

Arby Aiwazian (SBN 269827)
Ryan Slinger (SBN 351297)
Harris Koepenick (SBN 364423)
LAWYERS for JUSTICE, PC
450 North Brand Blvd., Suite 900
Glendale, California 91203
Tel: (818) 265-1020 / Fax: (818) 265-1021

Attorneys for Plaintiff

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES—STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE**

JENNIFER LOPEZ, individually, and on
behalf of other aggrieved employees
pursuant to the California Private Attorneys
General Act;

Plaintiff,

vs.

COVENANT HOUSE CALIFORNIA, a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 24STCV03629

Honorable Nicholas F. Daum
Department 507

**[PROPOSED] ORDER AND JUDGMENT
GRANTING APPROVAL OF PRIVATE
ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT (CAL. LABOR
CODE § 2698, *ET SEQ.*) SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT AND AWARD OF
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS,
INDIVIDUAL RELEASE FEE, AND
SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION COSTS**

Reservation ID: 222032114120
Date: October 8, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Department: 507

Complaint Filed: February 13, 2024
Trial Date: None Set

**[PROPOSED] ORDER AND JUDGMENT GRANTING APPROVAL OF PRIVATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACT
(CAL. LABOR CODE § 2698, *ET SEQ.*) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND
COSTS, INDIVIDUAL RELEASE FEE, AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION COSTS**

1 This matter has come before the Honorable Nicholas F. Daum in Department 507 of the Superior
2 Court of the State of California, for the County of Los Angeles, on October 8, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., on
3 Plaintiff Jennifer Lopez’s (“Plaintiff”) Motion for Approval of Private Attorneys General Act (Cal. Labor
4 Code § 2698, *Et Seq.*) Settlement Agreement and Award of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs, Individual Release
5 Fee, and Settlement Administration Costs (“Motion for Approval of Settlement”). Lawyers *for* Justice, PC
6 appeared for Plaintiff and Jackson Lewis, PC appeared for Defendant Covenant House California
7 (“Defendant”).

8 On or around April 17, 2026, Plaintiff and Defendant (together, the “Parties”) executed the Private
9 Attorneys General Act Settlement Agreement and Release (“Settlement,” “Settlement Agreement,” or
10 “Agreement”).

11 The Court has reviewed and considered (1) the Motion for Approval of Settlement, (2) the
12 Declarations of Plaintiff’s Counsel Ryan Slinger and Plaintiff Jennifer Lopez, and (3) the Settlement
13 Agreement.

14 Having duly considered the Parties’ papers and oral argument, and good cause appearing,

15 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED AS FOLLOWS:**

16 1. The Motion for Approval of Settlement is granted.
17 2. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning defined in the Settlement Agreement.
18 3. Unless otherwise specified, all citations and references to the Private Attorneys General Act
19 of 2004, California Labor Code sections 2698, *et seq.* are to the version of statute prior to the recent
20 amendment effective July 1, 2024; the amended statute does not apply to the above-captioned action and
21 the Settlement pursuant to California Labor Code section 2699(v)(1), as amended, because the above-
22 captioned action was filed prior to June 19, 2024.

23 4. The Court finds that Plaintiff has satisfied the prerequisites under the California Private
24 Attorneys General Act (Cal. Labor Code § 2698, *et seq.*) (“PAGA”), including, and not limited to,
25 providing the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) and Defendant with
26 notice of the specific provisions of the California Labor Code alleged to have been violated, including, and
27 not limited to, the facts and theories to support the alleged violations, in conformity with California Labor
28 Code § 2699.3(a).

1 5. The Court also finds that the Settlement Agreement has been submitted to the LWDA in
2 conformity with California Labor Code § 2699(l)(2) and that the LWDA has not sought to intervene or
3 appear in the above-captioned action (the “Action”).

4 6. The Settlement pertains to the following aggrieved employees:

5 All current and former hourly-paid or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in the
6 State of California during the PAGA Period (“Aggrieved Employee(s)").

7 7. The Court finds that the Parties reached the Settlement as a result of arm’s-length
8 negotiations.

9 8. Pursuant to California Labor Code § 2699(l)(2), the Court has reviewed the sum allocated
10 for payment of penalties under PAGA (“Net Settlement Amount”), and determines that it is fair, just,
11 reasonable, and adequate. The Court hereby approves the Net Settlement Amount. The Net Settlement
12 Amount shall be the Total Settlement Amount (\$450,000.00) less the approved Attorneys' Fees and Costs
13 to Lawyers *for* Justice, PC (“Plaintiff's Counsel”), Individual Release Fee to Plaintiff, and Settlement
14 Administration Costs to Phoenix Settlement Administrators (“Phoenix” or the “PAGA Settlement
15 Administrator”). Seventy-five percent (75%) of the Net Settlement Amount shall be distributed to the
16 LWDA (“LWDA Payment”) and twenty-five percent (25%) of the Net Settlement Amount shall be
17 distributed to the Aggrieved Employees (“Employees' Portion”) in accordance with this Order and
18 Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

19 9. The Court has considered the Settlement, and the monetary allocations provided thereby,
20 and finds that they are fair, just, reasonable, and adequate. The Court hereby directs the PAGA Settlement
21 Administrator to administer the Settlement and to make the payments as provided for by, and consistent
22 with, this Order and Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

23 10. The Court approves the payment of \$157,500.00 to Plaintiff’s Counsel for attorneys’ fees.
24 This amount shall be paid from the Total Settlement Amount and shall be disbursed in accordance with
25 this Order and Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

26 11. The Court approves the payment of \$20,000.00 to Plaintiff’s Counsel for reimbursement of
27 litigation costs and expenses incurred in the Action. This amount shall be paid from the Total Settlement
28 Amount and shall be disbursed in accordance with this Order and Judgment and the Settlement
Agreement.

1 12. The Court approves payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Plaintiff Jennifer Lopez for her
2 Individual Release Fee. This amount shall be paid from the Total Settlement Amount and shall be
3 disbursed in accordance with this Order and Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

4 13. The Court approves payment up to the amount of \$5,500.00 to Phoenix for the Settlement
5 Administration Costs. This amount shall be paid from the Total Settlement Amount and shall be disbursed
6 in accordance with this Order and Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

7 14. The Parties are directed to perform in accordance with the terms set forth in this Order and
8 Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

9 15. The Court further finds that notice of the Settlement need not be provided to the Aggrieved
10 Employees; however, the Court approves the Cover Letter, attached hereto as “**EXHIBIT A**,” and the
11 PAGA Settlement Administrator shall distribute the Cover Letter to the Aggrieved Employees at the same
12 time that it distributes payments to Aggrieved Employees for their share of the Employees' Portion
13 (“Individual Settlement Share(s)").

14 16. No later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of this Order and Judgment,
15 Defendant will provide the PAGA Settlement Administrator with the Aggrieved Employees List, in
16 accordance with this Order and Judgment and the Settlement Agreement.

17 17. No later than twenty (20) calendar days of the date of this Order and Judgment, Defendant
18 shall deposit \$450,000.00 into a qualified settlement account established, by the PAGA Settlement
19 Administrator for administration of the Settlement in accordance with this Order and Judgment and the
20 Settlement Agreement.

21 18. No later than fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the Aggrieved Employees List,
22 and Defendant fully funds the Total Settlement Amount, the PAGA Settlement Administrator shall
23 distribute the LWDA Payment to the LWDA, Individual Settlement Share checks and Cover Letters to all
24 Aggrieved Employees (together, the “PAGA Settlement Package(s)”), the Individual Release Fee to
25 Plaintiff, the Settlement Administration Costs to itself, only after the PAGA Settlement Packages have
26 been mailed to all Aggrieved Employees, and the Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to Plaintiff’s Counsel, unless
27 instructed otherwise by Plaintiff’s Counsel, as provided for by this Order and Judgment and the Settlement
28 Agreement.

1 19. The Individual Settlement Share checks issued to Aggrieved Employees shall remain valid
2 and negotiable for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days, and thereafter, shall be cancelled. Funds
3 associated with such cancelled checks shall be transmitted by the PAGA Settlement Administrator to the
4 California State Controller's Office Unclaimed Property Division, in the name of each Aggrieved
5 Employee whose check is cancelled.

6 20. Aggrieved Employees shall not have the right to opt out of or object to the Settlement.
7 Upon the entry of this Order and Judgment and full funding of the Total Settlement Amount, and except as
8 to the rights and obligations created by this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiff and the State of California
9 with respect to Aggrieved Employees, will be deemed to have knowingly and voluntarily released and
10 forever discharged Released Parties, to the full extent permitted by law, of and from the Action and from
11 the Released Claims.

12 21. "Released Parties" means Defendant, including Defendant's parent companies, affiliates,
13 subsidiaries, divisions, predecessors, insurers, successors, and assigns, and their current and former
14 employees, attorneys, past, present and future owners, officers, directors, shareholders, board members
15 and agents thereof, both individually and in their business capacities, and their employee benefit plans and
16 programs and the trustees, administrators, fiduciaries and insurers of such plans and programs.

17 22. "Released Claims" means any and all claims, arising during the PAGA Period, for civil
18 penalties under California Labor Code section 2698, et seq. ("PAGA") as well as any interest, fees, and
19 costs available under PAGA, based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, including but
20 not limited to, for failure to pay minimum, regular, and overtime wages, failure to provide compliant meal
21 periods and associated premiums, failure to provide compliant rest periods and associated premiums,
22 failure to timely pay wages during employment, failure to timely pay wages upon termination, failure to
23 provide compliant and accurate wage statements, failure to maintain complete and accurate payroll
24 records, and failure to reimburse necessary business-related expenses and costs, in violation of California
25 Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.7, 510, 512(a), 551, 552, 558, 1174(d), 1194, 1197,
26 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802 and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, including inter alia Wage
27 Order 4-2001.

28 23. "PAGA Period" means the period from December 8, 2022 to May 8, 2025.

1 24. No individualized notice of this Order and Judgment is required to be provided to the
2 Aggrieved Employees. This Order and Judgment shall be submitted to the LWDA through the online
3 system established for the filing of notices and documents, in conformity with California Labor Code §
4 2699(1)(3).

5
6
7 Date: _____

Honorable Nicholas F. Daum
Judge of the Superior Court

EXHIBIT A

Exhibit A

<<Mailing Date>>

To: <<First Name>><<Last Name>>
<<Street Address>>
<<City>> <<State>> <<Zip>>

Re: Settlement Payment from *Lopez v. Covenant House California*, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCV03629

Dear <<First Name>><<Last Name>>:

Please find enclosed a check in the amount of <<amount of payment>> ("Individual Settlement Share"). This check is your payment from the settlement in the lawsuit entitled *Lopez v. Covenant House California*, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCV03629 ("Action").

The lawsuit was filed on February 13, 2024 by Jennifer Lopez ("Plaintiff") against her former employer, on behalf of the State of California, with respect to herself and other alleged aggrieved employees, to seek recovery of civil penalties pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, California Labor Code section 2698, *et seq.* ("PAGA"), for multiple alleged violations of the California Labor Code and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, including, *inter alia*, for failure to properly pay minimum and overtime wages, failure to provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premiums, failure to pay wages during employment and upon termination, failure to provide compliant wage statements, failure to maintain requisite payroll records, and failure to reimburse business expenses. Prior to filing the lawsuit, on December 8, 2023, Plaintiff submitted a letter to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"), pursuant to PAGA, to provide notice of her intent to seek civil penalties under PAGA for Defendant's alleged violations of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.7, 510, 512(a), 551, 552, 558, 1174(d), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802 and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, including *inter alia*, Wage Order 4-2001, thereby initiating LWDA Case Number LWDA-CM-998776-23 (the "PAGA Notice").

Defendant denies all of Plaintiff's allegations and denies any wrongdoing of any kind associated with Plaintiff's allegations. The Court has not decided the merits of Plaintiff's claims.

A settlement was reached between Plaintiff and Defendant Covenant House California ("Defendant").

On << Date>>, the Court entered the order approving the Settlement Agreement, thereby ordering that the Net Settlement Amount be paid 75% to the LWDA and 25% to all current and former hourly-paid or non-exempt employees who were worked for Defendant in the State of California during the period December 8, 2022 to May 8, 2025 ("Aggrieved Employees"). The period December 8, 2022 to May 8, 2025 is the "PAGA Period".

On << Date>>, Defendant fully funded the Total Settlement Agreement. You are receiving a portion of the settlement (the enclosed Individual Settlement Share) because you have been identified as an Aggrieved Employee. Your Individual Settlement Share is based on the total number of pay periods that you worked for Defendant in California during the PAGA Period. The Individual Settlement Share is considered to be 100% penalties, which will be reported on an IRS Form 1099. You are responsible for paying any and all taxes that may be due as a result of any payment issued to you under the settlement and should consult a tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of such payment.

Under the settlement, upon the date the Court entered the order approving the Settlement Agreement and full funding of the Total Settlement Agreement, the Released Parties were fully released and forever discharged from any and all Released Claims.

"Released Parties" means Defendant, including Defendant's parent corporation, affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, predecessors, insurers, successors and assigns, and their current and former employees, attorneys, officers, directors and agents thereof, both individually and in their business capacities, and their employee benefit plans and programs and the trustees, administrators, fiduciaries and insurers of such plans and programs.

"Released Claims" means any and all claims, arising during the PAGA Period, for civil penalties under California Labor Code section 2698, *et seq.* ("PAGA") as well as any interest, fees, and costs available under PAGA, based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, including but not limited to, for failure to pay minimum, regular, and overtime wages, failure to provide compliant meal periods and associated premiums, failure to provide compliant rest periods and associated premiums, failure to timely pay wages during employment, failure to timely pay wages upon termination, failure to provide compliant and accurate wage statements, failure to maintain complete and accurate payroll records, and failure to reimburse necessary business-related expenses and costs, in violation of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226(a), 226.7, 510, 512(a), 551, 552, 558, 1174(d), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802 and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, including *inter alia*, Wage Order 4-2001.

The enclosed check is valid for 180 days from the original date of issuance and mailing, and if it is not cashed, deposited, or otherwise negotiated within the 180-day timeframe, it will be canceled, and the funds associated with the canceled check will be transmitted to the State Controller's Office Unclaimed Property Division in your name and in the amount of your respective Individual Settlement Share.

Do not call or write the Court, Office of the Clerk of the Court, Defendant, or Defendant's counsel to ask questions about the settlement or to ask tax-related questions. If you have any such questions, you may contact [PAGA Settlement Administrator] at [toll-free phone number].