

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement (“Agreement” or “Settlement”) is reached by and between Plaintiff Heather Russell (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all members of the Settlement Class (defined below), on the one hand, and Defendant Sweetwater Care Resource LLC (“Sweetwater”) and Defendant Gateway Care LLC (“Gateway”) (Sweetwater and Gateway together, “Defendants”), on the other hand. Plaintiff and Defendants are referred to herein each as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties.” Plaintiff and the Settlement Class are represented by Neil M. Larsen of Abramson Labor Group (“Class Counsel”). Defendants are represented by Julie Vogelzang of Schor Vogelzang & Chung LLP (“Defense Counsel”).

Plaintiff filed a class action complaint against Defendants in San Diego County Superior Court (the “Court”), titled *Heather Russell v. Sweetwater Care Resource LLC*, Case No. 37-2023-00020793-CU-OE-CTL on May 16, 2023 (the “Action”). The operative First Amended Complaint in the Action, filed on July 21, 2023 (the “Complaint”), alleges claims against Defendants for: (i) failure to pay overtime wages; (ii) meal period violations; (iii) failure to pay meal period premiums at the regular rate of compensation; (iv) rest period violations; (v) failure to reimburse business expenses; (vi) wage statement violations; (vii) waiting time penalties; (viii) unfair competition; and (ix) civil penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”), Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*

Given the uncertainty of litigation, the Parties wish to settle Plaintiff’s claims on a classwide and representative basis. Accordingly, Plaintiff and Defendants agree as follows:

1. **Settlement Class.** For purposes of this Settlement only, Plaintiff and Defendants stipulate to the certification of a “Settlement Class,” which shall be defined as:

All current and former non-exempt employees employed by Defendant Gateway Care LLC in California who worked at any time during the period from May 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

Defendants represent that there are approximately 402 Settlement Class members.

The Parties agree that certification for purposes of settlement is not an admission that class certification is proper under Section 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure in a non-settlement context. If for any reason this Settlement is not approved or is terminated, this agreement to class certification will be inadmissible and will have no effect in this matter or in any claims brought on the same or similar allegations, and the Parties shall revert to the respective positions they held prior to entering into the Settlement.

2. **PAGA Members and PAGA Period.** The “PAGA Members” are defined as those Settlement Class members employed by Gateway in California who worked at any time from May 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 (the “PAGA Period”).
3. **Release by Settlement Class.** Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date (defined below) and the Settlement being fully funded by Gateway, Plaintiff and every Settlement Class member who does not opt out of the class portion of the Settlement (“Participating Class Members”) will release and discharge Defendants and any and all of their officers, owners, directors, shareholders, members, principals, agents, employees, insurers, accountants,

attorneys, spouses, heirs, subsidiaries, and predecessors (“Released Parties”) from any and all causes of action, claims, rights, damages, and penalties under California law that were alleged in the Complaint or that could have been alleged based on the factual allegations contained in the Complaint and Plaintiff’s Labor & Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) notification letter, filed May 16, 2023, including, but not limited to: (a) any alleged failure by Defendants (1) to pay overtime wages, (2) to provide meal periods or pay meal period premium wages, (3) to pay meal period premiums at the regular rate, (4) to authorize and permit rest periods or pay rest period premium wages, (5) to reimburse or indemnify necessary work expenses, (6) to issue compliant wage statements, and (7) to timely pay wages at the end of employment; (b) any right or claim for unfair business practices in violation of California Business & Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.*, based on the alleged failures set forth in (a)(1) through (a)(7) above; and (c) any violation of the California Labor Code arising from the conduct alleged in (a)(1) through (a)(7) above, including, without limitation, violation of California Labor Code sections 201–204, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 516, 558, 1194, 1198, 2802, 2804, or any other applicable state statute, rule and/or regulation (Wage Order), during the Class Period (“California Released Claims”). In addition, all PAGA Members (whether or not they opt out of the Class settlement) shall release Released Parties from any and all rights or claims for civil penalties pursuant to the PAGA made or that reasonably could have been alleged based on the factual allegations contained in the Complaint and LWDA letter, including but not limited to claims arising under the California Labor Code or Wage Orders based on the alleged failures set forth in (a)(1) through (a)(7) above (“PAGA Released Claims”).

4. **Release by Plaintiff.** Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date and the funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff, as the Class Representative, agrees to further release Released Parties from any and all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, and/or causes of action, of any form whatsoever, arising under federal, state or local wage-and-hour laws, rules, or regulations, whether known or unknown, unforeseen, unanticipated, unsuspected or latent, that have been or could have been asserted by Plaintiff, or the heirs, successors and/or assigns of Plaintiff, arising at any time prior to the date that Plaintiff executes this Agreement. This release expressly excludes any workers’ compensation claim that Plaintiff may have, any claim for unemployment insurance, or any other claims which cannot be released by law. The claims released under this section shall be referred to as “Plaintiff’s Released Claims.” As to Plaintiff’s Released Claims only, Plaintiff expressly waives all rights and benefits under the terms of section 1542 of the California Civil Code. Section 1542 reads as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

5. **Gross Settlement Amount.** As consideration, Gateway, on behalf of Defendants, agrees to pay a “Gross Settlement Amount” or “GSA” of Three Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$325,000.00) in full and complete settlement of the Action, as follows:
 - A. The Parties have agreed to engage Phoenix Settlement Administrators as the “Settlement Administrator” to administer this Settlement.

- B. The Gross Settlement Amount shall be funded by Gateway with the Settlement Administrator no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date (defined below).
- C. This is a non-reversionary settlement. The Gross Settlement Amount includes:
- i. All payments to the Settlement Class;
 - ii. All costs of the Settlement Administrator and settlement administration, which are anticipated to be no greater than \$9,250.00;
 - iii. Up to \$7,500.00 to Plaintiff as a Class Representative Service Payment, in recognition of Plaintiff's contributions to the Action and to the Settlement Class;
 - iv. Class Counsel attorney fees of one-third of the GSA (currently estimated to be \$108,333.33), plus litigation costs and expenses incurred by Class Counsel in relation to the Action as supported by declaration, which are currently estimated to be no greater than \$15,000.00;
 - v. The Parties have set aside \$25,000.00 of the GSA as PAGA civil penalties. Per Labor Code § 2699(i), 75% of such penalties, or \$18,750.00, will be payable to the LWDA, and the remaining 25%, or \$6,250.00, will be payable to Settlement Class Members as the "PAGA Amount" as discussed below.
- D. Defendants' share of payroll taxes on any wage portion of the payments to the Settlement Class shall be paid by Gateway separately from, and in addition to, the Gross Settlement Amount.
- E. **Escalator Clause.** Defendants represent that Settlement Class members were employed for and worked approximately 6,216 pay periods as non-exempt employees in California ("Pay Periods") from May 1, 2022 through March 28, 2024. If the number of Pay Periods that Settlement Class members were employed from May 1, 2022 through March 28, 2024, as determined by the Settlement Administrator after preliminary approval, exceeds 6,216 by more than 10% (i.e., if there are actually 6,838 or more Pay Periods), then either, at the sole option of Defendants, (1) the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase by a pro-rata dollar value equal to the number of Pay Periods in excess of 6,838 (the 10% escalation limit) or (2) the Class Period End Date will be the date immediately prior to the date that the actual number of Pay Periods exceeds 6,216 by 10% (i.e., the number of Pay Periods first equals 6,838). In the event Defendants elect the former option, for example, if the actual number of Pay Periods during the Class Period is twelve percent (12%) higher than 6,216 (i.e., the number of Pay Periods increases to 6,962), then the Gross Settlement Amount will increase by two percent (2%).
- F. **Right to Withdraw.** If more than 10% of Settlement Class members submit valid Requests for Exclusion (discussed below), then at its sole discretion, Gateway shall have the option to void this Settlement Agreement. Gateway must exercise this option within 10 business days after the Settlement Administrator first informs the Parties that more than 10% of Settlement Class members have validly opted out of the Settlement. If Gateway exercises this option, it will be solely responsible for paying any costs incurred by the Settlement Administrator. Defendants and Defense Counsel agree that they will not solicit or otherwise encourage any Settlement Class member to opt out of the Settlement.

6. **Effective Date.** The “Effective Date” of the Agreement shall be the day after both of the following have occurred: (i) the date the final approval order is signed granting final approval of the Settlement, provided the Court sent to Defendants via mail or provided public access to the signed order within five (5) days of the date of the Court’s signature (if there is a delay greater than five (5) days, the Effective Date will be extended a commensurate number of days beyond the date the final order is signed until the earlier of the date which the order is mailed by the Court to Defendants or the date the order is made publicly available and becomes accessible to Defendants), and (ii) Judgment approving the Settlement becomes Final. “Final” shall mean the latest of: (i) if there is an appeal of the Court’s Judgment, the date the Judgment is affirmed on appeal, the date of dismissal of such appeal, or the expiration of the time to file a petition for writ of certiorari to the United States Supreme Court, or, (ii) if a petition for writ of certiorari is filed, the date of denial of the petition for writ of certiorari, or the date the Judgment is affirmed pursuant to such petition; or (iii) if no appeal is filed, the expiration date of the time for filing or noticing any appeal of the Judgment.
7. **Payments to the Settlement Class.** Settlement Class members are not required to submit a claim form to receive a payment from the Settlement (“Settlement Award”). Settlement Awards will be determined and paid as follows:
- A. The Settlement Administrator will deduct from the Gross Settlement Amount the Court-approved amounts for Class Counsel’s attorneys’ fees and litigation costs, Plaintiff’s Class Representative Service Payment, the Settlement Administrator’s administration costs, and PAGA civil penalties. The remaining amount shall be known as the “Net Settlement Amount” or “NSA.” Settlement Awards will be the total of each Settlement Class member’s (i) payment from the NSA and (ii) payment, if any, from the PAGA Amount, as described below.
 - B. Payments from the Net Settlement Amount: The NSA will be distributed to all Participating Class Members based on each Participating Class Member’s proportionate number of Workweeks worked for Gateway during the Class Period. The Settlement Administrator will calculate each Participating Class Member’s payment from the NSA by multiplying the NSA by a fraction, the numerator of which is the Participating Class Member’s number of Workweeks, and the denominator of which is the total Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members.
 - C. Payments from the PAGA Amount (“Individual PAGA Settlement Payments”): In addition to the NSA, 25% of the amount set aside as PAGA civil penalties (i.e., \$6,250.00) has been set aside as the “PAGA Amount,” as mentioned above. The PAGA Amount shall be paid to all PAGA Members (regardless whether they opt out of the Class Settlement). Specifically, each PAGA Member’s payment from the PAGA Amount will be calculated by multiplying the PAGA Amount by a fraction, the numerator of which is the PAGA Member’s number of Pay Periods, and the denominator of which is the total Pay Periods of all PAGA Members.
 - D. Within seven (7) business days following Gateway’s deposit of the Gross Settlement Amount and the employer’s share of payroll taxes with the Settlement Administrator, the Settlement Administrator will calculate Settlement Awards, and

provide the same to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel for review and approval. Within five (5) business days of receiving approval of its calculations by counsel, and provided that the Effective Date has occurred, the Settlement Administrator will prepare and mail Settlement Awards, less applicable taxes and withholdings, to Settlement Class members, the Individual PAGA Settlement Payments to PAGA Members, as well as the Class Representative Service Payment to Plaintiff, the LWDA Payment to the LWDA, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel. The Settlement Administrator shall simultaneously pay all applicable withholdings to the applicable authorities with the necessary reports, submitting copies to Defense Counsel.

- E. For purposes of calculating applicable taxes and withholdings for payments, each Settlement Award shall be allocated as follows: 20% wages, and 80% as penalties, interest, and expense reimbursement. The Settlement Administrator shall issue to Settlement Class members an IRS Form W-2 for amounts deemed "wages" and an IRS Form 1099 for the portions allocated as penalties, interest, and expense reimbursement. As stated above, Gateway is responsible for payment of the employer's share of the payroll taxes on the wage portion of the Settlement Awards, and these taxes will not be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount. Notwithstanding the treatment of the payments to each Settlement Class member above, none of the payments called for by this Settlement are to be treated as earnings, wages, pay, or compensation for any purpose of any applicable bonus, benefit, or retirement plan, unless required by such plans.
 - F. The Individual PAGA Settlement Payments are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. PAGA Members assume full responsibility and liability for any individual taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Settlement Payment.
 - G. Each Settlement Class member who is mailed a Settlement Award must cash their Settlement Award check within 180 days from the date the Settlement Administrator mails it. Any funds payable to a Settlement Class member whose check is not cashed within 180 days after mailing will be deposited by the Settlement Administrator with the California Unclaimed Property Fund, in the name of the Settlement Class member whose check is not cashed. If any Settlement Award check is returned to the Settlement Administrator as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator shall perform a "skip trace" for the Settlement Class member to whom the Settlement Award was mailed, and shall re-mail the Settlement Award to any new address obtained through the skip trace.
 - H. Neither Plaintiff nor Defendants, nor their respective counsel, shall bear any liability for lost or stolen checks, forged signatures on checks, or unauthorized negotiation of checks. Unless responsible by its own acts of omission or commission, the same is true for the Settlement Administrator.
8. **Attorneys' Fees and Costs.** Class Counsel will request a total award of attorneys' fees of one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount (currently estimated at \$108,333.33), plus actual costs and expenses as supported by declaration in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. These amounts will cover any and all work performed and any and all costs incurred in connection with this litigation, including without limitation: all work performed and all

costs incurred to date; and all work to be performed and costs to be incurred in connection with obtaining the Court's approval of this Settlement, including any objections raised and any appeals necessitated by those objections. As noted above, the Settlement Administrator will mail Class Counsel the attorneys' fees and cost award when it mails the Settlement Awards to Settlement Class members. The Settlement Administrator will issue Class Counsel an IRS Form 1099 when the Settlement Administrator pays the fee and cost award approved by the Court.

9. **Class Representative Service Payment.** Plaintiff will request, and Defendants will not oppose, a Class Representative Service Payment of \$7,500.00 from the Gross Settlement Amount, in recognition of Plaintiff's time and risks undertaken in prosecuting the Action, and their service to the Settlement Class. These awards will be in addition to Plaintiff's Settlement Award as a Settlement Class member and shall be reported on an IRS Form 1099 by the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will mail Plaintiff the Class Representative Service Payment when it mails the Settlement Awards to Settlement Class members.
10. **Settlement Administrator.** The Parties will request the appointment of Phoenix Settlement Administrators as Settlement Administrator. Defendants will not object to Plaintiff's seeking permission to pay up to \$9,250.00 from the Gross Settlement Amount for the Settlement Administrator's services. The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for administering the Settlement. Among other things, the Settlement Administrator will be responsible for sending notices to Settlement Class members, calculating Settlement Awards and preparing all checks and mailings, posting the Judgment to its website, and other duties as described in this Settlement. The Settlement Administrator shall be authorized to pay itself from the Gross Settlement Amount only after Settlement Awards have been mailed to Settlement Class members. Any funds allocated for the Settlement Administrator that are not approved by the Court, will revert to the Net Settlement Amount.
11. **Preliminary Approval.** Within a reasonable time after execution of this Settlement Agreement by the Parties, Plaintiff shall apply to the Court for the entry of an Order:
 - A. Conditionally certifying the Settlement Class for purposes of this Settlement;
 - B. Appointing Abramson Labor Group as Class Counsel;
 - C. Appointing Plaintiff as Class Representative for the Settlement Class;
 - D. Approving Phoenix Settlement Administrators as Settlement Administrator;
 - E. Preliminarily approving this Settlement Agreement and its terms as fair, reasonable, and adequate;
 - F. Approving the form and content of the Notice Packet (which is comprised of the Class Notice and the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, attached hereto as Exhibits A and B, respectively), and directing the mailing of same in English and Spanish; and
 - G. Scheduling a Final Approval hearing.
12. **Notice to Settlement Class.** Following preliminary approval, the Settlement Class shall be notified as follows:
 - A. Within fifteen (15) Court days after entry of an order preliminarily approving this Agreement, Defendants will provide the Settlement Administrator with identifying

information for the Settlement Class members in Defendants' possession, including the name, last known address, last known phone number, social security number, number of Pay Periods during the Class Period, number of PAGA Pay Periods, and dates of employment for each Settlement Class member (the "Class Data"). The Class Data shall be provided to the Settlement Administrator in an electronic format satisfactory to the Settlement Administrator. To protect Settlement Class members' privacy rights, the Settlement Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Settlement Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement.

- B. Within fifteen (15) business days from receipt of the Class Data, the Settlement Administrator shall (i) run the names of all Settlement Class members through the National Change of Address ("NCOA") database to determine any updated addresses for Settlement Class members; (ii) update the addresses of any Settlement Class member for whom an updated address was found through the NCOA search; (iii) calculate the estimated Settlement Award for each Settlement Class member, and provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with its calculations for their approval; (iv) provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with formatted versions of the Notice Packets to be sent to Settlement Class members; and (v) after receiving approval from all counsel, mail a Notice Packet to each Settlement Class member at his or her last known address or at the updated address found through the NCOA search, and retain proof of mailing.
- C. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs). Any Settlement Class member who wishes to opt-out of the class portion of the Settlement must complete and mail a Request for Exclusion (defined herein) to the Settlement Administrator on or before sixty (60) calendar days after the date of the initial mailing of the Notice Packets (the "Response Deadline"). The Request for Exclusion is a document prepared by the Settlement Class member that must: (1) contain the Settlement Class member's name, address, phone number, and last four digits of their social security number; (2) contain a statement that the Settlement Class member wishes to be excluded from the Settlement; (3) be signed by the Settlement Class member; and (4) be postmarked by the Response Deadline and mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address specified in the Class Notice. If the Request for Exclusion does not contain the information listed in (1)-(3), it will not be deemed valid for exclusion from this settlement. The date of the postmark on the Request for Exclusion shall be the exclusive means used to determine whether a Request for Exclusion has been timely submitted. Any Settlement Class member who excludes themselves from the Settlement Class will not be entitled to any recovery under this Settlement (except for any share from the PAGA Amount, if applicable), will not be bound by the terms of the Settlement (except for release of the PAGA Released Claims, if applicable), and will not have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon. The Settlement Administrator will provide the Parties with weekly updates regarding the number of Requests for Exclusion received.
- D. Objections. Settlement Class members who do not request exclusion may object to the Settlement by mailing a written objection to the Settlement Administrator as explained in the Class Notice. The Settlement Administrator shall, within two (2) business days of receipt, serve any written objection(s) as received on Class

Counsel and Defense Counsel, and Class Counsel shall then file all such objections with the Court. Defense Counsel and Class Counsel shall file and serve any responses to written objections no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the Final Approval hearing. To be valid, any written objection must: (1) contain the objecting Settlement Class member's full name, current address, telephone number, and e-mail address, as well as contact information for any attorney representing the objecting Settlement Class member for purposes of the objection; (2) include all objections and the factual and legal bases for same; (3) include any and all supporting papers, briefs, written evidence, declarations, and/or other evidence supporting the objection; and (4) be postmarked no later than the Response Deadline. A Settlement Class member who wishes to object but who fails to comply with the procedures set forth herein and/or in the Class Notice shall be deemed not to have objected. Any attorney who intends to represent an objecting Settlement Class member at the Final Approval hearing must submit a Notice of Appearance to the Court and serve it on all Parties on or before the Response Deadline. The Parties and their counsel agree not to take any action to encourage any Settlement Class member to object to the Settlement.

- E. Notice of Estimated Settlement Award / Disputes. Each Notice Packet mailed to Settlement Class members shall contain a Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, in which shall be disclosed the amount of the Settlement Class member's estimated Settlement Award as well as all of the information that was gleaned from Defendants' records in order to calculate the Settlement Award, including their number of Pay Periods they were employed by and worked for Gateway during the Class Period. Settlement Class members will have the opportunity, should they disagree with Defendants' records regarding the information stated in their Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, to provide documentation and/or an explanation to show contrary information. Any such dispute, including any supporting documentation, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator and postmarked by the Response Deadline. If there is a dispute, the Settlement Administrator will consult with counsel for the Parties to determine whether an adjustment to the Settlement Class member's Settlement Award is warranted. The Settlement Administrator shall determine the eligibility for, and the amounts of, any Settlement Award under the terms of this Settlement. The Settlement Administrator's determination of the eligibility for and amount of any Settlement Award shall be binding upon the Settlement Class member and the Parties.
- F. Any Notice Packets returned to the Settlement Administrator as non-delivered on or before the Response Deadline shall be re-mailed to the forwarding address affixed thereto. If no forwarding address is provided, the Settlement Administrator shall make reasonable efforts, including utilizing a "skip trace," to obtain an updated mailing address within three (3) business days of receiving the returned Notice Packet. If an updated mailing address is identified, the Settlement Administrator shall resend the Notice Packet to the Settlement Class member within two (2) business days of obtaining the updated address. The address identified by the Settlement Administrator as the current mailing address shall be presumed to be the best mailing address for each Settlement Class member. Settlement Class members to whom Notice Packets are re-mailed after having been returned to the Settlement Administrator as undeliverable shall have fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of re-mailing, or until the Response Deadline, whichever is later, to

submit a Request for Exclusion, Objection, or dispute, as applicable. Notice Packets that are re-mailed shall inform the recipient of this adjusted deadline, if applicable. If a Settlement Class member's Notice Packet is returned to the Settlement Administrator more than once as non-deliverable, then an additional Notice Packet need not be mailed. Nothing else shall be required of, or done by, the Parties, Class Counsel, or Defense Counsel to provide notice of the Settlement.

13. **Settlement Administrator's Declaration.** Not later than 14 days after the close of the period for submitting Requests for Exclusion, Objections, or disputes under this Settlement Agreement, the Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), and the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Settlement Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Settlement Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.
14. **Final Report by Settlement Administrator.** Within 10 days after the Settlement Administrator disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a Final Report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least 15 days before any deadline set by the Court, the Settlement Administrator will prepare, and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Settlement Administrator's declaration in Court.
15. **Final Approval.** Following preliminary approval and within 60 days of the close of the period for submitting Requests for Exclusion, Objections, or disputes under this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiff shall apply to the Court for entry of an Order:
 - A. Granting final approval of the Settlement and adjudging its terms to be fair, reasonable, and adequate;
 - B. Approving Plaintiff's and Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, Class Representative Service Payment, PAGA civil penalties to the LWDA, and settlement administration costs; and
 - C. Entering judgment pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769.
16. **Non-Admission of Liability.** Defendants deny liability as to the matters alleged in the Action. Nothing in this Settlement shall operate or be construed as an admission of any liability or that class certification is appropriate in any context other than this Settlement. Each of the Parties has entered into this Settlement to avoid the burden and expense of further litigation. Pursuant to California Evidence Code § 1152, this Settlement is inadmissible in any proceeding, except a proceeding to approve, interpret, or enforce this Settlement. If Final Approval does not occur, the Parties agree that this Settlement is void, but remains protected by California Evidence Code § 1152.

17. **Confidentiality.** Plaintiff and Class Counsel agree that, prior to filing a Motion for Preliminary Approval, they will not directly or indirectly disclose or publicize the Settlement contemplated herein, the fact of the Settlement, its terms or contents, or the negotiations underlying the Settlement, in any manner or form, to any person or entity, except to Settlement Class members and as shall be contractually required to effectuate the terms of the Settlement as set forth herein, and except to Plaintiff's spouse or to her attorneys or tax preparers as necessary for those professionals to provide their professional services to Plaintiff.
18. **No Publicity.** Prior to preliminary approval, Class Counsel shall not publicize the settlement on its website or in advertising/marketing materials, other than filing documents with the Court. Plaintiff and Class Counsel agree that they will not issue any press releases or initiate any contact with the media about the fact, amount, or terms of the settlement. If Plaintiff or Class Counsel receive an inquiry about the settlement from the media, they may respond only after the motion for preliminary approval has been filed and only by confirming the accurate terms of the settlement. Nothing in this provision shall prevent Defendants from making any required disclosure. Nothing shall prevent Class Counsel from including a general description of the settlement on their website, without the mention of the names of the parties or the case number. Nor shall anything in this settlement prevent Class Counsel from referring to this case in a declaration establishing qualification as class counsel in future cases.
19. **Continuing Jurisdiction.** Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Court shall retain jurisdiction to construe, interpret and enforce this Settlement, to supervise all notices, the administration of the Settlement, and to hear and adjudicate any dispute arising from or related to the Settlement. The Parties agree that the Court has jurisdiction over the Settlement pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 664.6 and California Rule of Court 3.769.
20. **Disputes.** Any dispute between or among the Parties as to the terms of this Agreement shall initially be presented to the mediator, Monique Ngo-Bonnici, for a non-binding attempt at resolution. If the Court does not initially approve the Settlement, the Parties agree to cooperate in good faith and use their best efforts to amend the Settlement in order to achieve Court approval.
21. **Waiver and Amendment.** The Parties may not waive, amend, or modify any provision of this Settlement except by a written agreement signed by counsel for all of the Parties, and subject to any necessary Court approval. A waiver or amendment of any provision of this Settlement will not constitute a waiver of any other provision.
22. **Amended Judgment.** If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil Procedure section 384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit a proposed amended judgment.
23. **Enforcement Action.** In the event either Party brings an action to enforce the terms of this Settlement, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover his/her/its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred.
24. **Notices.** All notices, demands, and other communications to be provided concerning this Settlement shall be in writing and delivered by receipted delivery and by e-mail at the

addresses set forth below, or such other addresses as either Party may designate in writing from time to time:

if to Defendant(s): Julie A. Vogelzang, Schor Vogelzang & Chung LLP, 2170 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101; julie@svclegal.com

if to Plaintiff: Neil M. Larsen, Abramson Labor Group, 1700 W. Burbank Blvd., Burbank, CA 91506; neil@abramsonlabor.com

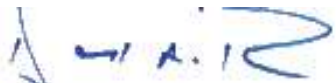
25. **Applicable Law.** All terms and conditions of this Settlement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California, without giving effect to any conflict of law or choice of law principles.
26. **Captions and Interpretations.** Paragraph titles or captions contained herein are inserted as a matter of convenience and for reference, and in no way define, limit, extend, or describe the scope of this Settlement or any provision hereof. Each term of this Settlement is contractual and not merely a recital.
27. **Entire Agreement.** This Settlement contains the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby, and supersedes all negotiations, presentations, warranties, commitments, offers, contracts, and writings prior to the date hereof relating to the subject matters hereof.
28. **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.
29. **Use and Return of Class Data.** Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code §1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendants in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court. Not later than 90 days after the date when the Court discharges the Settlement Administrator's obligation to provide a Declaration confirming the final pay out of all Settlement funds, Plaintiff shall destroy all paper and electronic versions of Class Data received from Defendants unless, prior to the Court's discharge of the Settlement Administrator's obligation, Defendants make a written request to Class Counsel for the return, rather than the destruction, of Class Data.
30. **Counterparts.** This Settlement may be executed by one or more of the Parties on any number of separate counterparts and delivered electronically, and all of said counterparts taken together shall be deemed to constitute one and the same instrument.
31. **Cooperation in Drafting.** The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Settlement. This Settlement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

[Signatures on following page]

AGREED TO AND APPROVED BY:

DATED: Dec 12, 2024

SWEETWATER CARE RESOURCE LLC

By: 
Darryl Ross
General Counsel

DATED: Dec 11, 2024

GATEWAY CARE LLC

By: *Yasmine Moshin*
Yasmine Moshin (Dec 11, 2024 18:55 PST)
Yasmine Moshin
Administrator

DATED: _____

HEATHER RUSSELL

Plaintiff and Class Representative

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ABRAMSON LABOR GROUP

DATED: _____

By: _____
Neil M. Larsen
Attorney for Plaintiff

SCHOR VOGELZANG & CHUNG LLP

DATED: Dec 12, 2024

By:  for
Julie A. Vogelzang
Attorney for Defendant

AGREED TO AND APPROVED BY:

DATED: _____

SWEETWATER CARE RESOURCE LLC

By: _____

Darryl Ross
General Counsel

DATED: _____

GATEWAY CARE LLC

By: _____

Yasmine Moshin
Administrator

DATED: 12/11/24

HEATHER RUSSELL


Heather Russell (Dec 11, 2024 14:15 PST)

Plaintiff and Class Representative

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ABRAMSON LABOR GROUP

DATED: 12/11/2024

By: Neil Larsen

Neil M. Larsen
Attorney for Plaintiff

SCHOR VOGELZANG & CHUNG LLP

DATED: _____

By: _____

Julie A. Vogelzang
Attorney for Defendant

EXHIBIT A

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

HEATHER RUSSELL

Plaintiff,

vs.

SWEETWATER CARE RESOURCE LLC and
GATEWAY CARE LLC

Defendants.

Case No. 37-2023-00020793-CU-OE-CTL

**NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT**

To: All current and former non-exempt employees employed by Defendant Gateway Care LLC (“Gateway”) in California who worked at any time during the period from May 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 (the “Class Period”).

**PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.
YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED WHETHER YOU ACT OR NOT.**

Why should you read this Notice?

The San Diego County Superior Court (“Court”) has granted preliminary approval of a proposed class and representative PAGA action settlement (the “Settlement”) in *Heather Russell v. Gateway Care LLC, et al.*, San Diego County Superior Court Case No. 37-2023-00020793-CU-OE-CTL (the “Action”). Because your rights may be affected by the Settlement, it is important that you read this Notice carefully.

You may be entitled to money from the Settlement. Gateway’s records show that you were employed by and worked for Gateway as a non-exempt employee in California at some point between May 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024 (“Class Period” and “PAGA Period”). You are therefore a member of the proposed “Settlement Class.” The Court ordered that this Notice be sent to you because you may be entitled to money under the Settlement and because the Settlement affects your legal rights.

The purpose of this Notice is to provide you with a brief description of the Action, to inform you of the terms of the proposed Settlement, to describe your rights in connection with the Settlement, and to explain what steps you may take to participate in, object to, or exclude yourself from the Settlement. If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement and the Court finally approves the Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement and any final judgment. If final judgment is entered in this case, it will be posted to the Settlement Administrator’s website, www.phoenixclassaction.com.

What is this case about?

Plaintiff Heather Russell (“Plaintiff”) has filed a lawsuit (“Lawsuit”) alleging that Defendants violated California law. In the operative First Amended Complaint (“Complaint”), Plaintiff alleges that Defendants: (i) failed to pay all overtime wages owed; (ii) failed to provide meal periods, (iii) failed to pay meal period premiums at the regular rate of compensation, (iv) failed to authorize and permit rest periods and pay rest period premiums, (v) failed to reimburse employee expenses, (vi) failed to issue accurate itemized wage statements; (vii) failed to pay all wages at separation of employment; and, as a result of the above, (viii) engaged in unlawful business practices. In addition,

Plaintiff seeks civil penalties under the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”). Plaintiff’s attorneys, who also represent the interests of all Settlement Class members, are known as “Class Counsel.”

Defendants deny that they have done anything wrong, maintain that they have acted in compliance with all applicable laws and that Plaintiff’s claims have no merit. Defendants also deny that they owe any wages, restitution, penalties, or other damages. By agreeing to settle, Defendants are not admitting liability on any of the claims asserted in the Action or that the Action can or should proceed as a class action in a non-settlement context.

The Court has not ruled on the merits of Plaintiff’s claims. However, to avoid additional expense, inconvenience, and interference with its business operations, Defendants have concluded that it is in their best interests to settle the Action on the terms summarized in this Notice. After Defendants provided relevant information to Class Counsel, the Settlement was reached after mediation and arm’s-length negotiations between the parties.

Plaintiff and Class Counsel also support the Settlement. Among the reasons for support are the defenses potentially available to Defendants, the risk of denial of class certification, the inherent risks of trial on the merits, and the delays and uncertainties associated with litigation.

If you still work for Gateway, your decision about whether to participate in the Settlement will not affect your employment status with Gateway. California law and Gateway company policy strictly prohibit unlawful retaliation. Gateway will not target, retaliate, or discriminate against any Settlement Class member because of the Settlement Class member’s decision to either participate or not participate in the Settlement.

Who are the Attorneys?

Attorneys for Plaintiff / the Settlement Class:	Attorneys for Defendant(s):
ABRAMSON LABOR GROUP Neil M. Larsen neil@abramsonlabor.com 1700 W. Burbank Blvd. Burbank, California 91506 Tel: (213) 723-2522 www.abramsonlaborgroup.com	SCHOR VOGELZANG & CHUNG LLP Julie A. Vogelzang julie@svclegal.com 2170 Fourth Avenue San Diego, California 92101 Tel.: (619) 906-2400 www.svclegal.com

What are the terms of the Settlement?

Gateway has agreed to pay \$325,000.00 (the “Gross Settlement Amount”) to fully resolve all claims in the Action, including claims by Settlement Class members, attorneys’ fees, costs, settlement administration costs, PAGA civil penalties, and the Class Representative Service Payment.

The following deductions from the Gross Settlement Amount will be requested by the parties:

Settlement Administration Costs. The Court has approved Phoenix Settlement Administrators to act as the “Settlement Administrator,” who is sending this Notice to you and will perform many other duties relating to the Settlement. The Court has approved setting aside up to \$9,250.00 from the Gross Settlement Amount to pay the Settlement administration costs.

Attorneys’ Fees and Costs. Class Counsel will ask for fees of up to one-third of Gross Settlement Amount, currently estimated to be \$108,333.33, as reasonable compensation for the work Class Counsel performed, and will continue to perform, in this Action through Settlement finalization. Class Counsel also will ask for reimbursement of up to \$15,000.00 for

reimbursement of verified costs Class Counsel incurred in connection with the Lawsuit.

Class Representative Service Payments. Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve an award of \$7,500 to Plaintiff, also known as the “Class Representative.” This award is to compensate the Class Representative for her service and extra work provided on behalf of the Settlement Class.

PAGA Civil Penalties. The parties have agreed to allocate \$25,000 of the Gross Settlement Amount for the settlement of Plaintiff’s PAGA claim. Pursuant to the requirements of the PAGA, seventy-five percent (75%) of that amount, or \$18,750, will be paid to the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”). The remaining \$6,250 has been designated as the “PAGA Amount” and will be paid to certain Settlement Class members as described below.

Calculation of Settlement Class Members’ Settlement Awards. After deducting the Court-approved amounts above, the balance of the Gross Settlement Amount will form the Net Settlement Amount (“NSA”), which will be distributed to all Settlement Class members who do not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion (described below). The NSA is estimated to be approximately \$159,916.67. Together with the \$6,250 PAGA Amount, the total amount to be distributed to Settlement Class members is estimated to be \$166,166.67. Payments to Settlement Class members, known as “Settlement Awards,” will be calculated as follows:

NSA Distribution: All Participating Class Members (i.e., all Settlement Class members who do not opt out of the Settlement) will receive a payment from the NSA based on each Participating Class Member’s proportionate number of pay periods worked for Gateway as a non-exempt employee in California during the Class Period.

PAGA Amount Distribution: In addition to the NSA, \$6,250 of the Gross Settlement Amount has been designated as the “PAGA Amount” as described above, and will be proportionately allocated, by number of pay periods, to all Settlement Class members (whether or not they opt out) who worked for Gateway as a non-exempt employee in California at any time during the Class Period.

The enclosed “**Notice of Estimated Settlement Award**” contains your estimated payment under the Settlement, as well as the data from Gateway’s records that was relied upon in calculating your estimated payment.

Allocation and Taxes. For tax purposes, the NSA Distribution portion of the Settlement Awards shall be treated as follows: 20% wages (with withholdings taken), and 80% penalties, interest, and expense reimbursements. 100% of the PAGA Amount will be treated as penalties with no withholdings taken. The Settlement Administrator will issue IRS forms W-2 for all amounts designated as “wages,” and will issue IRS forms 1099 for all amounts designated as penalties and interest. Settlement Class members are responsible for the proper income tax treatment of the Settlement Awards. The Settlement Administrator, Defendants and their counsel, and Plaintiff and Class Counsel cannot provide tax advice. Accordingly, Settlement Class members should consult with their tax advisors concerning the tax consequences and treatment of payments they receive under the Settlement.

Release. Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date (defined below) and the Settlement being fully funded by Gateway, Plaintiff and every Settlement Class member who does not opt out of the class portion of the Settlement (“Participating Class Members”) will release and discharge Defendants and any and all of their officers, owners, directors, shareholders, members, principals, agents, employees, insurers, accountants, attorneys, spouses, heirs, subsidiaries, and predecessors (“Released Parties”) from any and all causes of action, claims, rights, damages, and penalties under California law that were alleged in the Complaint or that could have been alleged based on the factual allegations contained in the Complaint and Plaintiff’s Labor & Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) notification letter, filed May 16, 2023, including, but not limited to: (a) any alleged failure by Defendants (1) to pay overtime wages, (2) to provide meal periods or pay meal period premium

wages, (3) to pay meal period premiums at the regular rate, (4) to authorize and permit rest periods or pay rest period premium wages, (5) to reimburse or indemnify necessary work expenses, (6) to issue compliant wage statements, and (7) to timely pay wages at the end of employment; (b) any right or claim for unfair business practices in violation of California Business & Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.*, based on the alleged failures set forth in (a)(1) through (a)(7) above; and (c) any violation of the California Labor Code arising from the conduct alleged in (a)(1) through (a)(7) above, including, without limitation, violation of California Labor Code sections 201–204, 226, 226.7, 510, 512, 516, 558, 1194, 1198, 2802, 2804, or any other applicable state statute, rule and/or regulation (Wage Order), during the Class Period (“California Released Claims”).

In addition, all PAGA Members (whether or not they opt out of the Class settlement) shall release Released Parties from any and all rights or claims for civil penalties pursuant to the PAGA made or that reasonably could have been alleged based on the factual allegations contained in the Complaint and LWDA letter, including but not limited to claims arising under the California Labor Code or Wage Orders based on the alleged failures set forth in (a)(1) through (a)(7) above (“PAGA Released Claims”).

Conditional Settlement. By granting preliminary approval of the Settlement, the Court has determined that the Settlement falls within the range of possible approval as fair, reasonable, and adequate. This Settlement is conditioned upon the Court entering an order at or following the Final Approval Hearing finally approving the Settlement.

How can I claim money from the Settlement?

Do Nothing. You do not need to do anything if you want to receive payment from and participate in the Settlement. If you do nothing, you will be entitled to your Settlement Award based on the number of pay periods you were employed by and worked for Gateway during the Class Period. Your estimated individual Settlement Award is included in the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award. You also will be bound by the Settlement, including the release of claims stated herein.

Check Cashing Deadline and Uncashed Checks. You must cash or deposit your Settlement Award check within 180 days from the date that the Settlement Administrator mails the check to you. If you do not cash or deposit your check within 180 days, your check will be voided and the funds from the check will escheat to the State of California Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

What other options do I have?

Disputing Information in Notice of Estimated Settlement Award. Your estimated Settlement Award has been calculated and is included in the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award. As stated above, your estimated Settlement Award is based on the number of pay periods you were employed by and worked for Gateway during the Class Period. The information contained in Gateway’s records regarding each of these factors is listed on the accompanying Notice of Estimated Settlement Award.

If you disagree with the information in your Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, you may submit a dispute, along with any supporting documentation, in accordance with the procedures stated in the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award. Any disputes, along with supporting documentation, must be postmarked no later than **<<RESPONSE DEADLINE>>**. **DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS; DOCUMENTATION SENT TO THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR WILL NOT BE RETURNED OR PRESERVED.** The parties and the Settlement Administrator will evaluate the evidence submitted and discuss in good faith how to resolve any disputes submitted by Settlement Class members. The Settlement Administrator’s decision regarding any dispute will be final.

Exclude Yourself from the Class Portion of the Settlement. If you **do not** wish to take part in the class portion of the Settlement, you may exclude yourself by sending to the Settlement Administrator a written “Request for Exclusion” letter, postmarked no later than **<<RESPONSE DEADLINE>>**, with your full name, address, telephone number, last 4 digits of your social security number, your signature, and a statement that you wish to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class in the *Russell v. Gateway Care* lawsuit.

Send any Request for Exclusion directly to the Settlement Administrator at <<INSERT ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT INFO>>. Any person who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion shall, upon receipt, no longer be a Settlement Class member with respect to the class claims, shall be barred from participating in the class portion of the Settlement, and shall receive no benefits from the class portion of the Settlement. Any person who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion will also lack standing to submit any objection to the Settlement. However, all Settlement Class members who were employed by Gateway during the Class Period (even those who submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion) will be bound by the PAGA portion of the Settlement, including the PAGA Released Claims, and will receive a portion of the PAGA Amount.

Objecting to the Settlement. If you do not submit a Request for Exclusion, you have the right to object to the terms of the class Settlement. However, if the Court rejects your objection, you will still be bound by the terms of the Settlement. If you wish to object to the class Settlement, or any portion of it, you may mail a written Objection to the Settlement Administrator. Any Objection must include your full name, current address, current phone number and e-mail address, the name and contact information of any attorney representing you, each specific reason in support of your objection, and any legal or factual support for each objection, including any supporting papers, briefs, written evidence, declarations, and/or other evidence. All objections or other written correspondence must state the name and number of the case, which is *Russell v. Gateway Care LLC*, San Diego County Superior Court Case No. 37-2023-00020793-CU-OE-CTL. Any written Objection must be postmarked on or before <<RESPONSE DEADLINE>>.

If you submit an objection to the Settlement, you may also appear at the Final Approval Hearing to discuss your objection with the Court. You have the right to appear either in person or through your own attorney. If you wish to appear at the Final Approval Hearing and/or retain an attorney to represent you at the hearing, you must do so at your own expense. Any attorney who intends to represent an individual objecting to the Settlement must file a notice of appearance with the Court and serve counsel for all parties on or before <<RESPONSE DEADLINE>>.

If you object to the Settlement, you will remain a Settlement Class member, and if the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement in the same way as Settlement Class members who do not object. In other words, by submitting an Objection, you are not excluding yourself from the Settlement.

What is the next step?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on the adequacy, reasonableness, and fairness of the Settlement on <<FINAL APPROVAL HEARING DATE/TIME>>, in Department C-70 of the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will also be asked to rule on Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of costs, the Class Representative Service Payment, and the Settlement administration costs. The Final Approval Hearing may be postponed or moved without further notice to the Settlement Class. **You are not required to attend the Final Approval Hearing, although any Settlement Class member is welcome to attend the hearing at their own expense.**

How can I get additional information?

This Notice is only a summary of the Action and the Settlement. For more information, you may consult the Court's online Register of Actions webpage located at <https://roa.sdcourt.ca.gov/roa/>. You may also contact the Settlement Administrator or Class Counsel using the contact information listed above for more information.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR WRITE THE COURT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THIS SETTLEMENT.

REMINDER AS TO TIME LIMITS

The deadline for submitting any Disputes, Requests for Exclusion, or Objections is <<**RESPONSE DEADLINE**>>. These deadlines will be strictly enforced.

EXHIBIT B

NOTICE OF ESTIMATED SETTLEMENT AWARD

RUSSELL v. GATEWAY CARE LLC, ET AL.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 37-2023-00020793-CU-OE-CTL

Please complete, sign, and return this Form to <<ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT INFO>> **ONLY IF** (1) your personal contact information has changed, and/or (2) you wish to dispute any of the items listed in Section (III), below. It is your responsibility to keep a current address on file with the Settlement Administrator.

(I) Please type or print your name:

(First, Middle, Last)

(II) Please type or print the following identifying information if your contact information has changed:

Former Names (if any)

New Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone number (if you wish to be contacted by phone)

(III) Information Used to Calculate Your Estimated Settlement Award:

According to Gateway's records:

- (a) you were employed by Gateway and worked during _____ pay periods as a non-exempt employee in California between May 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024; and
- (b) you were employed by Gateway for _____ pay periods as a non-exempt employee in California between May 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024;

Based on the above, your Settlement Award is estimated at \$ _____.

(IV) If you disagree with any of the items (a) - (b) in Section (III) above, please explain why in the space provided below and include copies of any supporting evidence or documentation with this Form:

If you dispute the above information from Gateway's records, Gateway's records will control unless you are able to provide documentation that establishes that Gateway's records are mistaken. If there is a dispute about whether Gateway's information or yours is accurate, the dispute will be resolved by the parties and the Settlement Administrator as described in the "Notice of Class Action Settlement" that accompanies this Form. The Settlement Administrator's determination will be final.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

ANY DISPUTES (INCLUDING SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS) MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN <<RESPONSE DEADLINE>>.