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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CADEEJA COHNS, individually, and on behalf
of other members of the general public similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ST. JOSEPH CENTER, a California nonprofit
corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24STCV15017

**AMENDED JOINT STIPULATION OF
CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT
AND RELEASE**

AMENDED JOINT STIPULATION OF**CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE**

This Amended Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement and Release (“Settlement” or “Settlement Agreement”) is made and entered into by and between Plaintiff Cadeeja Cohns (“Plaintiff” or “Class Representative”), as an individual and on behalf of all others similarly situated, and Defendant St. Joseph Center (“Defendant”) (collectively with Plaintiff, the “Parties”).

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are applicable to this Settlement Agreement. Definitions contained elsewhere in this Settlement Agreement will also be effective:

1. “Action” means *Cohns v. St. Joseph Center*, No. 24STCV15017 (Los Angeles County Superior Court).

2. “Attorneys’ Fees and Costs” means attorneys’ fees agreed upon by the Parties and approved by the Court for Class Counsel’s litigation and resolution of the Action, and all out-of-pocket costs incurred and to be incurred by Class Counsel in the Action, including but not limited to expert/consultant fees, investigation costs, and costs associated with documenting the Settlement, providing any notices required as part of the Settlement or Court order, securing the Court’s approval of the Settlement, administering the Settlement, and obtaining entry of a Judgment terminating the Action. Class Counsel will request attorneys’ fees not to exceed one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, or Three Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$313,333). The Attorneys’ Fees and Costs will also mean and include the additional reimbursement of any costs and expenses associated with Class Counsel’s litigation and settlement of the Action, up to Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), subject to the Court’s approval. Defendant has agreed not to oppose Class Counsel’s request for fees and reimbursement of costs as set forth above.

3. “Class Counsel” means Capstone Law APC.

4. “Class List” means a complete list of all Class Members that Defendant will diligently and in good faith compile from its records and provide to the Settlement Administrator within twenty-one (21) calendar days after Preliminary Approval of this Settlement. The Class List will be formatted in Microsoft Office Excel and will include each Class Member’s full name; most recent mailing address

and telephone number; Social Security Number; dates of employment; the respective number of Workweeks/Pay Periods that each Class Member worked during the Class Period and PAGA Period; and any other relevant information needed to calculate settlement payments.

5. “Class Member(s)” or “Settlement Class” means all persons who were employed by Defendant as non-exempt, hourly paid employees in the State of California at any time during the Class Period.

6. “Class Notice” means the Notice of Class Action Settlement, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit A.

7. “Class Period” means the period from June 14, 2020 through January 2, 2026.

8. “Class Representative Enhancement Payment” means the amount to be paid to Plaintiff in recognition of her effort and work in prosecuting the Action on behalf of Class Members. Subject to the Court granting final approval of this Settlement Agreement and subject to the exhaustion of any and all appeals, Plaintiff will request Court approval of a Class Representative Enhancement Payment of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000).

9. “Court” means the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

10. “Defendant” means Defendant St. Joseph Center.

11. “Effective Date” means the later of the following: sixty-five (65) calendar days after the Final Approval order is signed or if an appeal is taken from the Court’s overruling of objections to the Settlement, ten (10) calendar days after the appeal is withdrawn or after an appellate decision affirming the final approval decision becomes final.

12. “Final Approval” means the date on which the Court enters an order granting final approval of the Settlement Agreement.

13. “General Release Payment” means the amount to be paid to Plaintiff for a general release of all claims arising out of her employment with Defendant. Subject to the Court granting final approval of this Settlement Agreement and subject to the exhaustion of any and all appeals, Plaintiff will request Court approval of a General Release Payment of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000).

14. “Gross Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount of Nine Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$940,000), to be paid by Defendant in full satisfaction of all Released Class

1 Claims and Released PAGA Claims, which includes all Individual Settlement Payments, Attorneys'
2 Fees and Costs, Class Representative Enhancement Payment, General Release Payment, PAGA
3 Settlement Amount, and Settlement Administration Costs. This Gross Settlement Amount has been
4 agreed to by Plaintiff and Defendant based on the aggregation of the agreed-upon settlement value of
5 individual claims. In no event will Defendant be liable for more than the Gross Settlement Amount
6 except as otherwise explicitly set forth herein. There will be no reversion of the Gross Settlement
7 Amount to Defendant. Defendant will be separately responsible for any employer payroll taxes required
8 by law, including the employer FICA, FUTA, and SDI contributions, which shall not be paid from the
9 Gross Settlement Amount.

10 15. "Individual Settlement Payment" means each Participating Class Member's and PAGA
11 Member's respective shares of the Net Settlement Fund and PAGA Fund.

12 16. "Net Settlement Fund" means the portion of the Gross Settlement Amount remaining
13 after deducting the Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Class Representative Enhancement Payment, General
14 Release Payment, PAGA Settlement Amount, and Settlement Administration Costs. The Net Settlement
15 Fund will be distributed to Participating Class Members. There will be no reversion of the Net
16 Settlement Fund to Defendant.

17 17. "Notice of Objection" means a Class Member's valid and timely written objection to the
18 Settlement Agreement. For the Notice of Objection to be valid, it must include: (a) the objector's full
19 name, signature, address, and telephone number, (b) a written statement of all grounds for the objection
20 accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (c) copies of any papers, briefs, or other
21 documents upon which the objection is based; and (d) a statement whether the objector intends to appear
22 at the final fairness hearing.

23 18. "PAGA Members" means all persons who were employed by Defendant as non-
24 exempt, hourly paid employees in the State of California at any time during the PAGA Period.

25 19. "PAGA Period" means the period from July 9, 2023 through January 2, 2026.

26 20. "PAGA Settlement Amount" means the amount that the Parties have agreed to pay to
27 the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and PAGA Members in connection with
28 Plaintiff's claim under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2698,

1 *et seq.*, “PAGA”) (“PAGA Settlement”). The Parties have agreed that Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000)
2 of the Gross Settlement Amount will be allocated to the PAGA Settlement. Pursuant to PAGA, Sixty-
3 Five Percent (65%), or Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$32,500), of the PAGA Settlement
4 Amount will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“Labor and
5 Workforce Development Agency Payment”), and Thirty-Five Percent (35%), or Seventeen Thousand
6 Five Hundred Dollars (\$17,500) (“PAGA Fund”), of the PAGA Settlement will be disbursed to PAGA
7 Members, and regardless whether they request to be excluded from the Settlement Class.

8 21. “Parties” means Plaintiff and Defendant collectively.

9 22. “Participating Class Members” means all Class Members who do not submit timely and
10 valid Requests for Exclusion.

11 23. “Pay Period(s)” means, consistent with the definition provided by Labor Code section
12 204, the number of pay periods during which each PAGA Member worked during the PAGA Period.
13 All PAGA Members will be credited with at least one Pay Period during the PAGA Period.

14 24. “Plaintiff” means Plaintiff Cadeeja Cohns.

15 25. “Preliminary Approval” means the date on which the Court enters an order granting
16 preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement.

17 26. “Released Class Claims” means all claims, rights, demands, liabilities, and causes of
18 action that are alleged in the operative Complaint, or which could have been alleged by reason of, or in
19 connection with, any matter or fact set forth or referred to in the operative Complaint, including: failure
20 to pay wages, including minimum and overtime wages; failure to provide meal periods or pay meal
21 period premiums; failure to authorize and permit rest periods or pay rest period premiums; failure to
22 timely pay all wages during employment; failure to timely pay final wages; failure to pay sick pay
23 wages; failure to pay vacation wages; failure to provide accurate and itemized wage statements; failure to
24 maintain records; failure to reimburse necessary expenses; and unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive
25 business practices.

26 27. “Released PAGA Claims” means all claims for civil penalties under California Labor
27 Code §§ 2698, *et seq.*, that were alleged or could reasonably have been alleged based on the same facts
28 alleged in Plaintiff’s LWDA letter during the PAGA Period, including PAGA civil penalties for: failure

1 to pay wages, including minimum and overtime wages; failure to provide meal periods or pay meal
2 period premiums; failure to authorize and permit rest periods or pay rest period premiums; failure to
3 timely pay all wages during employment; failure to timely pay final wages; failure to pay sick pay
4 wages; failure to pay vacation wages; failure to provide accurate and itemized wage statements; failure to
5 maintain records; and failure to reimburse necessary expenses. Plaintiff shall file an amended PAGA
6 notice with the LWDA that alleges the additional facts and theories supporting the additional claims
7 negotiated between the Parties not already included within Plaintiff's PAGA Notice or operative
8 Complaint.

9 28. "Released Parties" means Defendant and its respective past, present and future direct or
10 indirect parents, subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, assigns, joint venturers and affiliated entities as
11 well as their past, present, and future owners, officers, shareholders, directors, members, managers,
12 employees, partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, shareholders, attorneys, insurers, joint employers, agents, any
13 successors, assigns or entity that could be jointly liable with Defendant, and any other individual or entity
14 that could be liable for any of the Released Class Claims, Released PAGA Claims and/or general release
15 from Plaintiff.

16 29. "Request for Exclusion" means a timely letter submitted by a Class Member indicating a
17 request to be excluded from the Settlement Class. The Request for Exclusion must: (a) set forth the
18 name, address, telephone number and last four digits of the Social Security Number of the Class
19 Member requesting exclusion; (b) be signed by the Class Member; (c) be returned to the Settlement
20 Administrator; (d) clearly state that the Class Member does not wish to be included in the Settlement;
21 and (e) be faxed or postmarked on or before the Response Deadline.

22 30. "Response Deadline" means the deadline by which Class Members must postmark or
23 fax to the Settlement Administrator Requests for Exclusion, postmark or fax disputes concerning the
24 calculation of Individual Settlement Payments, or postmark Notices of Objection to the Settlement
25 Administrator. The Response Deadline will be forty-five (45) calendar days from the initial mailing of
26 the Class Notice by the Settlement Administrator, unless the forty-fifth (45th) calendar day falls on a
27 Sunday or State holiday, in which case the Response Deadline will be extended to the next day on which
28 the U.S. Postal Service is open.

31. “Settlement Administration Costs” means the costs payable from the Gross Settlement Amount to the Settlement Administrator for administering this Settlement, including, but not limited to, printing, distributing, and tracking documents for this Settlement, tax reporting, distributing the Gross Settlement Amount, and providing necessary reports and declarations, as requested by the Parties. The Settlement Administration Costs will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, including, if necessary, any such costs exceeding the amount represented by the Settlement Administrator as being the maximum costs necessary to administer the Settlement. Settlement Administration Costs are currently estimated to be Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000).

32. “Settlement Administrator” means Phoenix Settlement Administrators, or any other third-party class action settlement administrator agreed to by the Parties and approved by the Court for the purposes of administering this Settlement. The Parties each represent that they do not have any financial interest in the Settlement Administrator or otherwise have a relationship with the Settlement Administrator that could create a conflict of interest.

33. “Workweeks” means any week during which a Class Member was employed by Defendant in a non-exempt position and performed work during the Class Period. All Class Members will be credited with at least one Workweek during the Class Period.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

Subject to Court approval, the Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the Settlement Class, and Defendant agree as follows:

34. Amended PAGA Notice. As a condition of settlement, Plaintiff will submit an amended notice to the LWDA pursuant to California Labor Code section 2699.3, conforming the allegations set forth in Plaintiff’s PAGA notice to the scope of the Released PAGA Claims. Such amended notice will include any additional factual allegations, legal theories, and predicate Labor Code violations necessary to align the notice with the claims being released and to ensure that Plaintiff is fully deputized to compromise and settle all claims encompassed within the Released PAGA Claims.

35. Funding of the Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant will fund the Gross Settlement Amount in three (3) installments. Within five (5) business days after the Effective Date, Defendant will deposit one installment of Three Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and

Thirty-Three Cents (\$313,333.33) into a Qualified Settlement Fund (“QSF”) to be established by the Settlement Administrator. Defendant shall deposit a second installment of Three Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and Thirty-Three Cents (\$313,333.33) into the QSF within eight (8) months after the first installment. The third, and final, installment of Three Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and Thirty-Four Cents (\$313,333.34) will be deposited by Defendant into the QSF within seven (7) months of the second payment. The date on which Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount is referred to as the “Funding Date.” Should any installment payment due under this Settlement not be received by the Settlement Administrator on or before its due date, Plaintiff will be required to submit a demand for payment after which Defendant shall have ten (10) business days to fund the installment payment. Should such payment not occur, Defendant shall be obligated to pay interest on the outstanding overdue amount at a rate of ten percent (10%) per annum, calculated from the due date of the unpaid installment until the date of its full payment.

36. Attorneys’ Fees and Costs. Defendant agrees not to oppose or impede any application or motion for attorneys’ fees and costs by Class Counsel for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs of not more than Three Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$313,333), plus the reimbursement of all out-of-pocket costs and expenses associated with Class Counsel’s litigation and settlement of the Action (including expert/consultant fees, mediation fees, investigations costs, etc.), not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), both of which will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.

37. Class Representative Enhancement Payment. In recognition of her effort and work in prosecuting the Action on behalf of Class Members, Defendant agrees not to oppose or impede any application or motion for a Class Representative Enhancement Payment of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000). The Class Representative Enhancement Payment will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount and will be in addition to Plaintiff’s Individual Settlement Payment and General Release Payment paid pursuant to the Settlement. Plaintiff will be solely and legally responsible to pay any and all applicable taxes on the Class Representative Enhancement Payment. Plaintiff understands and agrees that this Settlement Agreement shall remain in full force and effect even if the full amount of Class

1 Representative Enhancement Payment sought by Plaintiff is not ultimately awarded by the Court. The
2 Settlement Administrator (and not Defendant) will issue an IRS Form 1099 to Plaintiff reflecting her
3 Class Representative Enhancement Payment.

4 38. General Release Payment. In exchange for a general release of all claims arising out of
5 her employment with Defendant, Defendant agrees not to oppose or impede any application or motion
6 for a General Release Payment of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000). The General Release Payment
7 will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount and will be in addition to Plaintiff's Individual
8 Settlement Payment and Class Representative Enhancement Payment paid pursuant to the Settlement.
9 Plaintiff will be solely and legally responsible to pay any and all applicable taxes on the General Release
10 Payment. Plaintiff understands and agrees that this Settlement Agreement shall remain in full force and
11 effect even if the full amount of General Release Payment sought by Plaintiff is not ultimately awarded
12 by the Court. The Settlement Administrator (and not Defendant) will issue an IRS Form 1099 to Plaintiff
13 reflecting her General Release Payment.

14 39. Settlement Administration Costs. The Settlement Administrator will be paid for the
15 reasonable costs of administration of the Settlement and distribution of payments from the Gross
16 Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000). These costs,
17 which will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, will include, *inter alia*, the required tax reporting
18 on the Individual Settlement Payments, the issuing of 1099 and W-2 IRS Forms, distributing Class
19 Notices, calculating and distributing the Gross Settlement Amount, and providing necessary reports and
20 declarations.

21 40. PAGA Settlement Amount. Subject to Court approval, the Parties agree that the amount
22 of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) from the Gross Settlement Amount will be designated for
23 satisfaction of Plaintiff's PAGA claim. Pursuant to PAGA, Sixty-Five Percent (65%), or Thirty-Two
24 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$32,500), of this sum will be paid to the LWDA and Thirty-Five
25 Percent (35%), or Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$17,500), will be paid to PAGA
26 Members in proportion to the number of Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.

27 41. No Right to Exclusion or Objections to the PAGA Settlement. Because this settlement
28 resolves claims and actions brought pursuant to PAGA by Plaintiff acting as a proxy and as a Private

1 Attorney General of, and for, the State of California and the LWDA, the Parties agree that no PAGA
2 Member has the right to exclude himself or herself from the release of the Released PAGA Claims, and
3 all PAGA Members will receive their share of the PAGA Fund. The Parties also agree that no PAGA
4 Member has the right to object to the PAGA Settlement Amount.

5 42. Net Settlement Fund. The entire Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to Participating
6 Class Members. No portion of the Net Settlement Fund will revert to or be retained by Defendant.

7 43. PAGA Fund. The entire PAGA Fund will be distributed to all PAGA Members. No
8 portion of the PAGA Fund will revert to or be retained by Defendant.

9 44. Individual Settlement Payment Calculations. Individual Settlement Payments will be
10 calculated and apportioned from the Net Settlement Fund and PAGA Fund based on the number of
11 Workweeks a Class Member worked during the Class Period and PAGA Period. Specific calculations of
12 Individual Settlement Payments will be made as follows:

13 44(a) Payments from the Net Settlement Fund. Defendant will calculate the total
14 number of Workweeks worked by each Class Member during the Class
15 Period and the aggregate total number of Workweeks worked by all Class
16 Members during the Class Period. To determine each Class Member's
17 estimated "Individual Settlement Payment" from the Net Settlement Fund,
18 the Settlement Administrator will use the following formula: The Net
19 Settlement Fund will be divided by the aggregate total number of
20 Workweeks during the Class Period, resulting in the "Workweek Value."
21 Each Class Member's "Individual Settlement Payment" will be calculated
22 by multiplying each individual Class Member's total number of Workweeks
23 by the Workweek Value. The Individual Settlement Payment will be
24 reduced by any required deductions for each Participating Class Member as
25 specifically set forth herein, including employee-side tax withholdings or
26 deductions. The entire Net Settlement Fund will be disbursed to all Class
27 Members who do not submit timely and valid Requests for Exclusion. If
28 there are any valid and timely Requests for Exclusion, the Settlement

1 Administrator shall proportionately increase the Individual Settlement
2 Payment for each Participating Class Member according to the number of
3 Workweeks worked, so that the amount actually distributed to the
4 Settlement Class equals 100% of the Net Settlement Fund.

5 44(b) Payments from the PAGA Fund. Defendant will calculate the total number
6 of Pay Periods worked by each PAGA Member during the PAGA Period
7 and the aggregate total number of Pay Periods worked by all PAGA
8 Members during the PAGA Period. To determine each PAGA Member's
9 estimated "Individual Settlement Payment," the Settlement Administrator
10 will use the following formula: The PAGA Fund will be divided by the
11 aggregate total number of Pay Periods during the PAGA Period, resulting in
12 the "PAGA Pay Periods Value." Each PAGA Member's "Individual
13 Settlement Payment" will be calculated by multiplying each individual
14 PAGA Member's total number of Pay Periods by the PAGA Workweek
15 Value. The entire PAGA Fund will be disbursed to all PAGA Members.

16 45. No Credit Toward Benefit Plans. The Individual Settlement Payments made to
17 Participating Class Members under this Settlement, as well as any other payments made pursuant to this
18 Settlement, will not be utilized to calculate any additional benefits under any benefit plans to which any
19 Class Members may be eligible, including, but not limited to profit-sharing plans, bonus plans, 401(k)
20 plans, stock purchase plans, vacation plans, sick leave plans, PTO plans, and any other benefit plan.
21 Rather, it is the Parties' intention that this Settlement Agreement will not affect any rights, contributions,
22 or amounts to which any Class Members may be entitled under any benefit plans.

23 46. Administration Process. The Parties agree to cooperate in the administration of the
24 settlement and to make all reasonable efforts to control and minimize the costs and expenses incurred in
25 administration of the Settlement.

26 47. Delivery of the Class List. Within twenty-one (21) calendar days of Preliminary
27 Approval, Defendant will provide the Class List to the Settlement Administrator.

28 48. Notice by First-Class U.S. Mail. Within ten (10) calendar days after receiving the Class

List from Defendant, the Settlement Administrator will mail a Class Notice to all Class Members via regular First-Class U.S. Mail, using the most current, known mailing addresses identified in the Class List.

49. Confirmation of Updated Contact Information in the Class Lists. Prior to mailing, the Settlement Administrator will perform a search based on the National Change of Address Database for information to update and correct for any known or identifiable address changes. Any Class Notices returned to the Settlement Administrator as non-deliverable on or before the Response Deadline will, within five (5) business days of receipt, be sent promptly via regular First-Class U.S. Mail to the forwarding address affixed thereto and the Settlement Administrator will indicate the date of such re-mailing on the Class Notice. If no forwarding address is provided, the Settlement Administrator will promptly attempt to determine the correct address using a skip-trace, or other search using the name, address and/or Social Security Number of the Class Member involved, and will then perform a single re-mailing. Those Class Members who receive a re-mailed Class Notice, whether by skip-trace or by request, will have either (a) an additional fifteen (15) calendar days or (b) until the Response Deadline, whichever is later, to submit a Request for Exclusion or an objection to the Settlement.

50. Class Notices. All Class Members will be mailed a Class Notice. Each Class Notice will provide: (a) information regarding the nature of the Action; (b) a summary of the Settlement's principal terms; (c) the Settlement Class and PAGA Member definitions; (d) the total number of Workweeks each respective Class Member and PAGA Member worked for Defendant during the Class Period and PAGA Period; (e) each Class Member's and PAGA Member's estimated Individual Settlement Payment and the formula for calculating Individual Settlement Payments; (f) the dates which comprise the Class Period and PAGA Period; (g) instructions on how to submit Requests for Exclusion or Notices of Objection; (h) the deadlines by which the Class Member must postmark or fax Request for Exclusions, or postmark Notices of Objection to the Settlement; and (i) the claims to be released.

51. Disputed Information on Class Notices. Class Members will have an opportunity to dispute the information provided in their Class Notices. To the extent Class Members dispute their employment dates or the number of Workweeks on record, Class Members may produce evidence to the Settlement Administrator showing that such information is inaccurate. Defendant's records will be

1 presumed correct, but the Settlement Administrator shall contact the Parties regarding the dispute and the
2 Parties will work in good faith to resolve it. To notify the Settlement Administrator of a dispute, a Class
3 Member must written letter that: (a) contains the case name and number of the Action; (b) contains the
4 full name, address, telephone number, signature, and the last four digits of the Social Security Number of
5 the disputing Class Member; (c) clearly states that the Class Member disputes the number of Workweeks
6 or Pay Periods credited to him or her and what he or she contends is the correct number to be credited to
7 him or her during the applicable timeframe; and (d) includes information and/or attaches documentation
8 demonstrating the correct number of Workweeks or Pay Periods that he or she contends should be
9 credited to him or her. All disputes must be postmarked on or before the Response Deadline, and will be
10 decided within ten (10) business days after the Response Deadline.

11 52. Defective Submissions. If a Class Member's Request for Exclusion is defective as to the
12 requirements listed herein, that Class Member will be given an opportunity to cure the defect(s). The
13 Settlement Administrator will mail the Class Member a cure letter within three (3) business days of
14 receiving the defective submission to advise the Class Member that his/her/their submission is defective
15 and that the defect must be cured to render the Request for Exclusion valid. The Class Member will have
16 until (a) the Response Deadline or (b) fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the cure letter,
17 whichever date is later, to postmark or fax a revised Request for Exclusion. If the revised Request for
18 Exclusion is not postmarked or received by fax within that period, it will be deemed untimely.

19 53. Request for Exclusion Procedures. Any Class Member wishing to opt-out from the
20 Settlement Agreement must sign and fax or postmark a written Request for Exclusion to the Settlement
21 Administrator within the Response Deadline. In the case of Requests for Exclusion that are mailed to the
22 Settlement Administrator, the postmark date will be the exclusive means to determine whether a Request
23 for Exclusion has been timely submitted. Because future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion
24 upon entry of the Judgment, PAGA Members are deemed to release the Released PAGA Claims and are
25 eligible for pro-rata share of the PAGA Fund.

26 54. Escalator. Defendant represents that as of February 4, 2026, Class Members worked an
27 aggregate total of approximately Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Fifty (66,450) Workweeks during
28 the Class Period. If the actual aggregate total of Workweeks worked during the Class Period is greater

1 than Ten Percent (10%) of this estimate, then Defendant must either: (a) increase the Gross Settlement
2 Amount proportionately for each Workweek above the Ten Percent (10%) allowance (e.g., if the total
3 number of Workweeks increases by 11%, the Gross Settlement Amount will increase by 1%); or (b)
4 advance the end date of the Class Period and PAGA Period to the last date on which the total number of
5 Workweeks worked by Class Members in aggregate during the Class Period is no greater than Seventy-
6 Three Thousand Ninety-Five (73,095).

7 55. Settlement Terms Bind All Class Members Who Do Not Opt-Out. Any Class Member
8 who does not affirmatively opt-out of the Settlement Agreement by submitting a timely and valid
9 Request for Exclusion will be bound by all of its terms, including those pertaining to the Released Class
10 Claims, as well as any Judgment that may be entered by the Court if it grants final approval to the
11 Settlement.

12 56. Releases by Participating Class Members. Upon the Funding Date, and except as to such
13 rights or claims as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, each Participating Class Member,
14 together and individually, on their behalf and on behalf of their respective heirs, executors,
15 administrators, agents, and attorneys, shall fully and forever release and discharge all of the Released
16 Parties, or any of them, from each of the Released Class Claims arising during the Class Period.

17 57. Releases by PAGA Members. Upon the Funding Date, and except as to such rights or
18 claims as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, each PAGA Member, together and individually,
19 on their behalf and on behalf of their respective heirs, executors, administrators, agents, and attorneys,
20 shall fully and forever release and discharge all of the Released Parties, or any of them, from each of the
21 Released PAGA Claims during the PAGA Period.

22 58. Defendant's Right to Rescind. Defendant will have, in its sole discretion, the right to
23 void and withdraw from the Settlement if, at any time prior to Final Approval, Five Percent (5%) or
24 more of Class Members opt out of the settlement and/or if the combined Workweeks worked by Class
25 Members who timely exclude themselves amounts to more than 5% of the total Workweeks worked by
26 all Class Members. Defendant must exercise this right of rescission in writing to Class Counsel within
27 thirty (30) calendar days after the Response Deadline. If the option to rescind is exercised, then
28 Defendant will be solely responsible for all Settlement Administration Costs incurred to the date of

1 rescission.

2 59. Objection Procedures. To object to the Settlement Agreement, a Class Member may
3 either postmark a valid Notice of Objection to the Settlement Administrator on or before the Response
4 Deadline, or appear in person at the Final Approval Hearing. Class Members who fail to object either by
5 submitting a valid Notice of Objection or appearing in person at the Final Approval Hearing will be
6 deemed to have waived all objections to the Settlement and will be foreclosed from making any
7 objections, whether by appeal or otherwise, to the Settlement Agreement. At no time will any of the
8 Parties or their counsel seek to solicit or otherwise encourage Class Members to submit written
9 objections to the Settlement Agreement or appeal from the final approval order and judgment. Class
10 Counsel will not represent any Class Members with respect to any such objections to this Settlement. If a
11 Class Member timely submits both a Notice of Objection and a Request for Exclusion, the Request for
12 Exclusion will be given effect and considered valid, the Notice of Objection shall be rejected, and the
13 Class Member shall not participate in or be bound by the Settlement.

14 60. Certification Reports Regarding Individual Settlement Payment Calculations. The
15 Settlement Administrator will provide Defendant's counsel and Class Counsel a weekly report that
16 certifies the number of Class Members who have submitted valid Requests for Exclusion or objections to
17 the Settlement, and promptly report whether any Class Member has submitted a challenge to any
18 information contained in their Class Notice, including those received after the Response Deadline.
19 Additionally, the Settlement Administrator will promptly provide to counsel for both Parties any updated
20 reports regarding the administration of the Settlement Agreement as needed or requested.

21 61. Distribution Timing of Individual Settlement Payments. Within ten (10) calendar days
22 of the Funding Date, the Settlement Administrator will issue payments to: (a) Participating Class
23 Members and PAGA Members; (b) the Labor and Workforce Development Agency; (c) Plaintiff; and
24 (d) Class Counsel. The Settlement Administrator will also issue a payment to itself for Court-approved
25 services performed in connection with the Settlement.

26 62. Un-cashed Settlement Checks. Funds represented by Individual Settlement Payment
27 checks returned as undeliverable and Individual Settlement Payment checks remaining un-cashed for
28 more than one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days after issuance will be tendered to the State

Controller's Office, Unclaimed Property Division in the name of each Class Member who did not negotiate his or her check, thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b).

63. Certification of Completion. Upon completion of administration of the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will provide a written declaration under oath to certify such completion to the Court and counsel for all Parties.

64. Treatment of Individual Settlement Payments. All payments to Participating Class Members from the Net Settlement Fund will be allocated as follows: (a) Fifteen Percent (15%) of each payment will be allocated as wages for which IRS Forms W-2 will be issued; and (b) Eighty-Five Percent (85%) will be allocated as non-wages for which IRS Forms 1099-MISC will be issued. Payments issued to PAGA Members from the PAGA Fund will be treated as non-wages for which IRS Forms 1099-MISC will be issued.

65. Administration of Taxes by the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will be responsible for issuing to Plaintiff, Participating Class Members, PAGA Members, and Class Counsel any W-2, 1099, or other tax forms as may be required by law for all amounts paid pursuant to this Settlement. The Settlement Administrator will also be responsible for forwarding all payroll taxes and penalties to the appropriate government authorities.

66. Tax Liability. The Parties make no representation as to the tax treatment or legal effect of the payments called for hereunder, and Plaintiff, Participating Class Members, and PAGA Members are not relying on any statement, representation, or calculation by Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant or by the Settlement Administrator in this regard.

67. Circular 230 Disclaimer. EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT (FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE "ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY" AND EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT OTHER THAN THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY, AN "OTHER PARTY") ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT (1) NO PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT, AND NO WRITTEN COMMUNICATION OR DISCLOSURE BETWEEN OR AMONG THE PARTIES OR THEIR ATTORNEYS AND OTHER ADVISERS, IS OR WAS INTENDED TO BE, NOR WILL ANY SUCH COMMUNICATION OR DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTE OR BE CONSTRUED

OR BE RELIED UPON AS, TAX ADVICE WITHIN THE MEANING OF UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR 230 (31 CFR PART 10, AS AMENDED); (2) THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY (A) HAS RELIED EXCLUSIVELY UPON HIS, HER, OR ITS OWN, INDEPENDENT LEGAL AND TAX COUNSEL FOR ADVICE (INCLUDING TAX ADVICE) IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT, (B) HAS NOT ENTERED INTO THIS AGREEMENT BASED UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF ANY OTHER PARTY OR ANY ATTORNEY OR ADVISOR TO ANY OTHER PARTY, AND (C) IS NOT ENTITLED TO RELY UPON ANY COMMUNICATION OR DISCLOSURE BY ANY ATTORNEY OR ADVISER TO ANY OTHER PARTY TO AVOID ANY TAX PENALTY THAT MAY BE IMPOSED ON THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY; AND (3) NO ATTORNEY OR ADVISER TO ANY OTHER PARTY HAS IMPOSED ANY LIMITATION THAT PROTECTS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY SUCH ATTORNEY'S OR ADVISER'S TAX STRATEGIES (REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH LIMITATION IS LEGALLY BINDING) UPON DISCLOSURE BY THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY OF THE TAX TREATMENT OR TAX STRUCTURE OF ANY TRANSACTION, INCLUDING ANY TRANSACTION CONTEMPLATED BY THIS AGREEMENT.

68. No Prior Assignments. The Parties and their counsel represent, covenant, and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity any portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action or right herein released and discharged.

69. Nullification of Settlement Agreement. In the event that: (a) the Court does not finally approve the Settlement as provided herein; or (b) the Settlement does not become final for any other reason, then this Settlement Agreement, and any documents generated to bring it into effect, will be null and void. Any order or judgment entered by the Court in furtherance of this Settlement Agreement will likewise be treated as void from the beginning.

70. Preliminary Approval Hearing. Plaintiff will obtain a hearing before the Court to request the Preliminary Approval of the Settlement Agreement, and the entry of a Preliminary Approval Order for: (a) conditional certification of the Settlement Class for settlement purposes only, (b) preliminary

1 approval of the proposed Settlement Agreement, (c) setting a date for a final fairness hearing. The
2 Preliminary Approval Order will provide for the Class Notice to be sent to all Class Members as
3 specified herein. In conjunction with the Preliminary Approval hearing, Plaintiff will submit to the Court
4 this Settlement Agreement, which sets forth the terms of this Settlement, and will include the proposed
5 Notice of Class Action Settlement, attached as Exhibit A. Class Counsel will be responsible for drafting
6 all documents necessary to obtain preliminary approval.

7 71. Final Settlement Approval Hearing and Entry of Judgment. Upon expiration of the
8 deadlines to postmark Requests for Exclusion or objections to the Settlement Agreement, and with the
9 Court's permission, a final fairness hearing will be conducted to determine the Final Approval of the
10 Settlement Agreement along with the amounts properly payable for: (a) Attorneys' Fees and Costs; (b)
11 the Class Representative Enhancement Payment and General Release Payment; (c) Individual
12 Settlement Payments; (d) the Labor and Workforce Development Agency Payment; (e) all Settlement
13 Administration Costs. Class Counsel will be responsible for drafting all documents necessary to obtain
14 final approval. Class Counsel will also be responsible for drafting the attorneys' fees and costs
15 application to be heard at the final approval hearing.

16 72. Judgment and Continued Jurisdiction. Upon final approval of the Settlement by the
17 Court or after the final fairness hearing, the Parties will present the Judgment to the Court for its
18 approval. After entry of the Judgment, the Court will have continuing jurisdiction under California Code
19 of Civil Procedure section 664.6 solely for purposes of addressing: (a) the interpretation and enforcement
20 of the terms of the Settlement, (b) Settlement administration matters, and (c) such post-Judgment matters
21 as may be appropriate under court rules or as set forth in this Settlement Agreement. A copy of the
22 Judgment will be posted to the Settlement Administrator's website.

23 73. Release by Plaintiff. Upon the Funding Date, in addition to the claims being released by
24 all Participating Class Members, Plaintiff will release and forever discharge the Released Parties, to the
25 fullest extent permitted by law, of and from any and all claims, known and unknown, asserted and not
26 asserted, which Plaintiff has or may have against the Released Parties as of the date of execution of this
27 Settlement Agreement. To the extent the foregoing release is a release to which Section 1542 of the
28 California Civil Code or similar provisions of other applicable law may apply, Plaintiff expressly waives

any and all rights and benefits conferred upon her by the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code or similar provisions of applicable law which are as follows:

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.

74. Exhibits Incorporated by Reference. The terms of this Settlement Agreement include the terms set forth in any attached Exhibits, which are incorporated by this reference as though fully set forth herein. Any Exhibits to this Settlement Agreement are an integral part of the Settlement.

75. Entire Agreement. This Settlement Agreement and any attached Exhibits constitute the entirety of the Parties' settlement terms. No other prior or contemporaneous written or oral agreements may be deemed binding on the Parties. The Parties expressly recognize California Civil Code Section 1625 and California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1856(a), which provide that a written agreement is to be construed according to its terms and may not be varied or contradicted by extrinsic evidence, and the Parties agree that no such extrinsic oral or written representations or terms will modify, vary or contradict the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

76. Amendment or Modification. No amendment, change, or modification to this Settlement Agreement will be valid unless in writing and signed, either by the Parties or their counsel, and approved by the Court.

77. Authorization to Enter Into Settlement Agreement. Counsel for all Parties warrant and represent they are expressly authorized by the Parties whom they represent to negotiate this Settlement Agreement and to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Settlement Agreement to effectuate its terms and to execute any other documents required to effectuate the terms of this Settlement Agreement. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts to effect the implementation of the Settlement. If the Parties are unable to reach agreement on the form or content of any document needed to implement the Settlement, or on any

supplemental provisions that may become necessary to effectuate the terms of this Settlement, the Parties may seek the assistance of the Court to resolve such disagreement.

78. Binding on Successors and Assigns. This Settlement Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors or assigns of the Parties hereto, as previously defined.

79. California Law Governs. All terms of this Settlement Agreement and Exhibits hereto will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California.

80. Execution and Counterparts. This Settlement Agreement is subject only to the execution of all Parties. However, the Settlement Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them, including electronic (e.g., DocuSign), facsimile, and scanned copies of the signature page, will be deemed to be one and the same instrument.

81. Acknowledgment that the Settlement is Fair and Reasonable. The Parties believe this Settlement Agreement is a fair, adequate and reasonable settlement of the Action and have arrived at this Settlement after arm's-length negotiations and in the context of adversarial litigation, taking into account all relevant factors, present and potential. The Parties further acknowledge that they are each represented by competent counsel and that they have had an opportunity to consult with their counsel regarding the fairness and reasonableness of this Settlement.

82. Invalidity of Any Provision. Before declaring any provision of this Settlement Agreement invalid, the Court will first attempt to construe the provision as valid to the fullest extent possible consistent with applicable precedents so as to define all provisions of this Settlement Agreement valid and enforceable.

83. Waiver of Certain Appeals. The Parties agree to waive appeals and to stipulate to class certification for purposes of this Settlement only; except, however, that Plaintiff or Class Counsel may appeal any reduction to the Attorneys' Fees and Costs below the amount they request from the Court, and either party may appeal any court order that materially alters the Settlement Agreement's terms.

84. Class Action Certification for Settlement Purposes Only. The Parties agree to stipulate to class action certification for purposes of the Settlement only. If, for any reason, the Settlement is not approved, the stipulation to certification will be void. The Parties further agree that certification for purposes of the Settlement is not an admission that class action certification is proper under the standards

1 applied to contested certification motions and that this Settlement Agreement will not be admissible in
2 this or any other proceeding as evidence that either (a) a class action should be certified or (b) Defendant
3 is liable to Plaintiff or any Class Member, other than according to the Settlement's terms.

4 85. Non-Admission of Liability. The Parties enter into this Settlement to resolve the dispute
5 that has arisen between them and to avoid the burden, expense and risk of continued litigation. In
6 entering into this Settlement, Defendant does not admit, and specifically denies, that it violated any
7 federal, state, or local law; violated any regulations or guidelines promulgated pursuant to any statute or
8 any other applicable laws, regulations or legal requirements; breached any contract; violated or breached
9 any duty; engaged in any misrepresentation or deception; or engaged in any other unlawful conduct with
10 respect to its employees. Neither this Settlement Agreement, nor any of its terms or provisions, nor any
11 of the negotiations connected with it, will be construed as an admission or concession by Defendant of
12 any such violations or failures to comply with any applicable law. Except as necessary in a proceeding to
13 enforce the terms of this Settlement, this Settlement Agreement and its terms and provisions will not be
14 offered or received as evidence in any action or proceeding to establish any liability or admission on the
15 part of Defendant or to establish the existence of any condition constituting a violation of, or a non-
16 compliance with, federal, state, local or other applicable law.

17 86. No Public Comment: Prior to Preliminary Approval, the Parties and their counsel agree
18 that they will not issue any press releases, initiate any contact with the press, respond to any press
19 inquiry, or have any communication with the press about the fact, amount or terms of the Settlement.

20 87. Waiver. No waiver of any condition or covenant contained in this Settlement Agreement
21 or failure to exercise a right or remedy by any of the Parties hereto will be considered to imply or
22 constitute a further waiver by such party of the same or any other condition, covenant, right or remedy.

23 88. Enforcement Actions. In the event that one or more of the Parties institutes any legal
24 action or other proceeding against any other Party or Parties to enforce the provisions of this Settlement
25 or to declare rights and/or obligations under this Settlement, the successful Party or Parties will be
26 entitled to recover from the unsuccessful Party or Parties reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, including
27 expert witness fees incurred in connection with any enforcement actions.

28 89. Mutual Preparation. The Parties have had a full opportunity to negotiate the terms and

conditions of this Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, this Settlement Agreement will not be construed more strictly against one party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it may have been prepared by counsel for one of the Parties, it being recognized that, because of the arms'-length negotiations between the Parties, all Parties have contributed to the preparation of this Settlement Agreement.

90. Representation By Counsel. The Parties acknowledge that they have been represented by counsel throughout all negotiations that preceded the execution of this Settlement Agreement, and that this Settlement Agreement has been executed with the consent and advice of counsel. Further, Plaintiff and Class Counsel warrant and represent that there are no liens on the Settlement Agreement.

91. All Terms Subject to Final Court Approval. All amounts and procedures described in this Settlement Agreement herein will be subject to final Court approval.

92. Cooperation and Execution of Necessary Documents. All Parties will cooperate in good faith and execute all documents to the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

93. Binding Agreement. The Parties warrant that they understand and have full authority to enter into this Settlement Agreement, and further intend that this Settlement Agreement will be fully enforceable and binding on all parties, and agree that it will be admissible and subject to disclosure in any proceeding to enforce its terms, notwithstanding any mediation confidentiality provisions that otherwise might apply under federal or state law.

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

Dated: 7/15/2026

PLAINTIFF
DocuSigned by:

Cadeeja Cohns
Cadeeja Cohns

Dated: 07/20/2026

DEFENDANT

Ryan Smith
Ryan Smith (Jul 20, 2026 14:08:42 PDT)

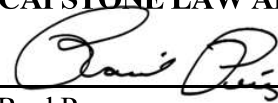
Ryan Smith
Please Print Name of Authorized Signatory
ST. JOSEPH CENTER

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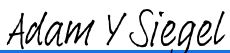
CAPSTONE LAW APC

Dated: 7/15/2026

By: 
Raul Perez
Attorneys for Plaintiff Cadeeja Cohns

JACKSON LEWIS P.C.

Dated: 07/20/2026

By: 
[Adam Y Siegel \(Jul 20, 2026 14:19:36 PDT\)](#)
Adam Siegel
Attorneys for Defendant St. Joseph Center

4927-5876-1373, v. 2

Exhibit A

Cohns v. St. Joseph Center, No. 24STCV15017
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

You are not being sued. This notice affects your rights. Please read it carefully

Si desea una traducción al Español de este Aviso, por favor llame al administrador al ***--*******

To: All persons who were employed by Defendant St. Joseph Center (“Defendant”) as non-exempt, hourly paid employees in the State of California at any time during the period from June 14, 2020 through January 2, 2026 (“Class Members”).

All persons who were employed by Defendant as non-exempt, hourly paid employees in the State of California at any time during the period from July 9, 2023 through January 2, 2026 (“PAGA Members”).

On _____, the Honorable Laura A. Seigle of the Los Angeles County Superior Court granted preliminary approval of this class action settlement and ordered the litigants to notify all Class Members of the settlement. **You have received this notice because Defendant’s records indicate that you are a Class Member, and therefore entitled to a payment from the settlement.**

Unless you choose to opt out of the settlement by following the procedures described below, you will be deemed a Class Member and, if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, you will be mailed a check for your share of the settlement fund. The Final Approval Hearing on the adequacy, reasonableness, and fairness of the Settlement will be held at __:00 __.m. on _____, 2026 in Department 17 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

You are not required to attend the hearing, but if you wish to attend, you may attend the hearing telephonically (remotely), which can be set up through LA Court Connect (www.lacourt.org/lacc/).

Please also note that the Final Approval Hearing may be rescheduled by the Court to another date and/or time. Please visit [settlement website] for any scheduling changes.

If you move, you must send the Settlement 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 Settlement 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 deemed a “Participating Class Member,” and will be eligible for a payment from the Net Settlement Fund and, if you are also a PAGA Member, the PAGA Fund. In exchange, you will be bound by the terms of the proposed Settlement and give up your right to assert wage and hour claims against Defendant based on the same facts alleged in the Action during the Class Period.
---	--

You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement	If you don't want to participate in the proposed class settlement, you can opt-out of the class settlement by sending the Settlement Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded, you will no longer be eligible for a payment from the Net Settlement Fund and will not be bound by the terms of the proposed class settlement.
The Opt-out Deadline is [DATE]	You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. PAGA Members remain eligible to receive a payment from the PAGA Fund and must give up their rights to pursue PAGA penalty claims against Defendants based on the facts alleged in the Action during the PAGA Period.
Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement	All Class Members who do not opt-out ("Participating Class Members") can object to any aspect of the proposed class settlement, but not the PAGA settlement.
Written Objections Must be Submitted by [DATE]	
You Can Participate in the [DATE] Final Approval Hearing	The Court's Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on [DATE] in Department 17 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. 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. If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement despite your objection, you will receive a payment from the Net Settlement Fund and you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement and Release.

Summary of the Litigation

Plaintiff Cadeeja Cohns, on her behalf and on behalf of other current and former non-exempt, hourly employees, alleges that Defendant violated California state labor laws as a result of its alleged failure to, among other things: (1) pay minimum and overtime wages to employees for all hours worked; (2) provide employees with meal and rest breaks; (3) timely pay all wages owed to employees during each pay period and upon termination of their employment; and (4) provide employees with accurate, itemized wage statements.

Defendant has denied, and continues to deny the factual and legal allegations in the case and believes that it has valid defenses to Plaintiff's claims and complied with all applicable laws. After the exchange of relevant information and evidence, the parties agreed to enter into settlement negotiations in an attempt to informally resolve the claims in the case. The parties participated in a mediation with Steven G. Mehta, Esq., an experienced and well-respected class action mediator. With Mr. Mehta's guidance, the parties were able to negotiate a complete settlement of Plaintiff's claims. By agreeing to settle, Defendant is not admitting liability on any of the factual allegations or claims in the case or that the case can or should proceed as a class action. Defendant has agreed to settle the case as part of a compromise with Plaintiff.

Counsel for Plaintiff, and the attorneys appointed by the Court to represent the class, Capstone Law APC ("Class Counsel"), have investigated and researched the facts and circumstances underlying the issues raised in the case and the applicable law. While Class Counsel believe that the claims alleged in this lawsuit have merit, Class Counsel also recognize that the risk and expense of continued litigation justify settlement. Based on the foregoing, Class Counsel believe the proposed settlement is fair, adequate, reasonable, and in the best interests of Class Members.

Questions? Contact the Settlement Administrator toll free at 1-*-***-******

Summary of The Proposed Settlement Terms

Plaintiff and Defendant have agreed to settle the underlying class claims in exchange for a Gross Settlement Amount of \$940,000. This amount is inclusive of: (1) individual settlement payments to all Participating Class Members; (2) a Class Representative Enhancement Payment of \$5,000 to Cadeeja Cohns for her services on behalf of the class, and a General Release Payment of \$5,000 for a release of all claims arising out of her employment with Defendant; (3) \$313,333 in attorneys' fees and up to \$25,000 in litigation costs and expenses; (4) a \$50,000 settlement of claims under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA"), inclusive of a \$32,500 payment to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") in connection with the PAGA, and a \$17,500 payment ("PAGA Fund") to all PAGA Members; and (5) reasonable Settlement Administrator's fees and expenses currently estimated at \$15,000. After deducting the above payments, a total of approximately \$ _ will be allocated to Class Members who do not opt out of the Settlement Class ("Net Settlement Fund"). Additionally, all PAGA Members will receive a proportional share of the \$17,500 PAGA Fund, regardless whether they opt out of the Settlement Class.

Payments from Net Settlement Fund. Defendant will calculate the total number of Workweeks worked by each Class Member from June 14, 2020 through January 2, 2026 ("Class Period") and the aggregate total number of Workweeks worked by all Class Members during the Class Period. To determine each Class Member's estimated share of the Net Settlement Fund, the Settlement Administrator will use the following formula: The Net Settlement Fund will be divided by the aggregate total number of Workweeks during the Class Period, resulting in the "Workweek Value." Each Class Member's share of the Net Settlement Fund will be calculated by multiplying each individual Class Member's total number of Workweeks by the Workweek Value. The Individual Settlement Payment will be reduced by any required deductions for each Class Members as specifically set forth herein, including employee-side tax withholdings or deductions. If there are any valid and timely Requests for Exclusion, the Settlement Administrator shall proportionately increase each Participating Class Member's share of the Net Settlement Fund according to the number of Workweeks worked, so that the amount actually distributed to the Settlement Class equals 100% of the Net Settlement Fund.

According to Defendant's records, you worked during the Class Period in an hourly position for a total of ____ Workweeks. Accordingly, your estimated payment from the Net Settlement Fund is approximately \$ ____.

Payments from PAGA Fund. Defendant will calculate the total number of Pay Periods worked by each PAGA Member from July 9, 2023 through January 2, 2026 ("PAGA Period") and the aggregate total number of Pay Periods worked by all PAGA Members during the PAGA Period. To determine each PAGA Member's estimated share of the PAGA Fund, the Settlement Administrator will use the following formula: The PAGA Fund will be divided by the aggregate total number of Pay Periods during the PAGA Period, resulting in the "PAGA Pay Periods Value." Each PAGA Member's share of the PAGA Fund will be calculated by multiplying each individual PAGA Member's total number of Pay Periods by the PAGA Pay Periods Value. A Request for Exclusion does not exclude a PAGA Member from the release of claims under California Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.* and the PAGA Member will receive their portion of the PAGA fund even if he/she/they submits a valid Request for Exclusion.

According to Defendant's records, you worked during the PAGA Period in an hourly position for a total of ____ Pay Periods. Accordingly, your estimated payment from the PAGA Fund is approximately \$ ____.

Your Estimated Payment: Based on the above, your estimated payment from the settlement is approximately \$ _____. If you believe the Workweek information provided above is incorrect, please contact the Settlement Administrator to dispute the calculation. You must attach all documentation in support of your dispute (such as check stubs, W2s, or letters from HR). All disputes must be postmarked or faxed on or before [insert date of Response Deadline] and must be sent to:

Settlement Administrator

c/o _____

Fax No. _____

Questions? Contact the Settlement Administrator toll free at 1-*-***-******

If you dispute the information stated above, Defendant's records will control unless you are able to provide documentation that establishes otherwise.

Taxes on Settlement Payments. IRS Forms W-2 and 1099 will be distributed to participating Class Members and the appropriate taxing authorities reflecting the payments they receive under the settlement. Class Members should consult their tax advisors concerning the tax consequences of the payments they receive under the Settlement. For purposes of this settlement, 15% of each settlement payment will be allocated as wages for which IRS Forms W-2 will be issued, and 85% will be allocated as non-wages for which IRS Forms 1099-MISC will be issued. Payments issued to PAGA Members from the PAGA Fund will be treated as non-wages for which IRS Forms 1099-MISC will be issued.

Your Options Under the Settlement

Option 1 – Automatically Receive a Payment from the Settlement

If you want to receive your payment from the settlement, then no further action is required on your part. You will automatically receive your settlement payment from the Settlement Administrator if and when the Settlement receives final approval by the Court.

If you choose **Option 1**, and if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, you will be mailed a check for your share of the settlement funds. In addition, on the date on which Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount, you will be deemed to have released or waived the Released Class Claims, and if you are also a PAGA Member, the Released PAGA Claims:

Released Class Claims: All claims, rights, demands, liabilities, and causes of action that are alleged in the operative Complaint, or which could have been alleged by reason of, or in connection with, any matter or fact set forth or referred to in the operative Complaint, including: failure to pay wages, including minimum and overtime wages; failure to provide meal periods or pay meal period premiums; failure to authorize and permit rest periods or pay rest period premiums; failure to timely pay all wages during employment; failure to timely pay final wages; failure to pay sick pay wages; failure to pay vacation wages; failure to provide accurate and itemized wage statements; failure to maintain records; failure to reimburse necessary expenses; and unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive business practices.

Released PAGA Claims: All claims for civil penalties under California Labor Code §§ 2698, *et seq.*, that were alleged or could reasonably have been alleged based on the same facts alleged in Plaintiff's LWDA letter during the PAGA Period, including PAGA civil penalties for: failure to pay wages, including minimum and overtime wages; failure to provide meal periods or pay meal period premiums; failure to authorize and permit rest periods or pay rest period premiums; failure to timely pay all wages during employment; failure to timely pay final wages; failure to pay sick pay wages; failure to pay vacation wages; failure to provide accurate and itemized wage statements; failure to maintain records; and failure to reimburse necessary expenses. Plaintiff shall file an amended PAGA notice with the LWDA that alleges the additional facts and theories supporting the additional claims negotiated between the Parties not already included within Plaintiff's PAGA Notice or operative Complaint.

Option 2 – Opt Out of the Settlement

If you do not wish to participate in the settlement, you may exclude yourself from participating by submitting a written request to the Settlement Administrator expressly and clearly indicating that you have received this Notice of Class Action Settlement, decided not to participate in the settlement, and desire to be excluded from the settlement. The written request for exclusion must include your name, signature, address, telephone number, and last four digits of your Social Security Number. Sign, date, and mail the request for exclusion by First Class U.S. Mail or equivalent, to the address below.

Questions? Contact the Settlement Administrator toll free at 1-*-***-******

Settlement Administrator
c/o _____

The Request for Exclusion must be postmarked or faxed not later than _____, 2026. If you submit a Request for Exclusion which is not postmarked or faxed by _____, 2026, your Request for Exclusion will be rejected, and you will be included in the settlement class.

If you choose **Option 2**, you will no longer be a Class Member, and you will:

- Not Receive a Payment from the Net Settlement Fund.
- Not release the Released Class Claims.
- If you are a PAGA Member, you will still release the Released PAGA Claims, and will receive a payment from the PAGA Fund.

Option 3 – Object to the Settlement

If you decide to object to the settlement because you find it unfair or unreasonable, you may submit a written objection stating why you object to the settlement, or you may instead appear at the Final Approval Hearing to object to the Settlement. Written objections must provide: (1) your full name, signature, address, and telephone number, (2) a written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (3) copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based; and (4) a statement about whether you intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing. The objection must be mailed to the administrator at [administrator's address].

All written objections must be received by the administrator by not later than _____ 2026. By submitting an objection, you are not excluding yourself from the settlement. To exclude yourself from the settlement, you must follow the directions described above. Please note that you cannot both object to the settlement and exclude yourself. You must choose one option only.

You may also, if you wish, appear at the Final Approval Hearing set for _____ at _____ a.m./p.m. in the Superior Court of the State of California, for the County of Los Angeles and discuss your objection with the Court and the Parties at your own expense. You may also retain an attorney to represent you at the hearing.

If you choose **Option 3**, you will still be entitled to the money from the settlement. If the Court overrules your objection, you will be deemed to have released the Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims.

Additional Information

This Notice of Class Action Settlement is only a summary of the case and the settlement. For a more detailed statement of the matters involved in the case and the settlement, you may refer to the pleadings, the settlement agreement, and other papers filed in the case. All inquiries by Class Members regarding this Class Notice and/or the settlement should be directed to the Settlement Administrator or Class Counsel.

Raul Perez
Capstone Law APC
1875 Century Park E., Suite 1860
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Phone: 1 (888) 383-6295

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE JUDGE, DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEYS WITH INQUIRIES.

4932-5408-2974, v. 1

Questions? Contact the Settlement Administrator toll free at 1-*-***-******