VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT
FILED
10/02/2026
K. Bieker
Executive Officer and Clerk
Grace Powell

John G. Yslas (SBN 187324)
john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com
Arrash T. Fattahi (SBN 333676)
arrash.fattahi@wilshirelawfirm.com
Arman A. Salehi (SBN 351112)
arman.salehi@wilshirelawfirm.com
Giancarlo Recinos (SBN 282836)
giancarlo.recinos@wilshirelawfirm.com
**WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC**
660 S. Figueroa Street, Sky Lobby
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: (213) 381-9988
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**FOR THE COUNTY OF VENTURA**

CARLOS FRANCISCO LOPEZ, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

ADRIANA'S INSURANCE SERVICES INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2023CUOE013516

*[Assigned for all purposes to: Hon. Benjamin F. Coats, Dept. 43]*

**[~~PROPOSED~~] ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Preliminary Approval Hearing:
Date: September 18, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept.: 40

Complaint filed: August 31, 2023
Trial date: Not set

**~~[PROPOSED]~~ ORDER**

Having reviewed Plaintiffs Carlos Francisco Lopez and Sunshine Miriam Gonzalez's (collectively, the "Plaintiffs") Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement ("Motion"), the Declaration of John G. Yslas, Plaintiffs' Declaration, and the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Class Notice ("Settlement Agreement"), and good cause appearing, the Court finds and orders as follows:

1. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that the Settlement Agreement appears to be fair, adequate, and reasonable and therefore meets the requirements for preliminary approval. The Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement and the Class based on the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement between Plaintiffs and Defendants Adriana's Insurance Services Inc. and AGI Business Group, Inc. (collectively, the "Defendants"), attached to the Declaration of John G. Yslas in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement as **Exhibit 2**.

2. The Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness of a settlement which could ultimately be given final approval by this Court, and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised at the Final Approval Hearing and final approval by this Court. The Court notes that Defendants has agreed to create a common fund of $950,000.00 to cover (a) settlement payments to Class Members who do not validly opt out; (b) a $50,000.00 allocation toward civil penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA"), 75% of which ($37,500.00) will be paid to California's Labor and Workforce Development Agency and 25% of which ($12,500.00) will be paid to Aggrieved Employees; (c) Class Representative Service Payments of up to $10,000.00 to each Plaintiff ($20,000.00 total); (d) Class Counsel Fees Payment, not to exceed one third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount (currently estimated to be $316,666.67), and up to $40,000.00 in costs for actual litigation expenses incurred by Class Counsel; and (e) Administration Expenses Payment of up to $11,000.00.

3. The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement appear to be within the range of possible approval, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and applicable law. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that: (1) the Settlement amount is fair and reasonable to

the Class Members when balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to class certification, liability and damages issues, and potential appeals; (2) significant informal discovery, investigation, research, and litigation have been conducted such that counsel for the Parties at this time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions; (3) settlement at this time will avoid substantial costs, delay, and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the litigation; and (4) the proposed Settlement has been reached as the result of intensive, serious, and non-collusive negotiations between the Parties with the assistance of a well-respected class action mediator. Accordingly, the Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was entered into in good faith.

4. A final approval hearing on the question of whether the proposed Settlement, attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel, payment to the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees for their share of the settlement of claims for penalties under PAGA, and the Class Representative Service Payments should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate as to the members of the Class is hereby set in accordance with the Implementation Schedule set forth below.

5. The Court provisionally certifies for settlement purposes only the following class ("Class" or "Class Member"): "a non-exempt employee who is or was employed by AIS in the state of California at any time during the Class Period."

6. "Class Period" means the period from August 31, 2019, to the date of preliminary approval of the settlement.

7. "Aggrieved Employees" means a non-exempt employee who is or was employed by either of the Defendants (Adriana's Insurance Services Inc. and/or AGI Business Group, Inc.) within the State of California at any time during the PAGA Period.

8. "PAGA Period" means the period from September 26, 2022, to the date of preliminary approval.

9. The Court finds, for settlement purposes only, that the Settlement Class meets the requirements for certification under California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 in that: (1) the Class Members are so numerous that joinder is impractical; (2) there are questions of law and fact that are common, or of general interest, to all Settlement Class Members, which predominate over individual

issues; (3) Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the Class Members; (4) Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class Members; and (5) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

10. The Court appoints as Class Representatives, for settlement purposes only, Plaintiffs Carlos Francisco Lopez and Sunshine Miriam Gonzalez. The Court further preliminarily approves Plaintiffs' ability to request Class Representative Service Payments up to $10,000.00 each ($20,000.00 total).

11. The Court appoints, for settlement purposes only, John G. Yslas, Arrash T. Fattahi, Arman A. Salehi, and Giancarlo Recinos of Wilshire Law Firm, PLC, as Class Counsel. The Court further preliminarily approves Class Counsel's ability to request attorneys' fees of up to one third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount (currently estimated to be $316,666.67), and costs not to exceed $40,000.00.

12. The Court appoints Phoenix Class Action Administration as the Administrator with reasonable administration costs not to exceed $11,000.00

13. The Court approves, as to form and content the Class Notice attached to the Settlement Agreement as **Exhibit A.** The Court finds on a preliminary basis that plan for distribution of the Class Notice to Class Members satisfies due process, provides the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.

14. The Parties and the Administrator are ordered to carry out the Settlement according to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

15. Any Class Member who does not timely and validly request exclusion from the Settlement may object to the Settlement Agreement.

16. The Court orders the following Implementation Schedule:

| Event | Timing |
|---|---|
| **Class Data**: Last day for Defendants to provide Class Data to the Administrator | 30 calendar days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Class Notice**: Last day for Administrator to mail the Class Notice to Class Members | 14 days after receipt of the Class Data |
| **Response Deadline**: Last day for Class Members to submit Requests for Exclusion, Objections to the Settlement, and challenges to Workweeks and/or Pay Periods | 45 days after Class Notice is mailed out by the Administrator (with an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice was remailed) |
| **Filing Deadline**: Last day to file Motion for Final Approval, Request for Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and Class Representative Service Payments to Plaintiffs | 16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing |
| **Final Approval Hearing** | January 27, 2027, at 8:20 a.m. in Dept. 40 of the above-referenced Court |

17. The Court further ORDERS that, pending further order of this Court, all proceedings in this lawsuit, except those contemplated herein and in the settlement, are stayed.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

DATED: 10/2/26

HON. ~~BENJAMIN F. COATS~~
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

MATTHEW P. GUASCO