

CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CLASS NOTICE

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between plaintiff Michael Toren Ramirez (“Plaintiff”) and defendant Noble Care Center LLC (“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 *Michael Toren Ramirez, individually, and on behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, v. Noble Care Center LLC* initiated on March 29, 2024, and pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Joaquin, Case No. STK-CV-UEO-2024-3959.
- 1.2. “Administrator” means Phoenix Settlement Administrators, 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. “Class” means all persons employed by Defendant in the State of California as hourly, non-exempt employees at any time during the Class Period.
- 1.5. “Class Counsel” means Raymond P. Boucher and Alexander Gamez of Boucher LLP and Sahag Majarian II and Garen Majarian of the Majarian law Group, APC.
- 1.6. “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.
- 1.7. “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendant’s possession, specifically the Class Member’s name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number or, as applicable, other taxpayer identification number, and number of Class Period Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.
- 1.8. “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 a PAGA Employee).
- 1.9. “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.

- 1.10. “Class Notice” means the Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval, to be mailed to Class Members in English with a Spanish translation of same, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement, subject to Court approval.
- 1.11. “Class Period” means the period from May 1, 2021, through November 18, 2024 (60 days from the date of mediation).
- 1.12. “Class Representative” means the named Plaintiff in the Operative Complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as a Class Representative.
- 1.13. “Class Representative Enhancement Payment” means the payment to the Class Representative for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.
- 1.14. “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin.
- 1.15. “Defendant” means named Defendant Noble Care Center LLC
- 1.16. “Defense Counsel” means Schor Vogelzang & Chung LLP.
- 1.17. “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 Final Judgment is final. The Final 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.
- 1.18. “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement.
- 1.19. “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.20. “Final Judgment” means the Judgment entered by the Court upon granting Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.21. “Gross Settlement Amount” means \$275,000.00, which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement except as provided in Paragraph 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 Enhancement Payment and the Administration Expenses Payment. The employer’s share of payroll taxes arising

from the payments made under this Settlement shall be paid by Defendant separate from and in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount. The Gross Settlement Amount is subject to pro rata increases as set forth in this Agreement. No part of the Gross Settlement Amount shall revert to Defendant.

- 1.22. “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.
- 1.23. “Individual PAGA Payment” means the PAGA 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.
- 1.26. “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i) as that law existed prior to the July 1, 2024 amendment of that section.
- 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 Enhancement 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. “Operative Complaint” means the First Amended Complaint that Plaintiff filed on October 8, 2024, in this Action against Defendant, which supersedes the original Complaint filed by Plaintiff in this Action on March 29, 2024.
- 1.30. “PAGA” means the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (California Labor Code §§ 2698 *et seq.*).
- 1.31. “PAGA Employee” means a person employed by Defendant in the State of California as an hourly, non-exempt employee at any time during the PAGA Period.
- 1.32. “PAGA Pay Period” means any weekly Pay Period during which a PAGA Employee was employed by Defendant as an hourly, non-exempt employee in California during the PAGA Period. PAGA Pay Periods may be based on either: (1) pay periods during at least one shift was worked; or (2) hire dates and, where applicable, last dates

worked or separation dates, re-hire dates, dates of any periods of leave, and dates of any transition between non-exempt and exempt status.

- 1.33. “PAGA Period” means the period from February 23, 2023, through November 18, 2024 (60 days from the date of mediation).
- 1.34. “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiff’s PAGA letter to Defendant and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).
- 1.35. “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the PAGA Employees (\$25,000.00) and 75% to the LWDA (\$75,000.00) in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.36. “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.
- 1.37. “Plaintiff” means Michael Toreno Ramirez, the named plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.38. “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.39. “Preliminary Approval Order” means the proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement.
- 1.40. “Qualified Settlement Fund” or “QSF” means a fund within the meaning of U.S. Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1, 26 CFR § 1.468B-1 *et seq.*, that is established by the Settlement Administrator for the benefit of Participating Class Members and PAGA Employees.
- 1.41. “Released Class Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2 below.
- 1.42. “Released PAGA Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.3 below.
- 1.43. “Released Parties” means Defendant, and each of its former, present, and future owners, parents, and subsidiaries, and all of their current, former, and future officers, directors, members, managers, employees, consultants, partners, shareholders, joint venturers, agents, predecessors, successors, assigns, accountants, insurers, reinsurers, and/or legal representatives.
- 1.44. “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.
- 1.45. “Response Deadline” means 45 days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice to Class Members, 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, (b) challenge their estimated number of PAGA Pay Periods or Workweeks as printed on the Class Notice, or (c) fax, email, or mail their Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional 14 calendar days beyond the Response Deadline.

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

1.47. “Workweek” means any week during which a Class Member was employed by Defendant as an hourly, non-exempt employee in California during the Class Period. Workweeks may be based on either: (1) weeks during at least one shift was worked; or (2) hire dates and, where applicable, last dates worked or separation dates, re-hire dates, dates of any periods of leave, and dates of any transition between non-exempt and exempt status.

2. RECITALS.

2.1. On February 23, 2024, Plaintiff Michael Toreno Ramirez filed his PAGA Notice with the LWDA, informing the LWDA and Defendant of his intent to pursue a claim under PAGA for Defendant’s alleged violations of California labor laws, due to its alleged failure to (1) compensate for all hours worked, including overtime, pursuant to Labor Code sections 204, 510, 1194, 1197, and 1198; (2) provide meal periods and/or premium pay for non-compliant meal periods pursuant to Labor Code sections 226.7, 512, 558, 1198, and 1199; (4) provide rest periods and/or premium pay for non-compliant rest periods pursuant to Labor Code sections 226.7, 558, 1197, 1198, and 1199; (5) pay all accrued vacation time pursuant to Labor Code section 227.3; (6) furnish complete and accurate itemized wage statements pursuant to Labor Code section 226(a); and (7) timely pay all wages due within the time permitted during and upon separation of employment pursuant to Labor Code sections 201–203.

2.2. On March 29, 2024, Plaintiff commenced this Action by filing a Class Action Complaint alleging causes of action against Defendant for failure to pay for all hours worked pursuant to Labor Code sections 1194, 1197, 1198 and 1199; failure to pay overtime compensation pursuant to Labor Code section 510; failure to provide meal periods pursuant to Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512; failure to authorize and permit rest periods pursuant to Labor Code section 226.7; failure to pay accrued vacation time pursuant to Labor Code section 227.3; failure to provide complete and accurate itemized wage statements pursuant to Labor Code 226.7; failure to timely pay all wages due upon separation of employment pursuant to Labor Code sections 201, 202 and 203; and unfair business practices in violation of Business and Professions Code §§ 17200 *et seq.* Subsequent to the filing of the Complaint, Plaintiff exhausted his administrative remedies pursuant to the statutory framework of PAGA, and the Parties stipulated to Plaintiff filing a First Amended Complaint adding a PAGA cause of action. The First Amended Complaint was filed on October 8, 2024 (the “Operative Complaint”). Defendant denies the allegations in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice, denies

any failure to comply with the laws identified in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice, and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.

- 2.3. On September 19, 2024, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by employment law mediator Hon. Carl West (Ret.). With the mediator's assistance, the Parties agreed to settle the Action.
- 2.4. Prior to mediation, Plaintiff obtained through informal discovery: (1) Plaintiff's personnel records and employment files; (2) various wage and hour policy documents in effect during the Class and PAGA Periods; (3) a representative randomized sampling of corresponding time and payroll records for the putative Class; (4) Class Data points, including, for both current and formerly-employed Class Members between the start of the Class Period (May 1, 2021) and September 6, 2024, total numbers of Class Members, and approximate numbers of workweeks worked, pay periods, and wage statements issued; and (5) PAGA group data points, including, for both current and formerly-employed PAGA Employees between the start of the PAGA Period (February 23, 2023) and September 6, 2023, total numbers of PAGA Employees, and approximate numbers of workweeks worked, pay periods, and wage statements issued. Plaintiff's investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801, and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 ("*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 \$275,000.00 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 4.2 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or PAGA 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 following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court in the Final Approval. The Court's adjustment, if any, of the amount allocated to the Class Representative Enhancement Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and/or the PAGA claim in the

Action will not invalidate this Agreement.

- 3.2.1. To Plaintiff: Class Representative Enhancement Payment to the Class Representative of not more than \$6,500.00, in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a Participating Class Member and as a PAGA Employee. Defendant will not oppose Plaintiff's request for a Class Representative Enhancement Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of the motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment, Plaintiff will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Enhancement Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Representative Enhancement Payment less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Enhancement Payment using IRS Form 1099, which the Administrator will provide to Plaintiff and to the pertinent taxing authorities as required by law. Plaintiff assumes full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on the Class Representative Enhancement Payment.
- 3.2.2. To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than 33.33% of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$91,657.50, and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$20,000.00. Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments provided that they do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released Parties shall have no liability to Class Counsel or any other Plaintiff's Counsel arising from any claim to any portion any Class Counsel Fee Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full responsibility and liability for taxes owed on the Class Counsel Fees Payment and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and holds Defendant harmless, and indemnifies Defendant, from any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these Payments.
- 3.2.3. To the Administrator: An Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed \$8,000.00 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Expenses are less or the Court approves payment less the \$8,000.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.
- 3.2.4. To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period,

and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's Workweeks. Workweeks will be rounded up to the next whole integer, and each Class Member will be deemed to have worked at least one Workweek.

3.2.4.1. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. 20% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form, which the Administrator will provide to Participating Class Members and to the pertinent taxing authorities as required by law. 80% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of claims for interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms, which the Administrator will provide to Participating Class Members and to the pertinent taxing authorities as required by law. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.

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

3.2.5. To the LWDA and PAGA Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$100,000.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$75,000.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$25,000.00) 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 PAGA Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties (\$25,000.00) by the total number of weekly PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by all PAGA Employees during the PAGA Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each PAGA Employee's PAGA Period Pay Periods. PAGA Pay Periods will be rounded up to the next whole integer, and each PAGA Employee will be deemed to have worked at least one PAGA Pay Period. PAGA Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms, which the Administrator will provide to PAGA Employees and to the pertinent taxing authorities as required by law.

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.

4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.

- 4.1. Class Data. Not later than 14 calendar 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 or consultants 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 any Class Member's 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.
- 4.2. 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 QSF no later than 14 days after the Effective Date. In the event Defendant makes a late payment or does not pay any portion of the Gross Settlement Amount, it shall be considered a default. In the event Defendant fails to make any payment on the date it is due, the Administrator will provide notice to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel within three (3) business days of the missed payment. Thereafter, Defendant will have seven (7) days to cure the default and tender payment to the QSF. If Defendant fails to cure the default within the times set forth herein, then Plaintiff may elect to enter judgment against Defendant for the balance of the unpaid Gross Settlement Amount.
- 4.3. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 10 business 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 Enhancement Payment. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Enhancement Payment shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.
- 4.3.1. 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 PAGA Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as

PAGA 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 National Change of Address Database.

4.3.2. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding address. Within seven (7) calendar 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 a second time as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, if requested by the Class Member prior to the void date.

4.3.3. 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 Section 384, subd. (b).

4.3.4. 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 General Release. Plaintiff and his respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or that might have been asserted, whether in tort, contract, or violation of any state or federal statute, rule or regulation arising out of, relating to, or in connection with any act or omission by or on the part of any of the Released Parties committed or omitted prior to Plaintiff's execution of this Agreement, to the maximum extent permitted by law, as well as any and all damages, restitution, disgorgement, civil penalties, statutory penalties, taxes, interest or attorneys' fees resulting therefrom ("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, or workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time or that cannot as a matter of law be waived or released. 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.

5.1.1. Plaintiff's Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 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:

All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties from (i) all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts stated in the Operative Complaint that arose during the Class Period, including but not limited to any and all claims involving: (1) any alleged failure to pay wages (including minimum wage); (2) any alleged failure to pay overtime compensation; (3) any alleged failure to provide compliant meal periods, or compensation in lieu thereof; (4) any alleged failure to provide compliant rest breaks, or compensation in lieu thereof; (5) any alleged failure to pay accrued vacation time; (6) any alleged failure to provide compliant accurate itemized wage statements; (7) any alleged failure to timely pay wages during employment or due upon separation; and (8) any alleged unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business actions or practices under Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* arising out of the Labor Code and Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order violations referenced in the Operative Complaint, as well as any and all damages, restitution, disgorgement, civil penalties, statutory penalties, taxes, interest or attorneys' fees resulting therefrom. Except as set forth in Paragraph 5.3 of this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims that cannot as a matter of law be waived or released.

5.3. Release by PAGA Employees and the State of California:

All PAGA Employees, regardless of whether they opt out of the Class Settlement, and the State of California are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that

were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts stated in the Operative Complaint and/or the PAGA Notice that arose during the PAGA Period, including but not limited to any and all claims for PAGA penalties pursuant to Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 510, 512, 558, 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and 2699 *et seq.* including alleged violations involving: (1) any alleged failure to pay wages (including minimum wage); (2) any alleged failure to pay overtime compensation; (3) any alleged failure to provide compliant meal periods, or compensation in lieu thereof; (4) any alleged failure to provide compliant rest breaks, or compensation in lieu thereof; (5) any alleged failure to pay accrued vacation time; (7) any alleged failure to provide compliant accurate itemized wage statements; (8) any alleged failure to timely pay wages due during employment or upon separation.

6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL. Class Counsel shall prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval (“Motion for Preliminary Approval”).

6.1. Defendant’s Declaration in Support of Preliminary Approval. Because funds from uncashed checks will be transmitted to the California Controller’s Office, Unclaimed Property Fund, Defendant and Defense Counsel have no obligation to provide declarations disclosing any facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts with a “cy pres recipient.”

6.2. Plaintiff’s Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare and deliver to Defense Counsel all documents necessary for obtaining Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar* and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2)); (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement; (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from the Administrator attaching its “not to exceed” bid for administering the Settlement and attesting to its willingness to serve; competency; operative procedures for protecting the security of Class Data; amounts of insurance coverage for any data breach, defalcation of funds or other misfeasance; all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members; and the nature and extent of any financial relationship with Plaintiff, Class Counsel or Defense Counsel; (v) a signed declaration from Plaintiff confirming willingness and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members and/or the Administrator; (v) a signed declaration from each Class Counsel firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), and this Agreement (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (1)(2))); and (vi) all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members and/or the Administrator. In their Declarations, 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.

- 6.3. Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval 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 Order 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 and conferring, 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 and conferring, 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 Settlement Administrators to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, Phoenix Settlement Administrators agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Settlement 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 to 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 section 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 Class Data has been received and state the number of Class Members, PAGA Members, Workweeks, and PAGA Pay Periods in the Class Data.
- 7.4.2. Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14 calendar days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service ("USPS") mail, the Class Notice with Spanish translation, substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A and as approved by the Court. The

first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, 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 National Change of Address database.

7.4.3. Not later than three (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 the Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.

7.4.4. The Response Deadline for Class Members' written objections, challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the 45 days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members whose notice is 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, Defense Counsel 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 the Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer, 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 the Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever is 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 the Response Deadline (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 their 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 full name, address, signature, 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 PAGA Employees cannot exclude themselves from the PAGA component of the Settlement, are deemed to release the 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 through the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if any) 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 and PAGA Pay Periods contained in the Class Notice are correct as 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 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

Enhancement 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 the Response Deadline (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's 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 copies of the Settlement Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval Order, the Class Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, the Motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Class Representative Enhancement 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 Members' 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) business days after the Response Deadline, 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; and (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 PAGA Pay Periods received and/or resolved ("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. In addition to the Weekly Reports,

the Administrator shall report to the Parties when it has completed the initial distribution of the Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.

- 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 PAGA Pay Periods. The Administrator's decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.
- 7.8.5. Administrator's Declaration. Before the date by which Plaintiff is 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 the 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 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 seven (7) 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 estimates that (1) there are 82 Class Members and approximately 5,447 total Workweeks between the start of the Class Period on May 1, 2021, and September 6, 2024; and (2) there are 277 PAGA Employees who worked approximately 4,404 Pay Periods between the start of the PAGA Period on February 23, 2023, and September 6, 2024. In the event the number of Workweeks worked by Class Members during the Class Period increases by more than ten percent (10%) (i.e., exceeds 5,992 Workweeks), then the Gross Settlement Amount will increase pro rata per additional workweek above 5,992. If the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period exceeds 4,404 by more than ten percent 10% (i.e., exceeds 4,845), the PAGA Settlement Amount will increase pro rata per additional PAGA Pay Period above 4,845.
- 9. DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW.** If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List exceeds 10% of the total of all Class Members, within thirty (30) days after the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days if Class Notices were re-

mailed to any Class Members), 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 Expenses incurred to that point. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than 25 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 16 court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, 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. (s)(1), a Proposed Final Approval Order, and a proposed Judgment (collectively “Motion for Final Approval”). Plaintiff shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel not later than five (5) court days prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer, 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 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 Enhancement Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and/or Administrator 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. To the extent consistent with class action procedure, this Agreement shall be enforceable by the Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6 and California Rule of Court 3.769(h). The Final Approval Order entered by the Court will not adjudicate the merits of the Action or the liability of the Parties resulting from the allegations in the Action. Its sole purpose is to adopt the terms of the Settlement and to retain jurisdiction over its enforcement. If one or more of the Parties institutes any legal action or other proceeding against any other Party to enforce the provisions of this Settlement, the successful Party will be entitled to recover from the unsuccessful Party reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs, including expert witness fees

incurred in connection with any enforcement actions.

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 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, except as to matters that do not affect the amount of the Net Settlement Amount.

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

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

12. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

12.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint or PAGA Notice have merit or that Defendant has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason, the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval, or enter Judgment, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendant reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement, and Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no

bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

- 12.2. Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant, and Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate, and/or publicize, or 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, any with 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 exhibit 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, including correspondence between Class Counsel and Defense Counsel and drafts of prior agreements or proposals.
- 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 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. None of the rights, commitments, or obligations recognized under this Agreement may be assigned by any Party, Class Member, Class Counsel, or Defense Counsel without the express written consent of each other Party and their respective counsel. The representations, warranties, covenants, and agreements contained in this Agreement are for the sole benefit of the Parties under this Agreement and shall not be construed to confer any right or to avail any remedy to any other person.
- 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. A waiver or failure to insist upon strict compliance with any representation, warranty, covenant, agreement, or condition shall not operate as a waiver of, or estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure.
- 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 Cal. Evid. 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 for 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. 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 counterparts 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 that 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. Severability. In the event that one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall in no way effect any other provision if Defense Counsel and Class Counsel, on behalf of the Parties and the Settlement Class, mutually elect in writing to proceed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been included in this Agreement.

01/24/2025

Date: _____

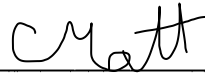
MICHAEL TORENO RAMIREZ



Michael Toreno Ramirez

Date: 01/30/2025

NOBLE CARE CENTER LLC



By: Chelsea Mott

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Date: 1/24/25

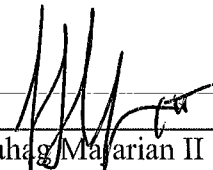
BOUCHER LLP



Raymond P. Boucher
Alexander Gamez
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Date: 1/23/25

MAJARIAN LAW GROUP, APC



Sahag Majarian II
Garen Majarian
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Dated: 1/31/25

SCHOR VOGELZANG & CHUNG LLP



Julie Vogelzang
Lisa Hird Chung
Janelle Thornton
Attorneys for Defendant

EXHIBIT A

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

Madrigal v. Noble Care Center LLC, Case No. STK-CV-UOE-2024-3959

*The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!
It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.*

You may be eligible to receive money from an employee class action lawsuit settlement (“Action” or “Settlement”) against Noble Care Center LLC (“Defendant”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by a former employee of Defendant, Michael Toreno Ramirez (“Plaintiff”), and seeks payment of (1) back wages and other relief for a class of hourly, non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the Class Period (May 1, 2021, through November 18, 2024) (“Class Members”); and (2) penalties under California’s Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA”) for all hourly, non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the PAGA Period (February 23, 2023, through November 18, 2024) (“PAGA 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 penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

Based on Defendant’s records and the Parties’ current assumptions, you worked during the Class Period in a non-exempt position for a total of ____ workweeks (“Workweeks”), so **your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$_____ (less applicable withholdings)**. Also, you worked during the PAGA Period in a non-exempt position for a total of ____ pay periods (“PAGA Pay Periods”), so **your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$_____**. 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 _____ workweeks** during the Class Period and **you worked _____ pay periods** during the PAGA Period. Workweeks and pay periods may be based on either: (1) weeks during which at least one shift was worked; or (2) hire dates and, where applicable, last dates worked or separation dates, re-hire dates, dates of any periods of leave, and dates of any transition between non-exempt and exempt status. If you believe that you worked more workweeks or pay periods as an hourly, non-exempt employee during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section 4 of this Notice.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully 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

Plaintiffs’ 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 PAGA Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendant.

If you worked for Defendant as an hourly, non-exempt employee in California during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have two basic options under the Settlement:

- (1) **Do Nothing.** You don’t have to do anything to participate in the proposed Settlement and be eligible for an Individual Class Payment and/or an Individual PAGA Payment. As a Participating Class Member, though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims and PAGA Period penalty claims against Defendant.
- (2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting the written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the Class Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Defendant, and, if you are an PAGA Employee, remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement.

Defendant will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed Settlement.

If you move, you must send the Administrator your new address; otherwise, you may never receive your Settlement payment. It is your responsibility to keep a current address on file with the Administrator.

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT

You Don’t Have to Do Anything to Participate in the Settlement	If you do nothing, you will be a Participating Class Member, eligible for an Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA Payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert the claims against Defendant and other Released Parties that are covered by this Settlement (Released Parties and Released Claims are defined below).
You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement The Opt-out Deadline is 	If you don’t want to fully participate in the proposed Settlement, you can opt-out of the Class Settlement by sending the Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed Settlement. See Section 6 of this Notice. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. Defendant must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all PAGA Employees, and the PAGA Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released Claims (defined below).

Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement Written Objections Must be Submitted by _____	All Class Members who do not opt-out (“Participating Class Members”) can object to any aspect of the proposed Settlement. The Court’s decision whether to finally approve the Settlement will include a determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel or Plaintiff, but every dollar paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff reduces the overall amount paid to Participating Class Members. You can object to the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff if you think they are unreasonable. See Section 7 of this Notice.
You Can Participate in the _____ Final Approval Hearing	The Court’s Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on _____. You don’t have to attend, but you do have the right to appear (or hire an attorney to appear on your behalf at your own cost) in person, by telephone, or by using the Court’s virtual appearance platform. Participating Class Members can verbally object to the Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing. See Section 8 of this Notice.
You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks/Pay Periods Written Challenges Must be Submitted by _____	The amount of your Individual Class Payment and PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and how many Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, respectively. Workweeks and Pay Periods may be based on either: (1) weeks/pay periods during at least one shift was worked; or (2) hire dates and, where applicable, last dates worked or separation dates, re-hire dates, dates of any periods of leave, and dates of any transition between non-exempt and exempt status. The number of Class Period Workweeks and the number of PAGA Period Pay Periods you worked according to Defendant’s records is stated on the first page of this Notice. If you disagree with either of these numbers, you must challenge it by _____ [date] _____. See Section 4 of this Notice.

A. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiff is a former employee of Defendant. On March 29, 2024, Plaintiff, on his behalf and on behalf of other current and former non-exempt employees, filed a complaint against Defendant in Joaquin County Superior Court, Case No. CVRI2000071, followed by the operative First Amended Complaint filed on October 8, 2024. The Action accuses Defendant of violating California labor laws by failing to pay overtime wages, pay minimum wages, timely pay wages due during employment and upon termination, provide meal periods or compensation in lieu thereof, provide rest periods or compensation in lieu thereof, pay accrued vacation time, engage in lawful business practices, and provide accurate itemized wage statements. Based on the same claims, Plaintiff has also asserted a claim for civil penalties under California’s Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.*) (“PAGA”). In February 2024, Plaintiff submitted a letter to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency

(“LWDA”) alleging violations by Defendant of PAGA. Plaintiff also sought derivative statutory penalties, interest, and attorneys’ fees and costs based on these alleged violations. Plaintiff is represented by attorneys in the Action: Raymond P. Boucher and Alexander Gamez of Boucher LLP and Sahag Majarian II and Garen Majarian Majarian Law Group, APC (“Class Counsel”).

Defendant strongly denies violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contends it complied with all applicable laws.

B. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Defendant or Plaintiff are correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiff and Defendant hired an experienced, neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating to end the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement (“Agreement”) and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, Plaintiff and Defendant have negotiated a proposed Settlement that is subject to the Court’s Final Approval. Both sides agree the proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims.

By agreeing to settle, Defendant does not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims brought in the Action or that could have been brought based on the facts alleged. Defendant asserts that it has valid defenses to Plaintiff’s claims. By agreeing to settle, Defendant is not admitting liability on any of the factual allegations or claims in the Action or that the Action can or should proceed as a class or PAGA action. Defendant has agreed to settle the case as part of a compromise with Plaintiff.

Plaintiff and Class Counsel strongly believe the Settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Defendant has agreed to pay a fair, reasonable, and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks, expense and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) Settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members and PAGA Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine Final Approval.

C. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

1. Defendant Will Pay \$275,000.00 as the Gross Settlement Amount (Gross Settlement). Defendant has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement into an account controlled by the Administrator of the Settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, Class Representative Enhancement Payment, Class Counsel’s attorneys’ fees and expenses, the Administrator’s expenses, and a portion of the PAGA penalties to be paid to the LWDA. Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Defendant will fund the Gross Settlement not more than 14 days after the Judgment entered by the Court becomes final. The Judgment will be final on the date the Court enters Judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed Settlement or the Judgment is appealed.

2. Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement. At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:
 - A. Up to \$91,657.50 (33.33% of the Gross Settlement) to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and up to \$20,000.00 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.
 - B. Up to \$6,500.00 to Plaintiff as a Class Representative Award for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel, and representing the Class. A Class Representative Award will be the only monies Plaintiff will receive other than Plaintiff's Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
 - C. Up to \$8,000.00 to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.
 - D. Up to \$100,000.00 for PAGA Penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the PAGA Employees based on their PAGA Period Pay Periods.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions. The Court will consider all objections.

3. Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement (the "Net Settlement") by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period Workweeks. If there are any valid and timely Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, the Administrator shall proportionately increase each Participating Class Member's share of the Net Settlement according to the number of Workweeks worked, so that the amount actually distributed to Participating Class Members equals 100% of the Net Settlement Fund.
4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Defendant are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages ("Wage Portion") and 80% to interest and penalties ("Non-Wage Portion"). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Defendant will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes on the Wage Portion. The Individual PAGA Payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiff and Defendant have agreed to these allocations, neither side is giving you any advice on whether your Payments are taxable or how much you might owe in taxes. You are responsible for paying all taxes (including penalties and interest on back taxes) on any Payments received from the proposed Settlement. You should consult a tax advisor if you have any questions about the tax consequences of the proposed Settlement.

5. Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks. The front of every check issued for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will show the date 180 days later when the check expires (the void date). If you don't cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be deposited with the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

If the monies represented by your check is sent to the Controller's Unclaimed Property, you should consult the rules of the Fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.

6. Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs). You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Class Settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than [REDACTED] (the "Response Deadline"), that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed Request for Exclusion by the Response Deadline. The Request for Exclusion should be a letter from a Class Member or their representative setting forth a Class Member's name, present address, telephone number, signature, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the Class Settlement. Excluded Class Members (i.e., Non-Participating Class Members) will not receive Individual Class Payments, but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Defendant.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement. Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement (Non-Participating Class Members) remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Defendant based on the facts alleged or that could have reasonably been alleged in Plaintiff's PAGA notice letter to the LWDA or the Action.

7. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will decline to grant Final Approval of the Settlement or decline to enter a Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiff and Defendant have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Defendant will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendant.
8. Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral company, Phoenix Settlement Administrators (the "Administrator") to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' Requests for Exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member Challenges over Workweeks and Pay Periods, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the Settlement. The Administrator's contact information is contained in Section 9 of this Notice.
9. Participating Class Members' Release. After the Judgment is final and Defendant has fully funded the Gross Settlement (and separately paid all employer payroll taxes), Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the Settlement. This means that unless you opted out by validly excluding yourself from the Class Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any

other lawsuit against Defendant or Released Parties for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA penalties based on PAGA Period facts, as alleged or could have reasonably been alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The Participating Class Members will be bound by the following release:

All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties from all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts stated in the Operative Complaint that arose during the Class Period, including but not limited to any and all claims involving: (1) any alleged failure to pay wages (including minimum wage); (2) any alleged failure to pay overtime compensation; (3) any alleged failure to provide compliant meal periods, or compensation in lieu thereof; (4) any alleged failure to provide compliant rest breaks, or compensation in lieu thereof; (5) any alleged failure to pay accrued vacation time; (6) any alleged failure to provide compliant accurate itemized wage statements; (7) any alleged failure to timely pay wages due during employment or due upon separation; and (8) any alleged unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business actions or practices under Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* arising out of the Labor Code and Industrial Welfare Commission (“IWC”) Wage Order violations referenced in the Operative Complaint, as well as any and all damages, restitution, disgorgement, civil penalties, statutory penalties, taxes, interest or attorneys’ fees resulting therefrom. Except for the PAGA Release described below, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, or claims that cannot as a matter of law be waived or released.

In this Settlement, “Released Parties” means Defendant and each of its former, present, and future owners, parents, and subsidiaries, and all of their current, former, and future officers, directors, members, managers, employees, consultants, partners, shareholders, joint venturers, agents, predecessors, successors, assigns, accountants, insurers, reinsurers, and/or legal representatives.

10. PAGA Employees’ PAGA Release. After the Court’s judgment is final, and Defendant has paid the Gross Settlement (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), all PAGA Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against Defendant, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Class Settlement. This means that all PAGA Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Defendant or Released Parties based on the facts alleged or that could have reasonably been alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The PAGA Employees’ Releases for Participating and Non-Participating Class Members

are as follows:

All Participating and Non-Participating Class Members who are PAGA Employees, regardless of whether they opt out of the Class Settlement, and the State of California are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties, from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint and/or the PAGA notice letter to the LWDA that arose during the PAGA Period, including but not limited to any and all claims for PAGA penalties pursuant to Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 227.3, 510, 512, 558, 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and 2699 *et seq.* including alleged violations involving: (1) any alleged failure to pay wages (including minimum wage); (2) any alleged failure to pay overtime compensation; (3) any alleged failure to provide compliant meal periods, or compensation in lieu thereof; (4) any alleged failure to provide compliant rest breaks, or compensation in lieu thereof; (5) any alleged failure to pay accrued vacation time; (6) any alleged failure to provide compliant accurate itemized wage statements; and (7) any alleged failure to timely pay wages due during employment or upon separation.

D. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

1. Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member. Workweeks will be rounded up to the next whole integer, and each Class Member will be deemed to have worked at least one Workweek.
2. Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$25,000 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all PAGA Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by each individual PAGA Employee. PAGA Pay Periods will be rounded up to the next whole integer, and each PAGA Employee will be deemed to have worked at least one PAGA Pay Period.
3. Workweek/Pay Period Challenges. The number of Class Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Defendant's records, are stated on the first page of this Notice. You have until the Response Deadline of [REDACTED] to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail, email, or fax. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Defendant's calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods

based on Defendant's records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek and/or Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Defendant's Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

E. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

1. Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who doesn't opt-out), including those who also qualify as PAGA Employees. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment.
2. Non-Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every PAGA Employee who opts out of the Class Settlement (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

Your check will be sent to the same address as this Notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

F. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

Submit a written and signed letter with your name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the Class Settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing that communicates your request to be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Ramirez v. Noble Care Center LLC*, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number or email address, approximate dates of employment, and social security number for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. **The Administrator must be sent your complete request to be excluded by the Response Deadline of [REDACTED], or it will be invalid.** Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

G. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiff and Defendant are asking the Court to approve. At least 16 business days before the [REDACTED] Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court (1) a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair, and (2) a Motion for Fees, Litigation Expenses and Service Award stating (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; and (ii) the amount Plaintiff is requesting as a Class Representative Service Award. You can view copies of these

documents at no cost to you on the Administrator's Website at (url).

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Agreement, the Motion for Final Approval, and/or Motion for Fees, Litigation Expenses and/or Plaintiff's Service Award may wish to object, for example, that the proposed Settlement is unfair, or that the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff are too high or too low. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is** . Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action as *Ramirez v. Noble Care Center LLC* and include your name, current address, telephone number or email address, and approximate dates of employment for Defendant, and sign the objection. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the Final Approval Hearing. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing. Please note that you cannot both object to the Settlement and exclude yourself. You must choose one option only.

H. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on at (time) in Department 10B of the San Joaquin Superior Court, located at 180 E Weber Avenue, Stockton, California 95202. At the Hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiff, and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel before making any decisions. You can attend the hearing (or hire a lawyer to attend). Check the Court's website for the most current information (<https://www.SanJoaquin.courts.ca.gov/>).

It's possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. You should check the Administrator's website at beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing.

I. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

This Notice is only a summary of the Action and the Settlement. For a more detailed statement of the matters involved in the Action and the Settlement, you may refer to the pleadings, the Settlement Agreement, and other papers filed in the case. The easiest way to read the Agreement, the Judgment, or any other Settlement documents is to go to (specify entity)'s website at (url). You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to <https://www.SanJoaquin.courts.ca.gov/online->

services/online-case-access and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. STK-CV-UOE-2024-3959.

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OR THE JUDGE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.

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(818) 609-0807

Settlement Administrator:

Name of Company:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Fax Number:

J. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void, you should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

K. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.