

5. General Release, Claims Not Released and Related Provisions.

(a) **General Release of All Claims.** In consideration of Defendant's payment of the Settlement Payment described in this Agreement, Plaintiff and Plaintiff's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns knowingly and voluntarily release and forever discharge Releasees, of and from any and all claims, known and unknown, asserted or unasserted, which

Plaintiff has or may have against Releasees as of the date of execution of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, any alleged violation of the following, as amended:

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- Sections 1981 through 1988 of Title 42 of the United States Code;
- The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”);
- The Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
- The Immigration Reform and Control Act;
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;
- The Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act;
- The Fair Credit Reporting Act;
- The Family and Medical Leave Act;
- The Equal Pay Act;
- The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008;
- The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (“USERRA”);
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act;
- California Family Rights Act – Cal. Gov’t Code § 12945.2;
- California Fair Employment and Housing Act – Cal. Gov’t Code § 12900 et seq.;
- California Unruh Civil Rights Act – Cal. Civ. Code § 51 et seq.;
- Statutory Provisions Regarding the Confidentiality of AIDS Information – Cal. Health & Safety Code § 120775 et seq.;
- California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act – Cal. Civ. Code § 56 et seq.;
- California Parental Leave Law – Cal. Lab. Code § 230.7 et seq.;
- California Military Personnel Bias Law – Cal. Mil. & Vet. Code § 394;
- The California Occupational Safety and Health Act, as amended, and any applicable regulations thereunder;
- The California Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies Act – Cal. Civ. Code § 1785 et seq.
- California Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies Act – Cal. Civ. Code § 1786 et seq.;
- Those provisions of the California Labor Code that lawfully may be released;
- any other federal, state or local law, rule, regulation, or ordinance;
- any public policy, contract, tort, or common law; or
- any basis for recovering costs, fees, or other expenses including attorneys' fees incurred in these matters

(b) **Class and PAGA Claims.** Upon Defendant's delivery of the Settlement Payment to Plaintiff's Counsel, Plaintiff agrees that he will not participate in any way in the pursuit of any claims against Defendant in relation to the letter that Plaintiff Benito Juarez sent to the LWDA and agrees that he will not act as a class representative or private attorney general in any class or representative proceeding against Defendant based on any claims Plaintiff has or may have based on Plaintiff's employment with Defendant. Plaintiff further agrees that he will not knowingly participate in any class action related to his employment with Defendant in any capacity (i.e., even if Plaintiff is not the class representative), except as may be required by law or court order. Any willful and material breach of this provision by Plaintiff will be considered a material breach of the Agreement. If the material breach is not cured after notice and an opportunity to cure, Plaintiff, upon court order, shall repay the entire Settlement Payment to Defendant, including any attorneys' fees and costs incurred in defending against an action brought in violation of this provision. Plaintiff further agrees that he will cooperate in good faith to obtain dismissal of his PAGA claims, including submitting any required documents and/or taking all other steps necessary to ensure dismissal of his PAGA claims (without prejudice) and in accordance with this Agreement.

(c) **Claims Not Released.** Plaintiff is not waiving any rights Plaintiff may have to: (i) Plaintiff's own vested or accrued benefits under any qualified retirement benefit plans as of the Separation Date; (ii) benefits or rights to seek benefits under applicable workers' compensation (except as to claims under Labor Code sections 132a and 4553) or unemployment insurance or indemnification statutes; (iii) pursue claims which by law cannot be waived by signing this Agreement; or (iv) enforce this Agreement.

(d) **Governmental Agencies.** Nothing in this Agreement prohibits, prevents, or otherwise limits Plaintiff from filing a charge or complaint with or participating, testifying, or assisting in any investigation, hearing, or other proceeding before any federal, state, or local government agency (e.g., EEOC, NLRB, SEC) or in any legislative or judicial proceeding nor does anything in this Agreement preclude, prohibit or otherwise limit, in any way, Plaintiff's rights and abilities to contact, communicate with or report unlawful conduct to federal, state, or local officials for investigation or participate in any whistleblower program administered by any such agencies. However, to the maximum extent permitted by law, Plaintiff agrees that if such an administrative claim is made, Plaintiff shall not be entitled to recover any individual monetary relief or other individual remedies.

(e) **Waiver of California Civil Code Section 1542.** To effect a full and complete general release as described above, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes all rights and benefits of section 1542 of the Civil Code of the State of California, and does so understanding and acknowledging the significance and consequence of specifically waiving section 1542. Section 1542 of the Civil Code of the State of California states as follows:

A general release does not extend to claims that 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.

Thus, notwithstanding the provisions of section 1542, and to implement a full and complete release and discharge of the Releasees, Plaintiff expressly acknowledges this Agreement is intended to include in its effect, without limitation, all claims Plaintiff does not know or suspect to exist in Plaintiff's favor at the time of signing this Agreement, and that this Agreement contemplates the extinguishment of any such claims. Plaintiff warrants Plaintiff has read this Agreement, including this waiver of California Civil Code section 1542, and that Plaintiff has consulted with or had the opportunity to consult with counsel of Plaintiff's choosing about this Agreement and specifically about the waiver of section 1542, and that Plaintiff understands this Agreement and the section 1542 waiver, and so Plaintiff freely and knowingly enters into this Agreement. Plaintiff further acknowledges that Plaintiff later may discover facts different from or in addition to those Plaintiff now knows or believes to be true regarding the matters released or described in this Agreement, and even so Plaintiff agrees that the releases and agreements contained in this Agreement shall remain effective in all respects notwithstanding any later discovery of any different or additional facts. Plaintiff expressly assumes any and all risk of any mistake in connection with the true facts involved in the matters, disputes, or controversies released or described in this Agreement or with regard to any facts now unknown to Plaintiff relating thereto.