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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

LUIS RAMIREZ, an individual, on behalf of himself and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

CLASSIC RESIDENCE MANAGEMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, a Limited Partnership; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 37-2023-00039329-CU-OE-CTL

DECLARATION OF LUIS RAMIREZ IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT

Hearing Date: November 13, 2026
Hearing Time: 9:00 a.m.

Judge: Hon. Marcella O. McLaughlin
Dept: C-72

Date Filed: September 11, 2023
Trial Date: Not set

I, Luis Ramirez, declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen, a Plaintiff and a proposed Class Representative in the above-entitled matter. I submit this declaration in support of the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Settlement and in support of my application for a Class Representative Service Payment.

2. I have personal knowledge of all the facts stated herein. I could and would competently testify under oath to these facts in court if requested to do so.

3. During the class period I worked as a Cook for the Defendant Classic Residence Management Limited Partnership ("Defendant") in California and during that time period I have been classified by Defendant as a non-exempt employee.

4. I retained my attorneys who are experienced in both class action and PAGA representative action litigation and claims against employers for violations of the California Labor Code. I have no personal relationship or family ties to my attorneys or any officer of the Court. I am not aware of having any actual or potential conflicts of interest with another class member in this case. I am not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by this settlement.

5. I decided to pursue this class action lawsuit and serve as a plaintiff and class representative because I believe that my rights and the rights of other employees were violated. I often did not receive compliant meal and rest breaks because they were late, interrupted, or missed entirely. Defendant also failed to pay the required meal and rest period premiums. At times, I was required to clock out and continue working without pay. I was also required to use my personal cell phone for work-related purposes without reimbursement. In addition, I believe that some of my wage statements were inaccurate because Defendant failed to properly calculate my overtime and other wages, resulting in underpayment during certain pay periods.

6. I spoke to my attorneys several times and discussed how Defendant implemented their company policies and procedures. I also assisted my attorneys in their investigation into my claims by providing them documents and answering their questions. I reviewed the complaint before it was filed and, after it was filed, I was given access to an electronic file sharing program that

alerted me via email when important documents were filed so that I could review them and keep up with the developments in the case which I understood was one of my duties as a class representative. I would also contact my attorneys from time to time if I had any questions about the case.

7. Even though this action is in the process of settling, I was and remain prepared to perform all the duties of a class representative. I understand that as a class representative I have assumed a fiduciary responsibility to prosecute this class action on behalf of the absent class members. I have understood that as a fiduciary, I have a duty to prosecute this action for the benefit of the class members and surrender any right to compromise the group action for an individual gain.

8. I understood that being a plaintiff/class representative in this case meant that I was seeking damages not only for myself but also other current and/or former non-exempt employees working for Defendants in California who make up the class. I felt that these individuals were not aware of their labor law rights and even if they were they would probably be apprehensive about speaking up or even simply because of the time, effort and risk involved in filing a class action lawsuit.

9. I understood that being a part of this lawsuit involved risks. For example, my attorneys explained to me that if the case went to trial and we lost, I could be held responsible to pay for all or part of the attorney fees and costs paid by Defendant to defend this lawsuit. Also, I knew there was a risk that future employers, if they ever find out about this lawsuit, could hold it against me or downgrade me as a potential hire. As one of only two named Plaintiffs in this case, it would not be difficult for a future employer to become aware that I sued my employer for labor law violations. Ultimately I decided these risks were worth it and decided to fight for my rights and the rights of others regardless of the risks, time and effort I spent on this case.

10. During the lawsuit I stayed in touch with my attorneys by phone and email. I also kept up to date on important developments by reviewing court filings that were made available to me electronically as I described above.

11. A mediation took place on April 22, 2024 with Steven J. Rottman, Esq., a well-respected and experienced mediator of wage and hour class actions. After the mediation the parties were

able to come to an agreement to settle the action based on a mediator's proposal. I communicated with my attorneys regarding the terms of the settlement which was reached between the parties and understood that I was representing absent class members and therefore wanted the best possible result to be obtained for the class members and I believe a very positive result was in fact achieved via settlement. I reviewed and signed the Memorandum of Understanding on March 2, 2026.

12. I have been actively involved with this lawsuit performing the duties described above. Although I did not keep time records, I was in regular contact with my attorneys, reviewed court filings, and spent a significant amount of time on the issues presented during the lawsuit and in the settlement process. I estimate that I spent approximately 30-40 hours working on this case up until this point. I believe I have been diligent and have done what is expected of a named plaintiff and a proposed class representative to date, and will continue to do so. I have and always will maintain the best interest of the class members.

13. My attorneys explained to me that the settlement process involves a two-step review by the Court to determine whether the settlement is fair before approving the settlement. I know this process also involves notifying all class members of the settlement terms and of their rights to make a claim for their settlement share, to opt out of the settlement or to object to the settlement.

14. I believe I did the right thing by filing this case on behalf of the class members who, subject to court approval, are in line to receive monetary payments as a result of this case and settlement. This is money they may never have ever gotten if I did not pursue this action on their behalf. I feel significant personal satisfaction to know that I played a role in the class members being entitled to monetary payments as a result of the filing of this lawsuit. I also believe that the requested Class Representative Service Payment of $15,000 from the settlement is fair compensation for the work I performed and the risks I undertook.

15. As part of the settlement it was necessary for me to sign a general release of all claims I may have against Defendant. I believe the Class Representative Service Payment I have requested provides me with some compensation for this agreed release.

16. In light of all the time and effort I have spent on this case, the risk I undertook by suing my employer, the exposure to being responsible for paying Defendant's costs in the event we did not win the case, the reputational risk that future employers may hold this lawsuit against me, the general release and in light of the size of the settlement, I believe the request for $15,000 as a Class Representative service payment is fair and reasonable.

/ / /

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 10/13/2026, at San Diego , California.
(city, state)

Luis Ramirez (Oct 13, 2026 20:12:50 CDT)

Luis Ramirez