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

RAYMON GAVALDON, individually, and on
behalf of the State of California and other
aggrieved persons,

Plaintiff,

v.

VICEROY IMPROVEMENT LLC, an Oregon
limited liability company; DABELLA
EXTERIORS, LLC, an Oregon limited liability
company; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24CV019256
Consolidated with Case No. 25CV004523

*[Assigned for All Purposes to the Honorable
Jill H. Talley, Dept. 8A]*

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Preliminary Approval Hearing:

Date: February 5, 2027

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Dept.: 8A

Reservation Number: A-19256-002

Action Filed: September 24, 2024

1 **[PROPOSED] ORDER**

2 Having reviewed Plaintiff Raymon Gavaldon's ("Plaintiff") Motion for Preliminary
3 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement ("Motion"), the Declaration of Thiago M. Coelho,
4 Plaintiff's Declaration, and the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Addendum No.
5 1 to Class and PAGA Settlement Agreement (collectively, the "Settlement Agreement"), and good
6 cause appearing, the Court finds and orders as follows:

7 1. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that the Settlement Agreement appears to be
8 fair, adequate, and reasonable and therefore meets the requirements for preliminary approval. The
9 Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement and the Class based on the terms set forth in the
10 Settlement Agreement between Plaintiff and Defendants Viceroy Improvement LLC and Dabella
11 Exteriors, LLC (collectively, the "Defendants"), attached to the Declaration of Thiago M. Coelho
12 in Support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement as
13 **Exhibit 2.**

14 2. The Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness of a settlement which could
15 ultimately be given final approval by this Court, and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only
16 to any objections that may be raised at the Final Approval Hearing and final approval by this Court.
17 The Court notes that Defendants have agreed to create a common fund of \$780,000.00 to cover (a)
18 settlement payments to Class Members who do not validly opt out; (b) a \$39,000.00 allocation
19 toward civil penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA"), 65%
20 of which (\$25,350.00) will be paid to California's Labor and Workforce Development Agency and
21 35% of which (\$13,650.00) will be paid to Aggrieved Employees; (c) an Enhancement Award of up
22 to \$10,000.00 to Plaintiff; (d) Class Counsel's attorneys' fees, not to exceed thirty-five percent (35%)
23 of the Gross Settlement Amount (currently estimated to be \$273,000.00), and up to \$25,000.00 in
24 costs for actual litigation expenses incurred by Class Counsel; and (e) Settlement Administration
25 Costs of up to \$12,995.00.

26 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement appear to be within the
27 range of possible approval, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and applicable
28 law. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that: (1) the Settlement amount is fair and reasonable to

1 the Class Members when balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to class
2 certification, liability and damages issues, and potential appeals; (2) significant informal discovery,
3 investigation, research, and litigation have been conducted such that counsel for the Parties at this
4 time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions; (3) settlement at this time will avoid
5 substantial costs, delay, and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the litigation;
6 and (4) the proposed Settlement has been reached as the result of intensive, serious, and non-collusive
7 negotiations between the Parties with the assistance of a well-respected class action mediator.
8 Accordingly, the Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was entered into in good
9 faith.

10 4. A final approval hearing on the question of whether the proposed Settlement,
11 attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel, payment to the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees for
12 their share of the settlement of claims for penalties under PAGA, and the Enhancement Award should
13 be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate as to the members of the Class is hereby set in
14 accordance with the Implementation Schedule set forth below.

15 5. The Court provisionally certifies for settlement purposes only the following class (the
16 "Class"): "all persons who performed work for Defendants, or any of them, in California as an
17 hourly-paid or non-exempt employee at any time during the Class Period, including current and
18 former employees."

19 6. "Class Period" means the period from September 24, 2020, through May 15, 2026.

20 7. "Aggrieved Employees" means all persons who performed work for Defendants, or
21 any of them, in California as an hourly-paid or non-exempt employee at any time during the PAGA
22 Period, including current and former employees.

23 8. "PAGA Period" means the period from September 24, 2023, through May 15, 2026.

24 9. The Court finds, for settlement purposes only, that the Class meets the requirements
25 for certification under California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 in that: (1) the Class Members are
26 so numerous that joinder is impractical; (2) there are questions of law and fact that are common, or
27 of general interest, to all Class Members, which predominate over individual issues; (3) Plaintiff's
28 claims are typical of the claims of the Class Members; (4) Plaintiff and Class Counsel will fairly and

adequately protect the interests of the Class Members; and (5) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

10. The Court appoints as Class Representative, for settlement purposes only, Plaintiff Raymon Gavaldon. The Court further preliminarily approves Plaintiff's ability to request an Enhancement Award up to \$10,000.00.

11. The Court appoints, for settlement purposes only, Thiago Coelho, Lauren Lenzion, Jennifer Leinbach, and Giancarlo A. Recinos of Wilshire Law Firm, PLC, as Class Counsel. The Court further preliminarily approves Class Counsel's ability to request attorneys' fees of up to thirty-five percent (35%) of the Gross Settlement Amount (currently estimated to be \$273,000.00), and costs not to exceed \$25,000.00.

12. The Court appoints Phoenix Settlement Administrators as the Administrator with reasonable administration costs not to exceed \$12,995.00.

13. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Class Notice attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that the plan for distribution of the Class Notice to Settlement Class Members satisfies due process, provides the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.

14. The Parties and the Administrator are ordered to carry out the Settlement according to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

15. Any Class Member who does not timely and validly request exclusion from the Settlement may object to the Settlement Agreement.

16. The Court orders the following Implementation Schedule:

Event	Timing
Class Data: Last day for Defendants to provide Class Data to the Administrator	14 days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement
Class Notice: Last day for Administrator to mail the Class Notice to Class Members	14 days after receipt of the Class Data

Response Deadline: Last day for Class Members to submit Requests for Exclusion, Objections to the Settlement, and challenges to Workweeks and/or Pay Periods	45 days after Class Notice is mailed out by the Administrator (with an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice was remailed)
Filing Deadline: Last day to file Motion for Final Approval, Request for Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and Enhancement Award to Plaintiff	16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing
Final Approval Hearing	_____, 2026, at _____ a.m./p.m. in Dept. 8A of the above-referenced Court

17. The Court further ORDERS that, pending further order of this Court, all proceedings in this lawsuit, except those contemplated herein and in the settlement, are stayed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: _____

HON. JILL H. TALLEY
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT