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Gerardo Tovar, and the Proposed Class
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10 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
11 **FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

12 Gerardo Tovar, individually and on behalf
of others similarly situated, and on behalf
13 of other aggrieved employees pursuant to
the Private Attorneys General Act,

14 Plaintiff,

15 vs.

16 Optima Family Services, Inc., a California
corporation; and DOES 1 through 50,
17 inclusive,

18 Defendants.
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Case No.: 24STCV22183

**DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF
GERARDO TOVAR IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Hearing Information:

Date: December 2, 2026
Time: 2:00 pm
Dept.: 10
Judge: Hon. William F. Highberger

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1. I am over the age of 18 years old and a resident of the State of California. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein, and if called upon to testify, I could and would do so competently. I make this declaration in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

3. I was employed by Optima Family Services, Inc. (“Optima”) as an hourly-paid, non-exempt employee from approximately September 24, 2019 to approximately June 21, 2023 as a Direct Behavior Interventionist (“BI”).

5. I understand that as Class Representative I have an important duty to look out for the best interests of the Class. I understood from the start of considering this case based on my discussions with my lawyers that I would have to take on significant responsibilities and burdens for the benefit of the Class, which could include having my deposition taken to give testimony under oath, that I could face the possibility of subpoenas being issued to former and current employers, and that I may testify in Court for the benefit of not only myself but the other members of the Class. I have had numerous conversations with my attorneys regarding this case in order to provide them with the information and documents that they needed to handle the matter. I answered numerous questions that my attorneys had about the case, reviewed the complaint when it was filed, participated in mediation and resolution of the matter, and reviewed the settlement agreement.

6. I have taken my responsibility as Class Representative seriously and will continue to do so. I have learned about the laws relating to the issues in this Action, including laws about

1 minimum wages, overtime, meal breaks and rest breaks.

2 7. I know of no conflicts between my interests and goals and the interests and goals
3 of anyone else in the Class.

4 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of
5 California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 26, 2026, in San Bernardino
6 County, California.

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GERARDO TOVAR