4.5. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 7 days after Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for Plaintiff's Service Award, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Expenses Payment, the PAGA Counsel Fees Payment, and the PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. Disbursement of the PAGA Counsel Fees Payment and the PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment shall not precede disbursement of Individual PAGA Payments.
- 4.5.1. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Aggrieved Employees via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (not less than 180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided. The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. Before mailing any checks, the Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.
- 4.5.2. The Administrator must conduct an Aggrieved Employee Address Search for all Aggrieved Employees whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding addresses. Within seven days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must re-mail the check to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Aggrieved Employee Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Aggrieved Employees whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Aggrieved Employee whose original check was lost or misplaced, if requested by the Aggrieved Employee prior to the void date.
- 4.5.3. For any Aggrieved Employee whose Individual PAGA Payment check remains uncashed and is cancelled after the void date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Aggrieved Employee.
- 4.5.4. The payment of Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to the Aggrieved Employees (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.
5. **RELEASES OF CLAIMS.** Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff and Aggrieved Employees will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:
- 5.1 Release by the LWDA, State of California, and Aggrieved Employees: The LWDA, State of California, and all Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, 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 stated in the Operative Complaint and the PAGA Notice.

6. **MOTION OR APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT.** The Parties agree that Plaintiff's counsel will subsequently draft and file an application or motion for approval of this Settlement, including the notice to be provided to the Aggrieved Employees. The Parties will jointly seek to immediately vacate or stay all dates in the Action, pending approval by the Court of the Settlement, and will seek a date for the hearing on the motion for approval of this Settlement as soon as possible.

- 6.1 Plaintiff's Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare all documents necessary for obtaining approval of this Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2) including (i) a draft proposed Order Granting Approval of PAGA Settlement; (ii) a signed declaration from the Administrator attaching its "not to exceed" bid for administering the Settlement and attesting to its willingness to serve; competency; operative procedures for protecting the security of Aggrieved Employee Data; amounts of insurance coverage for any data breach, defalcation of funds or other misfeasance; all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Aggrieved Employees or the LWDA; and the nature and extent of any financial relationship with Plaintiff, PAGA Counsel or Defense Counsel; (iii) a signed declaration from PAGA Counsel attesting to its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)); and (iv) all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflict of interest with Aggrieved Employees and/or the Administrator.
- 6.2 Responsibilities of Counsel. PAGA Counsel are responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the application or motion for approval of this Settlement no later than 60 days after the full execution of this Agreement and, if necessary, obtaining a prompt hearing date for the motion and appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the motion. PAGA Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court's Preliminary Approval to the Administrator.
- 6.3 Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed application or motion for approval of this Settlement and/or the supporting declarations and documents, PAGA Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant the motion for approval of this Settlement or conditions its approval on any material change to this Agreement, PAGA Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

7. **SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

- 7.1 Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected ILYM Group, Inc. ("ILYM") to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, ILYM agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of

Administration Expenses Payment. The Parties, PAGA Counsel, and Defense Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.

- 7.2 Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number to provide reports to state and federal tax authorities.
- 7.3 Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.
- 7.4 Administrator's Duties. The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.

8. **AGGRIEVED EMPLOYEE SIZE ESTIMATES AND ESCALATOR CLAUSE.** This settlement is based on Plaintiff's understanding (based on information supplied by Defendant) that members of the PAGA Group worked approximately 63,000 pay periods during the PAGA Period. If it is determined that the number of pay periods during the PAGA Period exceeds 70,875 pay periods (63,000, plus 12.5% of 63,000), then Defendant may elect to either: end the PAGA Period on the date on which the number of pay periods reached 70,875, with no further liability for pay periods thereafter; or increase the Gross Settlement Amount for all pay periods beyond 70,875 at the fixed rate of Seventeen Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$17.50) per pay period, in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount set forth in this Agreement.

9. **CONTINUING JURISDICTION OF THE COURT.** The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement pursuant to CCP section 664.6 solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing Settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

10. **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

10.1 No Admission of Liability or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendant has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason, the Court does not approve this Settlement, Defendant reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement, and the Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

10.2 Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement,

together with its attached exhibits, shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.

- 10.3 Attorney Authorization. PAGA Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.
- 10.4 Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying this Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence, and supplementing points and authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution. In the event that the Court refuses to approve any economic term or term related to the scope of the claims release, Defendant, at its option, may void the Settlement. A reduction in the amount of PAGA Counsel Fees Payment and PAGA Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment is not a basis to void the Settlement. In the event that the Court refuses to approve any term related to the scope of the release, the Parties agree to return to mediation in order to attempt to address the concerns of the Court, and, upon reaching an agreement, submit a revised agreement to the Court.
- 10.5 No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.
- 10.6 No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiff, PAGA Counsel, Defendant, nor Defense Counsel is providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.
- 10.7 Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court.
- 10.8 Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
- 10.9 Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.
- 10.10 Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation

of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

- 10.11 Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered, during the Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive the execution of this Agreement.
- 10.12 Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.
- 10.13 Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all references to “days” in this Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.
- 10.14 Notice. All notices, demands or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Mehrdad Bokhour<br/> <i>mehrdad@bokhourlaw.com</i><br/>                     Bokhour Law Group, P.C.<br/>                     1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 920<br/>                     Los Angeles, California 90067<br/>                     310-975-1493</p> | <p>Joshua Falakassa<br/> <i>josh@falakassalaw.com</i><br/>                     Falakassa Law, PC<br/>                     1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 920<br/>                     Los Angeles, California 90067<br/>                     818-456-6168</p> |
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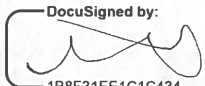
To Defendant:

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| <p>Nancy Rader. Whitehead<br/> <i>nwhitehead@employerlaw.com</i><br/>                     Scott &amp; Whitehead<br/>                     2601 Main Street, Suite 510<br/>                     Irvine, California 92614</p> |
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- 10.15 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e., DocuSign), or email, which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts, and each of them, will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties exchange signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
- 10.16 Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement.
- 10.17 No Public Comment. The Parties and their counsel agree not to issue any press releases, initiate any contact with the press, respond to any press inquiry, or make any public communication about the fact, amount, or terms of the settlement, except

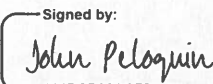
however that this does not prohibit disclosures required by law and/or between Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel and their expert, or between Defendant and Defendant's counsel and their expert, and those within Defendant's organization or financial advisors/accountants with a need to know in order to approve or execute the terms of this Settlement Agreement. In response to any inquiries Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel will state that "the case was resolved with Court approval." Plaintiff's Counsel shall not report the settlement or its content in any medium or in any publication, shall not post or report anything regarding the claims of Plaintiff or the Settlement Class on their website, and shall not contact any reporters or media regarding the settlement, the Action, or their content. However, Plaintiff's Counsel is authorized and required by law to make disclosure to the Court and the LWDA for the purposes of obtaining the approval of the settlement, concluding any superior court or appellate court proceedings in the Action, and complying with any California Rules of Court or ethical requirements. This disclosure is limited to court filings, electronic submission of settlement documents to the LWDA, and verbal statements made at hearings or conferences with a judicial officer. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel, or their representatives, are not permitted to disseminate or publish, distribute, or discuss the information provided to the Court in those filings outside the filings themselves and any hearing held on those filings, unless ordered otherwise by the Court. Nothing in this provision is intended to prohibit: (i) Plaintiff from discussing this settlement with their spouses, attorneys, tax advisors, or taxing authorities; (ii) Plaintiff's Counsel from citing the settlement in this case as evidence supporting their competence as counsel in wage/hour and/or class action matters in public court filings; or (iii) Plaintiff's counsel from communicating with the settlement administrator, Plaintiff in this case, the LWDA, or with the court in which this action is pending; (iv) Plaintiff's counsel to report on the settlement in other courts as may be required by the California Rules of Court or when responding to any inquiry from another court; (v) Plaintiff's counsel from discussing the settlement with the Aggrieved Employees if contacted with questions about the settlement or the distribution of settlement proceeds.

9/23/2025  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

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Plaintiff Angel Padilla

Defendant Discovery Practice Management, Inc.

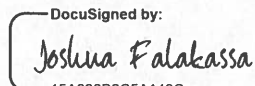
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By John Peloquin, CEO

**AGREED AS TO FORM**

Dated: 9/23/2025, 2025

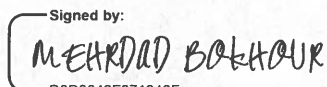
**FALAKASSA LAW, P.C.**

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Joshua S. Falakassa, Esq.  
Counsel for Plaintiff and the PAGA Members

**BOKHOUR LAW GROUP, P.C.**

Dated: 9/23/2025, 2025

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Mehrdad Bokhour, Esq.  
Counsel for Plaintiff and the PAGA Members

**SCOTT & WHITEHEAD**

Dated: 9/24/2025, 2025



Nancy Rader Whitehead  
Counsel for Defendant  
Discovery Practice Management, Inc.