

## CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Subject to court approval, this Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiff Bacari Meadows (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of the Settlement Class, and Defendant All State Propane (hereinafter, “Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as “Parties” or as a “Party.”

### 1. DEFINITIONS.

1.1. “Action” means Plaintiff’s lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendant captioned *Bacari Meadows v. All State Propane*; Case No. 26CU019902C, pending in San Diego County Superior Court.

1.2. “Address Search” means the Administrator’s search for Covered Employees’ mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, including but not limited to the National Change of Address database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator.

1.3. “Administrator” means Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions.

1.4. “Administration Expenses” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its costs in accordance with the Administrator’s bid as approved by the Court. The Administration Expenses shall not exceed \$5,000, except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court.

1.5. “Aggrieved Employees” means all individuals currently or formerly employed by Defendant in California as hourly, non-exempt employees during the PAGA Period. Each individual member of the Aggrieved Employees is referred to as an “Aggrieved Employee”.

1.6. “Class Counsel Fees” means the amounts allocated to Plaintiff’s Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys’ fees in connection with this Settlement in an amount not to exceed 33.33% of the Gross Settlement Amount.

1.7. “Class” means all individuals currently or formerly employed by Defendant in California as hourly, non-exempt employees during the Class Period. Each individual member of the Class is referred to as a “Class Member”.

1.8. “Class Notice” means the Notice of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, attached as **Attachment A** and including the Request for Exclusion, attached as **Attachment B**, to be mailed to Class Members and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.9. “Class Period” means the period from April 9, 2022, through the date on which this Agreement is fully executed by the Parties, Plaintiff’s Counsel, and Defense Counsel.

1.10. “Class Workweek” means any week during which a Class Member worked for Defendant for at least one day during the Class Period.

1.11. “Class Workweek Estimate” means, based on a review of Defendant’s records through July 17, 2026, a total of 1,607 Class Workweeks (not including Plaintiff’s workweeks) worked by all Class Members.

1.12. “Court” means the San Diego County Superior Court.

1.13. “Covered Employees” means all Aggrieved Employees and all Class Members.

1.14. “Defense Counsel” means the captioned counsel of record from the law firm of Payne & Fears LLP.

1.15. “Effective Date” means the date on which the Court enters Judgment on its order granting Final Approval of the Settlement and the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (i) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (ii) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment; or (iii) if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

1.16. “Employee Data” means the following information for all Covered Employees in Defendant’s possession: names, last-known mailing addresses, Social Security numbers, and number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.

1.17. “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement.

1.18. “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the final motion for approval of the Settlement.

1.19. “Gross Settlement Amount” means **\$92,500**, which is the total amount Defendant(s) agree(s) to pay under the Settlement. The Gross Settlement Amount shall include and be comprised of all amounts to be paid for (1) Administration Expenses, (2) Class Counsel Fees, (3) Litigation Costs, (4) Net Settlement Amount, (5) the PAGA Payment, and (6) the Service Payment. Except as provided in Paragraphs 2.1.1 and 7 below, Defendant shall not be responsible for paying any sums in excess of the Gross Settlement Amount irrespective of any Court-ordered reductions or increases to any of the requested amounts identified in this paragraph. Defendant shall have no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline set in Paragraph 3.2.

1.20. “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Members’ individual pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount, calculated according to their number of Class Workweeks.

1.21. “Individual PAGA Payments” means the Aggrieved Employees’ individual pro rata share of the Net PAGA Payment, calculated according to the number of PAGA Pay Periods.

1.22. “Individual Settlement Payment” means the Covered Employees’ Individual Class Payments together with their Individual PAGA Payments (if applicable) or, in the case of Non-Participating Class Members, the Individual PAGA Payments as described in Section 3.3.5.

1.23. “Judgment” means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.24. “Litigation Costs” means the amount incurred by Plaintiff’s Counsel to prosecute the Action, currently estimated not to exceed \$5,000, subject to change with proof and Court approval.

1.25. “LWDA” means the California Labor Workforce and Development Agency.

1.26. “LWDA Payment” means the 65% share of the PAGA Payment allocated to be paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (m).

1.27. “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees, Litigation Costs, the PAGA Payment, and the Administration Expenses.

1.28. “Net PAGA Payment” means the 35% share of the PAGA Payment allocated to be paid to the Aggrieved Employees under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (m).

1.29. “Non-Participating Class Member” means any Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.

1.30. “Non-Wage Portion” means the percentage of each Participating Class Member’s Individual Class Payment that will be allocated to settlement of claims for interest and penalties as stated in Section 2.2.5 below.

1.31. “Operative Complaint” means the most recently filed complaint, including amended complaints, filed by Plaintiff in the Action.

1.32. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.

1.33. “PAGA” means California’s Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, Cal. Lab. Code § 2698 *et seq.*

1.34. “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiff’s letter to Defendant(s) and the LWDA, including any amendments thereto, pursuant to Labor Code § 2699.3(a).

1.35. “PAGA Pay Period” means any pay period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.

1.36. “PAGA Payment” means \$5,000, which is the amount provided in exchange for the release of the PAGA claims addressed in this Settlement, and which shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 65% of the PAGA Payment constituting the LWDA Payment, with the remaining 35% constituting the Net PAGA Payment to be allocated and paid to Aggrieved Employees.

1.37. “PAGA Period” means March 6, 2025, through the date on which this Agreement is fully executed by all Parties, Plaintiff’s Counsel, and Defense Counsel.

1.38. “Plaintiff’s Counsel” means the captioned counsel of record from Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.

1.39. “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.

1.40. “Released Class Claims” means any and all claims or causes of action alleged, or that reasonably could have been alleged, by Participating Class Members during the Class Period based on the facts stated in the Operative Complaint in the Action, including, without limitation, claims for: (1) failure to pay all wages owed, (2) failure to pay all overtime wages, (3) meal period violations, (4) rest break violations, (5) untimely payment of wages, (6) wage statement violations, (7) waiting time penalties, and (8) unfair competition. For further clarity, the Released Class Claims includes, but is not limited to, claims for relief under Labor Code sections 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 204b, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 516, 558, 558.1, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198; the applicable IWC Wage Order No. 9 (including Sections 3-5, 7, 11-12); and Business Professions Code sections 17200-17208.

1.41. “Released PAGA Claims” means any and all claims and causes of action for civil penalties that were alleged, or that reasonably could have been alleged, by Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period based on the facts stated in the PAGA Notice and/or the Operative Complaint in the Action, including but not limited to: any and all claims and causes of action for civil penalties that were alleged, or that reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts alleged in the PAGA Notice and/or the Operative Complaint in the Action, including but not limited to claims for: (1) failure to pay all wages owed, (2) failure to pay all overtime wages, (3) meal period violations, (4) rest period violations, (5) untimely payment of wages, (6) wage statement violations, (7) waiting time penalties, (8) unfair competition, and (9) civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*). For further clarity, the Released PAGA Claims include, but are not limited to, claims under the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*) for violation of, or recovery of penalties under, Labor Code sections 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 204b, 210, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 233, 246, 510, 512, 516, 558, 558.1, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198; the applicable IWC Wage Order No. 9 (including Sections 3-5, 7, 11-12); and Business Professions Code sections 17200-17208.

1.42. “Released Parties” means: Defendant and each of their former and present parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, clients, successors, assigns, joint venturers, and their directors, officers, shareholders, owners, members, managers, representatives,

attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, related entities, employees, administrators, any entities alleged to be co-employers with Defendant, and agents.

1.43. “Request for Exclusion” means a Class Member’s submission of a signed written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement, including on the form provided with the Class Notice attached as **Attachment B**.

1.44. “Response Deadline” means forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice to the Covered Employees and shall be the last date on which the Covered Employees may: fax, email, or mail: (a) a Request for Exclusion; (b) an objection to the Class Settlement; or (c) a dispute regarding their calculated number of Class Workweeks or PAGA Pay Periods, subject to a fourteen (14) day extension under the circumstances described in Section 6.4.4.

1.45. “Service Payment” means the payment to the Plaintiff for initiating and providing services in support of the Action in an amount up to \$10,000, subject to Court approval, which also constitutes consideration for Plaintiff’s general release of all claims, as set forth in this Agreement.

1.46. “Settlement” means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.47. “USPS” means the United States Postal Service.

1.48. “Void Date” means the date that the Individual Settlement Payment checks issued by the Administrator will be voided pursuant to Section 3.3.1 below.

1.49. “Wage Portion” means the percentage of each Participating Class Member’s Individual Class Payment that will be allocated to settlement of wage claims as stated in Section 2.2.5 below.

## **2. MONETARY TERMS.**

2.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Subject to all terms of this Agreement, Defendant shall pay the Gross Settlement Amount in connection with this Settlement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Covered Employees to submit any claim or form as a condition of payment. The Gross Settlement Amount is non-reversionary.

2.1.1. Employer Payroll Taxes: The Gross Settlement Amount does not include any employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, which shall be paid separately by Defendant as calculated by the Administrator.

2.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts approved by the Court:

2.2.1. To Plaintiff: The Service Payment, in addition to any Individual Settlement Payment that they may be entitled to receive as a Covered Employee. If the Court approves a Service Payment less than the amount requested, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Service Payment(s) using IRS Form 1099. An award of less than the requested amount for the Service Payment does not constitute a material change to this Agreement and will not serve as a basis to abrogate the Settlement Agreement. The Court has authority under this Agreement to reduce the Service Payment, at its discretion, as a condition for preliminary approval or at the final approval stage.

2.2.2. To Plaintiff's Counsel: Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Costs to Plaintiff's Counsel. Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments, provided the requests do not exceed the amounts set forth in this Agreement. If the Court approves Class Counsel Fees and/or Litigation Costs in an amount less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Costs using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. An award of less than the requested amount for the Class Counsel Fees and/or Litigation Costs does not constitute a material change to this Agreement and will not serve as a basis to abrogate the Settlement Agreement. The Court has authority under this Agreement to reduce the Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Costs, at its discretion, as a condition for preliminary approval or at the final approval stage.

2.2.3. To the Administrator: Administration Expenses to the Administrator. To the extent the Administration Expenses are less, or the Court approves payment less than the Administration Expenses set forth in this Agreement, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. An award of less than the requested amount for the Administration Expenses does not constitute a material change to this Agreement and will not serve as a basis to abrogate the Settlement Agreement. The Court has authority under this Agreement to reduce the Administration Expenses, at its discretion, as a condition for preliminary approval or at the final approval stage.

2.2.4. To the LWDA: the LWDA Payment. Subject to Court approval, the PAGA Payment will be allocated to cover any and all claims for civil penalties associated with the Released PAGA Claims that were, or could have been, brought in the Actions under PAGA based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice; 65% of the PAGA Payment will be paid to the LWDA (i.e., the LWDA Payment) and the remaining 35% of the PAGA Payment (i.e., the Net PAGA Payment) will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees as penalties in exchange for a full and final release of the Released PAGA Claims. The Court has authority under this Agreement to increase (or reduce) the PAGA Payment up to and including at the final approval hearing, and the Parties respectfully reserve the right to increase (or reduce) the PAGA Payment up to and including at the final approval stage, subject to the Court's final approval. If the Court approves a PAGA Payment of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

2.2.5. To Each Participating Class Member/Tax Allocation: An Individual Class Payment calculated by: (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Class Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period; and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's Class Workweeks. Non-Participating

Class Members will not receive any Individual Class Payments and Non-Participating Class Member Workweeks will not be included in the Class Workweeks. The Administrator will retain amounts equal to their Individual Class Payments in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis. 20% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the Wage Portion. The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. The remaining 80% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the Non-Wage Portion. The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.

2.2.6. To Each Aggrieved Employee/Tax Allocation: An Individual PAGA Payment calculated by: (a) dividing the Net PAGA Payment by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period; and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Pay Periods. Non-Participating Class Members will still receive Individual PAGA Payments and Non-Participating Class Members' PAGA Pay Periods will be included in the total number of PAGA Pay Periods. The Individual PAGA Payments are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Covered Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any individual taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

### **3. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.**

3.1. Delivery of Employee Data to Administrator. Not later than 20 days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval, Defendant will deliver the Employee Data to the Administrator in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Covered Employees' privacy, the Administrator must maintain the Employee Data in confidence, use the Employee Data only for purposes of this Settlement, and restrict access to the Employee Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Employee Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify the Administrator if it discovers that the Employee Data omitted Covered Employees' identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Employee Data as soon as reasonably feasible. If Employee Data is missing or incomplete, the Parties and their counsel must expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Employee Data.

3.2. Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount and fund the amount necessary to fully pay its share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 15 days after: (1) the Effective Date; or (2) the date on which the Administrator gives notice that the Qualified Settlement Fund is ready for funding as described in Section 6.3 below, whichever is later.

3.3. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 10 days after Defendant funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Settlement Payments, the Administration Expenses, the LWDA Payment, Class Counsel Fees, Litigation Costs, and Service Payment.

3.3.1. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Settlement Payments and send them to Covered Employees via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (not less than 180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided (the “Void Date”). The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the Void Date. Before mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator must update the recipients’ mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

3.3.2. The Administrator must conduct an Address Search for all other Covered Employees whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding addresses. Within 7 days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Covered Employees whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Covered Employee whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Covered Employee prior to the Void Date.

3.3.3. For any Covered Employee whose Individual Settlement Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the Void Date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds, in the name of the Covered Employee, to the State of California’s Unclaimed Property Division.

3.3.4. The payment of Individual Settlement Payments shall not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Covered Employee beyond those specified in this Agreement.

3.3.5. If a Covered Employee is a Non-Participating Class Member, the Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees, who have no right to opt-out or otherwise exclude themselves from the settlement and release of PAGA claims set forth in this Settlement, in accordance with the procedures laid in Paragraph 3.3.1-3.3.4.

3.4. Payments to the Responsible Tax Authorities. The Administrator will pay the Participating Class Members’ portion of normal payroll withholding taxes for the Wage Portion out of each person’s Individual Class Payment. The Administrator shall also pay Defendant’s portion of payroll taxes as the current or former employer (including the employer’s payment of applicable FICA, FUTA, and SUI contributions, etc.) to the appropriate local, state, and federal taxing authorities. The Administrator will calculate the amount of the Participating Class Members’ and Defendant’s portion of payroll withholding taxes and forward those amounts to the appropriate taxing authorities.

#### **4. RELEASES OF CLAIMS.**

Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount and all associated employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, the following releases of claims will take effect:

4.1. Plaintiff’s General Release. In addition to the Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims and in exchange for the Service Payment, Plaintiff generally, releases and discharges the Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences, including, but not limited to: any other claims, debts, liabilities, demands, damages, obligations, actions and causes

of actions, of any nature whatsoever, whether known or unknown, or suspected or unsuspected, arising out of or in connection with their employment with Defendant, the separation of such employment, or any other act, omission or event occurring between the Parties at any time prior to the date the Plaintiff(s) executes this Agreement. This general release includes, without limitation: (1) all claims for violation of any federal, state or local statute, ordinance or regulation relating to employment benefits, leaves of absence, or discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or whistleblowing in employment, specifically including, without limitation, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the California Family Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, the Securities Act, the Immigration Reform and Control Act the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act of 1988, the California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, the Uniformed Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, and any regulation of any administrative agency or governmental authority relating to employment benefits or discrimination or harassment or retaliation in employment; (2) all claims for failure to pay minimum or overtime wages, failure to timely pay wages, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, failure to maintain accurate records, failure to reimburse business expenses, failure to provide meal periods or rest breaks, failure to provide paid sick leave, failure to post notice of paydays and time and place of payment, and any claim for violations of the California Labor Code, California's Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq., and the applicable California Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order; (3) any non-statutory tort or contractual claim, including all claims for breach of oral, implied or written contract, breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, negligent or intentional infliction of emotional distress, and conversion; (4) all claims for wrongful termination of employment; (5) all claims for wages, penalties and/or benefits; and (6) all claims for attorneys' fees and costs. Plaintiff's general release does not extend to any claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time to the extent such claims cannot be released as a matter of law. Plaintiff acknowledges that they may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiff now knows or believes to be true but agree, nonetheless, that Plaintiff's general release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or their discovery of them.

4.1.1. Plaintiff's Section 1542 Waiver. For purposes of Plaintiff's general release, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquish the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

**A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, and that if known by him or her would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or Released Party.**

4.2. Release by Participating Class Members: All Participating Class Members release the Released Parties from the Released Class Claims during the Class Period. 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 outside of the Operative Complaint or outside the Class Period, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

4.3. Release by Aggrieved Employees: Plaintiff, acting as a proxy and private attorney general on behalf of the State of California (including the LWDA) and on behalf of all Aggrieved Employees, releases the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims during the PAGA Period. The Aggrieved Employees will be forever barred from pursuing the Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties. The Aggrieved Employees will be bound by this Settlement and may not opt out of the Settlement or this release of claims. The Aggrieved Employees **do not** release any other claims based on facts outside the PAGA Notice and/or Operative Complaint or outside the PAGA Period, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

## **5. MOTION FOR SETTLEMENT APPROVAL.**

5.1. Preliminary Approval. Not later than 16 court days before the Preliminary Approval Hearing, Plaintiff shall move for an order conditionally certifying the Class for settlement purposes only, granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, setting a date for the Final Approval Hearing, and approving the Class Notice. Plaintiff's Counsel will provide drafts of the Motion for Preliminary Approval and any supporting declarations and the Proposed Order to Defense Counsel in advance of filing for Defense Counsel's review and approval. Defendant shall accept service of the Motion (or any other motions, stipulations, declarations, proposed orders, exhibits, or other documents filed in connection with this Settlement) via electronic service at the email addresses set forth in this Agreement or, if an electronic service agreement is already in place, at the email addresses in the Parties' electronic service agreement. Defendant (and their counsel) shall not unreasonably delay or withhold their approval of the Motion or any supporting documents, without a good faith, commercially reasonable basis, and shall cooperate with Plaintiff's Counsel pursuant to Section 5.2 below to maintain any Court approval hearings then scheduled without the need to continue any such hearing.

5.2. Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Settlement or forthcoming motions or joint stipulations for approval, Plaintiff's Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together in good faith on behalf of the Parties to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant Settlement approval or conditions any approval or review on any material change to this Agreement, Plaintiff's Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together in good faith on behalf of the Parties to modify the Agreement and satisfy the Court's concerns. Should the Court decline to approve all material aspects of the Settlement, the Agreement will be null and void, and the Parties will be returned to their relative positions as they existed prior to this Agreement and shall have no further obligations under it.

## **6. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

6.1. Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected the Administrator to administer this Settlement. The Administrator agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Expenses. The Parties and their counsel represent that they have no

interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.

6.2. Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number to calculate payroll tax withholdings and report to state and federal tax authorities.

6.3. Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund under U.S. Treasury Regulation section 468B-1. The Administrator shall give notice to the Parties once the Qualified Settlement Fund has been established and is ready for funding.

6.4. Notice to Covered Employees.

6.4.1. No later than 3 business days after receipt of the Employee Data, the Administrator shall notify Plaintiff's Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Covered Employees and Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods in the Employee Data. The Administrator shall not under any circumstances provide Plaintiff's Counsel with the Employee Data nor reveal any identifying information relating to any specific Covered Employee to Plaintiff's Counsel, except for the names of any Non-Participating Class Members who have excluded themselves so that Plaintiff's Counsel can include that in the Order for Final Approval.

6.4.2. Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and no later than 14 days after receiving the Employee Data, the Administrator will send to all Covered Employees identified in the Employee Data, via first-class USPS mail, the Class Notice substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Attachment A. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment payable to the Covered Employee, and the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Covered Employees' addresses using the National Change of Address database.

6.4.3. Not later than 3 business days after the Administrator's receipt of any Class Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct an Address Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Covered Employees whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.

6.4.4. The deadlines for Covered Employees to submit written objections to the Class Settlement, challenges to Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, and/or Requests for Exclusion (for Class Members) will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the Response Deadline for all Covered Employees whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Covered Employee of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

6.4.5. If the Administrator, Defendant, or Plaintiff's Counsel is contacted by or otherwise discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Employee Data and should have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and

confer in a good-faith effort to agree on whether to include them as Covered Employees. If the Parties agree, such persons will be Covered Employees entitled to the same rights as other Covered Employees, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than 14 days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline date in the Class Notice, whichever is later.

#### 6.5. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

6.5.1. Covered Employees who are Class Members that wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion on or before the Response Deadline, plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed pursuant to Section 6.4.4. A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or their representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member's election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, emailed, or postmarked by the Response Deadline.

6.5.2. The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain the identity of the person as a Class Member and the Class Member's desire to be excluded. The Administrator shall make an initial determination regarding the validity of any Class Member's Request for Exclusion, subject only to the Court's review and final determination. If the Administrator has reason to question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's determination of authenticity shall be deemed final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge, provided the Court does not challenge or otherwise overrule the Administrator's initial determination.

6.5.3. Every Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all benefits, including the Individual Settlement Payment, and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Participating Class Members' release of the Released Class Claims in this Agreement, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.

6.5.4. Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment, nor shall they have the right to object to the Class Settlement. If a Class Member timely submits both a Request for Exclusion and an objection to the Class Settlement, the Request for Exclusion shall govern and the objection shall be deemed null and void.

6.5.5. Covered Employees have no right to opt out or exclude themselves from the PAGA Settlement. Non-Participating Class Members shall still receive an Individual PAGA Payment, will be bound by the PAGA Settlement, and deemed to have released the Released PAGA Claims.

#### 6.5.6. Challenges to Calculation of Class Workweeks/PAGA Pay Periods.

Each Covered Employee shall have until the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Covered Employees whose Class Notice is re-mailed pursuant to Section 6.4.4) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks or PAGA Pay Periods allocated to the Covered Employee in the Class Notice. The Covered Employee may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email, or mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Covered Employee to submit supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Class Workweeks or PAGA Pay Periods contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are consistent with the Employee Data. The Administrator shall make a determination regarding the validity of any Class Member's challenge, subject only to the Court's review and final determination. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to the calculation of Class Workweeks or PAGA Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Plaintiff's Counsel and the Administrator's determination of the challenges. The Administrator's determination shall be deemed final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge, provided the Court does not challenge or otherwise overrule the Administrator's initial determination.

#### 6.6. Objections to Settlement.

6.6.1. Only Participating Class Members may object to the Class Settlement, including contesting the fairness of the Class Settlement. Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the Settlement.

6.6.2. Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by email or mail. Alternatively, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing. A Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator must do so not later than the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed pursuant to Section 6.4.4).

6.6.3. Neither Participating Class Members nor Non-Participating Class Members have a right to object to the PAGA Settlement.

6.7. Administrator's Duties. The Administrator has a duty and is authorized to perform and observe all tasks necessary to effectuate and administer the Settlement in a manner consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

6.7.1. Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish, maintain, and use its own company website with their contact information included so that Covered Employees may find the Administrator on the World Wide Web. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Covered Employee telephone calls and emails.

6.7.2. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity. Not later than 5 days after the latter of the Response Deadline or the extended deadline pursuant Section 6.4.4, the Administrator shall email a list to Plaintiff's Counsel and Defense

Counsel containing (a) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion (“Exclusion List”); (b) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid).

6.7.3. Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Plaintiff’s Counsel and Defense Counsel that tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Settlement Payments. The Weekly Reports must provide the Administrator’s assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received.

6.7.4. Administrator’s Declaration. Not later than 14 days before the date by which Plaintiff is required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Administrator will provide to Plaintiff’s Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Covered Employees, the total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Plaintiff’s Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator’s declaration(s) in Court.

6.7.5. Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within 10 days after the Administrator disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide Plaintiff’s Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least 15 days before any deadline, including filing deadlines, set by the Court, if applicable and if requested by either Party, the Administrator will prepare, and submit to Plaintiff’s Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement.

**7. ESCALATION CLAUSE.** Based on its records, Defendant has provided a Class Workweek Estimate. Defendant represents that the total number of workweeks worked by Class Members (not including Plaintiff) is 1,607 as of July 17, 2026. If the total number of workweeks not including Plaintiff exceeds this total by 10% or more (e.g., workweek count x 1.10) for the applicable Class Period, Defendant shall have the option to either (1) increase the Gross Settlement Amount proportionately for each additional workweek over this listed 1.10x total, or (2) cut off the end of the Class Period on the date before the workweeks meet the 10% threshold.

**8. EMPLOYEE ESTIMATE.** Based on the records evaluated, there are an estimated 17 Class Members and 9 Aggrieved Employees covered by this Agreement, not including Plaintiff.

**9. DEFENDANT’S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW.** If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List exceeds 10% of the total of all Class Members, Defendant may, but is not obligated to, elect to withdraw from the Settlement. If Defendant

withdraws, the Settlement shall be void ab initio, have no force or effect whatsoever, and neither Party shall have any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however, Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Settlement Administration Expenses incurred to that point. To elect to withdraw, Defendant must notify Plaintiff's Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than 21 days after the Response Deadline.

**10. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL.** Not later than 16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff will file in Court and serve on Defendants a Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement that includes a Proposed Final Approval Order and a Proposed Judgment, which shall specifically state and include a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code § 2699, subd. (s). Plaintiff's Counsel will provide drafts of the Motion for Final Approval and any supporting declarations and the Proposed Final Approval Order and Proposed Judgment to Defense Counsel in advance of filing for Defense Counsel's review and approval. Defendant shall accept service of the Motion for Final Approval (or any other motions, stipulations, declarations, proposed orders, exhibits, or other documents filed in connection with this Settlement) via electronic service at the email addresses set forth in this Agreement or, if an electronic service agreement is already in place, at the email addresses in the Parties' electronic service agreement. Defendant (and their counsel) shall not unreasonably delay or withhold their approval of the Motion or any supporting documents, without a good faith, commercially reasonable basis, and shall cooperate with Plaintiff's Counsel pursuant to Section 5.2 above, to maintain any Court approval hearings then scheduled without the need to continue any such hearing.

10.1. Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise provided by the Court.

10.2. Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final Approval on any material change to the Settlement, the Parties shall expeditiously work together through counsel in good faith to address the Court's concerns, and may amend the Agreement as necessary to do so.

10.3. Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

10.4. Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Parties, their respective counsel, and all Covered Employees, excluding opt outs, as applicable and provided in this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to post-judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose such motions, writs or appeals.

10.5. Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a

material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Covered Employees), the Parties shall agree to expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain Final Approval and entry of Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration Expenses reasonably incurred after remittitur.

**11. AMENDED JUDGMENT.** If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil Procedure section 384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit a proposed amended judgment.

**12. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

12.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by the Parties that any of the allegations or the defenses in the Operative Complaint have merit or that there is any liability for any claims asserted or that any claims may proceed on a class, collective, or representative basis. The Settlement, this Agreement, and the Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

12.2. No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees will not solicit any Covered Employee to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Judgment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Plaintiff's Counsel's ability to communicate with Covered Employees in accordance with Plaintiff's Counsel's ethical obligations owed to Covered Employees.

12.3. Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all prior and contemporaneous oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.

12.4. Attorney Authorization. Plaintiff's Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by the Parties, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.

12.5. Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate and use commercially reasonable efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by modifying the Settlement Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence, and supplementing points and authorities as requested by the Court, among other things. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution.

12.6. No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.

12.7. No Tax Advice. Neither the Parties, Plaintiff's Counsel, nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

12.8. Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or Plaintiff's Counsel and Defense Counsel, as their legal representatives.

12.9. Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.

12.10. Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.

12.11. Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

12.12. Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.

12.13. Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to "days" in this Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.

12.14. Notice. All notices or other communications between the Parties required in connection with this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> business day after mailing by U.S. Mail or the same day if sent by email, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff:

***Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.***

Attn: Nicholas J. Ferraro  
 Lauren N. Vega  
 Conor J.D. Gomez

3333 Camino del Rio South, Suite 300  
 San Diego, CA 92108 USA  
[settlements@ferrarovega.com](mailto:settlements@ferrarovega.com)  
[www.ferrarovega.com](http://www.ferrarovega.com)

To Defendant:

***Payne & Fears LLP***

Attn: Daniel F. Fears  
 Alejandro G. Ruiz

4 Park Plaza, Suite 1100  
 Irvine, CA 92869 USA  
[dff@paynefears.com](mailto:dff@paynefears.com)  
[agr@paynefears.com](mailto:agr@paynefears.com)

12.15. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed using physical and/or electronic signatures (i.e. DocuSign, SignRequest, Adobe Sign, etc.), which shall be accepted as originals for purposes of this Agreement. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

12.16. Enforcement. The parties agree to expressly stipulate for the Settlement of the Action on the terms set forth in this Agreement, and hereby agree that Court, upon motion of either party, may enter judgment pursuant to the terms of this Settlement or otherwise enforce a breach of this Settlement. The parties expressly request that the Court retain jurisdiction over the Parties to enforce the Settlement until performance in full of the terms of the settlement, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sec. 664.6 and its procedures for enforcement.

**SIGNATURES**

*I have read this Agreement and agree to its terms.*

***Plaintiff Bacari Meadows***

Date: 09/08/2026

*Bacari Meadows*  
Bacari Meadows

***Defendant All State Propane***

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

***Plaintiff's Counsel***

***Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.***

Date: 09/08/2026

*Nicholas J. Ferraro*  
Nicholas J. Ferraro  
Lauren N. Vega  
Conor J.D. Gomez

***Defense Counsel***

***Payne & Fears LLP***

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel F. Fears  
Alejandro G. Ruiz

**SIGNATURES**

*I have read this Agreement and agree to its terms.*

***Plaintiff Bacari Meadows***

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bacari Meadows

***Defendant All State Propane***

Date: Sep 9, 2026

David S.

Name: David Spinney

Title: President

***Plaintiff's Counsel***

***Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.***

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas J. Ferraro  
Lauren N. Vega  
Conor J.D. Gomez

***Defense Counsel***

***Payne & Fears LLP***

Date: September 9, 2026

  
Daniel F. Fears  
Alejandro G. Ruiz

# **Attachment A**

## **Notice of Class and PAGA Action Settlement**

# NOTICE OF CLASS AND PAGA ACTION SETTLEMENT

*Bacari Meadows v. All State Propane*

Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Diego

Case No. 26CU019902C

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*This notice is to the following individuals in connection with a pending class and representative PAGA action settlement:*

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“Class” means all individuals currently or formerly employed by Defendant in California as hourly, non-exempt employees during the Class Period. Each individual member of the Class is referred to as a “Class Member”.

“Aggrieved Employees” means all individuals currently or formerly employed by Defendant in California as hourly, non-exempt employees during the PAGA Period. Each individual member of the Aggrieved Employees is referred to as an “Aggrieved Employee”.

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*Read this notice carefully. Your legal rights could be affected whether you act or not.*

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For settlement purposes only, the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Diego (the “Court”) has preliminarily approved this class and representative action lawsuit filed by Plaintiff Bacari Meadows (“Plaintiff”) against Defendant All State Propane (“Defendant”) for alleged wage and hour violations (the “Action”).

Defendant’s records reflect you worked **[[Individual Class Workweeks]]** workweeks during the Class Period of **April 9, 2022, through XXX**. Based on this information, your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be **\$[[Individual Class Payment]]** (less any applicable state and federal withholdings). The actual amount you may receive will likely be different and will depend on multiple factors, such as how many other individuals decide to opt out. You may choose to opt out of the Class Settlement and not receive an Individual Class Payment as described in further detail below.

Additionally, Defendant’s records reflect you worked **[Insert Individual PAGA Pay Periods]** during the PAGA Period of **March 6, 2025, through XXX**. Based on this information, your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be **[\$Individual PAGA Payment]**. **You may not opt out of the PAGA Settlement.**

| <b><u>YOUR OPTIONS</u></b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>DO NOTHING</b>          | You do not have to do anything in response to this notice. If you do nothing, you will remain eligible to automatically receive an Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA Payment if the Court grants final approval of the Settlement. In such case, you will be bound by the release provisions in the Settlement and |

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | release your Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims in exchange for compensation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>OPT OUT</b> | <p>You may opt out of the Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion form. If you opt out, you may not object to the Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment, and you shall not be bound by the Class release provisions in the Settlement.</p> <p>You may <u>not</u> opt out of the PAGA Settlement or seek exclusion from the PAGA Settlement. Regardless of whether you opt out of the Class Settlement, you will be bound by the PAGA release provisions in the settlement and will receive an Individual PAGA Payment in exchange for releasing your Released PAGA Claims.</p>                                          |
| <b>OBJECT</b>  | <p>You may object to the Class Settlement by submitting a written objection. If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement despite your objection, you will remain eligible to automatically receive an Individual Class Payment. In such case, you will be bound by the Class release provisions in the settlement and release your Released Class Claims.</p> <p>You may <u>not</u> object to the PAGA Settlement. Regardless of whether you object to the Class Settlement, you will be bound by the PAGA release provisions in the settlement and will receive an Individual PAGA Payment in exchange for releasing your Released PAGA Claims.</p> |

The Court's final approval hearing is scheduled to take place on **[[Final Approval Hearing Date]]** at **[[Final Approval Hearing Time]]** in Dept. 73 of the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 W Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101. You do not have to attend but you do have the right to appear. *For more information, please carefully read this notice.*

## 1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

The Plaintiff is a former employee of Defendant. The Plaintiff alleges that Defendant violated California labor and employment laws as follows: (1) failure to pay all wages owed, (2) failure to pay all overtime wages, (3) meal period violations, (4) rest period violations, (5) untimely payment of wages, (6) wage statement violations, (7) waiting time penalties, (8) unfair competition, and (9) civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act, Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*, ("PAGA"). Plaintiff is represented by [Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers](#) ("Plaintiff's Counsel.")

Defendant strongly denies violating any laws or failing to pay any wages, and denies all claims and allegations in the Action. Defendant maintains that federal law preempts the claims in the Action as applied to the Class and Aggrieved Employees, that the Class and Aggrieved Employees are exempt from the Action's claims under California law, and that it has fully complied with applicable laws. Defendant is represented by Payne & Fears LLP ("Defense Counsel.")

The Court has not made any findings or rulings as to the merits or validity of any claims. Nevertheless, Plaintiff and Defendant have reached agreement to settle the highly contested claims alleged in the Action.

## 2. WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT TERMS?

At the Final Approval Hearing, the Plaintiff, through Plaintiff's Counsel, will ask the Court to approve a Gross Settlement Amount of \$92,500 and authorize the following payments from that amount: Service Payment to the Plaintiff of \$10,000, Class Counsel Fees in the amount of \$30,830.25, representing 33.33% of the Gross Settlement Amount, Litigation Costs not to exceed \$5,000, the LWDA's Payment of \$3,250.00 (which is 65% of the PAGA Payment of \$5,000.00), and Administration Expenses to be paid to the third-party settlement administrator (estimated at \$5,000).

After the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will calculate and distribute Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Workweeks, and Individual PAGA Payments based on their PAGA Pay Periods. 20% of each Individual Class Payment shall constitute taxable wages ("Wage Portion") and 80% shall constitute "interest and penalties" for tax purposes ("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 Administrator will report the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms. The Individual PAGA Payments are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Class Members and Aggrieved Employees should consult their tax advisors concerning the tax consequences of the payments they receive under the Settlement.

You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the settlement, unless you submit a signed Request for Exclusion by **[[Response Deadline]]** (the "Response Deadline)."

After the Judgment is final and Defendant has fully funded the settlement and separately paid all employer payroll taxes, Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the settlement, as follows:

Release by Participating Class Members: All Participating Class Members release the Released Parties from the Released Class Claims during the Class Period. 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 outside of the Operative Complaint or outside the Class Period, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

Release by Aggrieved Employees: Plaintiff, acting as a proxy and private attorney general on behalf of the State of California (including the LWDA) and on behalf of all Aggrieved Employees, releases the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims during the PAGA Period. The Aggrieved Employees will be forever barred from pursuing the Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties. The Aggrieved Employees will be bound by this Settlement and may not opt out of the Settlement or this release of claims. The Aggrieved Employees **do not** release any other

claims based on facts outside the PAGA Notice and/or Operative Complaint or outside the PAGA Period, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

### **3. HOW IS MY INDIVIDUAL CLASS PAYMENT CALCULATED?**

The number of Class Workweeks you worked during the Class Period are stated on the first page of this Class Notice. The Administrator will calculate your Individual Class Payment by (1) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Class Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and then (2) multiplying the result by the number of Class Workweeks worked by each respective Participating Class Member. In other words, you will receive a proportional recovery based on your length of employment in relation to other Class Members.

### **4. HOW IS MY INDIVIDUAL PAGA PAYMENT CALCULATED?**

The number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period are stated on the first page of this Class Notice. The Administrator will calculate your Individual PAGA Payment by (1) dividing the Net PAGA Payment by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period, and then (2) multiplying the results by the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by each Aggrieved Employee. In other words, you will receive a proportional recovery based on your length of employment in relation to other Aggrieved Employees.

### **5. HOW CAN I CORRECT THE NUMBER OF CLASS WORKWEEKS AND/OR PAGA PAY PERIODS?**

You have until the Response Deadline to correct or challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail or email to the Administrator at the following address:

Administrator:

Phoenix Settlement Administrators

P.O. Box 7208

Orange, CA, 92863

(800) 523-5773

<https://www.phoenixclassaction.com/contact-us/class-member-inquiries/>

The Administrator will accept Defendant's calculation of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods 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.

### **6. HOW WILL I GET PAID?**

The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member and Aggrieved Employee following the Effective Date of this Settlement. Your check will be sent

to the same address as this notice. If you change your address, notify the Administrator as soon as possible.

## **7. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?**

Complete the attached Request for Exclusion form and mail or email it to the Administrator before the Response Deadline. If you opt-out, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment and you will not be bound by the Class Release. If you opt out of the Class Settlement by submitting a timely Request for Exclusion and are an Aggrieved Employee, you will still receive your Individual PAGA Payment and be bound by the PAGA Release.

## **8. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?**

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Class Settlement by submitting a written objection to the Administrator before the Response Deadline. To object, please provide a written statement to the Administrator advising what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. Please sign the objection and identify the Action and include your name, current address, telephone number, and your approximate dates of employment.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer at your own expense 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.

## **9. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?**

You may, but are not required to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on **[[Final Approval Hearing Date]]** at **[[Final Approval Hearing Time]]** in Dept. 73 of the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 W Broadway, San Diego, CA 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 the LWDA, Plaintiff's Counsel, the Plaintiff(s), and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Plaintiff's Counsel, and Defense Counsel before making a decision.

It is possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. Please review the Court's online docket or contact the Administrator or Plaintiff's Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing if you believe it may have been continued or otherwise changed.

## **10. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?**

The Agreement sets forth everything Defendant 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 go to the following website **[[website]]**. You can also telephone or send an email to Plaintiff's Counsel at the address below:

Plaintiff's Counsel

Nicholas J. Ferraro (State Bar No. 306528)

Lauren N. Vega (State Bar No. 306525)  
Conor J.D. Gómez (State Bar No. 337395)  
Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.  
3333 Camino del Rio South, Suite 300  
San Diego, California 92108  
(619) 693-7727 telephone  
[settlements@ferrarovega.com](mailto:settlements@ferrarovega.com)  
[www.ferrarovega.com](http://www.ferrarovega.com)

**11. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK OR FAIL TO CASH IT?**

If you lose or misplace your settlement check, the Administrator will replace it if you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void or you have otherwise failed to cash it, it will be provided to the State of California's Unclaimed Property Division in your name. For more information, please review how to process a claim for your funds with the State of California, [https://www.sco.ca.gov/upd\\_form\\_claim.html](https://www.sco.ca.gov/upd_form_claim.html).

**DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT OR THE COURT CLERK TO OBTAIN  
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT**

# **Attachment B**

## **Request for Exclusion Form**

**Request for Exclusion, Objection, and Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period  
Dispute Form**

*Bacari Meadows v. All State Propane*  
Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Diego  
Case No. 26CU019902C

By signing and returning this form, I confirm that I:

☐ do not want to be included in the Class Settlement or receive an Individual Class Payment check in the class action lawsuit referenced above. **I understand that by opting out, I am giving up my right to receive any payments in the Class portion of the Settlement. I understand I cannot opt out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement, and that I will still be bound by the PAGA Release and receive a PAGA Payment if I am an Aggrieved Employee.**

☐ object to the Class Settlement. **I understand I cannot object to the PAGA portion of the Settlement, and that I will still be bound by the PAGA Release and receive a PAGA Payment if I am an Aggrieved Employee.** I object to the Class Settlement for the following reason(s):

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Additional pages may be attached along with any documentation or other evidence in support of your objection.

☐ dispute my calculated Class Workweeks or PAGA Pay Periods. I believe my total Class Workweeks should be: \_\_\_\_\_. I believe my total PAGA Pay Periods should be: \_\_\_\_\_. I worked for Defendant from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Additional pages may be attached along with any documentation or other evidence in support of your dispute to your calculated number of Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods.

For this Request for Exclusion (i.e. request to **NOT** be included in the Settlement if marked above), objection (if marked above), and/or Class Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period dispute to be valid, this form must be postmarked no later than **[[Response Deadline]]** and mailed via U.S. Mail, emailed, or faxed to the Administrator below::

Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions  
P.O. Box 7208  
Orange, CA, 92863  
(800) 523-5773

<https://www.phoenixclassaction.com/contact-us/class-member-inquiries/>

I confirm I have reviewed the Notice of Class and PAGA Action Settlement and I have made this request to be excluded from the class action settlement, objection to the settlement, and/or dispute to my Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods (as marked above) voluntarily. My decision was fully informed, and I understand the consequences of making such decision.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Last Four Digits of SSN)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Type or print name and former name(s))*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Telephone Number)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Address)*

4923-8571-5404.1