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12 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
13 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**
14

15 FERNANDO ARCE, individually, on behalf of
16 all others similarly situated, and on behalf of the
17 State of California and other aggrieved persons,

18 *Plaintiff,*

19 v.

20 SAMMY'S WOODFIRED PIZZA, a California
21 corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

22 *Defendants.*

Case No.: 37-2023-00037670-CU-OE-CTL

**DECLARATION OF KATHERINE
ROVERTONI OF APEX CLASS ACTION,
LLC, IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT**

Date: January 10, 2025
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept.: C-74
Judge: Hon. Blaine K. Bowman

1 I, Katherine Rovertoni, declare as follows:

2 1. I am a resident of the United States of America and am over the age of 18. I am a Case Manager
3 for Apex Class Action, LLC (hereinafter referred to as “Apex”), the professional settlement services
4 provider who has been retained by the Parties’ Counsel and subsequently appointed by the Court to
5 serve as the Settlement Administrator for the above captioned *Arce v. Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza* matter.
6 On behalf of both Apex and myself, I possess the authority to issue this declaration. I am personally
7 acquainted with the information contained herein, and in the event of being summoned to provide
8 testimony, I am fully capable and willing to provide competent testimony regarding these facts.

9 2. Apex Class Action’s team has been directly involved with class action administration for a
10 combined 15 years and has successfully managed numerous class action cases during that time. Our team
11 comprises experienced professionals with extensive knowledge of class action settlement administration.
12 In addition, Apex Class Action has the necessary technology and infrastructure to efficiently manage large-
13 scale class action cases. We utilize state-of-the-art software and systems to ensure that all aspects of the
14 administration process are executed accurately and efficiently.

15 3. Apex was engaged by the Parties’ Counsel and subsequently approved and appointed by the
16 Court to provide notification services and claims administration, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement,
17 in the above-referenced Action. The responsibilities undertaken thus far, as well as those to be fulfilled
18 following the granting of Final Approval of the Settlement, include: (a) printing and mailing the *Court*
19 *Approved Notice Of Class Action Settlement And Hearing Date For Final Court Approval* (referred to as
20 “Notice Packet”); (b) receiving and processing requests for exclusion; (c) resolving disputes among
21 Settlement Class Members regarding the number of workweeks recorded by Defendant during the Class
22 Period, as stated on their individualized Class Notice; (d) calculating individual settlement award
23 amounts; (e) processing and mailing settlement award checks; (f) handling tax withholdings as required
24 by the Settlement and the law; (g) preparing, issuing and filing tax returns and other applicable tax forms;
25 (h) managing the distribution of any unclaimed funds pursuant to the terms of the Settlement; and (i)
26 undertaking additional tasks as mutually agreed upon by the Parties or as ordered by the Court for Apex
27 to perform.

1 4. On September 17, 2024, Counsel for the Plaintiff provided Apex with the Court-approved content
2 for the Notice Packet. Apex then generated a draft of the formatted Notice Packet, which received
3 approval from the Parties' Counsel before being mailed.

4 5. On September 28, 2024, Counsel for the Defendant provided Apex with the class data file,
5 comprising the names, social security numbers, last known mailing addresses, and the total number of
6 relevant workweeks worked by each Settlement Class Member. The data file was successfully uploaded
7 to our database, where it underwent a thorough review to identify any duplicates or potential
8 inconsistencies. The Class List consisted of a total of 621 individuals.

9 6. In preparation for the mailing process, all 621 names and addresses listed in the Class List
10 underwent verification and updating against the National Change of Address (NCOA) database
11 maintained by the United States Postal Service (USPS). The purpose of this step was to ensure the
12 accuracy and validity of the Settlement Class Members' mailing addresses before sending out the Notice
13 Packet. The NCOA database contains records of requested address changes submitted to the USPS. If
14 an updated address was found in the NCOA database, it was utilized for the mailing of the Notice Packet.
15 However, in cases where no updated address was found in the NCOA database, the original address
16 provided by Counsel for Defendant was used for the mailing of the Notice Packet.

17 7. On October 12, 2024, The Notice Packet was sent to all 621 individuals listed in the Class List
18 using U.S First Class Mail. A copy of the mailed Notice Packet is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

19 8. As of the date of this declaration, our office has received 69 returned Notice Packets as
20 undeliverable. Therefore, Apex conducted a computerized skip trace on the 69 returned Notice Packets
21 in order to acquire updated addresses for the purpose of re-mailing the Notice Packet. This skip trace
22 effort resulted in obtaining 10 updated addresses, to which we promptly re-mailed the Notice Packets
23 via U.S First Class Mail.

24 9. As of the date of this declaration, there have been 10 Notice Packets re-mailed as a result of
25 Apex's skip-tracing efforts.

26 10. As of the date of this declaration, 59 Notice Packets have been considered undeliverable as no
27 updated address was found despite conducting skip tracing.

1 11. As of the date of this declaration, Apex has not received any requests for exclusion. The deadline
2 for submitting a request for exclusion from the Settlement was November 26, 2024.

3 12. As of the date of this declaration, Apex has not received any objections to the Settlement. The
4 deadline for submitting a written objection to the Settlement was November 26, 2024.

5 13. As of the date of this declaration, Apex will report 621 Participating Class Members, constituting
6 100% of the total 621 Settlement Class Members.

7 14. The total number of workweeks worked by Participating Class Members during the Class Period
8 is 29,094. The Net Settlement Amount available to Participating Class Members is estimated to be
9 \$217,260.00 and was calculated by subtracting the requested attorneys' fees (\$148,750.00), the amount
10 requested for litigation costs and expenses (\$30,000.00), the requested Service Award (\$10,000.00), the
11 requested Settlement Administration Costs (\$8,990.00), and the PAGA Penalties (\$10,000.00) from the
12 Gross Settlement Amount (\$425,000.00).

13 15. The *highest* Individual Settlement Amount to a Participating Class Member is currently estimated
14 to be approximately \$1,777.27, the *average* Individual Settlement Amount is currently estimated to be
15 approximately \$407.62, and the *lowest* Individual Settlement Amount is currently estimated to be
16 approximately \$7.47. These amounts are subject to employee-side tax and withholdings.

17 16. Pursuant to the Agreement, 25% of the PAGA Payment (\$2,500.00) will be allocated to
18 Aggrieved Employees regardless of whether they opt out of the class settlement. Aggrieved Employees
19 cannot opt out of the PAGA settlement. There are 401 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of
20 6,540 weeks during the PAGA Period.

21 17. The *highest* individual PAGA share to an Aggrieved Employee is approximately \$15.67, the
22 *average* individual PAGA share is approximately \$6.23, and the *lowest* individual PAGA share is
23 approximately \$0.38.

24 18. Apex's comprehensive fees and costs for administering this Settlement, covering both incurred
25 and anticipated expenses, amount to \$8,990.00. Apex will proceed with additional tasks related to this
26 matter, such as calculating settlement award payments, issuing and mailing settlement award checks,
27 handling necessary tax filings and reporting on these payments, and any other tasks mutually agreed
28 upon by the Parties or ordered by the Court for Apex to undertake.

1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States
2 that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this Declaration was executed this 17th day of December
3 2024, in Irvine, California.

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6 Katherine Rovertoni

7 KATHERINE ROVERTONI
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Exhibit A

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

Fernando Arce v. Sammy's Woodfired Pizza
Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego
Case No. 37-2023-00037670-CU-OE-CTL

***The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!
It is 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 Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza (“Sammy’s”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by Fernando Arce, a former employee of Sammy’s (“Plaintiff”) and seeks payment of (1) back wages, penalties, and interest for a class of non-exempt, hourly-paid employees who worked for Sammy’s (and who did not sign an arbitration agreement with Sammy’s) at a restaurant in California during the Class Period (August 30, 2019 and March 25, 2024) (“Class Members”); and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all non-exempt, hourly-paid employees who worked for Sammy’s at a restaurant in California during the PAGA Period (August 30, 2022 to March 25, 2024) (“Aggrieved Employees”).

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

Based on Sammy’s records, and the Parties’ current assumptions, **your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be “Est. Class Payment” (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be “Est. PAGA Payment”**. 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 Sammy’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 Sammy’s records showing that **you worked “Class Workweeks” workweeks** during the Class Period and **you worked “PAGA Pay Periods” pay periods** during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more workweeks during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section 4 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 Sammy’s to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Sammy’s.

If you are a Class Member or Aggrieved Employees, 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 to 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 and PAGA Period penalty claims against Sammy’s.
- (2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting the 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 Sammy’s, 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.

Sammy’s 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 wage claims against Sammy’s that are covered by this Settlement (Released Claims).
You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement The Opt-out Deadline is November 28, 2024,	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 6 of this Notice. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. Sammy’s must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released Claims (defined below).
Participating Class	All Class Members who do not opt-out (“ <u>Participating Class Members</u> ”) can object to any aspect of the

Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement Written Objections Must be Submitted by November 28, 2024	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 7 of this Notice.
You Can Participate in the January 10, 2025, Final Approval Hearing	The Court’s Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on January 10, 2025. 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 8 of this Notice.
You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks/Pay Periods Written Challenges Must be Submitted by November 28, 2024	The amount of your Individual Class Payment and PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one day during the Class Period and how many Pay Periods you worked at least one day during the PAGA Period, respectively. The number of Class Period Workweeks and number of PAGA Period Pay Periods you worked according to Sammy’s records is stated on the first page of this Notice. If you disagree with either of these numbers, you must challenge it by November 28, 2024. See Section 4 of this Notice.

1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiff is a former employee of Sammy’s. The Action accuses Sammy’s of violating California labor laws by failing to pay wages, overtime wages, wages due upon termination, and reimbursable expenses, and failing to provide meal periods, rest periods, and accurate itemized wage statements. Based on the same claims, Plaintiff has also asserted a claim for civil penalties under the Cal. Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.) (“PAGA”). Plaintiff is represented by the Wilshire Law Firm (“Class Counsel”) in the Action.

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

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

So far, the Court has made no determination on the merits of the claims.

In the meantime, Plaintiff and Sammy’s hired an experienced, neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating to end the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement (the “Agreement”) and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, the Parties 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, Sammy’s 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: (a) Sammy’s 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 and Aggrieved Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine Final Approval.

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

- A. Sammy’s Will Pay \$425,000 as the Gross Settlement Amount (“Gross Settlement”). Sammy’s has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement into an account controlled by the Administrator of the Settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel’s attorney’s fees and expenses, the Administrator’s expenses, and penalties to be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”). Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Sammy’s will fund the Gross Settlement in two payments, one within 30 days after the Judgment entered by the Court becomes final, and the second payment within 182 days of the same. 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.
- B. Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement. At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:
 - (i) Up to \$148,750 (35% of the Gross Settlement) to Class Counsel for attorneys’ fees and up to \$30,000 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.
 - (ii) Up to \$10,000 as a Class Representative Award for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. A Class Representative Award will be the only monies Plaintiff will receive other than Plaintiff’s Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
 - (iii) Up to \$8,990 to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.

- (iv) Up to \$10,000 for PAGA Penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Period Pay Periods.

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

- C. Net Settlement 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 (the “Net Settlement”) by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period Workweeks.
- D. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Sammy’s 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. Sammy’s 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 Sammy’s 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.

- E. 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, you should consult the rules of the Fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.
- F. Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs). You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Class Settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than November 28, 2024, that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed Request for Exclusion by the November 28, 2024, Response Deadline. The Request for Exclusion should be a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative setting forth a Class Member’s name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the Settlement. Excluded Class Members (i.e., Non-Participating Class Members) will not receive Individual Class Payments, but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Sammy’s.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement. Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement (Non-Participating Class Members) remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Sammy’s based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

- G. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will decline to grant Final Approval of the Settlement or decline to enter a Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiff and Sammy’s have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Sammy’s will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Sammy’s.
- H. Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral company, Apex Class Action Administrators (the “Administrator”) to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members’ Requests for Exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member Challenges over Workweeks, 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 9 of this Notice.
- I. Participating Class Members’ Release. After the Judgment is final and Sammy’s has fully funded the Gross Settlement and separately paid all employer payroll taxes, Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the Settlement. This means that unless you opted out by validly excluding yourself from the Class Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Sammy’s or related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA penalties based on PAGA Period facts, as alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

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, release the Released Parties from all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the Class Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint and ascertained in the course of the Action, including without limitation any and all claims based on allegations involving: (i) failure to pay regular wages; (ii) failure to pay overtime wages; (iii) failure to provide meal periods; (iv) failure to authorize and permit rest periods; (v) failure to timely pay wages at termination; (vi) failure to furnish accurate itemized wage statements; (vii) failure to indemnify employees for costs and expenditures; and (viii) all damages, interest, penalties, attorneys’ fees, and costs, and any other amounts recoverable under said causes of action, to the extent permissible, including the California Labor Code and applicable IWC Wage Order. Except as set forth in Section 5.4 of the Agreement, 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.

- J. Aggrieved Employees' PAGA Release. After the Court's judgment is final, and Sammy's has paid the Gross Settlement (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), all Aggrieved Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against Sammy's, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Sammy's or its related entities based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The Aggrieved Employees' Releases for Participating and Non-Participating Class Members are as follows:

All Aggrieved Employees, regardless of whether they are Participating Class Members, 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 PAGA Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint, the PAGA Notice, and ascertained in the course of the Action, including without limitation alleged violations of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 1174, 1174.5, 1175, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802.

4. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

- A. 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.
- B. Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$2,500 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.
- C. Workweek/Pay Period Challenges. The number of Class Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Sammy's records, are stated in the first page of this Notice. You have until November 28, 2024, to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or 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 9 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 Sammy's calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods based on Sammy'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 Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Sammy's Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

5. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

- A. 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.
- B. 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 (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

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 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

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

Submit a written and signed letter with your name, present address, telephone number, 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 to be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Arce v Sammy's Woodfired Pizza*, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number, approximate dates of employment, and social security number for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. **The Administrator must be sent your request to be excluded by November 28, 2024, or it will be invalid.** Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

7. 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 Sammy's are asking the Court to approve. At least 16 court days before the January 10, 2025, Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court (1) a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair, and (2) a Motion for Fees, Litigation Expenses and Service Award stating (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 Award. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section 9 of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Court's website <https://sdcourt.ca.gov>.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Agreement, the Motion for Final Approval and/or Motion for Fees, Litigation Expenses and Service Award 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 November 28, 2024.** 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 *Sammy's Woodfired Pizza* Action and include your name, current address, telephone number, and approximate dates of employment for Sammy's, and sign the objection. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, 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 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing.

8. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on January 10, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in Department C-74 of the San Diego Superior Court, located at 330 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101. At the Hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement 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. It's possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. You should check the Court's website or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing.

9. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The Agreement sets forth everything Sammy's and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed Settlement. The easiest way to read the Agreement, the Judgment or any other Settlement documents is to telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below. You can also access these documents on the Superior Court website by going to (<https://sdcourt.ca.gov>) and searching for the case by name or case number. You can also personally review court documents in the Clerk's Office at the Hall of Justice

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SUPERIOR COURT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.

Class Counsel: Justin Marquez & Arrash Fattahi
WILSHIRE LAW FIRM
3055 Wilshire Blvd., 12th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90010
Telephone: (213) 381-9988
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

Sammy's Counsel: Edwin Boniske & Derek Paradis
HIGGS FLETCHER & MACK LLP
401 West "A" Street, Suite 2600
San Diego, California 92101
Telephone: (619) 236-1551
Facsimile: (619) 696-1410

Administrator: Apex Class Action LLC
P.O. Box 54668,
Irvine, CA 92619

10. 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.

11. 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.

Arce v. Sammy's Woodfired Pizza, et al.
37-2023-00037670-CU-OE-CTL

I, Zeyra Ceballos, state that I am employed in the aforesaid County, State of California; I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action; my business address is 15707 Rockfield Blvd., Suite 250, Irvine, California 92618. My electronic service address is zeyra.ceballos@wilshirelawfirm.com.

On December 17, 2024, I served the foregoing, **DECLARATION OF KATHERINE ROVERTONI OF APEX CLASS ACTION, LLC, IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**, on the interested parties by placing a true copy thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope by following one of the methods of service as follows:

Edwin M. Boniske (SBN 265701)
boniske@higgslaw.com
 Derek W. Paradis (SBN 269556)
paradisd@higgslaw.com
 Renee Runsat
runsatr@higgslaw.com
HIGGS PLETCHER & MACK LLP
 401 West A. Street, Suite 2600
 San Diego, California 92101
 Telephone: (619) 236-1551
 Facsimile: (619) 696-1410

Attorneys for Defendant

(X) **BY UPLOAD:** I hereby certify that the documents were uploaded by my office to the State of California Labor & Workforce Development Agency Online Filing Site.

(X) **BY E-MAIL:** I hereby certify that this document was served from Irvine, California, by e-mail delivery on the parties listed herein at their most recent known email address or e-mail of record in this action.

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

Executed this **December 17, 2024** at Irvine, California.

Zeyra Ceballos
Type or Print Name


Signature