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FILED
Clerk of the Superior Court

OCT - 9 2025

By: D. Tanner, Deputy

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

MELISA RIVERA, individually, and on behalf
of other members of the general public similarly
situated;

Plaintiff,

v.

SAN DIEGO YOUTH SERVICES, a California
nonprofit corporation; and DOES 1 through
100, inclusive;

Defendants.

Case No.: 24CU000113C

Assigned for All Purposes to:
Honorable Evan P. Kirvin
Department C-69

CLASS ACTION

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT, CONDITIONAL
CERTIFICATION, APPROVAL OF
CLASS NOTICE, SETTING OF FINAL
APPROVAL HEARING DATE**

Hearing Date: September 12, 2025
Hearing Time: 9:00 a.m.
Hearing Place: Department C-69

Complaint Filed: July 8, 2024
Trial Date: None Set

1 **TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:**

2 The Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement came before this Court,
3 the Honorable Evan P. Kirvin presiding, on September 12, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. The Court, having
4 considered the papers submitted in support of the Motion, **ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:**

5 1. The Court grants preliminary approval of the settlement based upon the
6 terms set forth in the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement,”
7 “Settlement,” or “Agreement”). Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** is a true and correct copy of the
8 Agreement. Capitalized terms shall have the definitions set forth in the Agreement.

9 2. The following Class is conditionally certified for purposes of settlement
10 only: all hourly-paid, non-exempt employees of Defendant San Diego Youth Service (“Defendant”)
11 within the State of California at any time during the period from July 8, 2020, through December
12 6, 2024 (“Class,” “Class Members,” and “Class Period”).

13 3. The settlement embodied in the Settlement Agreement appears to be fair,
14 adequate, and reasonable to the Class. The Settlement Agreement falls within the range of
15 reasonableness and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be
16 raised at the Final Approval Hearing.

17 4. Plaintiff Melisa Rivera (“Plaintiff”) is conditionally approved to serve as the
18 class representative.

19 5. Douglas Han, Shunt Tatavos-Gharajeh, and Lily Short of Justice Law
20 Corporation are conditionally approved as Class Counsel for the Class.

21 6. The Court confirms Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions as the
22 Administrator.

23 7. The Gross Settlement Amount of \$600,000 is conditionally approved.

24 8. The payment of the Class Counsel Fees Payment not to exceed \$210,000
25 (35% of the Gross Settlement Amount) to Class Counsel and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses
26 Payment for actual litigation costs incurred not to exceed \$25,000 to Class Counsel are
27 conditionally approved.

28 ///

1 9. The Class Representative Service Payment not to exceed \$10,000 to Plaintiff
2 for the services as the class representative is conditionally approved.

3 10. The payment of the Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed \$20,000
4 to the Administrator for its services is conditionally approved.

5 11. The Court conditionally approves the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004
6 (“PAGA”) Penalties not to exceed \$40,000 the Parties have allocated for the settlement of the
7 claims for PAGA penalties stemming from the alleged Labor Code violations. Seventy-five percent
8 (75%) of the PAGA Penalties (\$30,000) will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce
9 Development Agency, and the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of the PAGA Penalties
10 (\$10,000) will be paid to the Aggrieved Employees, on a pro rata basis.

11 12. A Final Approval Hearing on the question of whether the Settlement
12 Agreement, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Class
13 Representative Service Payment should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate as to
14 all Class Members who do not submit valid and timely Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement
15 is scheduled on the date and time set forth below.

16 13. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Court Approved Notice of
17 Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval (“Class Notice”), as attached
18 as **Exhibit A** to the Agreement. The Court also approves the procedure for the Class Members to
19 participate in, to opt out of, and to object to the Settlement as set forth in the Class Notice.

20 14. The Court directs the mailing of the Class Notice to all identified Class
21 Members via first-class United States Postal Service mail in accordance with the implementation
22 schedule set forth below. The Court finds the dates selected for the mailing and distribution of the
23 Class Notice meet the requirements of due process, provide the best notice practicable under the
24 circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled.

25 15. To facilitate administration of the Settlement pending final approval, the
26 Court enjoins Plaintiff and all Class Members from filing or prosecuting any claims, suits, or
27 administrative proceedings based on claims released by the Settlement unless and until such Class
28 Members have filed valid requests for exclusion with the Administrator and the time for filing valid

requests for exclusion with the Administrator has not elapsed.

16. The Court orders the following implementation schedule for proceedings:

a.	Deadline for Defendant to submit Class Data to Administrator	No later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement
b.	Deadline for Administrator to mail the Class Notice to the Class Members	No later than fourteen (14) calendar days after receiving the Class Data
c.	Deadline for the Class Members to postmark requests for exclusion, written objections, and written disputes to the Administrator	Within forty-five (45) calendar days from the initial mailing of the Class Notice
d.	Deadline for the Class Members to postmark requests for exclusion, written objections, and written disputes to the Administrator if the Class Notice was remailed	Within an additional fourteen (14) calendar days beyond the Response Deadline
e.	Deadline for Class Counsel to file Motion for Final Approval of Settlement, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Class Representative Service Payment	Within sixteen (16) court days before Final Approval Hearing in conformity with Code of Civil Procedure section 1005
f.	Final Approval Hearing	<u>102-27-25</u> at <u>9:00</u> <u>a.m.</u> / p.m. in Department C-69

Dated: October 9, 2025

IT IS SO ORDERED.

By: 

Honorable Evan P. Kirvin
Judge of the Superior Court

**PROOF OF SERVICE
1013A(3) CCP**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 751 N. Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 101, Pasadena, CA 91103 and my electronic service address is manderson@justicelawcorp.com

On December 10, 2025, I served the foregoing document described as

**ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT, CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATION, APPROVAL OF CLASS NOTICE,
SETTING OF FINAL APPROVAL HEARING DATE**

for the following case: **Melisa Rivera v. San Diego Youth Services**
LWDA/Court Case No.: **LWDA Case No.: CM-1025394-24**
Court Case No.: 24CU000113C
San Diego County Superior Court

on interested parties in this action by electronically submitting as follows:
State of California
Labor & Workforce Development Agency
800 Capitol Mall, MIC-55
Sacramento, California 95814

[X] BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Pursuant to California Senate Bill No. 836, I caused the documents described above to be electronically submitted by and through the procedure stated on the website of the State of California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

[X] STATE

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on December 10, 2025, at Pasadena, California.



Mariah Anderson