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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ALFONSO ALMARAZ, as an individual and
on behalf of all others similarly situated,
Plaintiff,

vs.

WORLD OIL CORP., a California
Corporation; and DOES 1 through 100,
Defendant.

Case No.: 23STCV18296

*[Assigned for all purposes to the Hon. David
S. Cunningham III, Dept. SS-11]*

**DECLARATION OF SUSAN J. PEREZ IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Date: February 23, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Dept.: SS-11

Action Filed: August 2, 2023
Trial Date: None Set

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DECLARATION OF SUSAN J. PEREZ

I, Susan J. Perez declare as follows:

1. I am an associate with Haines Law Group, APC, and counsel for the named Plaintiff Alfonso Almaraz (“Plaintiff”) in the above-captioned matter. I am a member in good standing of the bar of the State of California and am admitted to practice in this Court. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this declaration and could testify competently to them if called upon to do so.

2. I received a Bachelor of Arts degree from UCSD in 2012, and a Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, in 2019. I was admitted to the California State Bar in December 2019. During law school, I externed for an administrative law judge at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Los Angeles, California, where I assisted with drafting decisions on motions for summary judgment and attorneys’ fees petitions. I also externed for a federal bankruptcy judge, where I drafted bench memoranda on substantive bankruptcy and civil procedure issues.

3. From December 2019 to May 2021, I was an associate attorney at B&D Law Group, APLC, a law firm dedicated to the practice of Plaintiff-side personal injury law located in Los Angeles, California. From June 2021 to December 2022, I was an associate attorney at Lucas and Barba, LLP, where I focused primarily on removal defense in U.S. immigration courts. Since January 2022, I have worked as an associate at Haines Law Group, APC.

4. Although non-exhaustive, the types of tasks I have performed include: conducting client intakes, drafting complaints, attending court hearings in state and federal administrative courts, corresponding with opposing counsel, drafting and responding to written discovery, taking and defending client testimony in U.S. removal proceedings, drafting and opposing a variety of motions including motions for summary judgment, drafting mediation briefs, attending mandatory settlement conferences, drafting long-form settlement agreements, and drafting motions for preliminary and final settlement approval.

5. The following is a non-exhaustive list of the class action settlements in which I have been named as Class Counsel, and which have been granted final approval: *Stephen Fiant v.*

1 *Ernie Ball, Inc.*, San Luis Obispo County Superior Court, Case No. 21CV-0016; *Erving v. Lazer*
2 *Spot, Inc.*, San Bernardino County Superior Court, Case No. CIVSB2101370; *Santiago Gutierrez*
3 *v. M.M.C.L., Inc.*, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2021-01182371 (approving an
4 hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in 2022-2023); *Robert Lewis v. IMERYS Filtration*
5 *Minerals, Inc., et al.*, Santa Barbara County Superior Court, Case No. 22CV02874 (approving an
6 hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in 2022-2023); *Gerardo Sanchez v. Dutton Home Services,*
7 *LLC*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 22STCV01834 (approving an hourly rate of
8 \$475 for work performed in 2022-2023); *Aaron Hallum, et al. v. FCA US, LLC*, Case No.
9 CIVDS1936782, San Bernardino County Superior Court, Honorable Joseph T. Ortiz, presiding
10 (approving an hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in 2022-2024); *Rafael Perez, et al. v.*
11 *Kyocera SGS Precision Tools, Inc.*, Case No. 30-2022-01299232-CU-OE-CXC, Orange County
12 Superior Court, Honorable Randall J. Sherman, presiding (approving an hourly rate of \$475 for
13 work performed in 2022-2024); *Juan David Arreola Carrillo v. KPS Global, LLC*, Case No.
14 22STCV19527, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Honorable Samantha Jessner, presiding
15 (approving an hourly rate of \$550 for work performed in 2022-2025); *In Re: Stanislaus Food*
16 *Products Company Employment Cases*, Lead Case No. CV-23-001433, Stanislaus County
17 Superior Court, Honorable John D. Freeland, presiding (using an hourly rate of \$550 for work
18 performed in 2023-2025); and *Riley Small & Sharese Casey, et al. v. Ridgecrest Regional*
19 *Hospital*, Kern County Superior Court, Honorable Thomas S. Clark, presiding (approving an
20 hourly rate of \$550 for work performed in 2023-2025).

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24 6. I have also been approved at the following rates: *Santos Orellana v. Smarte Carte,*
25 *Inc.*, Case No. 20STCV08890, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Honorable Yvette M.
26 Palazuelos, presiding (approving an hourly rate of \$350 for work performed in 2022); *Ketema*
27 *Nelson v. Santini Foods, Inc.*, Case No. RG21090890, Alameda County Superior Court,
28 Honorable Evelio Grillo, presiding (approving an hourly rate of \$375 for work performed in
2022); *Edward Salgado v. S.R. Bray LLC, dba Power Plus!, et al.*, Case No. 30-2020-01172134-
CU-OE-CXC, Orange County Superior Court, Honorable Lon F. Hurwitz, presiding (approving
an hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in 2022-2023); *Antonio Manuel Vasquez, et al. v. Delta*

1 *Framing, Inc.*, Case No. 30-2016-00893517-CU-OE-CXC, Orange County Superior Court,
2 Honorable Peter Wilson, presiding (approving an hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in 2022-
3 2023); *Roberto Arcos, et al. v. Panoramic Doors, LLC*, Case No. 37-2021-00048823-CU-OE-
4 CTL, San Diego County Superior Court, Honorable Loren G. Freestone, presiding (approving an
5 hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in 2022-2023); *Olivia Rose Ramirez, et al. v. Wyndham*
6 *Vacation Ownership, Inc.*, Case No. 20CV01715, Santa Barbara County Superior Court,
7 Honorable James F. Rigali, presiding (approving an hourly rate of \$475 for work performed in
8 2022-2024); and *Christian Alanis v. Leonard Roofing Inc.*, Case No. BC672028, Los Angeles
9 County Superior Court, Honorable William F. Highberger, presiding (approving an hourly rate of
10 \$475 for work performed in 2022-2025).

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13 7. As counsel for Plaintiff, I have been closely involved in all aspects of this litigation
14 since its inception. The details of the work completed by Class Counsel in this case are set forth
15 in the declaration of Andrew J. Rowbotham, filed concurrently herewith.

16 8. I confirm that I do not have any interest or involvement in, and am not affiliated
17 with, the proposed settlement administrator, Phoenix Settlement Administrators.

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19 9. I am not aware of any other class, representative, or other collective actions in
20 any other court or jurisdiction that assert claims similar to those asserted in this action on behalf
21 of a class or group of individuals some or all of whom would also be members of the class
22 defined in this action. I made a reasonable inquiry of other members of my law firm to determine
23 whether anyone in my firm is aware of any such similar actions.

24 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the state of
25 California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on January 29, 2026, at El Segundo,
26 California.

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Susan J. Perez