

Kane Moon (SBN 249834)
 Lilit Ter-Astvatsatryan (SBN 320389)
MOON LAW GROUP, PC
 725 S. Figueroa Street, 31st Floor
 Los Angeles, California 90017
 Telephone: (213) 232-3128
 Facsimile: (213) 232-3125
 E-mail: kmoon@moonlawgroup.com
 E-mail: lilit@moonlawgroup.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff GENARO RODRIGUEZ NORIEGA

R. Steven Derryberry (SBN 245234)
 Kimberly R. Rose-McCaslin (SBN 248428)
DERRYBERRY & ASSOCIATES LLP
 41240 11th Street West, Suite A
 Palmdale, California 93551
 Telephone: (661) 945-6115
 Facsimile: (661) 948-4772
 info@derryberrylawyers.com
 kim@derryberrylawyers.com

Attorneys for Defendant EL TOREO, INC.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

GENARO RODRIGUEZ NORIEGA,
 individually, and on behalf of all others similarly
 situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

EL TOREO, INC.; EL TOREO; CAFÉ EL
 TOREO, LLC; EL TOREO CAFÉ, LLC; EL
 TOREO CAFÉ PASADENA, LLC; and
 DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24STCV02094

CLASS AND PAGA ACTION

[Hon. David S. Cunningham III, Dept. 11]

**CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT
 AGREEMENT AND CLASS NOTICE**

Complaint filed:	January 26, 2024
FAC Filed:	April 5, 2024
Trial date:	Not set

CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CLASS NOTICE

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiff Genaro Rodriguez Noreiga (“Plaintiff”) and Defendant El Toreo, Inc. (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

1. DEFINITIONS.

1.1. “Action” means the Plaintiff’s lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendant captioned *Genaro Rodriguez Noriega v. El Toreo, Inc., et al*, Case No. 24STCV02094, initiated on January 26, 2024, and pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles.

1.2. “Administrator” means Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions (“Phoenix”), the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.

1.3. “Administration Expenses Payment” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the Administrator’s “not to exceed” bid submitted to the Court in connection with Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.

1.4. “Aggrieved Employee” All individuals who performed work in any non-exempt position for Defendant in California at any time during the PAGA Period. .

1.5. “Class” means all current and former non-exempt, hourly paid employees who worked for Defendant in California during the Class Period.

1.6. “Class Counsel” means Moon Law Group, PC.

1.7. “Class Counsel Fees Payment” and “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” mean the amounts allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses, respectively, incurred to prosecute the Action.

1.8. “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendant’s possession including the Class Member’s name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, and number of Class Period Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.

1.9. “Class Member” or “Settlement Class Member” means a member of the Class, as either a Participating Class Member or Non-Participating Class Member (including a Non-

Participating Class Member who qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee).

1.10. “Class Member Address Search” means the Administrator’s investigation and search for current Class Member mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, methods and means including, but not limited to, the National Change of Address (“NCOA”) database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Class Members.

1.11. “Class Notice” means the COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL, to be mailed to Class Members in English in the form, without material variation unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by reference into this Agreement. The Parties, through counsel, may agree to modifications to the Class Notice required to correct errors or effectuate changes required by the Court without the need to amend this Agreement, and the revised Class Notice shall be incorporated herein in place of the original **Exhibit A**.

1.12. “Class Period” means the period from January 26, 2020 through the date of preliminary approval of this settlement, or sixty (60) days from the January 15, 2025 mediation, whichever occurs first..

1.13. “Class Representative” means the named Plaintiff in the operative complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as a Class Representative.

1.14. “Class Representative Service Payment” means the payment to the Class Representative for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.

1.15. “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.

1.16. “Defendant” means named Defendant El Toreo, Inc.

1.17. “Defense Counsel” means DerryBerry & Associates, LLP.

1.18. “Effective Date” means the date by when both of the following have occurred: (a) the Court enters a Judgment on its order granting final approval of the Settlement; and (b) the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the

deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment; or if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

1.19. “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement.

1.20. “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the motion for final approval of the Settlement.

1.21. “Gross Settlement Amount” means \$135,000 which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement except as provided in Paragraphs 3.1 and 8 below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment and the Administration Expenses Payment.

1.22. “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Member’s equal share of the Net Settlement Amount, or, if rejected by the Court, pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period.

1.23. “Individual PAGA Payment” means the Aggrieved Employee’s pro rata share of 25% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.

1.24. “Judgment” means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final Approval.

1.25. “LWDA” means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code § 2699(i).

1.26. “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code § 2699(i).

1.27. “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.

- 1.28. “Non-Participating Class Member” means any Class Member who opts out of the Class portion of the Settlement by sending the Administrator a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.
- 1.29. “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.
- 1.30. “PAGA Period” means the period from January 26, 2023 through the date of preliminary approval of this settlement, or sixty (60) days from the January 15, 2025 mediation, whichever occurs first.
- 1.31. “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. *et seq.*).
- 1.32. “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiff’s January 21, 2024, letter to Defendant and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code § 2699.3(a).
- 1.33. “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$2,500.00) and the 75% to LWDA (\$7,500.00) in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.34. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Class portion of the Settlement.
- 1.35. “Plaintiff” means Genaro Rodriguez Noriega, the named plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.36. “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s order granting preliminary approval of the Class portion of the Settlement.
- 1.37. “Preliminary Approval Order” means the proposed order granting preliminary approval of the Class portion of the Settlement.
- 1.38. “Released Class Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2 below.
- 1.39. “Released PAGA Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.3 below.
- 1.40. “Released Parties” means: Defendant, including each of its past, present, and future parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliated and related companies, successors, employees, and predecessors, as well as their respective past, present, and future owners, officers, directors,

shareholders, employees, managers, agents, principals, representatives, administrators, accountants, auditors, consultants, fiduciaries, insurers and reinsurers, company-sponsored employee benefit plans, and attorneys, both individually and in their official capacities, as well as all persons acting by, through, under, or in concert with any of these persons or entities.

1.41. “Request for Exclusion” means a Class Member’s submission of a written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement signed by the Class Member.

1.42. “Response Deadline” means 60 days after the Administrator mails Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) fax, email, or mail Requests for Exclusion from the Class portion of the Settlement, or (b) fax, email, or mail his or her Objection to the Settlement. The Response Deadline for Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall be extended by 14 calendar days beyond the original Response Deadline.

1.43. “Settlement” means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.44. “Workweek” means any week during which a Class Member worked for Defendant for at least one day, during the Class Period.

2. **RECITALS.**

2.1. On January 26, 2024, Plaintiff commenced this Action by filing a Complaint alleging causes of action against Defendant for (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197); (2) Failure to Pay Overtime Compensation (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 1194 and 1198); (3) Failure to Provide Meal Periods (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7, 512); (4) Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Breaks (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7); (5) Failure to Indemnify Necessary Business Expenses (Cal. Lab. Code § 2802); (6) Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 201-203); (7) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements (Cal. Lab. Code § 226); and (8) Unfair Business Practices (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq.). On April 5, 2024, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Complaint alleging causes of action against Defendant for Civil Penalties pursuant to the

Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”) (Cal. Lab. Code § 2698, et seq.). The First Amended Complaint is the operative complaint in the Action (the “Operative Complaint”). Defendant denies the allegations in the Operative Complaint, denies any failure to comply with the laws identified in in the Operative Complaint and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.

2.2. Pursuant to Labor Code § 2699.3(a), Plaintiff gave timely written notice to Defendant and the LWDA by sending the PAGA Notice.

2.3. On January 15, 2025, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Hon. Carl West (Ret.), which led to this Agreement to settle the Action.

2.4. Prior to mediation, Plaintiff obtained, through informal discovery, policy documents, time clock records, wage payment records, and Plaintiff’s personnel file. Plaintiff’s investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.*, 48 Cal. App. 4th 1794, 1801 (1996) and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.*, 168 Cal. App. 4th 116, 129-130 (2008) (“*Dunk/Kullar*”).

2.5. The Court has not granted class certification.

2.6. The Parties, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel represent that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the Settlement.

3. **MONETARY TERMS.**

3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below, Defendant promises to pay \$135,000.00 and no more as the Gross Settlement Amount and to separately pay any and all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments. Defendant has no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount or any payroll taxes prior to the deadline stated in Paragraph 4.3 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendant.

3.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct the

1 following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the
2 Court in the Final Approval:

3 3.2.1. To Plaintiff: Class Representative Service Payment to the Class Representative of
4 not more than \$7,500.00 in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any
5 Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a
6 Participating Class Member. Defendant will not oppose Plaintiff's request for a
7 Class Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of
8 the motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment,
9 Plaintiff will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Service Payments no
10 later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves
11 a Class Representative Service Payment less than the amount requested, the
12 Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The
13 Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service Payment using IRS Form
14 1099. Plaintiff assumes full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on
15 the Class Representative Service Payment.

16 3.2.2. To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than 1/3 of the Gross
17 Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$45,000 and a Class Counsel
18 Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$22,000.00. Defendant will not
19 oppose requests for these payments provided that they do not exceed these amounts.
20 Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment
21 and Class Litigation Expenses Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final
22 Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or a
23 Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts requested, the
24 Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released
25 Parties shall have no liability to Class Counsel or any other Plaintiff's Counsel
26 arising from any claim to any portion any Class Counsel Fee Payment and/or Class
27 Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the Class
28 Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment using one

1 or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full responsibility and liability for
2 taxes owed on the Class Counsel Fees Payment and the Class Counsel Litigation
3 Expenses Payment and holds Defendant harmless, and indemnifies Defendant, from
4 any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these
5 Payments.

6 3.2.3. To the Administrator: An Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed
7 \$5,000.00 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the
8 extent the Administration expenses are less or the Court approves payment less than
9 \$5,000.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement
10 Amount.

11 3.2.4. To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment calculated by
12 (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked
13 by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and (b) multiplying the
14 result by each Participating Class Member's Workweeks.

15 3.2.4.1. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. 10% of each Participating
16 Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of
17 wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax
18 withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. The 90% of each
19 Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to
20 settlement of claims for interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion").
21 The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be
22 reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full
23 responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual
24 Class Payment.

25 3.2.4.2. Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual
26 Class Payments. Non-Participating Class Members will not receive any
27 Individual Class Payments. The Workweeks of Non-Participating Class
28 Members are not included in the calculation of payments to Participating

Class Members and therefor have no effect on the calculation of Individual Class Payments paid from the Net Settlement Amount.

3.2.5. To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$10,000.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$7,500.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$2,500.00) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.

3.2.5.1. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties \$2,500.00 by the total number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Period Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

3.2.5.2. If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099-MISC Forms.

4. **SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.**

4.1. Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. Based on a review of its records to date, Defendant estimates there are 121 Class Members who collectively worked a total of 4,611 during the Class Period, and 61 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 820 PAGA Pay Periods.

4.2. Class Data. Not later than 14 days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant will deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement.

Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.

4.3. Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator in three (3) equal installments: first installment shall be within sixty (60) days after the Effective Date, second installment shall be within six (6) months after the Effective Date, and third installment shall be within twelve (12) months after the Effective Date..

4.4. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 14 days after Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Expenses Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and the Class Representative Service Payment shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.

4.4.1. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (not less than 180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided. The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Settlement Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved

Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the NCOA database.

4.4.2. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without a United States Postal Service ("USPS") forwarding address. Within 7 days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Class Member prior to the void date.

4.4.3. For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure § 384(b).

4.4.4. The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.

5. **RELEASES OF CLAIMS.**

Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff, Class

Members, and Class Counsel will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

5.1. Plaintiff's Release.

5.1.1. Scope of Plaintiff's Release. Plaintiff and his or her respective former and present, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences, including, but not limited to: (a) all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained, in the Operative Complaint and (b) all PAGA claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on facts contained in the Operative Complaint, Plaintiff's PAGA Notice ("Plaintiff's Release.") Plaintiff's Release does not extend to any claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiff acknowledges that Plaintiff may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiff now knows or believes to be true but agrees, nonetheless, that Plaintiff's Release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiff's discovery of them.

5.1.2. Plaintiff's Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code § 1542. For purposes of Plaintiff's Release, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, and that if known by him or her would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or Released Party.

5.2. Release by Participating Class Members: Upon remittance of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant to the Settlement Administrator and entry of Judgment by the Court, the Settlement Class Members, other than those who timely submit valid requests for exclusion, will fully and finally release and discharge Defendant and all Released Parties from any and all claims, causes of action, demands, damages, or liabilities arising at any time during the

Class Period that were pled or which could have been pled based on the factual allegations contained in Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint, including but not limited to, claims for: (i) failure to pay minimum wages in violation of Labor Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2 and 1197; (ii) failure to pay overtime compensation in violation of Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1198; (iii) failure to provide meal periods in violation of Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512 or failure to provide adequate compensation in lieu of meal periods; (iv) failure to authorize and permit rest breaks in violation of Labor Code §§ 226.7; (v) failure to pay the correct rate of pay for paid sick leave; (vi) failure to indemnify necessary business expenses in violation of Labor Code §§ 2802; (vii) failure to timely pay final wages at termination in violation of Labor Code §§ 201-203; (viii) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements in violation of Labor Code § 226; (ix) unfair business practices in violation of Cal. Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 (collectively, the "Released Claims"). The Released Claims extend to all theories of relief, whether under California law, federal law, state law or common law (including, without limitation, as alleged violations of the California Labor Code, the IWC Wage Orders, applicable regulations, or California's Business and Professions Code §§ 17200). The Released Claims include all types of relief available for the Released Claims, including without limitation any claims for damages, restitution, losses, penalties, fines, liens, attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, debts, interest, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, or liquidated damages. This Settlement shall constitute, and may be pleaded as, a complete and total defense to any such Released Claims if raised in the future.

5.3. Release by Aggrieved Employees: Upon remittance of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant to the Settlement Administrator and entry of Judgment by the Court, the Aggrieved Employees, whether they timely submit valid requests for exclusion from the Settlement Class or not, will fully and finally release and discharge Defendant and all Released Parties from any and all claims, causes of action, demands, damages, or liabilities arising at any time during the PAGA Period that were pled or which could have been pled based on the factual allegations contained in Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint and Plaintiff's PAGA Notice (collectively, the "PAGA Released Claims").

1 **6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL.**

2 The Parties agree to jointly prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval (“Motion for
3 Preliminary Approval”) that complies with the Court’s current checklist for preliminary approvals,
4 to the extent the Court maintains such a checklist.

5 6.1. Defendant’s Declaration in Support of Preliminary Approval. Similarly, if any other
6 pending matter or action asserting claims will be extinguished or adversely affected by the
7 Settlement, Defendant shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel a signed declaration from
8 Defendant and/or Defense Counsel identifying any other pending matter or action asserting
9 claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement. Alternatively, if
10 such other actions are filed between the execution of this Agreement and the filing of the
11 Motion for Preliminary Approval and become known to Defendant and/or Defense Counsel,
12 Defense Counsel will advise Class Counsel.

13 6.2. Plaintiff’s Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare and deliver to Defense Counsel documents
14 necessary for obtaining Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and
15 memorandum in support, of the Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis
16 of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar* and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement
17 under Labor Code § 2699(f)(2)); (ii) a draft proposed order granting preliminary approval
18 and approval of PAGA settlement; (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed
19 declaration from the Administrator attaching its “not to exceed” bid for administering the
20 Settlement and attesting to its willingness to serve; competency; operative procedures for
21 protecting the security of Class Data; amounts of insurance coverage for any data breach,
22 defalcation of funds or other misfeasance; all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts
23 of interest with Class Members; and the nature and extent of any financial relationship with
24 Plaintiff, Class Counsel or Defense Counsel; (v) a signed declaration from Plaintiff
25 confirming willingness and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any
26 actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator; and,
27 (vi) a signed declaration from each Class Counsel firm attesting to its competency to
28 represent the Class Members; its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA

documents (initial notice of violations [Labor Code § 2699.3(a)], Operative Complaint [Labor Code § 2699(l)(1)], this Agreement [Labor Code § 2699(l)(2)]); and, all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflict of interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator. Class Counsel shall aver that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement or disclose the existence of any such pending matters. Alternatively, if such other actions are filed between the execution of this Agreement and the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval and become known to Class Counsel, Class Counsel will advise Defense Counsel.

6.3. Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval no later than 30 days after the full execution of this Agreement; obtaining a prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval; and for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court's Preliminary Approval to the Administrator.

6.4. Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

7.1. Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected Phoenix to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, Phoenix agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Expenses. The Parties and their Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other

than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.

7.2. Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports state and federal tax authorities.

7.3. Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund (“QSF”) under US Treasury Regulation § 468B-1.

7.4. Notice to Class Members.

7.4.1. No later than three (3) business days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, Workweeks, and Pay Periods in the Class Data.

7.4.2. Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 10 days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class USPS mail, the Class Notice substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as **Exhibit A**. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of each Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee, and the number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if applicable) used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the NCOA database.

7.4.3. Not later than 3 business days after the Administrator’s receipt of any Class Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.

7.4.4. The deadlines for Class Members' written objections, challenges to Workweeks and/or pay periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the 60 days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members whose notices are re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

7.4.5. If the Administrator, Defendant or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith in an effort to agree on whether to include them as Class Members. If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than 14 days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, which ever are later.

7.5. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

7.5.1. Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class portion of the Settlement must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not later than 60 days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member's election to be excluded from the Class portion of the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, emailed, or postmarked by the Response Deadline.

7.5.2. The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain the identity of the person as a Class Member and the Class Member's desire

1 to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not appealable
2 or otherwise susceptible to challenge. If the Administrator has reason to question
3 the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand
4 additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's determination
5 of authenticity shall be final as to the Parties, but a Class Member whose Request for
6 Exclusion is rejected by the Administrator may present a challenge to that
7 determination to the Court.

8 7.5.3. Every Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion
9 is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all
10 benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the
11 Participating Class Members' Releases under Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of this
12 Agreement, regardless whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the
13 Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.

14 7.5.4. Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a
15 Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment
16 or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement. Because
17 future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the Judgment,
18 Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to
19 release the claims identified in Paragraph 5.3 of this Agreement and are eligible for
20 an Individual PAGA Payment.

21 7.6. Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have 60 days after the
22 Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose
23 Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay
24 Periods (if any) allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member may
25 challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email or mail.
26 The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting
27 documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled
28 to presume that the Workweeks contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are

consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shall be final as to the Parties (although Defendant shall retain the right to correct erroneous Class Data if subsequently discovered), but a Class Member whose Workweek and/or Pay Period challenge is rejected by the Administrator may present the same evidence supporting the Workweek and/or Pay Period challenge to the Court for review. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the Administrator's determination the challenges.

7.7. Objections to Settlement.

7.7.1. Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of the Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the Settlement, and/or amounts requested for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Class Representative Service Payment.

7.7.2. Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail. In the alternative, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing. A Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator must do so not later than 60 days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed).

7.7.3. Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action components of the Settlement.

7.8. Administrator Duties. The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.

7.8.1. Website, Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish and maintain and use an internet website to post information of interest to Class Members including the date, time and location for the Final Approval Hearing and

1 copies of the Settlement Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the
2 Preliminary Approval Order, the Class Notice, the motion for final approval, the
3 Motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses
4 Payment and Class Representative Service Payment, the Final approval Order and
5 the Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address
6 and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes and emails.

7 7.8.2. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will
8 promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity.
9 Not later than 5 days after the expiration of the deadline for submitting Requests for
10 Exclusion, the Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel
11 containing (a) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who
12 have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion (“Exclusion List”); (b) the
13 names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted
14 invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from
15 Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid).

16 7.8.3. Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports
17 to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of:
18 Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for
19 Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, and challenges to
20 Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods received and/or resolved (“Weekly Report”).
21 The Weekly Reports must include provide the Administrator’s assessment of the
22 validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion
23 and objections received. In addition to the Weekly Reports, the Administrator shall
24 report to the Parties when it has completed the initial distribution of the Individual
25 Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments to all individuals with valid
26 addresses.

27 7.8.4. Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to
28 address and make decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class

1 Member challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods.
2 The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of
3 Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shall be final as to the Parties (although
4 Defendant shall retain the right to correct erroneous Class Data if subsequently
5 discovered), but a Class Member whose Workweek and/or Pay Period challenge is
6 rejected by the Administrator may present the same evidence supporting the
7 Workweek and/or Pay Period challenge to the Court for review.

8 7.8.5. Administrator's Declaration. Not later than 14 days before the date by which
9 Plaintiff is required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the
10 Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed
11 declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance
12 with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its
13 mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of
14 Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the total number of Requests for
15 Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the number of written
16 objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its
17 declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is
18 responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

19 7.8.6. Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within 10 days after the Administrator
20 disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide
21 Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements
22 by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement.
23 At least 15 days before any deadline set by the Court, the Administrator will prepare,
24 and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for
25 filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this
26 Agreement. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration
27 in Court.
28

1 **8. ESCALATOR CLAUSE**

2 Based on its records, Defendant estimates that, there are a total of 4,611 Workweeks during the Class
 3 Period. Should the total number of Workweeks worked by Participating Class Members during the
 4 Class Period increases by more than 10% (i.e., by more than 462 Workweeks), Defendant shall
 5 increase the Gross Settlement Amount on a pro-rata basis equal to the percentage increase in the
 6 number of Workweeks worked by Participating Class Members above 10%.

7 **9. DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW.**

8 If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List exceeds 5% of the
 9 total of all Class Members, Defendant may, but is not obligated to, withdraw from the Settlement.
 10 The Parties agree that, if Defendant withdraws, the Settlement shall be void ab initio, have no force
 11 or effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have any further obligation to perform under this
 12 Agreement; provided, however, Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Settlement
 13 administration expenses incurred to that point. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court
 14 of its election to withdraw not later than seven days after the Administrator sends the final Exclusion
 15 List to Defense Counsel; late elections will have no effect.

16 **10. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL.**

17 Not later than 16 court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff will file in
 18 Court, a motion for final approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA
 19 settlement under Labor Code § 2699(l), a Proposed final approval order and a proposed Judgment
 20 (collectively "Motion for Final Approval"). Plaintiff shall provide drafts of these documents to
 21 Defense Counsel not later than seven days prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class
 22 Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in
 23 good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

24 10.1. Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a
 25 Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no
 26 later than five court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or
 27 accepted by the Court.

28 10.2. Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final Approval

on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), the Parties will expeditiously work together in good faith to address the Court's concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain Final Approval. The Court's decision to award less than the amounts requested for the Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Administration Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.

10.3. Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

10.4. Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment reflected set forth in this Settlement, the Parties, their respective counsel, and all Participating Class Members who did not object to the Settlement as provided in this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to post-judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose such motions, writs or appeals. If an objector appeals the Judgment, the Parties' obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final.

10.5. Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain Final Approval and entry of Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any

1 additional Administration Expenses reasonably incurred after remittitur. An appellate
2 decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the Court's award of the Class Representative Service
3 Payment or any payments to Class Counsel shall not constitute a material modification of
4 the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, as long as the Gross Settlement Amount
5 remains unchanged.

6 **11. AMENDED JUDGMENT.**

7 If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil Procedure § 384, the Parties will work
8 together in good faith to jointly submit and a proposed amended judgment.

9 **12. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

10 12.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other
11 Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed
12 claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by
13 Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that
14 Defendant has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed
15 as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties
16 agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement
17 only. If, for any reason the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or
18 enter Judgment, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any
19 reasons, and Defendant reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and
20 Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to
21 contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and Parties' willingness to
22 settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any
23 litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this
24 Agreement).

25 12.2. Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant and
26 Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of
27 Settlement is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or
28 cause or permit another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the

Agreement directly or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Parties' attorneys, accountants, or spouses, all of whom will be instructed to keep this Agreement confidential; (2) counsel in a related matter; (3) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4) in response to a court order or subpoena; or (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal government agency. Each Party agrees to immediately notify each other Party of any judicial or agency order, inquiry, or subpoena seeking such information. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant and Defense Counsel separately agree not to, directly or indirectly, initiate any conversation or other communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, with any third party regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that "the matter was resolved," or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class Counsel's communications with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

12.3. No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees will not solicit any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Judgment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel's ability to communicate with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

12.4. Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.

12.5. Attorney Authorization. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.

12.6. Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the Settlement Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence and supplementing points and authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution.

12.7. No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.

12.8. No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

12.9. Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court.

12.10. Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.

12.11. Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.

12.12. Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

12.13. Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered during Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall

survive the execution of this Agreement.

12.14. Use and Return of Class Data. Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to Evidence Code § 1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendant in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court. Not later than 90 days after the date when the Court discharges the Administrator's obligation to provide a declaration confirming the final pay out of all Settlement funds, Plaintiff shall destroy, all paper and electronic versions of Class Data received from Defendant unless, prior to the Court's discharge of the Administrator's obligation, Defendant makes a written request to Class Counsel for the return, rather than the destructions, of Class Data.

12.15. Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.

12.16. Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to "days" in this Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.

12.17. Notice. All notices, demands or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff:

Kane Moon
 kmoon@moonlawgroup.com
 Lilit Ter-Astvatsatryan
 lilit@moonlawgroup.com
MOON LAW GROUP, PC
 725 S. Figueroa St., 31st Floor
 Los Angeles, California 90017
 Telephone: (213) 232-3128
 Facsimile: (213) 232-3125

To Defendant:

R. Steven Derryberry
Kimberly R. Rose-McCaslin
DERRYBERRY & ASSOCIATES LLP
41240 11th Street West, Suite A
Palmdale, California 93551
Telephone: (661) 945-6115
Facsimile: (661) 948-4772

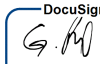
12.18 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e. DocuSign), or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

12.19 Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under Code of Civil Procedure § 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

[Signature Page Follows]

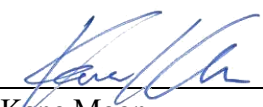
Plaintiff & Class Representative:

Dated: 3/14/2025

DocuSigned by:

By: 6123E1B5A84B45B...
Genaro Rodriguez Noriega

Plaintiff's Counsel:

Dated: 3/14/202

MOON LAW GROUP, PC
By: 
Kane Moon
Lilit Ter-Astvatsatryan
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Defendant:

Dated:

EL TOREO, INC.
By:
Rita Murillo, Chief Executive Officer

Defendant's Counsel:

Dated:

DERRYBERRY & ASSOCIATES LLP
By: _____
R. Steven Derryberry
Kimberly R. Rose-McCaslin
Attorneys for Defendant

1 **Plaintiff & Class Representative:**

2 Dated:

By: _____
Genaro Rodriguez Noriega

3
4 **Plaintiff's Counsel:**

5 Dated:

MOON LAW GROUP, PC

6 By: _____
7 Kane Moon
8 Lilit Ter-Astvalsatryan
9 Attorneys for Plaintiff

10 **Defendant:**

11 Dated: 5/8/2025

12 EL TOREO, INC.
13 By: 
14 Rita Murillo, Chief Executive Officer

15 **Defendant's Counsel:**

16 Dated: 5/8/2025

17 **DERRYBERRY & ASSOCIATES LLP**
18 By: 
19 R. Steven Derryberry
20 Kimberly R. Rose-McCaslin
21 Attorneys for Defendant
22
23
24
25
26
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