

Nicholas J. Ferraro (State Bar No. 306528)
Lauren N. Vega (State Bar No. 306525)
Nicolas P. Ahadzadeh (State Bar No. 365386)
Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.
3333 Camino del Rio South, Suite 300
San Diego, California 92108
(619) 693-7727 main / (619) 350-6855 facsimile
nick@ferrarovega.com / lauren@ferrarovega.com /
npa@ferrarovega.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff Fernanda Benevides

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

FERNANDA BENEVIDES, individually and on
behalf of others similarly situated and the State of
California under the Private Attorneys General
Act,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

S.I. MANAGEMENT, LLC; STOR-IT COSTA
MESA, LLC; STOR-IT DOWNEY MANAGER,
LLC; STOR-IT LONG BEACH, LLC; STOR-IT
PROPERTIES, INC; STOR-IT PROPERTIES,
LLC; STOR-IT VAULT, LLC; and DOES 1
through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 30-2024-01400577-CU-OE-CXC

Hon. Layne H. Melzer
Dept. CX102

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER
GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PAGA ACTION SETTLEMENT
APPROVAL AND ENTERING JUDGMENT**

Action Filed: May 17, 2024
FAC Filed: September 11, 2025

1 TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD, PLEASE
2 TAKE NOTICE THAT:

- 3 1. On July 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in this Department, the Court entered the Order Granting
4 Plaintiff's Motion for PAGA Action Settlement Approval Entering Judgment attached hereto
5 as Exhibit 1.
6 2. The Judge confirmed the Court's Tentative Ruling attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
7 3. A conformed copy of this Notice will be submitted to the LWDA via its online electronic portal
8 in accordance with Labor Code § 2699(s)(3).
9 4. Notice of the Court's final ruling and entry of judgment is hereby provided.

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11 Respectfully Submitted,

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13 Dated: August 24, 2026

Ferraro Vega Employment Lawyers, Inc.

14 
15 _____
16 Nicholas J. Ferraro
17 Lauren N. Vega
18 Nicolas P. Ahadzadeh
19 *Attorneys for Plaintiff Fernanda Benevides*

EXHIBIT 1

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

FERNANDA BENEVIDES, individually and on
behalf of others similarly situated and the State
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S.I. MANAGEMENT, LLC; STOR-IT COSTA
MESA, LLC; STOR-IT DOWNEY MANAGER,
LLC; STOR-IT LONG BEACH, LLC; STOR-IT
PROPERTIES, INC; STOR-IT PROPERTIES,
LLC; STOR-IT VAULT, LLC; and DOES 1
through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 30-2024-01400577-CU-OE-CXC

Hon. Layne H. Melzer
Dept. CX102

**[Proposed] Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion
for PAGA Action Settlement Approval and
Entering Judgment**

Motion Hearing:

Date: July 23, 2026
Time: 2:00 PM

Court Reservation No.: 74682419

Action Filed: May 17, 2024
FAC Filed: September 11, 2025

1 The Court has reviewed Plaintiff Fernanda Benevides' ("Plaintiff") Motion for PAGA Action
2 Settlement Approval, Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration of Nicholas J. Ferraro
3 (ROA #91) and its exhibits including the PAGA Settlement Agreement, the Supplemental
4 Declaration of Conor J.D. Gómez (ROA #122) and its exhibits including the amended PAGA
5 Settlement Agreement ("Settlement"), and the Supplemental Declaration of Plaintiff. All defined
6 terms used herein shall have the same meaning as stated in the Settlement.

7 **NOW, THEREFORE, THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

8 Plaintiff's Order for PAGA Action Settlement Approval and Entering Judgment is
9 **GRANTED** and approved pursuant to California Labor Code section 2699(s)(2). After the
10 Attorneys' Fees, Service Payment, Litigation Costs, and Administrator's Expenses are deducted
11 from the Gross Settlement Amount, the Net Settlement Amount is \$68,251.11, of which 75%
12 (\$51,188.33) shall be distributed to the LWDA and the remaining 25% (\$17,062.78) shall be
13 distributed to the PAGA Members as their share of PAGA penalties.

14 Accordingly, the \$125,000.00 gross settlement shall be distributed as follows:

- 15 1. \$51,188.33 to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency for PAGA penalties;
- 16 2. \$17,062.78 to the PAGA Members, defined as "all current and former non-exempt
17 employees who worked for Defendants in California at any time during the PAGA
18 Period." The PAGA Period means March 12, 2023, through April 20, 2025;
- 19 3. \$5,000.00 to Plaintiff as the Service Payment;
- 20 4. \$31,250.00 to Plaintiff's Counsel for Attorneys' Fees;
- 21 5. \$17,503.89 to Plaintiff's Counsel for Litigation Costs; and
- 22 6. \$2,995.00 to the Administrator for the Administration Expenses.

23 Plaintiff, Defendants, and the Settlement Administrator are ordered to carry out the terms of
24 the Settlement.

25 The Court hereby sets a Final Accounting Hearing on, or as soon after, Thursday February
26 11, 2027, with all supporting papers to be filed with the Court at least sixteen (16) court days before
27 the Final Accounting Hearing.

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IT IS SO ORDERED



Hon. Layne H. Melzer
Judge of the Superior Court

EXHIBIT 2

119	Benevides vs. S.I. Management, LLC 2024-01400577	Motion for PAGA Action Settlement Approval The Court has reviewed the supplemental materials provided by Plaintiff’s Counsel and finds that they adequately address the previously identified issues except that counsel has failed to submit a revised proposed order as previously ordered by the Court on 3/12/2026 at ROA #103. Accordingly, the Court sets an OSC re Monetary Sanctions for September 3, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in Department CX102 for counsel’s failure to comply with the Court’s 3/12/2026 order. Any response to the OSC must be filed at least 5 court days prior to the OSC hearing. In the interests of justice, despite counsel’s failure to submit a revised proposed order, Plaintiff Fernanda Benevides’s Motion for Approval of PAGA Settlement is GRANTED. This is a PAGA-only action. On 5/17/2024, Plaintiff Fernanda Benevides filed a PAGA complaint against Defendants S.I. Management, Inc.; Stor-It Costa Mesa, LLC; Stor-It Downey Manager, LLC; Stor-It Long Beach, LLC; Stor-It Properties, Inc.; Stor-It Properties, LLC; and Stor-It Vault, LLC. (ROA #2.) Defendants filed separate answers on 7/2/2024. (ROA #25-31.) The operative complaint is the first amended complaint (FAC), filed on 9/11/2025, which alleges a single cause of action for PAGA penalties. (ROA #75.) Defendants filed separate answers on 9/29/2025. (ROA #77-83.) On 10/16/2025, Plaintiff filed the instant Motion for Approval of PAGA Settlement and submitted for the Court’s review the PAGA Settlement Agreement and proposed notice/cover letter to aggrieved employees that will accompany the payment to them. The Motion seeks approval of the parties’ proposed settlement of Plaintiff’s PAGA claims for the non-reversionary gross settlement amount (GSA) of \$125,000. On 3/12/2026, the Court continued the 1st hearing on the Motion and asked Plaintiff’s counsel to address various issues. (ROA #103.) Plaintiff’s counsel then submitted supplemental materials, including an amended version of the PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Amended Settlement”) and an amended notice/cover letter to aggrieved employees (ROA #122). Based on a review of all submissions made in support of the Motion, the Court finds the settlement is fair and reasonable. The Court concludes that an attorneys’ fee award totaling \$31,250 or 25% of the GSA is fair, adequate, and reasonable for a settlement of this size, including considering the action’s contingent nature and the results achieved, as well as counsel’s work on this matter. The Court also concludes that counsel has not adequately supported their request for \$250 in “Future Costs” with line-item descriptions for each filing
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and dollar amounts for what the cost of each filing would be. Accordingly, the Court deducts the \$250 in “Future Costs” from the amount requested.

The Court further concludes that a Service Payment of \$5,000 is fair, adequate, and reasonable for a settlement of this size, considering that there was nothing extraordinary about Plaintiff’s contribution to the case.

As a result, the Court grants the Motion and approves the following disbursements and awards from the Gross Settlement Amount:

- Attorneys’ fees totaling \$31,250.00 awarded to Plaintiff’s Counsel;
- Litigation costs totaling \$17,503.89 awarded to Plaintiff’s Counsel;
- Settlement administration costs of \$2,995.00 awarded to Phoenix Settlement Administrators; and
- Service Payment of \$5,000 awarded to Plaintiff.

PAGA penalties in the amount of \$68,251.11 shall be allocated as follows: seventy-five percent (75%), or \$51,188.33, payable to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA); and twenty-five percent (25%), or \$17,062.78, payable to the Aggrieved Employees in accordance with the terms of the Amended Settlement Agreement.

Within five (5) court days, Plaintiff’s Counsel must submit a revised Proposed Order that makes the revisions previously ordered by the Court and as follows:

1. The specific awards and disbursements should be revised to reflect the amounts set forth in this order.
2. The proposed order and judgment should identify the Settlement Agreement by its actual name.
3. The proposed order and judgment should reference by name and ROA number the declaration(s) to which the Settlement Agreement and any amendments thereto are attached.
4. All terms that require definition must either be defined in the proposed order and judgment itself or clearly incorporate by reference definitions found elsewhere in the record.
5. The proposed order and judgment should include the definitions of the Aggrieved Employees and the PAGA Period.
6. The proposed order and judgment should specify the setting of a Final Accounting hearing date. Counsel should not leave blank but should propose a realistic date, taking into account the deadlines associated with funding the settlement, mailing distributions, allowing the check-cashing deadline to pass, and depositing uncashed check funds pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreement. The Court usually sets these hearings 9-10 months after final approval if the check-cashing deadline is 180 days. The parties must report to the Court the total amount that was actually paid to Aggrieved Employees and all others in accordance with the settlement agreement. All supporting papers must also be filed at least sixteen (16) court days before the Final Accounting hearing

		date. As a reminder, this Court hears Law & Motion matters on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. 7. The proposed order and judgment should state that the Court’s continuing jurisdiction is pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6. Final Accounting will be set in accordance with the Court’s Order of Final Approval and Judgment after Plaintiff’s counsel proposes a realistic date. Counsel shall submit the final report of the settlement administrator regarding the status of the settlement administration no later than sixteen (16) court days prior to the hearing. The final report must include all information necessary for the Court to determine the total amount of the settlement funds actually paid to the Aggrieved Employees and all others in accordance with the Settlement, as well as the amount of unclaimed funds, if any, remitted to the State Controller’s Unclaimed Property Fund. If the settlement funds are not completely disbursed by the report deadline, counsel must request a continuance. Failure to do so may result in the issuance of an Order to Show Cause re Monetary Sanctions. Plaintiff to give notice, including to the LWDA, of this ruling, and file proof of service within five (5) calendar days of the date the Order and Judgment is entered.
120	Fabian vs. Fruth Custom Plastics, Inc. 2024-01408686	Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class/PAGA Settlement The Court has reviewed the supplemental materials provided by Class Counsel and finds that they adequately address the previously identified issues. Accordingly, Plaintiff Aidee Fabian’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement is GRANTED. This is a putative wage-and-hour class action and PAGA matter. On 6/21/2024, Plaintiff Aidee Fabian, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, filed a class action and PAGA complaint against Defendant Fruth Custom Plastics, Inc. (ROA #2.) Defendant answered on 8/14/2024. (ROA #13.) The operative complaint is the first amended complaint, filed on 11/6/2025 pursuant to a stipulated order, alleging various Labor Code wage-and-hour violations and unfair business practices, including a claim for PAGA penalties. (ROA #49.) On 11/13/2025, Plaintiff filed the instant Motion for Preliminary Approval of the Class Action and PAGA Settlement and submitted the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Release (“Settlement Agreement”) and Class Notice for the Court’s review. The motion seeks preliminary approval of the parties’ proposed settlement of Plaintiff’s class and PAGA claims for the non-reversionary gross settlement amount (GSA) of \$575,000. The GSA includes \$30,000 allocated for PAGA penalties. On 3/5/2026, the Court continued the first hearing on the motion and asked Class Counsel to address various issues. Counsel then submitted supplemental materials, including an Amendment to Class Action and