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HORIZON SERVICES, INCORPORATED

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

MARHAWIT MELLES, individually, and on
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

HORIZON SERVICES, INCORPORATED, a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 23CV046524

*[Assigned for All Purposes To Hon. Somnath
Raj Chatterjee, Dept. 21]*

**AMENDED CLASS ACTION AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

1 This Amended Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by
2 and between Plaintiffs Marhawit Melles and John Rodrigues (“Plaintiffs”) and Defendant
3 Horizon Services, Incorporated (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiffs and Defendant
4 collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

5 1. **DEFINITIONS.**

6 1.1 “Action” means Plaintiffs’ lawsuit alleging class and representative action wage and
7 hour violations against Defendant captioned *Marhawit Melles v. Horizon Services, Incorporated*,
8 Case No. 23CV046524, filed on October 4, 2023 in Alameda County Superior Court.

9 1.2 “Administrator” means Apex Class Action Administration, the neutral entity the Parties
10 have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.

11 1.3 “Administration Costs” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross
12 Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the
13 Administrator’s “not to exceed” bid submitted to the Court in connection with Preliminary
14 Approval of the Settlement.

15 1.4 “Aggrieved Employee” means all persons who worked for Defendant in California as an
16 hourly-paid or non-exempt employee at any time during the PAGA Period.

17 1.5 “Class” means all persons who worked for Defendant in California as an hourly-paid or
18 non-exempt employee at any time during the Class Period.

19 1.6 “Class Counsel” means John G. Yslas, Diego Aviles, Harry Erganyan, and Mariam
20 Nazaretyan of Wilshire Law Firm, PLC.

21 1.7 “Class Counsel Fees Payment” means an award of attorneys’ fees granted to Class
22 Counsel and paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Parties have agreed Plaintiffs will
23 request approval from the Court of up to one-third (1/3) of the GSA (currently Two Hundred
24 Forty-Three Thousand One Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$243,100.00)).

25 1.8 “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” means the amount allocated to Class
26 Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable expenses and costs incurred to prosecute the Action,
27 not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$25,000.00) and paid from the
28 Gross Settlement Amount.

1.9 “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 Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.

1.10 “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).

1.11 “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 database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Class Members.

1.12 “Class Notice” means the Court approved Notice of Settlement and hearing date for Final Approval, to be mailed to Class Members in English with a Spanish translation in the form, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.13 “Class Period” or “Class Settlement Period” means the period from April 9, 2019, through February 7, 2026 (“Settlement Class Period”).

1.14 “Class Representative” means the named Plaintiffs Marhawit Melles and John Rodrigues in the Action.

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

1.16 “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

1.17 “Defendant” means named Defendant Horizon Services, Incorporated.

1.18 “Defense Counsel” means Alexander Medina and Eric Lloyd of Medina McKelvey LLP.

1.19 “Effective Date” means the date by which 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 (c) if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

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

1.21 “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.22 “Final Judgment” means the Judgment entered by the Court upon granting Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.23 “Gross Settlement Amount” or “GSA” means Seven Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$729,300.00), which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement, except as provided in Paragraph 8 below.

1.24 “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Member’s pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period.

1.25 “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.

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

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

1.28 “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

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

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1.30 “Non-Participating Class Member” means any Class Member who opts out of the Settlement by sending the Administrator a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.

1.31 “Operative Complaint” means the operative Third Amended Class Action and Representative Complaint filed on July 20, 2026 in the Action.

1.32 “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.

1.33 “PAGA Period” means the period from January 11, 2023, through February 7, 2026.

1.34 “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).

1.35 “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiffs’ January 11, 2024 and April 8, 2026 letters to the LWDA and Defendant providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).

1.36 “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of \$50,000.00 in PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% (\$12,500.00) to the Aggrieved Employees and 75% (\$37,500.00) to the LWDA in settlement of PAGA claims.

1.37 “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.

1.38 “Plaintiffs” means Marhawit Melles and John Rodrigues, the named plaintiffs in the Action.

1.39 “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.

1.40 “Released Class Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2 below.

1.41 “Released PAGA Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.3 below.

1.42 “Released Parties” means Defendant, and any of its past and present owners, agents, officers, directors, employees, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors and assigns.

1.43 “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.

1.44 "Response Deadline" means forty-five (45) 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 Settlement, or (b) fax, email, or mail his or her Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional fourteen (14) calendar days beyond the Response Deadline has expired.

1.45 "Settlement" means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.46 "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 October 4, 2023, Kedo Jacob filed a Class Action Complaint alleging causes of action against Defendant for (1) Failure to Pay Minimum and Straight Time Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages; (3) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; (4) Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods; (5) Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination; (6) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements; (7) Failure to Indemnify Employees for Expenditures; (8) Failure to Produce Requested Employment Records; and (9) Unfair Business Practices.

2.2 On January 17, 2024, Kedo Jacob filed a first amended complaint adding Plaintiff Marhawit Melles as a named plaintiff. Thereafter, on February 16, 2024, Kedo Jacob was dismissed as a named plaintiff, without prejudice.

2.3 On January 11, 2024 and April 8, 2026, pursuant to Labor Code §2699.3, subd.(a), Plaintiffs gave notice to the LWDA and Defendant that Plaintiffs intended to proceed with a representative action under PAGA (LWDA-CM-1004504-24). On December 22, 2025, after the 65-day statutory period passed, Plaintiff Marhawit Melles filed a second amended complaint adding an additional claim for penalties pursuant to Labor Code § 2699, *et seq.*

2.4 Plaintiff Marhawit Melles filed the Operative Complaint on July 20, 2026 adding Plaintiff John Rodrigues as a named plaintiff.

1 2.5 Defendant denies the allegations in the Action, denies any failure to comply with the
2 laws identified in the Action, and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged in
3 the Action.

4 2.6 On March 23, 2026, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by
5 mediator Hon. Mitchel R. Goldberg (Ret.). The Parties accepted a mediator's proposal on April
6 10, 2026 and agreed on general settlement terms. The Parties memorialized their agreement in a
7 Memorandum of Understanding on June 23, 2026.

8 2.7 Class Counsel has conducted a thorough investigation into the facts of, and applicable
9 law to, the Action. Plaintiff obtained and analyzed a representative sampling of time and payroll
10 data for Class Members and the necessary policy documents through informal discovery to
11 properly evaluate the strengths and weakness of the claims. Plaintiff's investigation was sufficient
12 to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.*, 48 Cal.App.4th 1794,
13 1801 (1996) and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.*, 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 (2008)
14 ("*Dunk/Kullar*").

15 2.8 The Court has not granted class certification because the Parties engaged in mediation
16 before any class certification.

17 3. **MONETARY TERMS.**

18 3.1 Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below,
19 Defendant will pay Seven Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Dollars and Zero
20 Cents (\$729,300.00) to fully settle, resolve, and extinguish all claims asserted in the Action,
21 including without limitation all claims asserted in the PAGA Notice. The Gross Settlement
22 Amount is non-reversionary and does not include employer payroll taxes owed on the wage
23 portions of the Individual Class Payments, which Defendant will pay separately.

24 3.2 Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct
25 the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court
26 in the Final Approval:

27 3.2.1 To Plaintiffs: A payment for the Class Representative Service Payment of up to Ten
28 Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$10,000.00) for Plaintiff Marhawit Melles and Seven

1 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$7,500.00) for Plaintiff John Rodrigues in
2 addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class
3 Representatives are entitled to receive as Participating Class Members. Defendant will not oppose
4 Plaintiffs' request for a Class Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount.
5 As part of the motion for the Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Expenses Payments, Plaintiffs
6 will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Service Payments no later than sixteen (16)
7 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court. If the Court
8 approves a Class Representative Service Payments less than the amount requested, the
9 Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount to be distributed to
10 Participating Class Members. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service
11 Payments using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiffs assume full responsibility and liability for employee
12 taxes owed on the Class Representative Service Payments.

13 3.2.2 To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than one-third of the
14 Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be Two Hundred Forty-Three
15 Thousand One Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$243,100.00) and a Class Counsel Litigation
16 Expenses Payment for actual costs, not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents
17 (\$25,000.00). Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments. Plaintiffs and/or Class
18 Counsel will file a motion for Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Expenses Payment no later than
19 sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court.
20 If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses
21 Payment less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net
22 Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members. Released Parties shall have
23 no liability to Class Counsel or any other Plaintiffs' counsel arising from any claim to any portion
24 of Class Counsel Fee Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The
25 Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Expenses Payment
26 using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full responsibility and liability for
27 taxes owed on the Class Counsel Fees Payment and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses
28

1 Payment and holds Defendant harmless, and indemnifies Defendant, from any dispute or
2 controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these Payments.

3 3.2.3 To the Administrator: An Administrator Costs Payment not to exceed Nine
4 Thousand One Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$9,100.00) except for a showing of good cause
5 and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Costs are less or the Court
6 approves payment of less than \$9,100.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net
7 Settlement Amount to be distributed to Participating Class Members.

8 3.2.4 To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment is calculated by
9 (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all
10 Participating Class Members during the Class Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each
11 individual Participating Class Member's Workweeks.

12 3.2.4.1 Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. Twenty percent (20%) of
13 each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the Settlement
14 of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portion is subject to tax withholding and will be
15 reported on an IRS W-2 Form. The remaining eighty percent (80%) of each Participating Class
16 Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the settlement of claims for interest,
17 reimbursement, and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject
18 to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members
19 assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class
20 Payment.

21 3.2.4.2 Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual
22 Class Payments. Non-Participating Class Members will not receive any Individual Class
23 Payments. The Administrator will retain amounts equal to their Individual Class Payments in the
24 Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a pro-rata basis.

25 3.2.5 To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of Fifty
26 Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$50,000.00) to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount,
27 with 75% (\$37,500.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$12,500.00) allocated
28 to the Individual PAGA Payments.

1 3.2.5.1 The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a)
2 dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties of \$12,500.00
3 by the total number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the
4 PAGA Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each individual Aggrieved Employee's PAGA
5 Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on
6 their Individual PAGA Payment.

7 3.2.5.2 If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested,
8 the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount to be distributed to
9 Participating Class Members. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on
10 IRS 1099 Forms.

11 **4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.**

12 4.1 Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. Based on a review of its
13 records, Defendant estimates there are 614 Class Members who collectively worked a total of
14 approximately 33,150 workweeks between April 9, 2019 and March 23, 2026, and 407 Aggrieved
15 Employees who worked a total of approximately 8,590 PAGA Pay Periods through March 23,
16 2026.

17 4.2 Class Data. Not later than fourteen (14) days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval
18 of the Settlement, Defendant will deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a
19 Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must
20 maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement
21 and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who
22 need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendant has a
23 continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted
24 class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as
25 reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant must send the
26 Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts,
27 in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class
28 Data.

1 4.3 Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement
2 Amount and the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by transmitting
3 the funds to the Administrator no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date.

4 4.4 Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within ten (10) days after Defendant fully
5 funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class
6 Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Costs
7 Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and
8 the Class Representative Service Payment. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the
9 Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment shall
10 not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.

11 4.4.1 The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or
12 Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members via First Class U.S. Mail. The
13 face of each check shall prominently state the date (120 days after the date of mailing) when the
14 check will be voided ("Void Date"). The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the
15 Void Date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Settlement Payments to all
16 Participating Class Members (including those for whom the Class Notice was returned
17 undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all
18 Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved
19 Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator
20 may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment
21 and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator
22 must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

23 4.4.2 The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class
24 Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding address. Within seven
25 (7) days of receiving a returned check, the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS
26 forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address
27 Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Class Members whose
28 re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a

1 replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested
2 by the Class Member prior to the Void Date.

3 4.4.3 For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA
4 Payment check is uncashed and canceled after the Void Date, the Administrator shall transmit the
5 funds represented by such checks to a Court approved nonprofit organization or foundation, Legal
6 Aid at Work (“*Cy Pres* Recipient”), thereby leaving no “unpaid residue” subject to the
7 requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b). The Parties, Class
8 Counsel, and Defense Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or
9 otherwise, with the intended *Cy Pres* Recipient.

10 4.4.4 The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall
11 not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class
12 Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.

13 5. **RELEASES OF CLAIMS.** Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the Gross
14 Settlement Amount and all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual
15 Class Payments, Plaintiffs, Class Members, and Class Counsel will release claims against all
16 Released Parties as follows:

17 5.1 **Plaintiffs’ Release.** Plaintiffs discharge Released Parties from all claims,
18 transactions, or occurrences, that occurred during the Class Period, including all claims that were,
19 or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained in the Operative Complaint;
20 and claims under the Fair Employment and Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Title
21 VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the California Labor Code, and all equivalent claims under
22 federal law (“Plaintiffs’ Release”). Notwithstanding the General Release described herein and
23 incorporated by reference to Plaintiffs’ Release, the Parties expressly agree to exclude from this
24 General Release all claims or actions associated with Plaintiff John Rodrigues’ individual
25 wrongful termination claims. Plaintiffs’ Release also does not extend to any claims or actions to
26 enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability
27 benefits, social security benefits, workers’ compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based
28 on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiffs acknowledge that Plaintiffs may discover facts

1 or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiffs now know or believe to be
2 true but agrees, nonetheless, that Plaintiffs' Release shall be and remain effective in all respects,
3 notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiffs' discovery of them.

4 5.1.1 Plaintiffs' Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542. For
5 purposes of Plaintiffs' Release, Plaintiffs expressly waive and relinquish the provisions, rights,
6 and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

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

11 5.2 Released Class Claims: All Participating Class Members will release all claims, rights,
12 demands, liabilities, and causes of action, alleged or which could have reasonably been alleged
13 based on the facts alleged in the operative Complaint, including but not limited to: (1) failure to
14 pay minimum and straight time wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, and
15 1197); (2) failure to pay overtime wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1198); (3)
16 failure to provide meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512); (4) failure to
17 authorize and permit rest periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7); (5) failure to timely
18 pay final wages at termination (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 201-203); (6) failure to provide
19 accurate itemized wage statements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226); (7) failure to indemnify
20 employees for expenditures (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 2802); (8) failure to produce
21 requested employment records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226 and 1198.5); and (9) unfair
22 business practices (pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*). The enumeration of
23 these specific claims shall neither enlarge nor narrow the scope of *res judicata* based on the claims
24 that were asserted in the Action or could have been asserted in the Action based on the facts and
25 circumstances alleged in the Operative Complaint. The Released Class Claims are those that
26 accrued during the Class Period.

27 5.3 Released PAGA Claims: Plaintiffs, as a proxy or agent of the LWDA, release all claims
28 for PAGA civil penalties that could have been sought by the LWDA for the violations alleged in

1 Plaintiffs' January 11, 2024 and April 8, 2026 PAGA Notices, including but not limited to: (1)
2 failure to pay for all hours worked, including minimum wages, straight time wages, and overtime
3 wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 510, 1194, 1197 and 1198); (2) failure to provide
4 meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226.7); (3) failure to authorize and permit rest
5 periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226.7); (4) failure to pay all earned wages twice per month
6 (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 204); (5) failure to maintain accurate records of hours worked and
7 meal periods taken or missed (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 1174.5); (6) failure to timely pay
8 final wages at termination (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 201 – 203); (7) failure to provide
9 accurate itemized wage statements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226); (8) failure to indemnify
10 employees for expenditures (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 2802); (9) failure to produce requested
11 employment records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 432, and 1198.5); (10) failure to keep
12 accurate and complete payroll records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 1174); (11) failures to
13 provide proper sick leave and supplemental paid sick leave (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 245-
14 248.5); (12) refusal to pay wages due and payable and/or denial at times of the validity of any
15 claim to wages due (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 216); (13) secretly paying wages lower than
16 required by statute while purporting to pay legal wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 223); (14)
17 failure to pay vested vacation and/or paid time off (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 227.3); (15)
18 failure to provide suitable seating (pursuant to section 14(A-B) of all applicable IWC Wage
19 Orders); (16) unlawful agreements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 432.5); (17) failure to timely
20 provide temporary workers with wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 201.3); (18) preventing
21 employees from using or disclosing the skills, knowledge and experience they obtained at
22 Defendant, and whistleblower violations (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 98.6, 232, 232.5,
23 1102.5, and 1197.5); (19) unlawful inquiries into criminal histories (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code
24 § 432.7); and (20) workplace health and safety violations (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 1527,
25 3366, 3457, 8397.4, 6401, and 6401). The Released PAGA Claims are those that accrued during
26 the PAGA Period.

27 6. **MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL**. Plaintiffs will prepare and file a motion
28 for preliminary approval ("Motion for Preliminary Approval").

1 6.1 Plaintiffs' Responsibilities. Plaintiffs will prepare all documents necessary for obtaining
2 Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the
3 Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar*
4 and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2));
5 (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement;
6 (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from Plaintiffs confirming willingness
7 and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of
8 interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator; (v) a signed declaration from Class
9 Counsel's firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission
10 to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section
11 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement
12 (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)); and (vi) all facts relevant to any actual or potential
13 conflict of interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator.

14 6.2 Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible
15 for expeditiously finalizing the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel will obtain a
16 prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval, file the Motion for Preliminary
17 Approval no later than sixteen (16) court days before the hearing, unless otherwise ordered by the
18 Court, and deliver the Court's Preliminary Approval Order to the Administrator.

19 6.3 Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for
20 Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and
21 Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person
22 or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant
23 Preliminary Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this
24 Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of
25 the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and
26 otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

27 7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

1 7.1 Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected Apex Class Action
2 Administration to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, the
3 Administrator agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties
4 specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Costs. The Parties and
5 their Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the
6 Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering
7 settlements.

8 7.2 Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own
9 Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and
10 providing reports to state and federal tax authorities.

11 7.3 Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that
12 meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund (“QSF”) under US Treasury Regulation
13 section 468B-1 for the funding of the GSA. Any interest that accrues on the GSA sums paid into
14 the QSF prior to distribution by the Administrator will become part of the NSA for distribution
15 to Participating Class Members.

16 7.4 Notice to Class Members.

17 7.4.1 No later than five (5) calendar days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator
18 shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members,
19 Aggrieved Employees, Workweeks, and Pay Periods in the Class Data.

20 7.4.2 Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14
21 (fourteen) days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members
22 identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service (“USPS”) mail, the Class
23 Notice with Spanish translation substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit
24 A. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any
25 Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, and
26 the number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods used to calculate these amounts. Before
27 mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the National
28 Change of Address database.

1 7.4.3 Not later than five (5) calendar days after the Administrator's receipt of any Class
2 Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice
3 using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding
4 address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class
5 Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further
6 attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the
7 USPS a second time.

8 7.4.4 The deadlines for Class Members' written objections, challenges to Workweeks
9 and/or Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional fourteen days (14)
10 days beyond the forty-five (45) days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members
11 whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended
12 deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

13 7.4.5 If the Administrator, Defendant, or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise
14 discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should
15 have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by
16 telephone, and in good faith in an effort to agree on whether to include them as Class Members.
17 If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class
18 Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice
19 requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than fourteen (14) days after
20 receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever are later.

21 7.5 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

22 7.5.1 Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement
23 must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not
24 later than forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional
25 fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion
26 is a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class
27 Member's election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name,
28

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 to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. If the Administrator has reason to question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's determination of authenticity shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

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

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

7.6 Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email or mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting

documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled 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 Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to the calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the Administrator's determination of 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 forty-five (45) days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (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, 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 copies of the Settlement Agreement; Motion for Preliminary Approval; Preliminary Approval Order; Class Notice; Motion for Final Approval; Motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and Class Representative Service Payment; the Final Approval Order; and the

Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes and emails.

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

7.8.3 Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Workweeks and/or Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments (“Weekly Report”). The Weekly Reports must include the Administrator’s assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received.

7.8.4 Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class Member challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods. The Administrator’s decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

7.8.5 Administrator’s Declaration. Not later than fourteen (14) days before the date by which Plaintiffs are required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the

total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

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

8. **CLASS SIZE ESTIMATES and ESCALATOR CLAUSE.** Based on its records, Defendant previously represented that there were 614 Class Members who collectively worked a total of approximately 33,150 Workweeks between April 9, 2019 and March 23, 2026, and 407 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 8,590 PAGA Pay between January 11, 2023 and March 23, 2026. Defendant now represents, based on Defendant's subsequent review and analysis of updated data, that as of February 7, 2026, Class Members collectively worked a total of 36,369 Workweeks. Pursuant to the escalator provision, Defendant has elected to end the Class Period and PAGA Period on February 7, 2026, such that the number of covered Workweeks does not exceed 36,465 Workweeks. Accordingly, the Class Period shall be April 9, 2019, through February 7, 2026, and the PAGA Period shall be January 11, 2023, through February 7, 2026. The Gross Settlement Amount shall remain \$729,300.00. If, on final calculation, the total number of Workweeks is greater than 10% higher than 33,150 Workweeks (i.e. greater than 36,465 Workweeks), then the Gross Settlement Amount will be proportionally increased by the Workweeks worked in excess of 36,465 by multiplying the excess Workweeks by the per Workweek value. If this provision is triggered so as to increase the Gross Settlement Amount, the Parties agree that the portion of the Gross Settlement Amount allocated to attorneys' fees will

increase proportionally such that the total amount of attorneys' fees remains one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount after the upward adjustment required by this provision is implemented.

9. **DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW.** Defendant represents, as of the date of this Settlement Agreement, there are approximately 614 Class Members. If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List is greater than 10%, Defendant may, but is not obligated, to elect to withdraw from the Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendant withdraws, the Settlement shall be *void ab initio*, have no force or effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however, Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Settlement Administration Costs incurred to that point, including costs for any corrective notices the Court orders notifying Class Members of Defendant's withdrawal from the settlement. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than seven (7) days after the Administrator sends the final Exclusion List to Defense Counsel; late elections will have no effect.

10. **MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL.** Not later than sixteen (16) court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, unless otherwise scheduled by the Court, Plaintiffs will file in Court, a Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l); a Proposed Final Approval Order; and a proposed Judgment (collectively "Motion for Final Approval"). Plaintiffs shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

10.1 **Response to Objections.** Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later than five (5) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the Court.

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

1 faith to address the Court's concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain Final
2 Approval. The Court's decision to award less than the amounts requested for the Class
3 Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation
4 Expenses Payment, and/or Administrator Costs Payment shall not constitute a material
5 modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.

6 10.3 Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the
7 Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, the Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes
8 of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration
9 matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

10 10.4 Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and
11 conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class
12 Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment as set forth in this Settlement, the Parties, their respective
13 counsel, and all Participating Class Members who did not object to the Settlement as provided in
14 this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to post-
15 judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new
16 trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the
17 right to oppose such motions, writs or appeals. If an objector appeals the Judgment, the Parties'
18 obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is
19 finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final, except as to matters that do not affect the amount
20 of the Net Settlement Amount.

21 10.5 Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the
22 reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material
23 modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted
24 by Class Members), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless
25 expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain
26 Final Approval and Entry of Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration
27 Costs reasonably incurred after remittitur. An appellate decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the
28 Court's award of the Class Representative Service Payment or any payments to Class Counsel

1 shall not constitute a material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph,
2 as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.

3 11. **AMENDED JUDGMENT.** If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil
4 Procedure §384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit a proposed amended
5 judgment.

6 12. **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

7 12.1 No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for
8 Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed
9 claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by
10 Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint has merit or that Defendant has
11 any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by
12 Plaintiffs that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class
13 certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any
14 reason, the Court does grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval, or enter Judgment, Defendant
15 reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reason, Defendant reserves all
16 available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiffs reserve the right to move for class
17 certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this
18 Agreement and Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be
19 admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the
20 Settlement and this Agreement).

21 12.2 Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant, and
22 Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement
23 is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or cause or permit
24 another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the Agreement directly
25 or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government
26 agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Parties' attorneys, accountants, or spouses, all of whom
27 will be instructed to keep this Agreement confidential; (2) counsel in a related matter; (3) to the
28 extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4) in response to a court order

1 or subpoena; or (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal government
2 agency. Each Party agrees to immediately notify the other Party of any judicial or agency order,
3 inquiry, or subpoena seeking such information. Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendant, and Defense
4 Counsel separately agree not to, directly or indirectly, initiate any conversation or other
5 communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, with any third party
6 regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that
7 “the matter was resolved,” or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class Counsel’s
8 communications with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations
9 owed to Class Members.

10 12.3 No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and
11 employees will not solicit any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal
12 from the Judgment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel’s ability
13 to communicate with Class Members in accordance with Defense Counsel’s and Class Counsel’s
14 ethical obligations and Class Counsel’s fiduciary duties owed to Class Members.

15 12.4 Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement
16 together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties
17 relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or
18 inducements made to or by any Party.

19 12.5 Attorney Authorization. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and
20 represent that they are authorized by Plaintiffs and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate
21 action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate
22 its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this
23 Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.

24 12.6 Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their
25 best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the
26 Settlement Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence and supplementing points and
27 authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form
28 or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the

1 Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the
2 assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution.

3 12.7 No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not
4 directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or
5 encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of
6 action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.

7 12.8 No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are
8 providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied
9 upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR
10 Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

11 12.9 Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended,
12 modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their
13 representatives, and approved by the Court.

14 12.10 Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure
15 to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.

16 12.11 Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be
17 governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without
18 regard to conflict of law principles.

19 12.12 Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation
20 of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the
21 Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

22 12.13 Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders
23 entered during Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall
24 survive the execution of this Agreement.

25 12.14 Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is
26 inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.

27 12.15 Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to “days” in this Agreement
28 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.

12.16 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 Plaintiffs:

John G. Yslas
john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com
Diego Aviles
diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com
Harry Erganyan
harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com
Mariam Nazaretyan
mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com
WILSHIRE LAW FIRM
660 S. Figueroa St., Sky Lobby
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: (213) 381-9988
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

To Defendant:

Alexander Medina
alex@medinamckelvey.com
Eric Lloyd
eric@medinamckelvey.com
MEDINA McKELVEY LLP
925 Highland Pointe Drive, Suite 300
Roseville, California 95678
Telephone: (916) 960-2211
Facsimile: (916) 742-5488

12.17 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e. DocuSign), or by 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.

12.18 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 pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

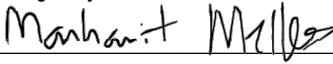
12.19 Binding Agreement. The Parties intend that this Agreement shall be fully enforceable and binding upon all Parties within the provisions of Cal. Civil Proc. § 664.6, and that it shall be admissible and subject to disclosure in any proceeding to enforce its terms pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code §§ 1122(a)(1) and 1123(b), notwithstanding the confidentiality provisions that otherwise might apply under federal or state law. The Parties further agree and intend that the Alameda County Superior Court may enforce this Agreement pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6. If an action or proceeding is brought to enforce this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to their reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

IT IS SO AGREED.

By the Parties:

DATED: 9/14/2026

Signed by:

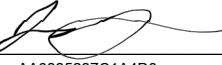


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Plaintiff Marhawit Melles

DATED: 9/14/2026

Signed by:



AA0335237C1A4D0...

Plaintiff John Rodrigues

DATED: 9/15/2026

Signed by:



0B7F140250BB462...

Defendant Horizon Services, Incorporated

By: Jaime Campos

Position: CEO

1 Approved by counsel as to form:

2 DATED: 9/14/2026

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM

3
4
5 By: 

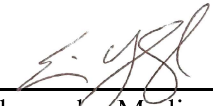
John G. Yslas

Diego Aviles

6
7 Counsel for Plaintiffs Marhawit Melles and John
Rodrigues

8 DATED: September 15, 2026

MEDINA McKELVEY LLP

9
10
11 By: 

Alexander Medina

Eric Lloyd

12
13 Counsel for Defendant Horizon Services, Incorporated

EXHIBIT A

**COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AND
HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL**

Melles, et al. v. Horizon Services, Incorporated
Case No. 23CV046524 (Alameda County Superior Court)

***The Alameda County Superior Court authorized this notice.
It is not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer.
Please read it carefully! You are not being sued.***

You may be eligible to receive money from an employee class and a representative action lawsuit (“Action”) against Horizon Services, Incorporated (“Defendant”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by former employees Marhawit Melles and John Rodrigues (“Plaintiffs”), and seeks payment of back wages and other relief for a class of all persons currently or formerly employed by Defendant as hourly-paid, non-exempt employees in the State of California (“Class Members”) who worked for Defendant during the Class Period (April 9, 2019, through February 7, 2026); and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all Class Members who worked for Defendant during the PAGA Period (January 11, 2023, through February 7, 2026) (“Aggrieved Employees”)

The proposed Settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class settlement requiring Defendant to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA settlement requiring Defendant to fund Individual PAGA Payments and pay PAGA Penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

Based on Defendant’s records, and the Parties’ current assumptions, **your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$ [REDACTED] (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ [REDACTED]**. The actual amount you may receive likely will be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendant’s records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you didn’t work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Defendant’s records showing that **you worked [REDACTED] Workweeks during the Class Period and you worked [REDACTED] Pay Periods during the PAGA Period**. If you believe that you worked more during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval of the Settlement. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. You will be deemed to have read and understood it. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the Settlement and how much of the Settlement will be paid to Plaintiff and Plaintiff’s attorneys (“Class Counsel”). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Defendant to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendant.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT	
DO NOTHING	Receive money. Give up rights to sue Defendant for claims released in the Settlement.
EXCLUDE YOURSELF	Receive no money from the Class settlement. You will retain the right to pursue your own legal claims against Defendant. However, even if you exclude yourself from the Class settlement, you will still receive a portion of the PAGA settlement and be bound by it if you worked during the PAGA Period.
OBJECT	Write to the Court about why you object to the Settlement. If the Settlement receives Final Approval, you will receive money and give up rights to sue Defendant for claims released in the Settlement.
CHALLENGE YOUR NUMBER OF WORKWEEKS AND/OR PAY PERIODS	Challenge your number of Workweeks or Pay Periods listed in this Notice and provide supporting evidence. If you challenge your workweeks or pay periods, you will still be part of the Settlement and will give up rights to sue Defendant for claims released in the Settlement.

BASIC INFORMATION

1. WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

Defendant’s records indicate that you worked for Defendant at some point(s) between April 9, 2019, through February 7, 2026, and are therefore a member of the Class for purposes of this Settlement.

You received this Notice because you have a right to know about a proposed Settlement of the Action, and about all of your options, before the Court decides whether to finally approve the Settlement. The Settlement will resolve all Class Members’ claims, which are described below, during the Class Period. The Settlement will also resolve claims for civil penalties brought under the California Private Attorneys’ General Act (“PAGA”). If you are a Class Member, you may also an “Aggrieved Employee” if you worked for Defendant during the “PAGA Period,” which is January 11, 2023, through February 7, 2026.

If the Court grants Final Approval to the Settlement, a settlement Administrator appointed by the Court will issue the payments provided for by the Settlement to Class Members. You are encouraged to always keep your address up to date with the Administrator (the Administrator’s contact information can be found in Section 12, below).

This Notice package explains the allegations and background regarding the lawsuit, the Settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, who is eligible for them, and how to receive those benefits.

The Court in charge of the Action is the Alameda County Superior Court, and the case is titled *Melles, et al. v. Horizon Services, Incorporated*, Case No. 23CV046524. The persons who sued, Marhawit Melles and John Rodrigues, are the Plaintiffs, and the company sued, Horizon Services, Incorporated, is the Defendant.

2. WHAT IS THE LAWSUIT ABOUT?

The Plaintiffs in the lawsuit allege wage and hour violations against Defendant for: (1) Failure to Pay Minimum and Straight Time Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages; (3) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; (4) Failure to Authorize and Permit Rest Periods; (5) Failure to Timely Pay Final Wages at Termination; (6) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements; (7) Failure to Indemnify Employees for Expenditures; (8) Failure to Produce Requested Employment Records; and (9) Unfair Business Practices. In addition, Plaintiffs are seeking to recover civil penalties pursuant to PAGA (“PAGA Penalties”) based on the alleged violations of the California Labor Code listed above. Defendant denies Plaintiffs’ claims and denies any wrongdoing.

3. WHY IS THIS A CLASS ACTION?

In an employment class action, one or more people called “Class Representatives” (in this case, the Plaintiffs) sue on behalf of all workers who they contend have similar claims. All of these workers are a Class or Class Members. Bringing one lawsuit, as opposed to many small ones, saves money, time and court resources. The court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the Class.

4. WHY IS THERE A SETTLEMENT?

The Court has not decided in favor of the Plaintiffs or Defendant on the merits of the claims alleged in the lawsuit. Plaintiffs believe they would win at trial. Defendant thinks that Plaintiffs’ lawsuit would not proceed to a trial and/or that Plaintiffs would not win at trial. However, there has been no trial. Instead, in acknowledgment of the risk that both Parties face should the case proceed, the Parties have agreed to a negotiated settlement. This way, all Parties avoid the cost of preparing for and conducting a trial, the risk of losing the right to a trial, and the workers affected by the alleged violations receive compensation. The Settlement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. The Plaintiffs, as well as Plaintiffs’ lawyers (called “Class Counsel”), believes the Settlement is fair and reasonable and in the best interests of all Class Members.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT?

5. WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT?

If you received this Notice, you are a Class Member for settlement purposes. The Class includes: All employees of Defendant who were classified as non-exempt, hourly paid employees who worked within the State of California at any time from April 9, 2019, through February 7, 2026.

6. ARE THERE EXCEPTIONS TO BEING INCLUDED?

You are not a Class Member if you already have resolved the claims asserted in this lawsuit, whether by settlement or a separate legal proceeding (i.e., another lawsuit).

THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT YOU GET

7. WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

Defendant has agreed to pay a Gross Settlement Amount (“GSA”) of \$729,300.00 (Seven Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents) to settle the lawsuit. From the GSA, Class Counsel will apply to the Court for attorneys’ fees of up to one third (1/3) of the GSA (currently \$243,100.00) and up to \$25,000.00 in costs; a Class Representative Service Payment of \$10,000.00 to Plaintiff Marhawit Melles and \$7,500.00 for Plaintiff John Rodrigues (for Plaintiffs’ work and efforts prosecuting this case); a PAGA Penalties payment of \$50,000.00 to resolve the PAGA claims; and Settlement Administration Costs to Apex Class Action Administration, not to exceed \$9,100.00. The exact amount of the Class Counsel’s Fees and Litigation Expenses, Class Representative Service Payments, and Administration Costs will be determined by the Court at the Final Approval hearing. The remaining portion of the Settlement amount, the “Net Settlement Amount” or the “NSA,” is currently estimated to be approximately **\$XXXXXXXX**. The NSA will be apportioned and paid out as Individual Class Payments to the Settlement Class Members, who are the Class Members that do not request to be excluded (“opt out”) of the Settlement.

PAGA Penalties payment: As part of the PAGA portion of the Settlement, the Parties will ask the Court to approve a \$50,000.00 PAGA Penalties payment in settlement of claims for civil penalties under PAGA. As required under PAGA, 75% of the PAGA Penalties payment, or \$37,500.00, will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. The remaining 25% of the PAGA Penalties payment, or \$12,500.00, will be distributed to the Aggrieved Employees as Individual PAGA Payments.

8. HOW MUCH WILL MY PAYMENT BE?

An approximation of your Individual Class Payment appears on the first page of this Notice. If you are also an Aggrieved Employee, an approximation of your Individual PAGA Payment will also appear on the first page of this Notice.

Individual Class Payment: Your Individual Class Payment is based on the number Workweeks you worked, as represented in Defendant’s records, in comparison to the total number of Workweeks worked by all Class Members during the Class Period (April 9, 2019, through February 7, 2026). Eighty percent (80%) of each Class Member’s Individual Class Payment will be treated as a payment in settlement of the alleged claims for penalties and interest and will be reported on a Form 1099 by the Settlement Administrator, and twenty percent (20%) of each Class Member’s Individual Class Payment will be treated as a payment in settlement of alleged claims for unpaid wages. The 20% allocated as unpaid wages will be reduced by applicable payroll tax withholdings and deductions and reported on a Form W-2.

Individual PAGA Payment: If you worked for Defendant from January 11, 2023, through February 7, 2026 (“PAGA Period”), you are also an “Aggrieved Employee” and will receive an Individual PAGA Payment in addition to your Individual Class Payment. The Individual PAGA Payments are based on the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by each Aggrieved Employee in comparison to the total amount of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period. One hundred percent (100%) of each Aggrieved Employees’ Individual PAGA Payment will be characterized as penalties and will not be reduced by payroll tax withholdings and deductions. The Individual PAGA Payment will be

reported on a Form 1099 by the Settlement Administrator. An approximation of your anticipated Individual PAGA Payment appears on the first page of this Notice.

For the Class Members who are also Aggrieved Employees, their Individual Class Payment will be combined with their Individual PAGA Payment, and they will receive a single check for the combined payments. If a Class Member chooses to opt-out of the Settlement, they will still receive an Individual PAGA Payment, as Aggrieved Employees cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement under California law.

HOW YOU GET A PAYMENT

9. HOW DO I RECEIVE A PAYMENT?

You do not need to do anything to receive a payment. However, if you believe that the number of Workweeks or PAGA Pay Periods you worked is incorrect, please correct it and provide any supporting evidence to the settlement Administrator, whose contact information is listed in Section 12 below.

10. WHEN WOULD I GET MY PAYMENT?

The Court will hold a Final Fairness Hearing on [REDACTED], to decide whether to approve the Settlement. If the Judge approves the Settlement, and anyone objects, there may be appeals. It is always uncertain when these objections and appeals can be resolved and resolving them can take time. If there is no objection, the Effective Date of the Settlement will be the date of entry of the Court's Order granting final approval.

Following the Effective Date, Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will be mailed to Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees approximately 30 days after the Court's approval of the Settlement becomes final so long as there are no appeals.

Settlement checks should be cashed promptly upon receipt. Proceeds of checks which remain uncashed after 120 days from the date of issuance will be forwarded to a nonprofit, Legal Aid at Work. If your settlement check is lost or misplaced, you should contact the Settlement Administrator immediately to request a replacement.

For an update on the status of payments, please contact the Settlement Administrator (see Section 12).

11. WHAT AM I GIVING UP TO GET A PAYMENT?

If the Court approves this Settlement and unless you exclude yourself, you will become a Participating Class Member, and that means that you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant concerning the legal claims being resolved in this Settlement. Specifically, you will be giving up or "releasing" the Released Class Claims described below against Defendant and all of Defendant's subsidiaries, affiliates, shareholders, members, agents, predecessors, successors, owners, and assigns ("Released Parties"). The releases become effective once the GSA is fully funded by Defendant.

Released Class Claims: The "Released Class Claims" are all claims, rights, demands, liabilities, and causes of action, alleged or which could have reasonably been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative Complaint, including but not limited to: (1) failure to pay minimum and straight time wages

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(pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197); (2) failure to pay overtime wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 1194 and 1198); (3) failure to provide meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512); (4) failure to authorize and permit rest periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7); (5) failure to timely pay final wages at termination (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 201-203); (6) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226); (7) failure to indemnify employees for expenditures (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 2802); (8) failure to produce requested employment records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226 and 1198.5); and (9) unfair business practices (pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.). The enumeration of these specific claims shall neither enlarge nor narrow the scope of res judicata based on the claims that were asserted in the Action or could have been asserted in the Action based on the facts and circumstances alleged in the Operative Complaint. The Released Class Claims are those that accrued during the Class Period.

Released PAGA Claims: The “Released PAGA Claims” means Plaintiffs, as a proxy or agent of the LWDA, release all claims for PAGA civil penalties that could have been sought by the LWDA for the violations alleged in Plaintiffs’ January 11, 2024 and April 8, 2026 PAGA Notices, including but not limited to: (1) failure to pay for all hours worked, including minimum wages, straight time wages, and overtime wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 204, 510, 1194, 1197 and 1198); (2) failure to provide meal periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226.7); (3) failure to authorize and permit rest periods (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226.7); (4) failure to pay all earned wages twice per month (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 204); (5) failure to maintain accurate records of hours worked and meal periods taken or missed (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 1174.5); (6) failure to timely pay final wages at termination (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 201 – 203); (7) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 226); (8) failure to indemnify employees for expenditures (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 2802); (9) failure to produce requested employment records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 226, 432, and 1198.5); (10) failure to keep accurate and complete payroll records (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 1174); (11) failures to provide proper sick leave and supplemental paid sick leave (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 245-248.5); (12) refusal to pay wages due and payable and/or denial at times of the validity of any claim to wages due (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 216); (13) secretly paying wages lower than required by statute while purporting to pay legal wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 223); (14) failure to pay vested vacation and/or paid time off (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 227.3); (15) failure to provide suitable seating (pursuant to section 14(A-B) of all applicable IWC Wage Orders); (16) unlawful agreements (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 432.5); (17) failure to timely provide temporary workers with wages (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 201.3); (18) preventing employees from using or disclosing the skills, knowledge and experience they obtained at Defendant, and whistleblower violations (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 98.6, 232, 232.5, 1102.5, and 1197.5); (19) unlawful inquiries into criminal histories (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code § 432.7); and (20) workplace health and safety violations (pursuant to Cal. Labor Code §§ 1527, 3366, 3457, 8397.4, 6401, and 6401). The Released PAGA Claims are those that accrued during the PAGA Period.

EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

12. HOW DO I EXCLUDE MYSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT?

To exclude yourself from the Settlement, you must send the Settlement Administrator a written and signed request for exclusion which must be postmarked no later than 45 days after Class Notice is Mailed. Be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number, and any other information you think would be helpful to the settlement Administrator to identify you. You can send your request for exclusion to the settlement Administrator at:

QUESTIONS? CALL **1-800-XXX-XXXX** TOLL FREE

Apex Class Action Administration
Melles, et al. v. Horizon Services, Incorporated

XXXXX
City, State, XXXXX
Email:

If you ask to be excluded from the Settlement, you will not be legally bound by anything that happens in the Action, except as it relates to settlement of the PAGA claim. If you ask to be excluded from the Settlement you will not be able to object to the Settlement and you will not receive an Individual Class Payment, but you will still receive an Individual PAGA Payment if you worked for Defendant during the PAGA Period (January 11, 2023, through February 7, 2026). If you ask to be excluded, you may be able to sue (or continue to sue) Defendant in the future.

13. IF I DON'T EXCLUDE MYSELF, CAN I SUE DEFENDANT FOR THE SAME THING LATER?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue Defendant for the claims that this Settlement resolves. If you have a pending lawsuit, speak to your lawyer in that case immediately. You must exclude yourself from this Class to continue your own lawsuit. Remember, the exclusion deadline is 45 days after Class Notice is Mailed.

14. IF I EXCLUDE MYSELF, CAN I GET MONEY FROM THIS SETTLEMENT?

No. If you exclude yourself, you will not receive any money from this Settlement. However, if you timely exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will retain the right to pursue your own legal action against Defendant, if you desire.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU IN THIS LAWSUIT

15. DO I HAVE A LAWYER IN THIS CASE?

The Court has determined that Wilshire Law Firm is qualified to represent you and the Class Members in the lawsuit. These lawyers are called Class Counsel and their contact information is listed below. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

John G. Yslas
john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com
Diego Aviles
diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com
Harry Erganyan
harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com
Mariam Nazaretyan
mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com
WILSHIRE LAW FIRM
660 S. Figueroa St., Sky Lobby
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: (213) 381-9988
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-800-XXX-XXXX TOLL FREE

16. HOW WILL THE LAWYERS BE PAID?

Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve up to one third (1/3) of the GSA (currently \$243,100.00) for attorneys' fees incurred in investigating the facts, litigating the case, and negotiating the Settlement. Class Counsel will also seek Court-approval of up to \$25,000.00 in litigation expenses incurred in this matter. The Court may award Class Counsel less than what they request. Class Counsel will also ask the Court to approve payments to Plaintiffs in the amount of \$10,000.00 for Plaintiff Marhawit Melles and \$7,500.00 for Plaintiff John Rodrigues, in addition to Plaintiffs' Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA Payment for the initiative, risk, and time and energy Plaintiffs have spent in service to the Class as the Class Representative. The Court may award the Class Representative less than what is requested.

OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

You can and have the right to tell the Court you do not agree with the Settlement or some part of it.

17. HOW DO I TELL THE COURT THAT I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

If you don't think the Settlement is fair, you can object to some or all of the Settlement. You can either object to the Settlement in person at the Final Approval Hearing or you can submit a written objection. Written objections and notices of intent to appear at the Final Approval Hearing must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator and postmarked on or before [REDACTED], at the following address:

Apex Class Action Administration
Melles, et al. v. Horizon Services, Incorporated
XXXXXX
City, State, XXXXX
Email:

The written objection should state your name and address and describe all legal and factual reasons that you object to the terms of the Settlement. You should also include or attach any documents upon which your objection is based. If the Court overrules the objection at the Final Approval hearing, the Settlement Agreement will be approved, and you will receive your payment. If you do not submit a written objection, you may still appear at the Final Approval hearing to voice your objection or to otherwise observe the proceedings.

18. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OBJECTING AND REQUESTING EXCLUSION?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you do not agree with something about the Settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Class.

Requesting exclusion is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you, and you do not get any money from this Settlement. If you submit both an objection and a request to be excluded from the settlement, the request to be excluded will control and you will not get any money from this settlement.

THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing to decide whether to approve the Settlement. You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you don't have to.

19. WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE COURT DECIDE WHETHER TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] in Department 21 of the Alameda County Superior Court located at 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, California 94612 to determine whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them at that time. The Court will also be asked to approve the requests for the Class Representative Service Payment and the Class Counsel Fees and Litigation Expenses Payments.

20. DO I HAVE TO COME TO THE HEARING?

No. Class Counsel will answer questions the Court may have. However, you are welcome to attend. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to the Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection to the settlement administrator on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

IF YOU DO NOTHING

21. WHAT IF I DO NOTHING AT ALL?

If you do nothing, you will receive a Settlement payment, and you will be bound by the terms of Settlement, which means that you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue a lawsuit, or be a part of any other lawsuit against the Defendant about the legal issues in the Action.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

22. HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

You may contact Class Counsel at the contact information listed above in Section 15 if you have any questions about the Settlement. You may also contact the Court-appointed Settlement Administrator, Apex Class Action Administration, by calling toll free 1-800-[REDACTED], or you can write to the Administrator at the following address:

Apex Class Action Administration
Melles, et al. v. Horizon Services, Incorporated
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
City, State, [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT OR DEFENDANT'S COUNSEL FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THIS SETTLEMENT OR THE CLAIM PROCESS. YOU MAY,

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-800-XXX-XXXX TOLL FREE

HOWEVER, CALL CLASS COUNSEL OR THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR, LISTED ABOVE.