SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Civil Division

Central District, Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Department 309

22STCV16900 October 20, 2026
TAMARA BROCK, et al. vs WESTLAKE SERVICES, LLC 8:30 AM

Judge: Honorable Jon R. Takasugi
Judicial Assistant: Marisa Ventura
Courtroom Assistant: Gustavo Chavez

CSR: None
ERM: None
Deputy Sheriff: None

APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff(s): James H. Cordes (Telephonic)

For Defendant(s): Neil Eddington for P. Renee Renee LoCascio

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: Order to Show Cause Re: Dismissal;

Hearing on Motion - Other NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO APPROVE PAGA SETTLEMENT

The Court's tentative ruling is posted online for parties and counsel to review. Counsel submit to the tentative ruling.

The Court adopts its tentative ruling as the final order of the court, as follows:

Plaintiffs' motion for final approval of the PAGA Settlement is GRANTED. Plaintiffs are awarded $46,666 in attorneys' fees, and $10,000 in costs. Plaintiffs Mark Larsen and Elizabeth Repesa are each awarded $5,000 in enhancement payments.

On May 20, 2022, Plaintiffs Tamara Brock, Wesley Benton, Natalie Haena, Mark Hall, John Hersh, Mark Larsen, Lindy Martin, Elizabeth Repesa and Mercedes Taketa filed this action against Defendant Westlake Services, LLC alleging (1) expense reimbursement (Lab. Code §2802); (2) commission forfeiture (Lab. Code §221); (3) unpaid overtime wages (Lab. Code §1194); (4) unpaid wages and civil penalties (Lab. Code §558); (5) waiting time penalties (Lab. Code §203); (6) unfair business practices; (7) employment discrimination on the basis of disability; and (8) retaliation. On May 26, 2023, Plaintiffs filed a first amended complaint (FAC) adding a ninth cause of action under the Private Attorney General Act (PAGA), and Labor Code section 2699, *et seq.*

Now, Plaintiffs Mark Larsen and Elizabeth Repesa move for final approval of the PAGA settlement.

The motion is unopposed.

Discussion

The basic terms of the PAGA Settlement Agreement (Settlement Agreement) provide for the following:

- Gross Settlement Amount: $140,000.00
- Plaintiff' Service Award: $ 5,000 to each plaintiff for a total of $10,000
- Fees Award: $ 46,666 (33% of the Gross Settlement Amount)
- Costs Award: $ 10,000 in expenses
- Payment to Aggrieved Employees: $ 18,333.50
- Payment to LWDA: $ 55,000.50
- Settlement Administration Costs: $ 3,250

To determine whether a settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable, the court must independently and objectively analyze the evidence and circumstances before it in order to determine whether the settlement is in the best interests of those whose claims will be extinguished. (*Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.*¿(2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 130.) A non-exhaustive list of factors that the trial court should consider in evaluating the reasonableness of a class action settlement agreement includes the strength of plaintiffs' case, the risk, expense, complexity and likely duration of further litigation, the risk of maintaining class action status through trial, the amount offered in settlement, the extent of discovery completed and stage of the proceedings, the experience and views of counsel, the presence of a governmental participant, and the reaction of the class members to the proposed settlement. (*Id*. at 129.)

Here, the parties engaged in informal discovery, participated in mediation, and the Settlement Amount reflects the competing risks associated with litigating these claims. Plaintiffs' motion thoroughly sets forth an analysis of the competing risks here, to show that considerable thought and investigation was put into the decision to settle the claims. (*See* Cordes Decl. ISO of Motion to Approve PAGA Settlement.)

The Court also finds the requested litigation reimbursement fees and costs, as well as the settlement administration costs, to be reasonable. (*See Laffitte v. Robert Half Intern. Inc.* (Cal. 2016) 205 Cal.Rptr.3d 555, 573.)

Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff's motion for approval of the PAGA settlement is

granted.

It is so ordered.

The Motion for Order TO APPROVE PAGA SETTLEMENT filed by ELIZABETH REPESA, MARK LARSEN on 07/16/2026 is Granted.

Order to Show Cause Re: Dismissal is continued to 02/24/27 at 08:30 AM in Department 309 at Stanley Mosk Courthouse.

Notice is waived.