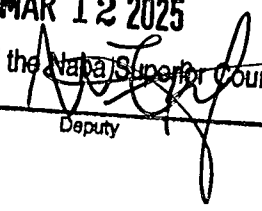


rec'd 2/13/25

FILED

MAR 12 2025

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court
By: 
Deputy

MELMED LAW GROUP P.C.
Jonathan Melmed (SBN 290218)
jm@melmedlaw.com
Laura Supanich (SBN 314805)
lms@melmedlaw.com
Hannah Becker (SBN 345452)
hb@melmedlaw.com
1801 Century Park East, Suite 850
Los Angeles, California 90067
Phone: (310) 824-3828
Fax: (310) 862-6851

Attorneys for Plaintiff, the Putative Class, and the Aggrieved Employees

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF NAPA**

ALFANSO RUIZ ALBA, an individual, on
behalf of himself, the State of California, as a
private attorney general, and on behalf of all
others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

NAPA VALLEY RESTAURANT GROUP,
INC., a California Corporation; and DOES 1 TO
50,

Defendants.

Case Number: 23CV001283

**[Proposed] Order Granting Preliminary
Approval of Class Action Settlement**

Hearing Date: March 12, 2025
Hearing Time: 9:30 a.m.
Dept.: B
Judge: Hon. Joseph J. Solga

Complaint Filed: October 9, 2023
Trial Date: None set

~~[PROPOSED]~~ ORDER

This matter came for hearing on March 12, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., regarding Plaintiff's unopposed *Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement* (the "Motion") on the terms set forth in the parties' *Settlement Agreement and Release of Class Action* (the "Settlement Agreement") attached as **Exhibit A** to the concurrently filed *Declaration of Jonathan Melmed in Support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement*. Having considered the Settlement Agreement, all papers and proceedings held herein, and having reviewed the entire record in this action, the Court hereby finds and orders:

1. The Court grants Plaintiff leave file the overlength brief attached to the Motion.
2. All terms used in this order shall have the same meaning as defined in the Motion.
3. The Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement and the "Class" (as that term is defined in the Motion) based on the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
4. The resolution set forth in the Settlement Agreement appears to be fair, adequate, and reasonable to the Class, including the payment of the non-reversionary gross settlement amount of **\$447,500.00** ("Gross Settlement Amount") by Defendants.
5. The Settlement Agreement, including the Gross Settlement Amount, falls within the range of reasonableness and is presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised at the final fairness hearing and final approval by this Court.
6. A final fairness hearing on the question of whether the proposed Settlement Agreement, the attorneys' fees and costs to Plaintiff's counsel, and Plaintiff's service award should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate as to the members of the Class is scheduled in this department on the date and time set forth in the implementation schedule below.
7. This Court approves, as to form and content, the proposed class notice attached as **Exhibit 1** to the Settlement Agreement ("Class Notice") to be distributed to the Class Members pursuant to the Settlement Agreement in substantially the same form. The Court approves the procedure for Class Members to participate in, to opt out of, and to object to the settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

1 8. The Court directs the mailing of the Class Notice by first class mail to the Class
2 Members in accordance with the implementation schedule set forth below. The Court finds the dates
3 selected for the mailing and distribution of the Class Notice, as set forth in the implementation schedule,
4 meet the requirements of due process and constitute the best notice practicable under the circumstances
5 and due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.

6 9. The Court preliminarily certifies the Class, as defined in the Motion, for settlement
7 purposes.

8 10. The Court confirms Plaintiff Alfonso Ruiz Alba ("Plaintiff") as class representative.

9 11. The court confirms Jonathan Melmed, Laura Supanich, and Hannah Becker of Melmed
10 Law Group P.C. as class counsel.

11 12. The Court appoints Simpluris, Inc. as the settlement administrator.

12 13. To facilitate administration of the Settlement Agreement pending final approval, the
13 court hereby enjoins Plaintiff and all Class Members from filing or prosecuting any claims, suits, or
14 administrative proceedings (including filing claims with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement
15 of the California Department of Industrial Relations) regarding the claims to be released by the
16 Settlement Agreement, unless and until such Class Members have filed valid requests for exclusion
17 with the Settlement Administrator and the time for filing claims with the Settlement Administrator has
18 elapsed.

19 14. The Court orders the following implementation schedule for further proceedings:

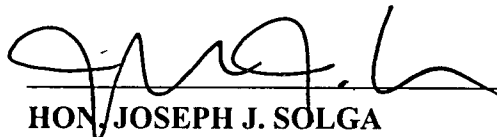
20	a.	Deadline for Defendants to Submit Class List to the Settlement Administrator	[Within fifteen (15) calendar days of this order.]
21			
22	b.	Deadline for Settlement Administrator to Mail Notice Packets to all Class Members	[Within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of the class list.]
23			
24	c.	Deadline for Class Members to Postmark Workweeks Challenges	[Within forty-five (45) days after mailing of the Class Notice.]
25			
26	d.	Deadline for Class Members to Postmark Requests for Exclusion	[Within forty-five (45) days after mailing of the Class Notice.]
27			
28	e.	Deadline for Class Members to Submit Any Objections to Settlement	[Within forty-five (45) days after mailing of the Class Notice.]

1	f.	Deadline for Settlement Administrator to Provide Class Counsel with Declaration of Due Diligence	[At least twenty-eight (28) calendar days prior to the Final Approval and Fairness Hearing.]
2			
3	f	Final Approval and Fairness Hearing	<u>6/24</u> , 2025
4			at <u>8:30</u> (a.m.) p.m. in Dept. B

5 15. If any of the dates in this implementation schedule fall on a weekend, bank or court
6 holiday, the time to act shall be extended to the next business day.

7
8 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

9
10 Dated: March 12, 2025



HON. JOSEPH J. SOLGA

Judge of the Superior Court, County of Napa