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FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE

MAY 12 2026

DAVID H. YAMASAKI, Clerk of the Court

BY: M. NEVAREZ DEPUTY

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE**

GILBERT CASTELLON, an individual, on
behalf of all similarly situated aggrieved
employees,

Plaintiff,

v.

PRIORITY PLUS FINANCIAL, LLC., a
California limited liability company; and
DOES 1-50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 30-2024-01375043-CU-OE-CXC

~~[PROPOSED]~~ ORDER AND JUDGMENT

Date: May 11, 2026

Time: 1:30 P.M.

Judge: Hon. David A. Hoffer

Dept.: CX-103

Complaint Filed: January 22, 2024

Plaintiff Gilbert Castellon's ("Plaintiffs") Motion for Order (1) granting approval of the proposed settlement of claims brought pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Cal. Labor Code § 2698 *et seq.*) ("PAGA") set forth in the Parties' Settlement Agreement and Release of Private Attorneys General Act Claim (the "Settlement" or "Settlement Agreement"); (2) appointing Simpluris, Inc., ("Simpluris") as the Settlement Administrator and approving payment of its fees not to exceed \$2,750 from the Gross Settlement Amount; (3) directing disbursement of the Gross Settlement Amount pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (4) directing payment of attorneys' fees of \$95,700 and litigation costs of \$6,693.05 from the Gross Settlement Amount to Counsel for Plaintiff; (5) directing an enhancement payment from the Gross Settlement

1 Amount in the amount of \$5,000 to Plaintiff; and (6) dismissing this Action with prejudice, came
2 on for hearing before this Court in Department CX-103, the Honorable David A. Hoffer presiding,
3 on May 11, 2026. Appearances were noted on the record.

4 Having reviewed the Settlement Agreement and duly considered the Parties' papers and oral
5 argument, and good cause appearing,

6 **THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

7 1. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement
8 Agreement, which is attached to the Declaration of John J. Weber as Exhibit D.

9 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims of the PAGA Members and the State of
10 California asserted in this proceeding and over all parties to the Action.

11 3. The Court finds that the Settlement was entered into in good faith, that the
12 Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and that the Settlement satisfies the standards and
13 applicable requirements for approval of PAGA representative actions under California law. The
14 Court finds that the Gross Settlement Amount of \$319,000 represents a fair compromise of the
15 claims alleged in the Action, considering the maximum potential value of the claims asserted and
16 the risks inherent in further litigation.

17 4. The Court has considered the authorities and evidence presented by Plaintiff and
18 based thereon hereby approves the following awards and deductions from the Gross Settlement
19 Amount:

20 a. To Plaintiff's Counsel, Keegan & Baker, LLP, an award of \$95,700.00 in
21 attorneys' fees and \$6,693.05 in reimbursement of litigation costs. The Court finds that
22 these amounts are fair and reasonable and commensurate with applicable California law.

23 b. To Plaintiff Gilbert Castellon, an enhancement payment of \$5,000. The
24 Court finds that both the time and effort that Plaintiff spent on behalf of other PAGA
25 Members and the State justifies this payment.

26 c. To Simpluris, Inc., the settlement administrator, a payment of up to \$2,750
27 to administer the Settlement through its conclusion, including disbursement of the Gross
28 Settlement Amount and all tax reporting associated therewith.

1 5. The amount remaining of the Gross Settlement Amount following these deductions
2 is the PAGA Penalty Fund of \$208,856.95. The PAGA Penalty Fund shall be distributed 75% (or
3 \$156,642.71) to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency and 25% (or \$52,214.24) to the
4 PAGA Members.

5 6. The Court finds that the Settlement has been provided to the LWDA as required by
6 PAGA and Labor Code section 2699, subdivision (1)(2), in particular.

7 7. Upon entry of this Order, the Parties shall effectuate all terms of the Settlement
8 based on the provisions and timelines set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

9 8. The Court retains continuing jurisdiction over the Parties and this action to
10 adjudicate any matters related to this Order and Judgment pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §
11 664.6 and as otherwise allowed by law.

12 9. A Final Report Hearing is set for February 1, 2027, at 1:30 p.m. in Department
13 CX-103. All supporting papers must be filed at least 16 days before the Final Report Hearing
14 date.

15 10. Plaintiff to give notice of this Order and Judgment to the LWDA and Defendant.

16 11. This Action is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.

17 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

18 Dated: 5/12/26

19 
20 Hon. David. A. Hoffer
21 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
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