

1 Arrash T. Fattahi (SBN 333676)
2 arrash.fattahi@wilshirelawfirm.com
3 Arman A. Salehi (SBN 351112)
4 arman.salehi@wilshirelawfirm.com
5 Courtney M. Miller (SBN 327850)
6 courtney.miller@wilshirelawfirm.com
7 **WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC**
8 660 S. Figueroa Street, Sky Lobby
9 Los Angeles, California 90017
10 Telephone: (213) 381-9988
11 Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

12 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE

TIMOTHY MCCORMICK, MICHAEL KINDT,
KELLY CARTER, CARLOS ATERRADO,
ALEX MARTINEZ, and ERIC ARAGAKI,
individually, on behalf of all others similarly
situated, and on behalf of the State of California
and other aggrieved persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

AMERIFLEET TRANSPORTATION, INC., a
corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24STCV00682

*[Assigned for All Purposes to the Hon.
Timothy P. Dillon, Dept. 15]*

**PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION
AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL
OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT; MEMORANDUM OF
POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

Final Approval Hearing:

Date: July 7, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Dept: 15

Action Filed: January 9, 2024

FAC Filed: December 12, 2025

1 **TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:**

2 **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on July 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as
3 the matter may be heard in Department 15 of the above-entitled Court, located at 312 N. Spring
4 Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, Plaintiffs Timothy McCormick, Michael Kindt, Kelly
5 Carter, Carlos Aterrado, Alex Martinez, and Eric Aragaki (collectively “Plaintiffs”) will and
6 hereby do move this Court for an Order:

- 7 1. Granting final approval of the proposed First Amended Class Action and PAGA
8 Settlement Agreement (the “Settlement”);
- 9 2. Finally approving payment of the Gross Settlement Amount of \$435,000.00.
- 10 3. Awarding Class Counsel attorneys’ fees in the amount of \$145,000.00 and
11 reimbursement of litigation costs in the amount of \$5,324.32;
- 12 4. Awarding Plaintiffs each a service award in the amount of \$7,500.00 (\$45,000.00
13 total);
- 14 5. Awarding \$7,650.00 to ILYM Group, Inc. (“ILYM”) for its settlement administration
15 expenses;
- 16 6. Approving allocation of \$20,000.00 as civil penalties under the Labor Code Private
17 Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”), 75% of which (\$15,000.00) will be paid
18 to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, and 25% of which
19 (\$5,000.00) will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees based on the number of pay
20 periods worked during the PAGA Period; and
- 21 7. Entering a Final Judgment consistent with the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

22 This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion, Memorandum of Points and Authorities,
23 the accompanying declarations, and on all records and documents on file, together with such
24 oral and documentary evidence that may be presented at the hearing on this matter.

25 Dated: June 11, 2026

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC

26 By: /s/ Courtney M. Miller

27 Courtney M. Miller

28 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. THE SETTLEMENT MERITS FINAL APPROVAL.....	2
A. A Presumption of Fairness Exists.....	3
B. The Strength of Plaintiff’s Claims, and the Risks, Expense, Complexity, and Likely Duration of Further Litigation as a Class Action Through Trial.....	4
C. The Amount Offered in Settlement	5
D. The Extent of Discovery Completed and the Stage of the Proceedings	5
E. The Experience and Views of Counsel.....	6
F. The Presence of a Government Participant.....	6
G. The Reaction of Class Members to the Proposed Settlement.....	7
III. THE REQUESTED FEE AWARD IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE APPROVED	7
A. The Requested Fee Award is Fair and Reasonable Based on the Percentage-of-Recovery Method	8
B. A Lodestar Cross-Check Confirms the Reasonableness of the Requested Fee	8
IV. THE REQUESTED COST AWARD IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE APPROVED	10
V. THE REQUESTED CLASS REPRESENTATIVE SERVICE PAYMENT IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE APPROVED.....	10
VI. THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION COSTS ARE REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE APPROVED	11
VII. CONCLUSION.....	11

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases

<i>7-Eleven Owners for Fair Franchising v. Southland Corp.</i> , 85 Cal.App.4th 1135 (2000)	2, 4
<i>Chavez v. Netflix, Inc.</i> , 162 Cal.App.4th 43 (2008).....	9
<i>Clark v. American Residential Services, LLC</i> , 175 Cal.App.4th 785 (2009)	10
<i>Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.</i> , 48 Cal.App.4th 1794 (1996)	3
<i>Golba v. Dick’s Sporting Goods, Inc.</i> , 238 Cal.App.4th 1251 (2015)	10
<i>Hernandez v. Restoration Hardware, Inc.</i> , 4 Cal.5th 260 (2018).....	4, 8
<i>Ketchum v. Moses</i> , 24 Cal.4th 1122 (2001)	8, 9
<i>Laffitte v. Robert Half Int’l</i> , 231 Cal.App.4th 860 (2014).....	9
<i>Laffitte v. Robert Half Int’l, Inc.</i> , 1 Cal.5th 480, 489, 504, 506 (2016).....	7, 8
<i>Lealo v. Beneficial California, Inc.</i> , 82 Cal.App.4th 19 (2000)	6
<i>Mallick v. Super. Ct.</i> , 89 Cal. App. 3d 434 (1979).....	3
<i>Melnyk v. Robledo</i> , 64 Cal.App.3d 618 (1976)	8
<i>Munoz v. BCI Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Los Angeles</i> , 186 Cal.App.4th 399 (2010).....	4
<i>Nordstrom Com. Cases</i> , 186 Cal. App. 4 th 576 (2010).....	3
<i>PLCM Group, Inc. v. Drexler</i> , 22 Cal.4th 1084 (2000).....	8
<i>Roos v. Honeywell Int’l, Inc.</i> , 241 Cal.App.4th 1472 (2015)	8
<i>Serrano v. Priest</i> , 20 Cal.3d 25 (1977).....	8
<i>Singer v. Becton Dickinson and Co.</i> , No. 08–CV–821–IEG, 2010 WL 2196104 (S.D. Cal. 2010)	8
<i>Sutter Health Uninsured Pricing Cases</i> , 171 Cal.App.4th 495 (2009).....	9
<i>Vizcaino v. Microsoft Corp.</i> , 290 F.3d 1043 (9th Cir. 2002).....	9
<i>Wershba v. Apple Computer, Inc.</i> 91 Cal.App.4th 224 (2001)	4, 9
<i>Wren v. RGIS Inventory Specialists</i> , No. C–06–05778 JCS, 2011 WL 1230826 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 1, 2011)	8

TREATISES

CONTE & NEWBERG, NEWBERG ON CLASS ACTIONS (4th ed. 2002) (Newberg).....3

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Plaintiffs Timothy McCormick, Michael Kindt, Kelly Carter, Carlos Aterrado, Alex
3 Martinez, and Eric Aragaki (collectively “Plaintiffs”) seek final approval of a non-reversionary
4 Gross Settlement Amount of \$435,000.00. The First Amended Class Action and PAGA
5 Settlement Agreement (“Settlement”) provides that the deductions will be made from the Gross
6 Settlement Amount as follows:

- 7 1. Attorneys’ fees in the amount of up to \$145,000.00;
- 8 2. Litigation costs in the amount of up to \$25,000.00;¹
- 9 3. A Class Representative Service Award of up to \$7,500.00 to each of the named
10 Plaintiffs (\$45,000.00 total);
- 11 4. Settlement administration expenses of up to \$7,650.00; and
- 12 5. Civil penalties in the amount of \$20,000.00 for claims under the Labor Code
13 Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”), 75% of which (\$15,000.00) will be paid to
14 the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”), and 25% of which
15 (\$5,000.00) will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees based on the number of pay periods
16 worked during the PAGA Period. (*See* Settlement, ¶¶ 3.2.4.3, 3.2.4.4; *see also* Declaration of
17 Nathalie Hernandez of ILYM Group, Inc. in Support of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Final Approval
18 of Class Action and PAGA Settlement [“Hernandez Decl.”], ¶ 15.)

19 After all deductions are made, the Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to 318
20 Class Members as of the filing of this Motion for Final Approval of Class Action and PAGA
21 Settlement (the “Motion”) (“Participating Class Members” or “Settlement Class Members”)
22 based on the number of weeks worked during the Class Period. (Hernandez Decl., ¶¶ 13, 14.)

23 The proposed Settlement is a product of diligent efforts, litigation, arm’s length
24 negotiations, and informal discovery that resulted in the best possible outcome for the Class. By
25 resolving this matter now, Settlement Class Members will receive a guaranteed recovery without
26

27 _____
28 ¹ Class Counsel’s final litigation costs total \$5,324.32 which is inclusive of the \$60.00 filing fee for this
 motion. (*see* Declaration of Arrash T. Fattahi in Support of Motion for Final Approval of Class Action
 and PAGA Settlement [“Fattahi MFA Decl.”], ¶ 17, **Exhibit 3**.)

1 risk of nonpayment, delay, or an adverse judgment at trial.

2 An objective evaluation of the Settlement confirms that the relief negotiated on the
3 Settlement Class’s behalf is fair, reasonable, and valuable. The Settlement was negotiated by
4 the Parties at arm’s length with helpful guidance from Tripper Ortman, Esq., an experienced
5 and well-respected mediator of wage and hour actions, and the Settlement confers substantial
6 benefits to Settlement Class Members. This relief – averaging approximately \$666.75 per Class
7 Member from the Net Settlement Amount – is particularly impressive when viewed against the
8 difficulties encountered by plaintiffs pursuing wage and hour cases. Moreover, by settling now
9 rather than proceeding to trial, Settlement Class Members will not have to wait (possibly years)
10 for relief, nor will they have to bear the risk of class certification being denied or of Defendant
11 prevailing at trial, or of Plaintiffs prevailing at trial but losing on appeal.

12 There were no objections to the Settlement and there was one (1) request for exclusion.
13 (Hernandez Decl., ¶¶ 11, 12.) The Participating Class Members will receive an average
14 settlement payment of \$666.75, with the highest payout reaching \$4,448.99. (Hernandez Decl.,
15 ¶ 14.) Aggrieved Employees will receive an average settlement payment of \$18.66, with the
16 highest payout reaching \$69.94. (Hernandez Decl., ¶ 15.) In light of the Class’s favorable
17 response, and the facts and law set forth below as well as in the motion for preliminary approval,
18 Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court now enter an Order: (1) granting final approval of
19 the Settlement; (2) entering final judgment; (3) requiring distribution of individual settlement
20 shares to Participating Class Members; and (4) approving payments for attorneys’ fees,
21 litigation costs, the Class Representative Service Awards, Settlement Administration Expenses,
22 and civil penalties under PAGA.

23 **II. THE SETTLEMENT MERITS FINAL APPROVAL**

24 “Public policy generally favors the compromise of complex class action litigation.”
25 (*Cellphone Termination Fee Cases*, 180 Cal. App. 4th 1110, 1118 (2009), *see also 7-Eleven*
26 *Owners for Fair Franchising v. Southland Corp.*, 85 Cal. App. 4th 1135, 1151 (2000)
27 (“voluntary conciliation and settlement are the preferred means of dispute resolution . . . [t]his
28 is especially true in complex class action litigation . . .”).)

1 Class action settlement approval occurs in two steps: (1) an early (preliminary) review
2 by the trial court, and (2) a subsequent (final) review after notice has been distributed to Class
3 Members for their comments and/or objections. Cal. R. Ct. 3.769. The Court granted preliminary
4 approval on March 3, 2026. Plaintiffs now seek final approval.

5 “[T]he trial court has broad powers to determine whether a proposed settlement in a class
6 action is fair.” (*Mallick v. Super. Ct.*, 89 Cal. App. 3d 434, 438 (1979).) Fairness is presumed
7 when: (1) the settlement is reached through arm’s-length bargaining, (2) investigation and
8 discovery are sufficient to allow counsel and the court to act intelligently, (3) counsel is
9 experienced in similar litigation, and (4) the percentage of objectors is low. (*Dunk v. Ford Motor*
10 *Co.*, 48 Cal. App. 4th 1794, 1802 (1996); *see also Nordstrom Com. Cases*, 186 Cal. App. 4th
11 576, 581 (2010).) “Where the settlement terms are fair and reasonable, the settlement is
12 presumptively valid, subject only to objections that may be raised at a final hearing.” (CONTE &
13 NEWBERG, NEWBERG ON CLASS ACTIONS § 11.26 (4th ed. 2002) (Newberg).)

14 In deciding whether to grant final approval of a class action settlement, California courts
15 consider whether the settlement is “fair, adequate, and reasonable.” (*Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.*
16 (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801.) In evaluating whether a settlement is fair, adequate, and
17 reasonable, courts evaluate the following factors: (1) the strength of the plaintiff’s case; (2) the
18 risk, expense, complexity and duration of further litigation; (3) the risk of maintaining class
19 action status through trial; (4) the amount offered in settlement; (5) the extent of discovery
20 completed and the stage of the proceedings; (6) the experience and views of counsel; (7) the
21 presence of a governmental participant; and (8) the reaction of class members to the proposed
22 settlement. (*Id.*)

23 **A. A Presumption of Fairness Exists**

24 While the burden is on the proponent to demonstrate that a proposed settlement is fair,
25 adequate, and reasonable, “a presumption of fairness exists where: (1) the settlement is reached
26 through arm’s length bargaining; (2) investigation is sufficient to allow counsel and the court
27 to act intelligently; (3) counsel is experienced in similar litigation; and (4) the percentage of
28 objectors is small.” (*Id.* at p. 1802.)

At preliminary approval, Plaintiffs presented evidence that this Settlement is entitled to a presumption of fairness because: (1) it was reached through arm's length bargaining with the assistance of an experienced mediator; (2) Plaintiffs conducted a thorough investigation through formal and informal discovery and an analysis of Settlement Class Members' time and payroll records; and (3) Plaintiffs' Counsel is experienced in similar litigation. (*See* Declaration of Arrash T. Fattahi in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement ["Fattahi MPA Decl.," ¶¶ 5-8, 13-26, 37-46.) One (1) Settlement Class Member has opted out and none have objected. (*See* Hernandez Decl., ¶¶ 11, 12.) Therefore, the Court can confidently conclude that a presumption of fairness exists.

B. The Strength of Plaintiffs' Claims, and the Risks, Expense, Complexity, and Likely Duration of Further Litigation as a Class Action Through Trial

Courts are not required to ensure that a settlement maximizes the value of released claims with mathematical precision. "[T]he test is not the maximum amount plaintiffs might have obtained at trial on the complaint, but rather whether the settlement is reasonable under all of the circumstances." (*Wershba v. Apple Computer, Inc.* (2001) 91 Cal.App.4th 224, 250, disapproved of on other grounds by *Hernandez v. Restoration Hardware, Inc.* (2018) 4 Cal.5th 260, 269-270; *see also 7-Eleven Owners for Fair Franchising v. Southland Corp.* (2000) 85 Cal.App.4th 1135, 1150 ["the merits of the underlying class claims are not a basis for upsetting the settlement of a class action; the operative word is 'settlement.'"]). The relevant circumstances include the strengths and weaknesses of plaintiffs' claims and the risks they faced in litigation. (*7-Eleven*, 85 Cal.App.4th at p. 1146.)

Here, Plaintiffs presented sufficient information at preliminary approval regarding the number of Settlement Class Members and an estimate of the maximum value of each of the claims alleged. (*See* Fattahi MPA Decl., ¶¶ 13-26.) Plaintiffs have also described in detail the risks the Class faced in litigation and the strengths and weaknesses of each of the claims. (*See id.*) Plaintiffs noted potential difficulties in obtaining class certification and succeeding on the merits at trial. (*See id.*) The factual record here is sufficiently developed to allow the Court to independently satisfy itself "that the consideration being received for the release of the class

members' claims is reasonable in light of the strengths and weaknesses of the claims and the risks of the particular litigation.” (*Munoz v. BCI Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Los Angeles* (2010) 186 Cal.App.4th 399, 410.)

C. The Amount Offered in Settlement

The Settlement provides a \$435,000.00 Gross Settlement Amount (“GSA”) to be distributed among the 318 Participating Class Members who did not opt out as of the date of this filing. (Hernandez Decl., ¶¶ 13, 14.) The GSA will be used to pay Class Counsel’s attorneys’ fees and costs, Plaintiffs’ service awards, and ILYM Group, Inc. (“ILYM”) for its administration of the Class Notice and settlement funds. (*Id.* at ¶ 14.) The Settlement also allocates \$20,000.00 from the GSA to civil penalties under PAGA. (*See* Settlement, ¶ 3.2.4.3; *see also* Hernandez Decl., ¶ 14.) After all deductions are made, the Net Settlement Amount will be \$212,025.68, which will be distributed to Participating Class Members according to the number of weeks they worked for Defendant Amerifleet Transportation, Inc. (“Defendant”) during the Class Period. (*See* Hernandez Decl., ¶ 14.)

The average recovery for Participating Class Members is \$666.75, and the highest payout is \$4,448.99. (*Id.* at ¶ 14.) Weighing the potential value of the class claims against the risk and expense of trial, the Settlement provides sufficient relief in light of the potential risks associated with seeking a class judgment.

D. The Extent of Discovery Completed and the Stage of the Proceedings

Class Counsel sufficiently investigated the alleged claims, applicable law, and potential defenses. (*See* Fattahi MPA Decl., ¶¶ 5-8, 13-26.) Specifically, Class Counsel assessed the value of the claims using data and documents provided by Defendant in informal discovery, which included policy documents and timekeeping and payroll records. (*See id.*) Following a complete analysis of this information, the Parties attended mediation on October 31, 2024, with an experienced mediator, Tripper Ortman, Esq. (*Id.* at ¶ 7.) The Parties were able to reach an agreement and spent a considerable amount of time negotiating the terms of the Settlement. (*See id.* at ¶ 8.)

///

1 The document and data exchanges allowed Class Counsel to fully assess the nature and
2 magnitude of the claims being settled, as well as the impediments to recovery, and ultimately
3 enabled Class Counsel so as to make an independent assessment of the reasonableness of the
4 settlement’s terms. By engaging in such a thorough investigation and evaluation of Plaintiffs’
5 claims, Class Counsel can opine that the Settlement, for the consideration and on the terms set
6 forth in the Settlement Agreement, is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and is in the best interests
7 of Class Members in light of all known facts and circumstances, including the risk of significant
8 delay and uncertainty associated with litigation, and various defenses asserted by Defendant.

9 **E. The Experience and Views of Counsel**

10 Plaintiffs are represented by Wilshire Law Firm, PLC. (Fattahi MFA Decl., ¶ 2.) Class
11 Counsel prosecute wage and hour cases, including class and representative actions. (*Id.* at ¶¶ 3-
12 4.) Class Counsel has litigated many wage and hour cases and have successfully resolved cases
13 involving similar issues presented in this matter. (*Id.* at ¶¶ 3-11.) Class Counsel has negotiated
14 a settlement here that they believe is fair, reasonable, and adequate based on their prior
15 experience litigating these types of cases. (*Id.* at ¶ 18.)

16 **F. The Presence of a Government Participant**

17 The LWDA has received the required notice of this Settlement. (Fattahi MFA Decl., ¶
18 19.) On May 1, 2023, Plaintiffs McCormick and Kindt provided notice to Defendant and the
19 California Labor & Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) regarding their intent to pursue a
20 PAGA representative action; Plaintiff Carter did the same on June 27, 2023; and Plaintiffs Aterrado,
21 Martinez, and Aragaki did the same on July 28, 2023. (Fattahi MPA Decl., ¶ 4.) The Settlement
22 provides for the payment of \$20,000.00 in civil penalties, 75% of which (\$15,000.00) will be
23 paid to the LWDA, and 25% of which (\$5,000.00) will be paid to Aggrieved Employees based
24 on the number of pay periods worked during the PAGA Period. (*See* Hernandez Decl., ¶¶ 14,
25 15; *see also* Settlement, ¶¶ 3.2.4.3, 3.2.4.4.) Plaintiffs submitted a copy of the Class Action and
26 PAGA Settlement Agreement, Release and Class Notice to the LWDA. (Fattahi MFA Decl., ¶
27 19.) The LWDA has not responded to or objected to the Settlement. (*Id.*)

28 ///

1 **G. The Reaction of Class Members to the Proposed Settlement**

2 Class Members’ reaction to the Settlement has been favorable. A court may properly
3 infer that a class action settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate when few class members
4 object to or opt out of it. (*Lealo v. Beneficial California, Inc.* (2000) 82 Cal.App.4th 19, 51.)

5 When the Court granted preliminary approval, it also approved the method of providing
6 notice to Class Members. Following a search of the National Change of Address database,
7 ILYM mailed the Class Notice to all Class Members on March 20, 2026. (Hernandez Decl., ¶¶
8 6, 7.) The Class Notice informed Class Members of the terms of the Settlement, the amount of
9 their individual settlements and how those amounts were calculated, their right to either
10 participate in the Settlement, opt out of it, object to it, or dispute the amount of their individual
11 settlement payment, the procedures and deadlines to submit an opt out, objection, or dispute,
12 and the date, time, and place of the hearing on Plaintiffs’ Motion for Final Approval and
13 instructions to be heard at the hearing. (*Id.* at ¶ 7, **Exhibit A.**) Here, in response to the Class
14 Notice, one (1) Class Member opted out, and none objected as of the date of the filing of this
15 Motion. (*Id.* at ¶¶ 11, 12.) Class Members’ favorable response to the Settlement further
16 supports final approval.

17 **III. THE REQUESTED FEE AWARD IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE**
18 **APPROVED**

19 There are two primary methods of determining a reasonable attorney fee in the context
20 of class action litigation. (*Laffitte v. Robert Half Int’l, Inc.* (2016) 1 Cal.5th 480, 489.) The
21 percentage-of-recovery method calculates the fee as a percentage of a common fund recovered
22 on behalf of the class. (*Id.*) The lodestar method calculates the fee by multiplying the number
23 of hours reasonably expended by counsel by a reasonable hourly rate, which amount then may
24 be adjusted based on other factors. (*Id.*) In *Laffitte*, the California Supreme Court held that trial
25 courts have the discretion to choose between the two calculation methods. (*Id.* at p. 504.) Trial
26 courts also have discretion to blend the two fee calculation methods, using one method to “cross-
27 check” the reasonableness of the other’s result, but a cross-check is not required. (*Id.* at p. 506.)

28 ///

1 **A. The Requested Fee Award is Fair and Reasonable Based on the Percentage-of-**
2 **Recovery Method**

3 The ultimate purpose of the percentage-of-recovery method is to “spread the attorney fee
4 among all the beneficiaries of the fund.” (*Id.* at p. 503.) The California Supreme Court
5 recognized that the percentage-of-recovery method has many advantages, “including relative
6 ease of calculation, alignment of incentives between counsel and the class, a better
7 approximation of market conditions in a contingency case, and the encouragement it provides
8 counsel to seek an early settlement and avoid unnecessarily prolonging the litigation. . .” (*Id.*)

9 The requested fee award (one-third (1/3) of the GSA) is consistent with the average fee
10 award in class actions. (*See, e.g., Roos v. Honeywell Int’l, Inc.* (2015) 241 Cal.App.4th 1472
11 [fee award of 37.5% was not an abuse of discretion], disapproved of on other grounds by
12 *Hernandez, supra*, 4 Cal.5th at p. 287; *Wren v. RGIS Inventory Specialists*, No. C-06-05778
13 JCS, 2011 WL 1230826, at *29 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 1, 2011) [approving fee award of 42%]; *Singer*
14 *v. Becton Dickinson and Co.*, No. 08-CV-821-IEG, 2010 WL 2196104, at *8 (S.D. Cal. June
15 1, 2010) [approving fee award of one-third and noting that the typical fees awarded in wage and
16 hour class action cases ranges from 33.33% to 40%].) Therefore, the percentage-of-recovery
17 method should be utilized to approve the requested fee.

18 **B. A Lodestar Cross-Check Confirms the Reasonableness of the Requested Fee**

19 Although *Laffitte* makes clear that a lodestar cross-check is not required, Class Counsel’s
20 lodestar supports the reasonableness of the requested fee. The lodestar is determined by
21 multiplying the number of hours reasonably expended by the reasonable hourly rate. (*PLCM*
22 *Group, Inc. v. Drexler* (2000) 22 Cal.4th 1084, 1095.) The lodestar figure may then be adjusted,
23 based on consideration of factors specific to the case, in order to fix the fee at the fair market
24 value for the legal services provided.” (*Id.*) The factors that can be considered include “the
25 nature of the litigation, its difficulty, the amount involved, the skill required in its handling, the
26 skill employed, the attention given, the success or failure, and other circumstances in the case.”
27 (*Melnyk v. Robledo* (1976) 64 Cal.App.3d 618, 623-24 [citations omitted].) Additionally, Courts
28 utilize “multipliers” to account for the risk of taking on cases where there is no guarantee of

1 recovery, uncertainties as the amount that will be recovered, uncertainty as to the cost of
2 litigating the case (both in effort and expenses), and uncertainty about how much time will pass
3 before the recovery is obtained. (*Ketchum v. Moses* (2001) 24 Cal.4th 1122, 1132-33; *see also*
4 *Serrano v. Priest* (1977) 20 Cal.3d 25, 48-49 [approving the adjustment of the lodestar figure
5 based on factors specific to the case to ensure fair market value for legal services provided on
6 a contingency basis].) Application of that rule is particularly appropriate where the case is
7 brought to redress important rights of vulnerable persons. (*Ketchum*, 24 Cal.4th at p. 1133.)

8 Generally, “[m]ultipliers can range from 2 to 4 or even higher.” (*Wershba, supra*, 91
9 Cal.App.4th at p. 255; *see also Sutter Health Uninsured Pricing Cases* (2009) 171 Cal.App.4th
10 495, 512 [applying a 2.52 multiplier on a cross-check in an antitrust class action]; *Chavez v.*
11 *Netflix, Inc.* (2008) 162 Cal.App.4th 43, 60 [applying a 2.5 multiplier on a lodestar cross-check];
12 *Vizcaino v. Microsoft Corp.* (9th Cir. 2002) 290 F.3d 1043, 1051 n.6 [“most” common fund
13 cases apply a multiplier of 1.0-4.0]; *Laffitte v. Robert Half Int’l* (2014) 231 Cal.App.4th 860,
14 881-82 [affirming a 2.13 multiplier after finding that “2 to 4” is a reasonable range for
15 multipliers on a cross-check].) Here, the application of a modest 1.05 multiplier supports Class
16 Counsel’s fee request of \$145,000.00. (Fattahi MFA Decl., ¶ 16.)

17 The risk factors present in this case favor the application of a 1.05 multiplier. (Fattahi
18 MFA Decl., ¶ 16.) To begin, Class Counsel has singularly assumed the risk and costs of
19 litigation purely on a contingency basis. (*Id.*) And, while Plaintiffs are confident in the merits
20 of their claims, a legitimate controversy exists as to each cause of action, posing an actual risk
21 that Plaintiffs may not succeed at class certification and/or trial. (*Id.*) Any of these obstacles
22 could have prevented recovery completely, meaning Class Counsel would have been left with
23 no compensation for all the time and money invested in litigating this case. (*Id.*) Despite these
24 risks, Class Counsel took this case on a contingency basis so that Class Members (a particularly
25 vulnerable group of hourly paid workers) could be compensated for their unpaid wages. (*Id.*)
26 Consequently, Class Counsel was precluded from focusing on, or taking on, other cases which
27 could have resulted in a larger, and less risky, monetary gain. (*Id.*) Moreover, Class Counsel’s
28 hourly rates are comparable to those charged by other class action counsel. (*Id.*, ¶ 12.)

1 Class Counsel spent 188.4 hours prosecuting this action, which was divided among the
2 attorneys working on this case according to skill level. (*Id.* at ¶ 15.) Multiplying the total hours
3 expended by Class Counsel by their reasonably hourly rates yields a lodestar of **\$137,865.00**.
4 (*Id.*) The hours expended by each attorney were reasonable and not duplicative and reflect the
5 extensive investigation and analysis that was required to achieve this Settlement. (*Id.*)

6 Considered against the risks of continued litigation, and the importance of advocating
7 for employment rights and a speedy recovery, the relief provided under the Settlement
8 represents a very strong result for the Class. Accordingly, Class Counsel's fee request of
9 \$145,000.00 is fair and reasonable and should be approved.

10 **IV. THE REQUESTED COST AWARD IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE**
11 **APPROVED**

12 The Settlement permits Class Counsel to seek reimbursement of litigation costs in an
13 amount up to \$25,000.00. The actual costs incurred are \$5,324.32, which does not exceed the
14 maximum amount allocated for litigation costs in the Settlement, as such the remaining
15 \$19,675.68 will revert to and increase the Net Settlement Amount. (Fattahi MFA Decl., ¶ 17,
16 **Exhibit 3.**) These costs were reasonable and necessary to prosecute this case and obtain the
17 results achieved. (*Id.*)

18 **V. THE REQUESTED CLASS REPRESENTATIVE SERVICE PAYMENTS ARE**
19 **REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE APPROVED**

20 Plaintiffs also request that they be awarded a service payment of \$7,500.00 per named
21 plaintiff for their role in obtaining the Settlement. In evaluating a service payment, the Court
22 may consider: "(1) the risk, both financial and otherwise, the class representative faced in
23 bringing the suit; (2) the notoriety and personal difficulties encountered by the class
24 representative; (3) the amount of time and effort spent by the class representative; (4) the
25 duration of the litigation; and (5) the personal benefit received by the class representative as a
26 result of the litigation." (*Golba v. Dick's Sporting Goods, Inc.* (2015) 238 Cal.App.4th 1251,
27 1272; *Clark v. American Residential Services, LLC* (2009) 175 Cal.App.4th 785, 804.)

28 ///

1 Here, Plaintiffs provided declarations in support of their Motion for Preliminary
2 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement detailing the risk they faced in bringing the
3 suit, the notoriety and personal difficulties they encountered, the amount of time and effort they
4 spent on this litigation, the duration of this litigation, and the personal benefit they will receive
5 as a result of the litigation. (*See generally*, Declarations of Timothy McCormick, Michael Kindt,
6 Kelly Carter, Carlos Aterrado, Alex Martinez, and Eric Aragaki in Support of Plaintiffs’ Motion
7 for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, filed on December 30, 2025.)
8 Plaintiffs should be adequately compensated for their role in obtaining this Settlement.

9 Additionally, no Class Members objected to the amount of additional compensation
10 sought by Plaintiffs. As such, the award is reasonable in light of the substantial benefits
11 Plaintiffs conferred upon the settlement class.

12 **VI. THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION COSTS ARE REASONABLE AND**
13 **SHOULD BE APPROVED**

14 The Parties agreed to hire ILYM as the Settlement Administrator in this case and the
15 Court approved this choice at preliminary approval. The Settlement Administrator was
16 responsible for updating Class Members’ mailing addresses, mailing the Class Notice to each
17 Class Member, responding to Class Member questions, and providing a declaration as to the
18 results of the mailing. (*See* Hernandez Decl., ¶ 3.) Following final approval, ILYM’s duties
19 will continue in order to calculate and to mail the settlement payments to Class Members,
20 disburse other payments as ordered by the Court, and perform such other duties described in the
21 Settlement. (*Id.*) The requested amount of \$7,650.00 for services rendered and to be rendered is
22 therefore fair and reasonable.

23 **VII. CONCLUSION**

24 Based on the foregoing, Class Counsel respectfully requests that the Court grant final
25 approval of the Class Action and PAGA Settlement, approve Class Counsel’s attorneys’ fees in
26 the amount of \$145,000.00 and reimbursement of litigation costs in the amount of \$5,324.32,
27 the service payments in the amount of \$7,500.00 for each of the Plaintiffs, civil penalties under
28 PAGA in the amount of \$20,000.00, and \$7,650.00 to ILYM for its settlement administration

1 expenses.

2
3 Dated: June 11, 2026

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC

4
5 By: /s/ Courtney M. Miller
6 Courtney M. Miller
7 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28