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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA

DANIEL THOMAS ATALIG HOCOG and
ALFRED ESTRADA SANTOS JR.,
individually, and on behalf of all others similarly
situated, and on behalf of the State of California
and other aggrieved persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SERVICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, INC., a
Tennessee corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: C23-02424

Assigned for all purposes to:
Hon. Benjamin T. Reyes II
Dept. 16

**PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION
AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL
OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT; MEMORANDUM OF
POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

Final Approval Hearing:

Date: August 12, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Dept.: 16

Action Filed: September 26, 2023

FAC Filed: August 26, 2025

1 **TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:**

2 **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on August 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter
3 as the matter may be heard in Department 16 of the Superior Court of California, County of
4 Contra Costa, located at 725 Court Street, Martinez, California 94553, Plaintiffs Daniel Thomas
5 Atalig Hocog and Alfred Estrada Santos Jr. (collectively "Plaintiffs") will and hereby does move
6 this Court for an Order:

- 7 1. Granting final approval of the proposed Settlement Agreement;
8 2. Awarding Class Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$88,333.33 and
9 reimbursement of litigation costs in the amount of \$20,000.00,
10 3. Awarding Plaintiff a Class Representative Service Payment in the amount of
11 \$5,000.00 per named Plaintiff (\$10,000.00 total);
12 4. Awarding \$8,800.00 to Apex Class Action Administration ("Apex") for its
13 settlement administration expenses; and
14 5. Approving allocation of \$40,000.00 as civil penalties under the Labor Code
15 Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA"), 75% of which (\$30,000.00)
16 will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, and
17 25% of which (\$10,000.00) will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees based on
18 the number of pay periods worked during the PAGA Period.

19 This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion, Memorandum of Points and Authorities,
20 the Declaration of John G. Yslas, the Declaration of Madely Nava ("Nava Decl."), the
21 Declarations of Plaintiffs, and on all records and documents on file, together with such oral and
22 documentary evidence that may be presented at the hearing on this matter.

23
24 Dated: July 20, 2026

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC

25 By: 
26 Lucy H. Nguyen
27 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
28

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Plaintiffs Daniel Thomas Atalig Hocog and Alfred Estrada Santos Jr. (collectively
3 “Plaintiffs”) seek final approval of a non-reversionary Gross Settlement Amount of
4 \$265,000.00. The Settlement Agreement (“Settlement”) provides that the deductions will be
5 made from the Gross Settlement Amount as follows:

- 6 1. Attorneys’ fees up to one third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount;
- 7 2. Litigation costs up to \$20,000.00;
- 8 3. A Class Representative Service Payment up to \$5,000.00 per named plaintiff;
- 9 4. Settlement administration expenses up to \$8,800.00; and
- 10 5. Civil penalties in the amount of \$40,000.00 for claims under the Labor Code
11 Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”), 75% of which (\$30,000.00) will be paid to
12 the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA), and 25% of which
13 (\$10,000.00) will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees based on the number of pay periods
14 worked during the PAGA Period. *See* Settlement §§ 22 (a)-(g); *see also* Declaration of Madely
15 Nava (“Nava Decl.”) at ¶¶ 15, 17.

- 16 6. After all deductions are made, the Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to
17 320 Participating Class Members as of the filing of this Motion for Final Approval of Class
18 Action and PAGA Settlement (the “Motion”) (“Participating Class Members” or “Settlement
19 Class Member”) based on the number of weeks worked during the Class Period. Nava Decl. at
20 ¶¶14-15.

- 21 7. The proposed Settlement is a product of diligent efforts, litigation, arm’s length
22 negotiations, and informal discovery that resulted in the best possible outcome for the Class. By
23 resolving this matter now, Class Members will receive a guaranteed recovery without risk of
24 nonpayment, delay, or an adverse judgment at trial.

- 25 8. As of the filing of this Motion, there have been no objections to the Settlement
26 and no requests for exclusion. Nava Decl. at ¶¶ 11-12. Participating Class Members will receive
27 an estimated average Individual Class Payment of \$305.83, with the highest estimated average
28 Individual Class Payment being \$1,749.29. Nava Decl. at ¶16. Aggrieved Employees will

1 receive an estimated average Individual PAGA Payment of \$72.46, with the highest estimated
2 average Individual PAGA Payment being \$235.58. Nava Decl. at ¶18. In light of the favorable
3 response from the Class, and the facts and law set forth below as well as in the motion for
4 preliminary approval, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court now enter an Order: (1)
5 granting final approval of the Settlement; (2) entering final judgment; (3) requiring distribution
6 of individual settlement shares to participating Class Members; and (4) approving payments for
7 Class Counsel Fees, Class Counsel Expenses, the Class Representative Service Payments, the
8 Settlement Administrator's costs, and civil penalties under PAGA.

9 **II. THE SETTLEMENT MERITS FINAL APPROVAL**

10 In deciding whether to grant final approval of a class action settlement, California courts
11 consider whether the settlement is "fair, adequate, and reasonable." *Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.*,
12 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 (1996). In evaluating whether a settlement is fair, adequate, and
13 reasonable, courts evaluate the following factors: (1) the strength of the plaintiff's case; (2) the
14 risk, expense, complexity and duration of further litigation; (3) the risk of maintaining class
15 action status through trial; (4) the amount offered in settlement; (5) the extent of discovery
16 completed and the stage of the proceedings; (6) the experience and views of counsel; (7) the
17 presence of a governmental participant; and (8) the reaction of class members to the proposed
18 settlement. *Id.*

19 **A. A Presumption of Fairness Exists**

20 While the burden is on the proponent to demonstrate that a proposed settlement is fair,
21 adequate, and reasonable, "a presumption of fairness exists where: (1) the settlement is reached
22 through arm's length bargaining; (2) investigation is sufficient to allow counsel and the court
23 to act intelligently; (3) counsel is experienced in similar litigation; and (4) the percentage of
24 objectors is small." *Id.* at 1802.

25 At preliminary approval, Plaintiffs presented evidence that this Settlement is entitled to
26 a presumption of fairness because: (1) it was reached through arm's length bargaining with the
27 assistance of an experienced mediator; (2) Plaintiffs conducted a thorough investigation through
28 informal discovery and an analysis of Class Members' time data and payroll records and policy

documents pertaining to Plaintiffs’ claims; and (3) Class Counsel is experienced in similar litigation. *See* Declaration of John G. Yslas in Support of Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement (“Yslas MPA Decl.”) filed September 24, 2025, at ¶¶ 6, 11, 22-33. As of the filing of this Motion, no Class Members have opted out and none have objected. *See* Nava Decl. at ¶¶ 11, 12, and 14. Therefore, the Court can confidently conclude that a presumption of fairness exists.

B. The Strength of Plaintiffs’ Claims, and the Risks, Expense, Complexity, and Likely Duration of Further Litigation as a Class Action Through Trial

Courts are not required to ensure that a settlement maximizes the value of released claims with mathematical precision. “[T]he test is not the maximum amount plaintiffs might have obtained at trial on the complaint, but rather whether the settlement is reasonable under all of the circumstances.” *Wershba v. Apple Computer, Inc.* 91 Cal.App.4th 224, 250 (2001), disapproved of on other grounds by *Hernandez v. Restoration Hardware, Inc.*, 4 Cal.5th 260, 269-270 (2018); *see also 7-Eleven Owners for Fair Franchising v. Southland Corp.*, 85 Cal.App.4th 1135, 1150 (2000) (“the merits of the underlying class claims are not a basis for upsetting the settlement of a class action; the operative word is ‘settlement.’”). The relevant circumstances include the strengths and weaknesses of plaintiff’s claims and the risks they faced in litigation. *7-Eleven*, 85 Cal.App.4th at 1146.

Here, Plaintiffs presented sufficient information at preliminary approval regarding the number of Class Members and an estimate of the maximum value of each of the claims alleged. *See* Yslas MPA Decl. at ¶¶ 13-20. Plaintiffs have also described in detail the risks the Class faced in litigation and the strengths and weaknesses of each of the claims. *See id.* Defendant denied Plaintiffs’ allegations, and Plaintiffs noted potential difficulties in obtaining class certification and succeeding on the merits at trial. *See id.* The factual record here is sufficiently developed to allow the Court to independently satisfy itself “that the consideration being received for the release of the class members’ claims is reasonable in light of the strengths and weaknesses of the claims and the risks of the particular litigation.” *Munoz v. BCI Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Los Angeles*, 186 Cal.App.4th 399, 410 (2010).

1 **C. The Amount Offered in Settlement**

2 The Settlement provides for a \$265,000.00 Gross Settlement Amount (“GSA”) to be
3 distributed among the 320 Participating Class Members who did not opt out as of the date of
4 this filing. Nava Decl. at ¶14. The GSA will be used to pay Class Counsel’s attorneys’ fees and
5 litigation costs, Plaintiffs’ Class Representative Enhancement Payments, and the fees and
6 expenses of Apex Class Action Administration (“Apex”) for its administration of the Class
7 Notice and settlement funds. *Id.* at ¶ 19. The Settlement also allocates \$40,000.00 from the GSA
8 to civil penalties under PAGA. *See* Settlement Agreement at § 22(e); *see also* Nava Decl. at ¶
9 17. After all deductions are made, the Net Settlement Amount available to Participating Class
10 Members for their Individual Class Payments is estimated to be \$97,866.67, which will be
11 distributed to Participating Class Members according to the number of Workweeks they worked
12 for Defendant during the Class Period. *See* Nava Decl. at ¶ 15; Settlement Agreement at § 22(g).

13 The Settlement Administrator has calculated a total of 13,595 Workweeks in the Class
14 Period. Nava Decl. at ¶ 15. As a result, the estimated average Individual Class Payment for
15 Participating Class Members is \$305.83, and the highest estimated average Individual Class
16 Payment for Participating Class Members is \$1,749.29. *Id.* at ¶16. Weighing the potential value
17 of the class claims against the risk and expense of trial, the Settlement provides substantial relief
18 in light of the potential risks associated with seeking a class judgment.

19 **D. The Extent of Discovery Completed and the Stage of the Proceedings**

20 Class Counsel sufficiently investigated the alleged claims, applicable law, and potential
21 defenses. *See* Yslas MPA Decl. at ¶ 11. Specifically, Class Counsel assessed the value of the
22 claims using data and documents provided by Defendant in informal discovery, which included
23 policy documents and timekeeping and payroll records. *Id.* Following a complete analysis of
24 this information, the Parties attended mediation on February 20, 2025, with an experienced
25 mediator. *Id.* at ¶ 6. The Parties negotiated the terms of the Settlement over the next several
26 months and finalized the terms of the Settlement in June 2025. *Id.* at ¶ 7.

27 **E. The Experience and Views of Counsel**

28 Plaintiffs are represented by Wilshire Law Firm, PLC. Declaration of John G. Yslas in

Support of Motion for Final Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement (“Yslas MFA Decl.”) at ¶ 3. Class Counsel prosecutes wage and hour cases, including class and representative actions. *Id.* at ¶¶ 4, 5. Class Counsel has litigated many wage and hour cases and has successfully resolved cases involving similar issues presented in this matter. *Id.* at ¶¶ 4-17. Class Counsel has negotiated a settlement here that they believe is fair, reasonable, and adequate based on Class Counsel’s prior experience litigating these types of cases. *Id.* at ¶ 22.

F. The Presence of a Government Participant

The LWDA has received the required notice of this Settlement. On November 15, 2023, Plaintiffs provided notice to the LWDA of the specific provisions of the Labor Code alleged to have been violated, including the facts and theories in support. Yslas MPA Decl. at ¶ 4. The Settlement provides for the payment of \$40,000.00 in civil penalties, 75% of which (\$30,000.00) will be paid to the LWDA, and 25% of which (\$10,000.00) will be paid to Aggrieved Employees based on the number of pay periods worked during the PAGA Period. *See* Nava Decl. at ¶ 17; *see also* Settlement Agreement at §§ 22(e). Plaintiff submitted a copy of the Settlement Agreement to the LWDA on September 23, 2025. Yslas MPA Decl. at ¶ 9, Exhibit C. The LWDA has not responded to or objected to the Settlement. Yslas MFA Decl. at ¶ 27.

G. The Reaction of Class Members to the Proposed Settlement

Class Members’ reaction to the Settlement has been favorable. A court may properly infer that a class action settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate when few class members object to or opt out of it. *Lealo v. Beneficial California, Inc.*, 82 Cal.App.4th 19, 51 (2000).

When the Court granted preliminary approval, it also approved the method of providing notice to Class Members. Following a search of the National Change of Address database, Apex mailed the Class Notice to all Class Members on May 27, 2026. Nava Decl. at ¶ 7. The Class Notice informed Class Members of the terms of the Settlement, the amount of their individual settlements and how those amounts were calculated, their right to either participate in the Settlement, opt out of it, object to it, or dispute the amount of their individual settlement payment, the procedures and deadlines to submit an opt out, objection, or dispute, and the date, time, and place of the hearing on Plaintiffs’ Motion for Final Approval and instructions to be

1 heard at the hearing. *Id.* at ¶ 7, Exhibit A. In response to the Class Notice, Apex has received
2 no requests for exclusion from Class Members, no objections from any Class Members, and no
3 disputes from Class Members, as of the date of the filing of this Motion. *Id.* at ¶¶ 11-13. Class
4 Members’ favorable response to the Settlement further supports final approval.

5 **III. THE REQUESTED FEE AWARD IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE**
6 **APPROVED**

7 There are two (2) primary methods of determining a reasonable attorney fee in the
8 context of class action litigation. *Laffitte v. Robert Half Int’l, Inc.*, 1 Cal.5th 480, 489 (2016).
9 The percentage-of-recovery method calculates the fee as a percentage of a common fund
10 recovered on behalf of the class. *Id.* The lodestar method calculates the fee by multiplying the
11 number of hours reasonably expended by counsel by a reasonable hourly rate, which amount
12 then may be adjusted based on other factors. *Id.* In *Laffitte*, the California Supreme Court held
13 that trial courts have the discretion to choose between the two (2) calculation methods. *Id.* at
14 504. Trial courts also have the discretion to blend the two (2) fee calculation methods, using
15 one method to “cross-check” the reasonableness of the other’s result, but a cross-check is not
16 required. *Id.* 506.

17 **A. The Requested Fee Award is Fair and Reasonable Based on the Percentage-**
18 **of-Recovery Method**

19 The ultimate purpose of the percentage-of-recovery method is to “spread the attorney fee
20 among all the beneficiaries of the fund.” *Id.* at 503. The California Supreme Court recognized
21 that the percentage-of-recovery method has many advantages, “including relative ease of
22 calculation, alignment of incentives between counsel and the class, a better approximation of
23 market conditions in a contingency case, and the encouragement it provides counsel to seek an
24 early settlement and avoid unnecessarily prolonging the litigation [citation] . . .” *Id.*

25 The requested fee award of one third (1/3) of the GSA is consistent with the average fee
26 award in class actions. *See, e.g., Roos v. Honeywell Int’l, Inc.*, 241 Cal.App.4th 1472 (2015)
27 (fee award of 37.5% was not an abuse of discretion), disapproved of on other grounds by
28 *Hernandez v. Restoration Hardware, Inc.*, 4 Cal.5th 260, 287 (2018); *Wren v. RGIS Inventory*

1 *Specialists*, No. C-06-05778 JCS, 2011 WL 1230826, at *29 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 1, 2011) (approving
2 fee award of 42%); *Singer v. Becton Dickinson and Co.*, No. 08-CV-821-IEG, 2010 WL
3 2196104, at *8 (S.D. Cal. June 1, 2010) (approving fee award of one-third and noting that the
4 typical fees awarded in wage and hour class action cases ranges from 33.33% to 40%).
5 Therefore, the percentage-of-recovery method should be utilized to approve the requested fee.

6 **B. A Lodestar Cross-Check Confirms the Reasonableness of the Requested Fee**

7 Although *Laffitte* makes clear that a lodestar cross-check is not required, Class Counsel's
8 lodestar supports the reasonableness of the requested fee. The lodestar is determined by
9 multiplying the number of hours reasonably expended by the reasonable hourly rate. *PLCM*
10 *Group, Inc. v. Drexler*, 22 Cal.4th 1084, 1095 (2000). The lodestar figure may then be adjusted,
11 based on consideration of factors specific to the case, in order to fix the fee at the fair market
12 value for the legal services provided." *Id.* The factors that can be considered include "the nature
13 of the litigation, its difficulty, the amount involved, the skill required in its handling, the skill
14 employed, the attention given, the success or failure, and other circumstances in the case."
15 *Melnyk v. Robledo*, 64 Cal.App.3d 618, 623-624 (1976) (citations omitted). Additionally, Courts
16 utilize "multipliers" to account for the risk of taking on cases where there is no guarantee of
17 recovery, uncertainties as to the amount that will be recovered, uncertainty as to the cost of
18 litigating the case (both in effort and expenses), and uncertainty about how much time will pass
19 before the recovery is obtained. *Ketchum v. Moses*, 24 Cal.4th 1122, 1132-33 (2001); *see also*
20 *Serrano v. Priest*, 20 Cal. 3d 25, 48-49 (1977) (approving the adjustment of the lodestar figure
21 based on factors specific to the case to ensure fair market value for legal services provided on
22 a contingency basis). Application of that rule is particularly appropriate where the case is
23 brought to redress important rights of vulnerable persons. *Ketchum*, 24 Cal.4th at 1133.

24 Generally, "[m]ultipliers can range from 2 to 4 or even higher." *Wershba v. Apple*
25 *Computers, Inc.*, 91 Cal.App.4th at p. 255 (2001); *see also Sutter Health Uninsured Pricing*
26 *Cases*, 171 Cal. App. 4th 495, 512 (2009) (applying a 2.52 multiplier on a cross-check in an
27 antitrust class action); *Chavez v. Netflix, Inc.*, 162 Cal. App. 4th, 60 (2008) (applying a 2.5
28 multiplier on a lodestar cross-check); *Vizcaino v. Microsoft Corp.*, 290 F.3d 1043, 1051 n.6 (9th

1 Cir. 2002) (“most” common fund cases apply a multiplier of 1.0-4.0); *Laffitte v. Robert Half*
2 *Int’l*, 231 Cal. App. 4th 860, 881-82 (2004) (affirming a 2.13 multiplier after finding that “2 to
3 4” is a reasonable range for multipliers on a cross-check).

4 The total hours expended on this action by Class Counsel were reasonable and in line
5 with comparable cases. While it is not necessary to substantiate the fee award with a lodestar in
6 this Action, it should be noted that Class Counsel spent approximately 148.8 hours prosecuting
7 this action, which were divided among the attorneys working on this case according to skill
8 level. Yslas MFA Decl. at ¶ 23. Multiplying the total hours expended by Class Counsel by their
9 reasonable hourly rates yields a lodestar of \$125,975.00. *Id.* at ¶ 23. This amount surpasses the
10 requested fee award of \$88,333.33, resulting in a negative multiplier of approximately 0.70. *Id.*
11 at ¶ 24. Class Counsel’s lodestar does not include the time Class Counsel will spend at the final
12 approval hearing and assisting the Settlement Administrator following final approval. *Id.* Class
13 Counsel dedicated significant resources to this case by dividing the tasks required according to
14 skill level. *Id.* The hours expended by each attorney were not duplicative and reflect the
15 extensive investigation and analysis that was required to achieve this Settlement. This time
16 could have been spent on other potentially lucrative cases. *Id.* Class Counsel’s lodestar reflects
17 the efficiencies achieved by attorneys experienced in this field. *Id.* Moreover, Class Counsel
18 has singularly assumed the risk and costs of litigation purely on a contingency basis. *Id.* And,
19 while Plaintiffs are confident in the merits of their claims, a legitimate controversy exists as to
20 each cause of action, posing an actual risk that Plaintiffs may not succeed at class certification
21 and/or trial. *Id.* Any of these obstacles could have prevented recovery completely, meaning
22 Class Counsel would have been left with no compensation for all the time and money invested
23 in litigating this case. *Id.* Despite these risks, Class Counsel took this case on a contingency
24 basis so that Class Members (a particularly vulnerable group of hourly paid workers) could be
25 compensated for their unpaid wages. *Id.* Consequently, Class Counsel was precluded from
26 focusing on, or taking on, other cases which could have resulted in a larger, and less risky,
27 monetary gain. *Id.*

1 **C. Class Counsel's Rates Are Similar to Those Approved by California Courts in**
2 **Comparable Cases.**

3 Class Counsel's hourly rates are comparable to those charged by other class action
4 plaintiffs' counsel and the firms defending class actions. Yslas Decl. at ¶ 15. Class Counsel's rates
5 are well within the range of hourly rates that the Los Angeles legal marketplace would compensate
6 counsel for similar services accomplishing similar results. *Id.* For example, in *Bronshteyn v. State*
7 *of California*, Los Angeles County Superior Ct. No. 19SMCV00057, Order Granting Plaintiff's
8 Motion for Statutory Attorneys' Fees and Costs filed March 30, 2023, an employment action
9 brought by two small law firms (Levy, Vinick, Burrell & Hyams LLP and Law Offices of Wendy
10 Musell), the court found that counsel's 2022 hourly rates of \$1,100 and \$1,000 per hour were
11 reasonable for the plaintiff's five senior attorneys, including \$1,000 per hour for the plaintiff's 23-
12 year lead counsel and \$850 per hour for a senior associate. *Id.* These rates were then augmented
13 by a 1.75 lodestar multiplier and affirmed by the California Court of Appeals. *Id.* The rates (and
14 multiplier) requested here are well in line with those found reasonable in *Bronshteyn*. In *Tran v.*
15 *Golden State FC LLC, et al.* (LASC Case No. BC699931), Fee Order filed 4/8/2022, the court
16 found hourly rates of \$1,300 per hour reasonable for plaintiff's 32-year attorney and \$1,000 per
17 hour reasonable for a 14-year attorney. *Id.* The multiplier here is even more compelling given
18 PAGA counsel represents approximately 220 PAGA Members. *Id.*

19 Class Counsel has also been approved as class counsel by courts in California. Yslas Decl.
20 at ¶ 16. *See, e.g., Matthew Veliz v. DrinkPak, LLC*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No.
21 22STCV37384, *Ismael Villegas-Sanchez v. COE Orchard Equipment, Inc.*, Sutter County Superior
22 Court, Case No. CVCS22-0002261; *Jessica Bronsal v. PTI Technologies Inc.*, Ventura County
23 Superior Court, Case No. 202200570361CUOE; *Miguel A. Vigil Ruiz v. The De Ruosi Group, LLC*,
24 San Joaquin County Superior Court, Case No. STK-CV-UOE-2022-8780; *Gutierrez v. Top Drawer*
25 *Merch, LLC et al*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV04299; *Wing v. Road*
26 *Machinery, LLC et al*, Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-22-102896; *Hernandez v.*
27 *SGPS Showrig Los Angeles, Inc.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 22STCV28155;
28 *Azevedo v. Tulare Nursing & Rehabilitation Hospital, Inc.*, Tulare County Superior Court, Case

No. VCU293325; *Haser v. Universal Chain of California, Inc.*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2022-00332268; *Caldera v. Performance Online, Inc. et al*, Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. CVRI2306013; *Goosby v. CiminoCare, Inc.*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2022-00329033; *Rooks v. Hot Cakes Restaurant Group, Inc.*, San Joaquin County Superior Court, Case No. STK-CV-UOE-2022-11056; *Garcia v. Compassionate Heart*, Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2022-01294409-CU-OE-CXC; *Parra v. Citrus Valley Management Services, Inc.*, Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. CVRI2301768; *Torres v. HomeShield Pest Control Inc.*, Placer County Superior Court, Case No. S-CV-0049525; *Cabrera v. Creekside Auto Group*, Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 23CV415661; *Simpson v. Arcos*, Riverside Superior Court, Case No. CVRI2303337; *Payne v. Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo, Inc.*, San Francisco County Superior Court, Case No. CGC-23-607359. *Id.* The total hours expended on this action are reasonable and in line with those expended in comparable cases. *Id.*

In cases in which Class Counsel has been approved as class counsel, California courts have approved rates similar to those requested by Class Counsel in the instant case. Yslas Decl. at ¶ 17. *See, e.g., Rodolfo Ponce v. Youbar, Inc.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 22STCV37519 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Sabrina N. Batres v. Wish Automotive II, Inc. dba Infiniti of Van Nuys*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV19968 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Diandrea Correa et al. v. CareMeridian, LLC, et. al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV10707 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Fawn F. Bekam (\$800.00), Diego Aviles (\$800.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Harry Erganyan (\$600.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Carlos Santos Granados v. Sunny Hills Management Co., Inc.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV02109 (WLF's rates were approved

as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Diego Aviles (\$750.00), Courtney M. Miller (\$650.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Harry Erganyan (\$600.00), Mariam Nazaretyan (\$550.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Kayla Kurges v. Khanna Enterprises, Ltd. dba Sheraton Agoura Hills*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 24STCV01590 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Thora Magney et al. v. Levi Strauss & Co., et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 24STCV02320 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Fawn F. Bekam (\$800.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Armando Muniz, et al. v. Lot LLC, dba Lot Management LLC (fka Red Cow, Inc.) et. al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 22STCV32901 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Diego Aviles (\$750.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Harry Erganyan (\$600.00), Mariam Nazaretyan (\$550.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *George Munoz v. Century West, LLC dba Century West BMW*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV04247 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)); *Ivan S. Martinez II et. al. v. The Haar Company, et. al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV21651 (WLF's rates were approved as follows: John G. Yslas (\$1,500.00), Samantha A. Smith (\$1,000.00), Jeffrey C. Bils (\$850.00), Diego Aviles (\$750.00), Aram Boyadjian (\$600.00), Harry Erganyan (\$600.00), Mariam Nazaretyan (\$550.00), Lisa B. Iturriaga (\$550.00), and Andrew Sandoval (\$500.00)). *Id.*

Likewise, Class Counsel's hourly rates are reasonable when compared to rates charged within the relevant legal marketplace. Yslas Decl. ¶ 18, **Exhibit 1**. In light of the foregoing, and considered against the risks of continued litigation, and the importance of advocating for employment rights and a speedy recovery, the relief provided under the Settlement represents a

1 very strong result for the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. Class Counsel's fee request
2 is fair and reasonable and should be approved. Accordingly, Class Counsel respectfully requests
3 the Court approve their \$88,333.33 fee request.

4 **IV. THE REQUESTED COST AWARD IS REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE**
5 **APPROVED**

6 The Settlement permits Class Counsel to seek reimbursement of litigation costs in an
7 amount up to \$20,000.00. The actual costs incurred are \$20,240.28, therefore Class Counsel is
8 seeking reimbursement of \$20,000.00. Yslas MFA Decl. at ¶ 25, **Exhibit 2**. Since Class
9 Counsel's costs do not meet the maximum of \$20,000.00, the remaining \$540.28 will revert to
10 the Net Settlement Amount. *Id.* These costs were reasonable and necessary to prosecute this
11 case and obtain the results achieved. *Id.*

12 **V. THE REQUESTED CLASS REPRESENTATIVE SERVICE PAYMENTS ARE**
13 **REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE APPROVED**

14 Plaintiffs also request that they be awarded a Class Representative Service Payment of
15 \$5,000.00 per named plaintiff for their role in obtaining the Settlement. In evaluating a service
16 payment, the Court may consider: "(1) the risk, both financial and otherwise, the class
17 representative faced in bringing the suit; (2) the notoriety and personal difficulties encountered
18 by the class representative; (3) the amount of time and effort spent by the class representative;
19 (4) the duration of the litigation; and (5) the personal benefit received by the class representative
20 as a result of the litigation." *Golba v. Dick's Sporting Goods, Inc.*, 238 Cal.App.4th 1251, 1272
21 (2015); *Clark v. American Residential Services, LLC*, 175 Cal.App.4th 785, 804 (2009).

22 Here, Plaintiffs provided declarations in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary
23 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement and a declaration in support of Plaintiffs'
24 Motion for Final Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement detailing the risk they faced
25 in bringing the suit, the notoriety and personal difficulties they encountered, the amount of time
26 and effort they spent on this litigation, the duration of this litigation, and the personal benefit
27 they will receive as a result of the litigation. *See generally* Declarations of Daniel Thomas Atalig
28 Hocog and D Alfred Estrada Santos Jr. in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of

1 Class Action and PAGA Settlement filed concurrently herewith. Plaintiffs should be adequately
2 compensated for their role in obtaining in this Settlement.

3 Additionally, no Class Members objected to the amount of additional compensation
4 sought by Plaintiffs. As such, the award is reasonable in light of the substantial benefits
5 Plaintiffs conferred upon the settlement class.

6 **VI. THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION COSTS ARE REASONABLE AND**
7 **SHOULD BE APPROVED**

8 The Parties agreed to hire Apex as the Settlement Administrator in this case and the
9 Court approved this choice at preliminary approval. The Settlement Administrator was
10 responsible for (a) printing and mailing the *Court Approved Notice of Class Action and PAGA*
11 *Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval*, in both English and Spanish
12 (collectively referred to as “Class Notice”); (b) receiving and processing requests for exclusion;
13 (c) resolving Class Members’ disputes over the number of workweeks Defendant has record of
14 them working during the Class Period, which was pre-printed on their individualized Class
15 Notice; (d) calculating individual settlement award amounts; (e) processing and mailing
16 settlement award checks; (f) handling tax withholdings as required by the Settlement and the
17 law; (g) preparing, issuing and filing tax returns and other applicable tax forms; (h) handling
18 the distribution of any unclaimed funds pursuant to the terms of the Settlement; and (i)
19 performing other tasks as the Parties mutually agree to and/or the Court orders Apex to perform.
20 Nava Decl. at ¶3. The requested amount of \$8,800.00 for services rendered and to be rendered
21 is therefore fair and reasonable.

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1 **VII. CONCLUSION**

2 Based on the foregoing, Class Counsel respectfully requests that the Court grant final
3 approval of the Class Action and PAGA Settlement, approve Class Counsel's attorneys' fees in
4 the amount of \$88,333.33 and reimbursement of litigation costs in the amount of \$20,000.00;
5 the Class Representative Service Payments in the amount of \$5,000.00 per named plaintiff, civil
6 penalties under PAGA in the amount of \$40,000.00, and settlement administration costs for
7 Apex in the amount of \$8,800.00.

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9 Dated: July 20, 2026

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC

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11 By: 
12 Lucy H. Nguyen
13 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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