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individually, and on behalf of other similarly
situated employees and Aggrieved Employees
Pursuant to the California Private Attorney
General Act

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

AQIL MUHAMMAD, individually, and on
behalf of other similarly situated employees
and Aggrieved Employees Pursuant to the
California Private Attorney General Act,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PARTNERS AND ADVOCATES FOR
REMARKABLE CHILDREN AND
ADULTS dba PARCA; and DOES 1 through
25, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24-CIV-07193

Honorable Nancy L. Fineman
Department 4

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Date: March 9, 2027
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Dept.: 4

Complaint Filed: November 13, 2024
FAC Filed: April 29, 2026
Trial Date: Not Set

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[PROPOSED] ORDER

On March 9, 2027 at 2:00 p.m. in Department 4 of the above-captioned Court located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, California 94063, Plaintiff Aqil Muhammad's ("Plaintiff") Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, came on for hearing before the Honorable Nancy L. Fineman. Blackstone Law, APC appeared on behalf of Plaintiff and Kaufman Dolowich LLP appeared on behalf of Defendant Partners and Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults dba PARCA ("Defendant").

The Court, having carefully considered the papers, argument of counsel, and all matters presented to the Court, and good cause appearing, hereby **GRANTS** Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Court preliminarily approves the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Settlement" or "Settlement Agreement") attached as Exhibit 3 to the Declaration of Alexandra Rose in Support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement. This is based on the Court's determination that the Settlement falls within the range of possible approval as fair, adequate, and reasonable.

2. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, and all capitalized terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

3. It appears to the Court on a preliminary basis that the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable. It appears to the Court that extensive investigation and research have been conducted such that counsel for the parties at this time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions. It further appears to the Court that the Settlement, at this time, will avoid substantial additional costs by all parties, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the case. It further appears that the Settlement has been reached as the result of intensive, serious, and non-collusive, arms-length negotiations, and was entered into in good faith.

4. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement, including the allocations for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, LWDA PAGA Payment, Administration Expenses Payment, and payments to the

1 Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees provided for in the Settlement Agreement,
2 appear to be within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that could ultimately be given final
3 approval by this Court. Indeed, the Court has reviewed the monetary recovery that is being granted
4 as part of the Settlement and preliminarily finds that the monetary settlement awards made available
5 to the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees are fair, adequate, and reasonable when balanced
6 against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to certification, liability, and damages issues
7 and are consistent with the requirements of California Labor Code § 2699(e)(1).

8 5. The Court concludes that, for settlement purposes only, the proposed Class meets the
9 requirements for certification under section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure in that: (a)
10 the Class is ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable;
11 (b) common questions of law and fact predominate, and there is a well-defined community of interest
12 amongst the members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the litigation; (c) Plaintiff's
13 claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d) Plaintiff will fairly and adequately
14 protect the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class action is superior to other available
15 methods for the efficient adjudication of the controversy; and (f) Class Counsel is qualified to act as
16 counsel for Plaintiff in his individual capacity and as the representative of the Class.

17 6. The Court conditionally certifies, for settlement purposes only, the Class, defined as
18 follows:

19 All current and former non-exempt employees employed by Defendant who
20 worked in California during the Class Period.

21 (The Class Period is defined as the period from November 13, 2020 through
22 January 15, 2026.)

22 7. The Court provisionally appoints Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Alexandra
23 Rose, and Jared C. Osborne of Blackstone Law, APC as counsel for the Class ("Class Counsel").

24 8. The Court provisionally appoints Plaintiff Aqil Muhammad as the representative of the
25 Class ("Class Representative").

26 9. The Court provisionally appoints Apex Class Action LLC to handle the administration
27 of the Settlement ("Administrator").

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1 10. No later than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the Court enters this Order, Defendant
2 will provide the Administrator with the following information about each Class Member: full name,
3 last-known mailing address, Social Security number, and number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay
4 Periods (collectively referred to as the “Class Data”) in conformity with the Settlement Agreement.

5 11. The Court approves, both as to form and content, the Court Approved Notice of Class
6 Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Approval (“Class Notice”) attached hereto as **Exhibit**

7 **1.** The Class Notice shall be provided to Class Members in the manner set forth in the Settlement
8 Agreement. The Court finds that the Class Notice appears to fully and accurately inform the Class
9 Members of all material elements of the Settlement, of Class Members’ right to be excluded from the
10 Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion, of Class Members’ right to challenge the
11 Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods credited to each of them by submitting a challenge, and of each
12 Participating Class Member’s right and opportunity to object to the Class Settlement by submitting a
13 written objection to the Administrator. The Court further finds that distribution of the Class Notice
14 substantially in the manner and form set forth in the Settlement Agreement and this Order, and that all
15 other dates set forth in the Settlement Agreement and this Order, meet the requirements of due process
16 and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto. The Court further orders
17 the Administrator to mail the Class Notice in English and Spanish by First-Class U.S. Mail to all Class
18 Members no later than seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the Class Data, pursuant to the terms set
19 forth in the Settlement Agreement.

20 12. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the proposed procedure, set forth in the
21 Settlement Agreement, for seeking exclusion from the Class Settlement. Any Class Member may
22 choose to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion in conformity
23 with the requirements set forth in the Class Notice, to the Administrator, postmarked on or before the
24 date that is sixty (60) calendar days from the initial mailing of the Class Notice by the Administrator
25 to Class Members (“Response Deadline”), or, in the case of a re-mailed Class Notice, the Response
26 Deadline shall be extended fourteen (14) calendar days from the original Response Deadline. Any
27 such person who timely and validly chooses to opt out of, and be excluded from, the Class Settlement
28 will not be entitled to any recovery under the Class Settlement and will not be bound by the Class

Settlement or have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon. Nevertheless, all Aggrieved Employees will be bound by the PAGA Settlement and issued their Individual PAGA Payment, irrespective of whether they submit a Request for Exclusion. Class Members who do not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion (i.e., Participating Class Members) shall be bound by the Settlement Agreement and any final judgment based thereon.

13. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court on _____ at _____ a.m./p.m. in Department 4 of the San Mateo County Superior Court, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, California 94063, to determine all necessary matters concerning the Settlement, including: whether the proposed settlement of the action on the terms and conditions provided for in the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable and should be finally approved by the Court; whether a judgment, as provided in the Settlement, should be entered herein; whether the plan of allocation contained in the Settlement should be approved as fair, adequate, and reasonable to the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees; and determine whether to approve the requests for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, Administration Expenses Payment, and allocation for the PAGA Penalties.

14. Class Counsel shall file a motion for final approval of the Settlement and for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, and Administration Expenses Payment, along with the appropriate declarations and supporting evidence, including the Administrator's declaration, by _____, to be heard at the Final Approval Hearing.

15. To object to the Class Settlement, a Participating Class Member must submit their written objection to the Administrator on or before the Response Deadline. The written objection must be signed and must contain the information that is required, as set forth in the Class Notice, including and not limited to the grounds for the objection. Participating Class Members, individually or through counsel, may also present their objection orally at the Final Approval Hearing, regardless of whether they have submitted a written objection.

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1 16. In the event the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms of
2 the Settlement Agreement, or the Settlement is not finally approved, or is terminated, canceled, or fails
3 to become effective for any reason, this Order shall be rendered null and void, shall be vacated, and
4 the parties shall revert back to their respective positions as of before entering into the Settlement
5 Agreement. The fact that the Court certified the Class for settlement purposes shall not be admissible
6 or have any bearing on the issue of whether any class should be certified in a non-settlement context.

7 17. The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the date of the Final Approval
8 Hearing and any dates provided for in the Settlement Agreement without further notice to the Class
9 Members and retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with
10 the Settlement.

11 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

12 Dated: _____

Honorable Nancy L. Fineman
Judge of the Superior Court

EXHIBIT 1

COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL APPROVAL

Aqil Muhammad v. Partners and Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults dba PARCA
San Mateo County Superior Court, California, Case Number 24-CIV-07193.

The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!
It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.

You may be eligible to receive money from an employee class action lawsuit (“Action”) against Partners and Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults dba PARCA (“Defendant”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by a Aqil Muhammad (“Plaintiff”) and seeks payment of (1) back wages for a class of all current and former non-exempt employees who were employed by Defendant who worked in California during the Class Period (“Class” or “Class Members”); and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all current and former non-exempt employees who were employed by Defendant who worked in California during the PAGA Period (“Aggrieved Employees”). The “Class Period” means the period from November 13, 2020 through January 15, 2026. The PAGA Period” means the period from January 15, 2025 through January 15, 2026.

The proposed settlement has two main parts: (1) a class settlement requiring Defendant to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA settlement requiring Defendant to fund Individual PAGA Payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

Based on Defendant’s records, and the Parties’ current assumptions, **your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$_____ (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$_____**. The actual amount you may receive likely will be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendant’s records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the settlement because you didn’t work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Defendant’s records showing that **you worked ____ Workweeks** during the Class Period and **you worked _____ PAGA Pay Periods** during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more Workweeks during the Class Period or more PAGA Pay Periods during the PAGA Period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section IV of this Notice.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this Notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully read and understood it. At the final approval hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the settlement and how much of the settlement will be paid to Plaintiff and Plaintiff’s attorneys (“Class Counsel”). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Defendant to make payments under the settlement and requires Class Members who do not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion (“Participating Class Members”) and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendant.

If you worked for Defendant during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have

two basic options under the settlement:

- (1) **Do Nothing.** You don't have to do anything to participate in the proposed settlement and be eligible for an Individual Class Payment and/or an Individual PAGA Payment. As a Participating Class Member though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims against Defendant.
- (2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the class settlement (opt-out) by submitting a written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Defendant, and, if you are an Aggrieved Employee, remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed settlement.

Defendant will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed settlement.

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT

You Don't Have to Do Anything to Participate in the Settlement	If you do nothing, you will be a Participating Class Member, eligible for an Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA Payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert the Released Class Claims (defined below) that are covered by this settlement.
You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement The Opt-out Deadline is [REDACTED].	If you don't want to fully participate in the proposed settlement, you can opt-out of the class settlement by sending the Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed settlement. See Section VI of this Notice. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed settlement. Defendant must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees, and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue the Released PAGA Claims (defined below).

Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement Written Objections Must be Submitted by [REDACTED].	Participating Class Members can object to any aspect of the proposed settlement. The Court's decision whether to finally approve the settlement will include a determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel or Plaintiff, but every dollar paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff reduces the overall amount paid to Participating Class Members. You can object to the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff if you think they are unreasonable. See Section VII of this Notice.
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You Can Participate in the Court's Final Approval Hearing	The Court's final approval hearing is scheduled to take place on [REDACTED]. You don't have to attend but you do have the right to appear (or hire an attorney to appear on your behalf at your own cost), in person, by telephone or by using the Court's virtual appearance platform. Participating Class Members can verbally object to the settlement at the final approval hearing. See Section VIII of this Notice.
You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks/PAGA Pay Periods Written Challenges Must be Submitted by [REDACTED].	The amount of your Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one day during the Class Period ("Workweeks") and how many pay periods you worked at least one day during the PAGA Period ("PAGA Pay Periods"), respectively. The number of Workweeks and number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked according to Defendant's records is stated on the first page of this Notice. If you disagree with the number of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, you must challenge it by [REDACTED]. See Section IV of this Notice.

I. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiff is a former Defendant employee. The Action accuses Defendant of violating California labor laws by failing to pay overtime wages, minimum wages, wages due upon termination and failing to provide meal periods, rest breaks and accurate itemized wage statements. Based on the same claims, Plaintiff has also asserted a claim for civil penalties under PAGA. Plaintiff is represented by attorneys in the Action: Jonathan M. Genish, Esq., Miriam L. Schimmel, Esq., Joana Fang, Esq., Alexandra Rose, Esq., Jared C. Osborne, Esq., and Theodore R. Tang, Esq. of Blackstone Law, APC.

Defendant strongly denies violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contends it complied with all applicable laws.

II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?

So far the Court has made no determination whether Defendant or Plaintiff is correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiff and Defendant hired an experienced, neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating an agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a settlement agreement and agreeing to ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action, Plaintiff and Defendant have negotiated a proposed settlement that is subject to the Court's final approval. Both sides agree the proposed settlement is a compromise of disputed claims. By agreeing to settle, Defendant does not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims. Plaintiff and Class Counsel strongly believe the settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Defendant has agreed to pay a fair, reasonable and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine final approval.

III. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

1. Defendant Will Pay \$262,500 as the Gross Settlement Amount ("Gross Settlement Amount"). Defendant has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement Amount into an account controlled by the Administrator of the settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement Amount to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, a Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the Administrator's expenses, and penalties to be paid to the LWDA. Assuming the Court grants final approval, Defendant will fund the Gross Settlement Amount not more than 65 days after the judgment entered by the Court becomes final. The judgment will be final on the date the Court enters judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed settlement or the judgment is appealed.
2. Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement Amount. At the final approval hearing, Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement Amount, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court:
 - A. Up to 1/3 of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$87,500) to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and up to \$25,000 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class

Counsel has worked and incurred expenses in the Action without payment.

- B. Up to \$10,000 to Plaintiff as a Class Representative Service Payment for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. A Class Representative Service Payment will be in addition to any other payments Plaintiff is entitled to under the settlement.
- C. Up to \$6,000 to the Administrator for services administering the settlement.
- D. Up to \$20,000 for PAGA penalties, allocated 65% to the LWDA and 35% to Individual PAGA Payments to Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Pay Periods during the PAGA Period.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions except the PAGA penalties. The Court will consider all objections.

- 3. Net Settlement Amount Distributed to Class Members. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement Amount (the “Net Settlement Amount”) by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Workweeks.
- 4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Defendant are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages (“Wage Portion”) and 80% to interest and penalties (“Non-Wage Portion”). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Defendant will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes on the Wage Portion. The Individual PAGA Payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiff and Defendant have agreed to these allocations, neither side is giving you any advice on whether your payments are taxable or how much you might owe in taxes. You are responsible for paying all taxes (including penalties and interest on back taxes) on any payments received from the proposed settlement. You should consult a tax advisor if you have any questions about the tax consequences of the proposed settlement.

- 5. Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks. The front of every check issued for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will show the date when the check expires (the void date). If you don’t cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be deposited with the California Controller’s Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

If the monies represented by your check is sent to the Controller’s Unclaimed Property Fund, you should consult the rules of the fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.

- 6. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will not grant final approval of the settlement or not enter a judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiff and

Defendant have agreed that, in either case, the settlement will be void, Defendant will not pay any money, and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendant.

7. Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral third-party settlement administrator (the “Administrator”) to send this notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members’ Requests for Exclusion, challenges over Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, and written objections, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the settlement. The Administrator’s contact information is contained in Section IX of this Notice.
8. Participating Class Members’ Release. After the Judgment is final and Defendant has fully funded the Gross Settlement Amount and separately paid all employer payroll taxes, Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting the Released Class Claims.

The Participating Class Members will be bound by the following release:

All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, shall release Released Parties from all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the allegations stated in the Operative Complaint, which are alleged to have occurred during the Class Period (collectively, the “Released Class Claims”). Except for the Released PAGA Claims, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

9. Aggrieved Employees’ PAGA Release. After the Court’s judgment is final, and Defendant has paid the Gross Settlement Amount (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), Aggrieved Employees will be legally barred from asserting the Released PAGA Claims.

The Aggrieved Employees’ Release is as follows:

All Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the allegations stated in the Operative Complaint and the PAGA Notice, which arose during the PAGA Period (collectively, “Released PAGA Claims”). Defendant shall be entitled to a release from the State of California of the Released PAGA Claims.

10. The “Released Parties” means Defendant and each of its former and present directors, officers, shareholders, owners, members, employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, predecessors, successors, assigns, subsidiaries, and affiliates

IV. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

1. Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of

Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member.

2. Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$7,000 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.
3. Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period Challenges. The number of Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period (if any), as recorded in Defendant's records, is stated in the first page of this Notice. You have until [REDACTED] to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail, email or fax. Section IX of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Defendant's calculation of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods based on Defendant's records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Class Members) and Defendant's Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

V. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

1. Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who doesn't opt-out) including those who also qualify as Aggrieved Employees. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment (if any).
2. Non-Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts out of the class settlement.

Your check will be sent to the same address as this notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section IX of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

VI. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

To opt out of the class action settlement, submit a written and signed letter with your full name, present address, telephone number or email address and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing communicating your request be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request and identify the Action as *Aqil Muhammad v. Partners and Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults dba PARCA*. You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, other than your legal representative, it will not be valid. **You must send your request to be excluded to the Administrator by [REDACTED], or it will be invalid.**

Section IX of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the settlement. Class Members who opt out of the class settlement remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert the Released PAGA Claims.

VII. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiff and Defendant are asking the Court to approve. At least sixteen (16) days before the final approval hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed settlement is fair and states (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; and (ii) the amount Plaintiff is requesting as a Class Representative Service Payment. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section IX of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Administrator's website

_____ (url) _____ or the Court's website _____ (url) _____.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the settlement or the Motion for Final Approval may wish to object, for example, that the proposed settlement is unfair, or that the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff are too high or too low. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is _____.** Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action as *Aqil Muhammad v. Partners and Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults dba PARCA* and include your full name, current address, and telephone number or email address and sign the objection. Section IX of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

A Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the final approval hearing. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section VIII of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the final approval hearing.

VIII. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the final approval hearing on _____ of the San Mateo Superior Court, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. At the hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant final approval of the settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement Amount will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiff and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel and defense counsel before making a decision. You can attend (or hire a lawyer to attend) either personally or virtually. Check the Court's website for the most current information.

It's possible the Court will reschedule the final approval hearing. You should check the Administrator's website _____ (url) _____ beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the final approval hearing.

IX. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The settlement agreement sets forth everything Defendant and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed settlement. The easiest way to read the settlement agreement, the judgment or any other settlement documents is to go to Administrator's website at [\(url\)](#).

You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to (<https://sanmateo.courts.ca.gov/divisions/civil-division>) and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. 24-CIV-07193. You can also make an appointment to personally review court documents in the Clerk's Office at the San Mateo Courthouse by calling (650) 261-5104.

Class Counsel:

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Alexandra Rose

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BLACKSTONE LAW, APC

8383 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 745

Beverly Hills, California 90211

Tel: (310) 622-4278 / Fax: (855) 786-6356

Settlement Administrator:

Name of Company:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Fax Number:

X. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void, you should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

XI. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.