

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Civil Division

Central District, Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Department 68

23STCV17089

October 21, 2025

8:30 AM

**MARINA RAMIREZ, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA, AND OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED AND
AGGRIEVED vs THE STAND, LLC, A CALIFORNIA
LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, et al.**

Judge: Honorable Stephen P. Pfahler
Judicial Assistant: Anita Williams
Courtroom Assistant: T. Scott

CSR: None
ERM: None
Deputy Sheriff: None

APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff(s): Appearance by Kirk Donnelly for Brandon Kyle Brouillette (Telephonic)

For Defendant(s): Jesse M. Caryl (Telephonic)

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: Hearing on Motion for Order for Approval of Settlement
Under Private Attorneys General Act;

Order to Show Cause Re: dismissal, including dismissal and monetary sanctions, for plaintiff's
failure to file a request for dismissal

Matter is called for hearing.

The Court has read and considered all documents filed hereto regarding the above-captioned
Motion. The court's tentative ruling has been published to the court's website.

All counsel indicate they have seen and reviewed the Court's tentative ruling.

Counsel inform the court they will submit on the court's tentative ruling.

The Court adopts its tentative ruling set forth below as the Final Ruling:

The Motion of Plaintiff for Approval of Settlement Under Private Attorneys General Act filed by
MARINA RAMIREZ, on behalf of the State of California, and others similarly situated and
aggrieved on 03/25/2025 is Granted.

RULING: Granted.

Plaintiff Marina Ramirez, individually and on behalf of aggrieved parties seeks approval of a
settlement of claims under the Private Attorney General Act of 2004 (PAGA) with Defendant
The Stand, LLC. "The superior court shall review and approve any settlement of any civil action
filed pursuant to [the Private Attorneys General Act]. The proposed settlement shall be submitted

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to the agency at the same time that it is submitted to the court.” (Lab. Code, § 2699, subd. (l-2).)
[Proof of Service.]

Labor Code section 2699, subdivision (i) requires that in an action brought under the Private Attorneys General Act, “civil penalties recovered by aggrieved employees shall be distributed as follows: 75 percent to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency for enforcement of labor laws, . . . and 25 percent to the aggrieved employees.”

The parties settled all claims for a gross settlement amount of \$300,000 for the period of May 15 20122 through December 31, 2024, representing approximately 1,750 aggrieved employees working through 25,000 “PAGA Pay Periods” through “December 1, 2024.” [Declaration of Chad Saunders, Ex. 1: Settlement Agreement, 1.22-1.23.] The Stipulation and Agreement for PAGA Representative Action Settlement stipulates the following allocation: Attorney costs of \$105,000 based on a maximum 35% contingency recovery; actual costs of \$13,149.40, with a provision not to exceed \$25,000; settlement administration costs of \$11,000 [Declaration of Michael Moore]; Payment of \$159,000 to LWDA (75% of PAGA Penalty); a \$10,000 agreed upon “service award” to named Plaintiff [Declaration of Marina Ramirez]; and \$39,750 in net settlement amount distributed to employees (25%). [Settlement, 3.2-3.3.2.4.]

The agreement provides for full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount within 30 days after approval of the settlement. Administrator will mail payments or wire funds within 14 days of funding.

The parties reached this agreement following mediation and negotiations. The release of claims occurs upon the approval of the settlement, The court acknowledges the request for retention or jurisdiction under Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6.

The unopposed motion is granted.

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Moving party to provide notice.

The order to show cause is discharged.