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on behalf of herself and of all others similarly situated

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ANA ORTIZ-GOMEZ, an individual, and on
behalf of all others similarly situated and
aggrieved,

Plaintiff,

v.

BEYOND RESOURCE SOLUTIONS, INC., a
California Corporation; CAPLUGS, INC., a
Delaware Corporation; GEORGE PORTILLO,
an individual; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 24STCV15833

Related to Case No.: 24STCV32252

[Assigned for all purposes to the Hon. Elaine
Lu in Dept. 9]

**DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF ANA
ORTIZ-GOMEZ IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
AND REPRESENTATIVE ACTION
SETTLEMENT**

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(erroneously sued herein as GEORGE PORTILLO), an individual

DECLARATION OF ANA ORTIZ-GOMEZ

1
2 1. I am a party to this action and reside in the State of California. I am fully competent
3 to make this declaration. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein, except for those
4 stated on information and belief, and as to those I am informed and believe them to be true. If
5 called upon to testify, I could and would testify as set forth herein.

6 2. I make this Declaration in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval
7 of Class and Representative Action Settlement.

8 3. I was employed by defendants Beyond Resource Solutions, Inc., Caplugs, Inc., and
9 Jorge Mejia (erroneously sued as George Portillo) (Collectively, "Defendants"), as a non-exempt
10 employee, with duties that included, but were not limited to, inspecting masking tape products,
11 within the state of California from September of 2019 through approximately January of 2024.

12 4. I am informed and believe that, throughout my employment with Defendants,
13 myself and other non-exempt, hourly paid employees of Defendants were not paid all wages owed
14 because we were not paid for all time under Defendants' control, or for which we were suffered
15 or permitted to work by Defendants. In addition, I am informed and believe we were not paid all
16 overtime hours worked at the overtime rate of pay owed due to, without limitation, failure to
17 record all time worked and failure to pay for off-the-clock work.

18 5. During my employment with Defendants, I often took meal periods that were after
19 the fifth hour, short, or not duty-free. I witnessed other non-exempt, hourly paid employees with
20 my job duties often taking meal periods that were after the fifth hour, short, or not duty-free, as
21 well.

22 6. I do not recall receiving any premium pay for the full, timely and uninterrupted
23 meal periods I was not provided an opportunity to take and am informed and believe that my
24 coworkers were not provided premium pay for not being provided with the opportunity to take
25 full, timely and uninterrupted meal periods either.

26 7. I do not believe I was provided with opportunities to take full, uninterrupted 10-
27 minute rest periods while working with Defendants and am informed and believe my coworkers
28 were often not provided with such an opportunity, either.

1 8. I do not recall receiving any premium pay for the full rest breaks I was not provided
2 an opportunity to take and am informed and believe that my coworkers were not provided
3 premium pay for not being provided with the opportunity to take full, uninterrupted 10-minute
4 rest periods, either.

5 9. Before and during the course of litigation, I was actively involved in assisting my
6 attorneys to support the wage and hour claims asserted. My involvement began before the initial
7 complaint was filed wherein, I provided first-hand knowledge and documentation as to
8 Defendants' practices, their ownership and corporate structure, and their wage and hour policies
9 and practices.

10 10. Part of the information I relayed was with regard to Defendants' timekeeping policies
11 and practices, and their meal and rest period policies and practices.

12 11. I provided them with all the documentation provided to me by Defendants during my
13 employment.

14 12. I assisted in reviewing time and payroll records with my attorneys, and informed
15 them of Defendants' employment policies, and whether those policies matched Defendants'
16 practices.

17 13. My attorneys called me to ask me questions over several times throughout the
18 litigation and I contacted my attorneys several times to stay updated on the case and offer my
19 assistance on any matters I could be helpful with. I was also available for mediation by telephone,
20 during which I was available to be called to answer the questions posed by the mediator regarding
21 the asserted claims, as well as arguments raised by Defendants. In addition, I worked with my
22 attorneys over the next several weeks after mediation to understand and execute a long form
23 settlement agreement.

24 14. Over the past few months since the mediation has been resolved, I have stayed in
25 touch with my attorneys to ensure that there was no undue delay in payment for other class
26 members for whom I brought this Action.

27 15. I believe that, through the present, I have spent at least 27 hours in connection with
28 this matter, which included time spent having preliminary calls with my attorneys; doing an intake

1 with my attorneys; time spent searching for documents relating to my employment; time spent
2 reading and understanding the Settlement Agreement; time spent answering calls to discuss
3 Defendants' timekeeping, pay, meal and rest periods, and to review time and payroll records; time
4 spent discussing with my attorneys Defendants' policies and practices; time spent on-call at
5 mediation; and time spent checking in on the status of the case, among other things. I also spent
6 time preparing this declaration to support Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class
7 and Representative Action Settlement.

8 16. I feel that by bringing this lawsuit, I could stand up for not only my rights but the
9 rights of other employees who suffered from the same unfair wage practices. I felt that current
10 employees might not want to share their experiences with Defendants since they feared losing
11 their jobs. This is certainly understandable as I, too, have to provide for myself and others.

12 17. By bringing this lawsuit, I have put the interests of the class ahead of my own.

13 18. I understood that I could possibly earn a small enhancement if this case is resolved
14 favorably. I also knew that I could face retaliation from Defendant and backlash from former
15 coworkers who are loyal to Defendant. I have also had to provide a general release of claims and
16 a waiver of rights under California Civil Code Section 1542 to Defendants as part of the
17 settlement. My understanding, in addition, is that if I brought this case individually, I may have
18 earned more compensation individually and on a much quicker timeline than the timeline to
19 resolve this Action.

20 19. My goal in bringing this lawsuit was to obtain a recovery on behalf of the class,
21 and, even more importantly, to put an end to what I believe are illegal practices on the part of
22 Defendants. I believe I have achieved both through this lawsuit and settlement.

23 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
24 foregoing is true and correct this 17 day of September, 2026, at
25 Buena park ca.

26 *Ana Maria Ortiz-Gomez*

27 ANA ORTIZ-GOMEZ