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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

(Additional Counsel on Next Page)

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

LYNDON MILLER and ADAM LOR,
individually, and on behalf of other members of
the general public similarly situated;

Plaintiffs,

v.

FOOD SAFETY NET SERVICES, LTD., an
unknown business entity; FOOD SAFETY NET
SERVICES-CALIFORNIA, LP., a Nevada
limited partnership; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 22STCV15337

**DECLARATION OF ANDREA A. AMAYA
SILVA, ESQ. IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA
SETTLEMENT**

Date: August 13, 2024

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Judge: Hon. William F. Highberger

Dept.: 10

LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

1 I, Andrea A. Amaya Silva, Esq., declare as follows:

2 1. I am over eighteen years of age and if called as a witness, I could and would competently
3 testify to the following facts from my own personal knowledge. I am an Associate Attorney at JCL
4 Law Firm and Co-Counsel for Plaintiff LYNDON MILLER (hereafter "Plaintiff MILLER") and
5 ADAM LOR (hereinafter "Plaintiff LOR") (collectively "Plaintiffs") in this wage and hour class action
6 filed against Food Safety Net Services, LTD., and Food Safety Net Services-California, LP.,
7 (hereinafter "Defendants").

8 2. This declaration is being submitted in support of Plaintiffs' motion for Preliminary
9 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

10 **I. EXHIBITS**

11 3. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "1"** is a true and correct copy of the Class Action and PAGA
12 Settlement Agreement ("Agreement" or "Settlement Agreement").¹ Attached as **Exhibit "A"** to the
13 Agreement is a true and correct copy of the proposed Class Notice.²

14 4. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "2"** is a true and correct copy of the proof of filing with the
15 Labor and Workforce Development Agency notice of this settlement with the Agreement and Motion
16 for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement evidencing Class Counsel's
17 compliance with California Labor Code Section 2699(1)(2).

18 5. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "3"** is a true and correct copy of the bid for settlement
19 administration submitted by Apex Class Action LLC, in the amount of \$7,340.00.

20 **II. INTRODUCTION**

21 6. An objective evaluation of the Settlement confirms that the relief negotiated on behalf of
22 the Class is fair, reasonable, and adequate. The Settlement was negotiated by the Parties at arm's length.
23 The Settlement confers substantial benefits to the Class Members. The relief offered by the Settlement
24 is particularly impressive when viewed against the difficulties encountered by plaintiffs pursuing wage
25 and hour cases (*see infra*). Indeed, by settling now rather than proceeding to trial, Participating Class

26 ¹ All references to the Agreement refer to the Original Agreement and Amendment No. 1 to Class Action and PAGA
27 Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement").

28 ² The proposed Class Notice refers to the revised Notice of Class Action Settlement attached as Exhibit A to Amendment
No. 1 to Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement.

Members will not have to wait (possibly years) for relief, nor will they have to bear the risk of class certification being denied or Defendants prevailing at trial. The entire Net Settlement Amount will be paid to all Participating Class Members who do not opt out of the Settlement resulting in an average Individual Class Payment of approximately **\$2,295.89**.

7. As discussed below, the proposed Settlement satisfies all criteria for preliminary settlement approval and falls within the range of reasonableness. The average Individual Class Payment to the Class Members meets or exceeds awards in similar wage and hour class actions. Moreover, the proposed Class is appropriate for provisional certification. Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully request the Court grant preliminary approval of the Settlement.

8. Plaintiff and Class Counsel have in place an executed fee agreement which provides for the fee splitting between JCL Law Firm, APC., Zakay Law Group, APLC., and Lawyers for Justice, PC.

III. FACTS AND PROCEDURE

A. Overview of the Litigation

9. Defendants are the largest microbial food safety testing network in North America and provide microbiological and chemical analyses of all food matrices and environmental samples throughout California, including Los Angeles and Fresno, where Plaintiffs worked. This action asserts claims on behalf of all of Defendants' current and former non-exempt employees employed in California at any time during the Class Period. Plaintiff Miller was employed by Defendants as a non-exempt employee in California from September 2018 to September 2019. Plaintiff Lor was employed by Defendants as a non-exempt employee in California from July 2021 to December 2022. At all times during their employments, Plaintiffs earned an hourly wage and were entitled to legally compliant meal and/or rest periods, and minimum, regular and overtime wages for all hours worked. Throughout their employment, Plaintiffs were subject to Defendants' policies and procedures.

10. Generally, Plaintiffs claim that Defendants failed to pay for all time worked, failed to provide compliant meal and rest periods, failed to furnish accurate itemized wage statements, failed to reimburse them for business expenses, and failed to pay all wages upon separation. Defendants

1 forcefully deny liability for each of Plaintiffs’ claims. Further, Defendants assert that they fully
2 complied with all applicable employment laws and raised several other significant defenses to
3 Plaintiffs’ claims, including but not limited to, asserting that it paid employees for all hours worked,
4 maintained facially compliant meal and rest period policies, issued compliant wage statements, and
5 timely paid all wages due upon separation of employment.

6 11. On May 9, 2022, Plaintiff Miller filed a class action complaint in the Los Angeles
7 Superior Court, Case Number 22STCV15337 (“Action”). The Action alleged ten causes of action
8 against Defendants Food Safety Net Services, LTD., and/or Food Safety Net Services-California, LP.,
9 for: (1) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages in Violation Of Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510, *et seq.*; (2) Failure to
10 Provide Required Meal Periods in Violation Of Cal. Lab. Code §§ 226.7 & 512 and the Applicable IWC
11 Wage Order; (3) Failure to Provide Required Rest Periods in Violation Of Cal. Lab Code §§ 226.7 &
12 512 and the Applicable IWC Wage Order; (4) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages in Violation Of Cal.
13 Lab. Code §§ 1194, 1197 & 1197.1; (5) Failure to Pay Wages When Due in Violation Of Cal. Labor
14 Code §§ 201, and 202; (6) Failure to Timely Pay Wages During Employment in Violation of Cal. Lab.
15 Code § 204; (7) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Statements in Violation Of Cal. Lab. Code § 226;
16 (8) Failure to Keep Requisite Payroll Records in violation of Cal. Lab. Code § 1174(d); (9) Failure to
17 Reimburse Required Business Expenses in violation of Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2800 and 2802; (10) Unfair
18 Competition in Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

19 12. On January 25, 2023, Plaintiff Lor served Defendants Food Safety Net Services, LTD.,
20 and/or Food Safety Net Services-California, LP., and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency
21 (“LWDA”) with a Notice of Violations (“PAGA Notice”). Plaintiff Lor’s PAGA Notice set forth the
22 facts and theories supporting Defendants’ alleged violations of various provisions of the California
23 Labor Code and applicable Industrial Welfare Commissions (“IWC”) Wage Order and of his intent to
24 pursue claims under California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act, Cal. Lab. Code Sections
25 2698 *et seq.* (“PAGA”).

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13. On May 10, 2023, Plaintiff Miller filed the First Amended Complaint, which added an eleventh cause of action for Violation of the PAGA as well as adding Plaintiff Lor as an additional named Plaintiff.

14. Plaintiffs' counsel investigated the facts relevant to the Action, including conducting an independent investigation as to the allegations, reviewing documents and information exchanged through formal discovery. After meeting and conferring, the Parties agreed to attend private mediation. In preparation for mediation, Defendants produced documents and employment data for Plaintiffs' counsel to review and analyze, including all relevant policies in effect during the Class Period and a sample of payroll and time records for the Class Members.

15. On January 12, 2024, the Parties participated in mediation presided by Honorable Brian C. Walsh (Ret.) a respected jurist and mediator of wage and hour class actions. After arms-length negotiations and bargaining, the Parties reached an agreement to settle and signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Thereafter, the Parties drafted and negotiated a long-form settlement agreement, which is the subject of the instant motion.

B. Class Counsel Thoroughly Investigated the Factual and Legal Issues

16. Months before filing the Action, Class Counsel began their pre-filing investigation into Plaintiff Miller's complaint. Class Counsels' investigation started with several lengthy interviews with each Plaintiff. As part of the interview process, Plaintiffs produced documents related to their employment, including wage statements and paystubs. At the conclusion of the interviews and review of documents, Class Counsel determined that Plaintiffs' complaints justified further inquiry.

17. Class Counsel subsequently requested Plaintiffs' employee file from Defendants. In response, Defendants produced various documents, including but not limited to, copies of Plaintiffs' time and payroll records. Class Counsel reviewed and analyzed the documents and determined the documents appeared to substantiate Plaintiffs' claims that Defendants failed to, among other things, pay for all time worked, issue accurate itemized wage statements, and provide compliant meal and rest periods.

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1 18. Upon filing the complaint, the Parties engaged in significant written discovery, including
2 obtaining the class list and conducted numerous telephonic interviews with Settlement Class Members.
3 Considering the many anticipated factual disputes, the Parties agreed that it would be in the best interest
4 of both Parties to mediate the matter. To prepare for mediation, Defendants agreed to produce a sample
5 of time and payroll records. Class Counsel requested a sample that would provide between 85% and
6 90% confidence factor with a margin of error equal to or less than 10%. Based on this criterion, Class
7 Counsel ultimately accepted a sample of time and payroll records of 40% of the Class Members for
8 purposes of determining Defendants' liability at the time of mediation. In arriving at these statistical
9 parameters, Class Counsel prioritized fairness to the Class Members by balancing the need for a
10 statistically meaningful sample to evaluate Defendants' liability at this early stage of litigation against
11 preserving the settlement funds for distribution to the Class Members. Pursuant to the Parties agreement,
12 Defendants produced, among other things, hundreds of pages of time and payroll data, applicable
13 handbooks, policies and agreements for Class Counsel to analyze.

14 19. Class Counsel then retained the statisticians and economists at Berger Consulting Group
15 ("BCG") to evaluate the Class Members' payroll and time data. BCG provides data analysis and damage
16 modeling consulting services, specializing in wage and hour class actions. BCG's team of financial
17 and data analysts are credentialed and experienced experts in their fields and have provided their
18 expertise on thousands of cases. Stated differently, the BCG is well-qualified to analyze Defendants'
19 time and payroll data.

20 20. BCG analyzed Defendants' time and payroll data to assist in the development of various
21 damage models. Among other things, BCG determined the approximate number of work shifts,
22 workweeks, pay periods, average length of shift, and average number of hours worked per workweek
23 and pay periods during the Class Period. BCG also estimated the number of meal and rest period
24 violations, the amount of unpaid wages, and the amount of off-the-clock work performed by the Class
25 Members during the Class Period.

26 21. In advance of mediation, Class Counsel created several damage models predicated on the
27 BCG analysis. Class Counsel's models calculated Defendants' potential liability exposure while
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1 accounting for the uncertainties of continued litigation. These damage models informed and guided
2 Class Counsel during the mediated settlement discussions.

3 22. Overall, Class Counsel thoroughly investigated the claims at issue, including: (1)
4 determining Plaintiffs' suitability as a putative class representative through interviews, background
5 investigations, and analysis of his employment file; (2) evaluating all of Plaintiffs' potential claims; (3)
6 researching similar wage and hour class actions as to the claims brought, the nature of the positions,
7 and the type of employer; (4) analyzing the Class Members' time and payroll records; (5) analyzing
8 Defendants' labor policies and practices; (6) conducted interviews with numerous class members, (7)
9 researching settlements in similar cases as well as outstanding issues which could affect settlement
10 approval; (8) evaluating Plaintiffs' claims and estimating Defendants' liability for purposes of
11 settlement; (9) drafting the mediation brief; and (10) participating in the mediation. This investigation
12 allowed Class Counsel to fully assess the nature and magnitude of the claims being settled, as well as
13 the impediments to recovery, such as to make an independent assessment of the reasonableness of the
14 terms to which the Parties have agreed.

15 23. Class Counsel only agreed to enter the Settlement following this thorough investigation
16 and evaluation of Plaintiffs' claims. Based on their investigation of the facts, applicable law, and
17 marketplace for similar settlements, and considering the risk of significant delay, uncertainty associated
18 with litigation, and the various defenses asserted by Defendants, Class Counsel firmly believes this
19 Agreement to be in the best interests of the Class Members. Because the Settlement's terms are fair,
20 reasonable, and adequate, the Court should preliminarily approve the Settlement.

21 **C. The Parties Settled at Mediation**

22 24. On June 12, 2024, the Parties conducted a full day of mediation with Hon. Brian C. Walsh
23 (Ret.), a respected jurist and mediator of wage and hour class and representative actions. Judge Walsh
24 helped manage the Parties' expectations and provided a useful, neutral analysis of the issues and risks
25 to both sides. The Parties made substantial progress with Judge Walsh's assistance. Namely, the Parties
26 exchanged information regarding their respective claims and defenses, including their respective
27 evaluation of the damages. The mediation concluded with a settlement, the complete and final terms of
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1 which are now set forth in the Agreement. Class Counsel submits that the Settlement constitutes a fair,
2 adequate, and reasonable compromise of the claims at issue.

3 **IV. ARGUMENT**

4 **A. The Court Should Preliminarily Approve the Proposed Class Action Settlement**

5 1. The Parties Reached the Settlement Through Arm's-Length Bargaining Led by 6 Experienced Counsel.

7 25. The Parties participated in mediation with the highly respected mediator and retired judge
8 Hon. Brian C. Walsh (Ret.). Judge Walsh managed the Parties' expectations and provided a useful,
9 neutral analysis of the issues and risks to both sides. (*In re Apple Computer, Inc. Derivative Litig*, No.
10 C 06-4128 JF (HRL), 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 108195 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 5, 2008) (mediator's participation
11 weighs considerably against any inference of a collusive settlement); *D'Amato v. Deutsche Bank* (2d.
12 Cir. 2001) 236 F.3d 78, 85 (a "mediator's involvement in pre-certification settlement negotiations helps
13 to ensure that the proceedings were free of collusion and undue pressure.")) At all times, the Parties'
14 negotiations were at an arm's length, adversarial, and non-collusive. The Parties subsequently executed
15 a binding and enforceable Memorandum of Understanding and thereafter drafted and negotiated a long-
16 form settlement which is the subject of the instant motion. The Agreement is the final product of these
17 mediated negotiations. Objectively, the Settlement terms are fair, adequate and represent a reasonable
18 compromise of the claims at issue.

19 2. Class Counsel's Thorough Investigation Provided an Objective Measurement of 20 the Settlement's Reasonableness.

21 26. As set forth in greater detail above, Class Counsel conducted a very thorough
22 investigation into the factual and legal issues in dispute. In addition to informal discovery, document
23 review, data analysis and legal research, Class Counsel also researched similar wage and hour actions.
24 Although no two cases are identical, this research provided Class Counsel with a marker to inform
25 settlement discussions. The investigation allowed Class Counsel to realistically assess the value of the
26 claims and intelligently engage defense counsel in settlement discussions that culminated in the
27 proposed settlement now before the Court.

1 27. Class Counsel only agreed to enter the Settlement following their thorough investigation
2 and evaluation of Plaintiffs' claims. Based on an investigation of the facts, applicable law, and
3 marketplace for similar settlements, and considering the risk of significant delay, uncertainty associated
4 with litigation, and the various defenses asserted by Defendants, Class Counsel firmly believes this
5 Agreement to be in the best interests of the Class Members. Because the Settlement's terms are fair,
6 reasonable, and adequate, the Court should preliminarily approve the Settlement.

7 3. The Settlement Falls Within the Recognized Range of Reasonableness.

8 a. **The Gross Settlement Amount Meets the Recognized Range of**
9 **Reasonableness.**

10 28. The Gross Settlement Amount of \$997,250.00 is fair and reasonable considering the
11 nature and magnitude of the claims being settled and the various potential impediments to recovery.
12 Prior to mediation, Class Counsel retained BCG to develop economic damage models measuring
13 Defendants' liability exposure while accounting for the uncertainties of continued litigation. The
14 various models were informed by Class Counsel's investigation, including the analysis of a significant
15 sample of time and payroll data. Class Counsel projected Defendants' liability exposure for *class claims*
16 (excluding PAGA penalties) at \$2,982,552. Thus, the Gross Settlement Amount of \$997,250.00
17 represents 33.4% of Defendants' *class-wide* liability exposure as estimated by Class Counsel at the time
18 of mediation. The following summarizes Defendants' estimated exposure.

19 (1) Estimated Exposure for Unpaid Overtime Wages – Alternative
20 Workweek Schedule

21 29. Plaintiffs alleged that Defendants failed to pay its employees for all hours worked.
22 Specifically, Plaintiffs assert that Defendants adopted an alternative workweek schedule ("AWS")
23 without following the proper procedures set forth in Labor Code section 511. As a result, Plaintiffs and
24 other Class Members worked shifts greater than eight (8) hours in a workday or more than forty (40)
25 hours in a workweek without the payment of overtime compensation or more than twelve (12) hours in
26 a work shift without payment of overtime compensation at double their regular rate of pay.

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1 30. Defendants vigorously denied liability for this claim. Defendant argued that the AWS
2 was properly implemented, all Class Members were properly paid overtime and double-time
3 compensation when applicable. Plaintiffs estimated Defendant's exposure for this claim at \$112,391.00.

4 (2) Estimated Exposure for Miscalculating the Regular Rate of Pay for Purposes
5 of Overtime, Premiums and Sick Pay

6 31. Plaintiffs alleged that Defendants failed to include incentive compensation payments in
7 the regular rate of pay for purposes of overtime, meal period premiums, and sick pay. Plaintiffs also
8 argued that when Plaintiffs missed a meal period, Defendants did not pay any meal period premiums.
9 It is Plaintiffs' position that Defendants failed to pay overtime, premiums, and sick pay at the regular
10 rate of pay, accounting for bonuses and other remuneration.

11 32. Defendants vigorously denied liability for this claim. Defendants argued, among other
12 things, that all Class Members were properly paid minimum and overtime compensation for all hours
13 worked. Further, Defendants argued that all non-discretionary incentive compensation was properly
14 included into the regular rate of pay. Plaintiffs estimated Defendants' exposure for this claim at
15 \$11,743.00.

16 (3) Estimated Exposure for Meal Period Violations

17 33. Plaintiffs also alleged that Defendants failed to provide compliant meal periods.
18 Specifically, Plaintiffs allege that as a result of the job demands, Plaintiffs, Class Members, and
19 Aggrieved Employees were not able to take timely meal periods.

20 34. Conversely, Defendants argued that it provided Class Members and Aggrieved
21 Employees with the opportunity to take compliant meal periods and it implemented meal break waivers
22 for shifts between 10 and 12 hours. Defendant also argued that they paid some meal premiums. Plaintiffs
23 estimated Defendants' exposure for this claim at \$641,223.00, after offsetting meal premiums paid by
24 Defendants.

25 (4) Estimated Exposure for Rest Period Violations

26 35. Plaintiffs also alleged that Defendants failed to provide compliant rest periods and failed
27 to pay the required premiums. Defendants written rest break policy also required employees to remain
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1 on facility premises, which failed to comply with California law. Due to the press of the business and
2 their work duties, Plaintiffs were often not permitted to take compliant rest breaks. Again, Defendants
3 denied liability and asserted that they maintained legally compliant rest period practices throughout the
4 Class Period. Moreover, Plaintiff recognizes the evidentiary burdens establishing this claim.
5 Establishing Plaintiff's rest period claim would rely, almost entirely, on Class Member testimony,
6 making it a riskier claim at class certification and liability stages. Certification likely would have
7 required depositions of Class Members who provided declarations, and Defendants argued that they
8 obtained opposing declarations stating either rest breaks were taken, or rest breaks were voluntarily
9 waived. *See, e.g., Ordonez v. Radio Shack, Inc.* (C.D. Cal. Jan. 17, 2013) 2013 WL 210223, at *11
10 ("Because of the competing testimony before the Court, plaintiff's evidence that Defendants may have
11 an illegal, written rest break policy is insufficient for this Court to find that common issues
12 predominate."); *Villa v. United Site Servs. of California, Inc.* (N.D. Cal. Nov. 13, 2012) 2012 WL
13 5503550, at *8 ("Indeed, Plaintiff's own evidence confirms that the written policy does not generate
14 uniform practices."). Because Defendants did not record rest breaks, Plaintiffs assumed that rest break
15 violations were similar in frequency to meal break violations, and estimated Defendants' exposure for
16 this claim at \$641,223.00.

17 (5) Estimated Exposure for Wage Statement Violations and Waiting Time
18 Penalties.

19 36. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants' alleged violations resulted in derivative violations of
20 Labor Code sections 203 and 226(a). Class Counsel considered the arguable presence of various
21 penalties and weighed the potential recoveries against probable defenses. Specifically, Defendants
22 could argue that Plaintiffs could not prove the "willful" prong needed to obtain waiting time penalties
23 under Labor Code section 203. Additionally, Defendants could argue that Plaintiffs could not show that
24 Class Members suffered an "injury" because of wage statement violations, as required by Labor Code
25 section 226. Defendants could also argue that that meal and rest period violations do not entitle
26 employees like Plaintiffs and the Class Members to pursue the derivative waiting time and itemized
27 wage statement penalties. (*Naranjo v. Spectrum Security Services, Inc.* (2023) 88 Cal.App.5th 927).

1 Plaintiffs could not give the penalty claims great weight given that they depended on proving the
2 underlying claims, which had their own risks. Plaintiff estimated Defendants' exposure for these claims
3 at \$1,167,374.00, which is comprised of \$721,624.00 for waiting time penalties and \$445,750.00 for
4 wage statement penalties.

5 (6) Exposure of Unreimbursed Business Expenses

6 37. Plaintiffs alleged that Defendants required Class Members to incur personal expenses
7 for the use of their own personal cellular phones, specifically for clocking in, taking work related calls
8 and for purposes of using the GPS when performing deliveries. However, Defendants failed to fully
9 reimburse Plaintiffs and Class Members for the costs incurred for the use of their personal cellular
10 phones in violation of California Labor Code section 2802.

11 38. Again, Defendant denied any liability for this claim. Defendant argued that most of its
12 employees did not use cellphones as a part of the performance of their duties and on the rare occasion
13 where employees did incur business expenses for the use of their cellphones, these expenses were fully
14 reimbursed. Plaintiff estimated Defendant's exposure for this claim at \$148,225.00, assuming \$25 per
15 month per employee.

16 **b. Defendant's PAGA Exposure**

17 39. Class Counsel's damage models also estimated Defendants' exposure for PAGA
18 penalties. At the time of mediation, Plaintiffs estimated Defendants' PAGA exposure to be
19 approximately \$2,009,100.00 if successful at trial.

20 40. Here, the Parties negotiated a good faith PAGA Payment in the amount of \$40,000.00
21 which is 4.01% of the Gross Settlement Amount. This amount falls well within the range of approved
22 PAGA Payment. Seventy-Five percent (75%) of the PAGA Payment (\$30,000.00) will be paid to the
23 LWDA ("LWDA PAGA Payment") with the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of the PAGA
24 Payment (\$10,000.00) will be distributed to the PAGA Class Members, which is within the range of
25 PAGA Payment approved by courts and should be approved.

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43. In this matter, Class Counsel negotiated a Gross Settlement Amount of \$997,250.00 that is 36.4% of Defendants' maximum class wide liability exposure for damages and statutory penalties (excluding PAGA penalties). Given the amount of the settlement here, as compared to potential value of the claims, offset by the various inherent risks to continued litigation, the settlement is fair and reasonable.

B. The Proposed Notice Informs the Class About the Case and Settlement

44. The Parties jointly drafted the Class Notice which fairly and neutrally informs the Class Members of their rights and remedies. The Administrator will first verify addresses, then mail the proposed Class Notice in English to all Class Members. The Notice will include information regarding the nature of the lawsuit, a summary of the substance of the Settlement's terms, the procedure, and time period within which to submit requests for exclusions or objections to the Settlement, the date for the final approval hearing, the formula used to calculate settlement payments, and the terms and scope of the Released Class Claims. Agreement at § 7.4.

45. The Parties negotiated this method to ensure delivering the most reasonable method of notice to the Class Members while ensuring cost effective administration of the Settlement.

C. The Court Should Preliminarily Approve the Class Representative Payment

46. The Settlement provides for a Class Representative Payment of \$10,000.00 for each Plaintiff. The service awards are fair and reasonable compensation for the Plaintiffs' efforts bringing the action, assisting Class Counsel with the litigation and settlement, regularly conferring with Class Counsel on the status of their case, facts surrounding their employment as it relates to wage and hour practices and claims and the strategies for prosecuting the claims, and reviewing the proposed Settlement to ensure that its terms are fair and provide adequate relief for the Class Members.

47. Class Counsel on behalf of Plaintiffs will file a formal motion for the negotiated Class Representative Payment once preliminary approval of the Settlement is granted. Plaintiffs respectfully submits that the above showing is sufficient for preliminary approval of the negotiated Class Representative Payment.

D. The Court Should Preliminary Approve the Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs

1 48. Class Counsel took this matter on a contingency fee basis and invested significant time
2 and expense successfully prosecuting Plaintiffs' claims. As discussed *supra*, the estimated average
3 Individual Class Payment illustrates the demonstrably positive outcome for the Participating Class
4 Members. Considering the positive outcome for the Class Members, and in light of the supporting
5 authority, the proposed Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs payment is fair and reasonable.

6 49. Plaintiffs will file a formal motion for the negotiated Attorneys' Fees and Litigation
7 Costs, including arguments and lodestar information in support of the request, once preliminary
8 approval of the Settlement is granted. Plaintiffs respectfully submit that the above showing is sufficient
9 for preliminary approval of the negotiated attorneys' fees.

10 **E. Provisional Certification for Settlement Purposes Is Appropriate**

11 50. For Settlement purposes, Plaintiffs contend, and Defendants do not dispute, that
12 provisional certification of the Class is appropriate.

13 51. Because all Class Members are Defendants' current and former employees, the class is
14 readily ascertainable from Defendants' regular business records, i.e., payroll records.

15 52. The statutes relating to each of Plaintiffs' claims apply with equal force and effect to the
16 entire Class. Factually, Defendants' policies and practices apply class-wide, and Defendants' liability
17 can be determined by facts common to all members of the class. The wage and hour issues are both
18 numerous and substantial, and a class action is the most advantageous method of dealing with the claims
19 of the Class Members.

20 53. Plaintiff's wage and hour claims are typical of the proposed Class because they arise from
21 the same factual basis and are based on the same legal theories applicable to the other Class Members.
22 Likewise, Plaintiffs' interests are entirely coextensive with the interests of the Class Members. Plaintiffs
23 allege that they were injured by the same company-wide practices to which the proposed Class Members
24 were subject to and seek the same relief. Plaintiffs have already demonstrated their ability to advocate
25 for the interests of the Class Members by initiating this litigation, undertaking extensive class discovery,
26 and evaluating the proposed settlement to assure that it is fair.

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1 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
2 is true and correct. Executed this 10th day of July 2024, at San Diego, California.

3 **JCL LAW FIRM, APC**

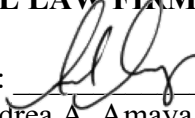
4 By: 
5 Andrea A. Amaya Silva, Esq.
6 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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EXHIBIT 1

CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CLASS NOTICE

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiffs Lyndon Miller and Adam Lor (“Plaintiffs”) and Defendants Food Safety Net Services, LTD. and Food Safety Net Services-California, LP (“Defendants”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiffs and Defendants collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

1. DEFINITIONS.

- 1.1. “Action” means the Plaintiffs’ lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendants captioned Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, Ltd. Et al., Case No. 22STCV15337 and pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles.
- 1.2. “Administrator” means Apex Class Action, LLC, the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.
- 1.3. “Administration Expenses Payment” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the Administrator’s “not to exceed” bid submitted to the Court in connection with Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.4. “Aggrieved Employee” means all non-exempt employees who are or previously were employed by Defendants and performed work in California during the PAGA Period. The PAGA period is defined as the period from January 25, 2022 to January 12, 2024.
- 1.5. “Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Costs” means the amounts allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses, respectively, incurred in an amount up to 1/3 of the Gross Settlement Amount for Attorneys’ Fees, and actual costs and expenses as supported by declaration for Litigation Costs.
- 1.6. “Class Counsel” means Jean-Claude Lapuyade, Esq. of JCL Law Firm, APC, Shani Zakay, Esq. of Zakay Law Group, APLC and Edwin Aiwazian of Lawyers for Justice, PC.
- 1.7. “Class” or “Class Members” shall mean all non-exempt employees who are or previously were employed by Defendants and performed work in California during the Class Period and did not sign an Arbitration Agreement (Effective date of November 6, 2020) before May 9, 2022. The Class Period is defined as the period from May 9, 2018 to January 12, 2024.

- 1.8. “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendants’ possession that Defendants will provide to the Administrator. To the extent available, the Class Data shall include the Class Member’s full name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, telephone number, and number of Class Period Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.
- 1.9. “Class Member” or “Settlement Class Member” means a member of the Class, as either a Participating Class Member or Non-Participating Class Member (including a Non- Participating Class Member who qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee).
- 1.10. “Class Member Address Search” means the Administrator’s investigation and search for current Class Member mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, methods and means including, but not limited to, the National Change of Address database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Class Members.
- 1.11. “Class Notice” means the COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL, to be mailed to Class Members in English [with Spanish translation, if applicable] in the form, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement. Settlement Class Members will be mailed an envelope containing an estimated individual settlement payment, dates of employment, how to opt-out of the settlement and how to object to the settlement. The Class notice will be distributed in English only. Defense counsel has advised that Spanish translation will not be necessary.
- 1.12. “Class Period” means the period from May 9, 2018 to January 12, 2024.
- 1.13. “Class Representative” means the named Plaintiffs, Lyndon Miller and Adam Lor in the operative complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as Class Representatives.
- 1.14. “Class Representative Payment” means the payment to the Class Representatives for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.
- 1.15. “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.
- 1.16. “Defendants” means Food Safety Net Services, LTD. and Food Safety Net Services-California, LP.
- 1.17. “Defense Counsel” means Heather B. Dillon of Dorsey & Whitney, LLP.
- 1.18. “Effective Date” means the date by when both of the following have occurred:
- (a) the Court enters a Judgment on its Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement; and (b) the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a

notice of appeal from the Judgment; or if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

- 1.19. “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement.
- 1.20. “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.21. “Final Judgment” means the Judgment Entered by the Court upon Granting Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.22. “Funding Date” means the date on which the Gross Settlement Amount is fully funded by Defendants into the QSF and paid the employer side of payroll taxes to the Administrator in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- 1.23. “Gross Settlement Amount” means Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$997,250.00) which is the total amount Defendants agrees to pay under the Settlement except as provided in Paragraph 8 below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA Payment, Class Counsel Fees, Class Counsel Expenses, Class Representative Payments, and the Administrator’s Expenses.
- 1.24. “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Member’s pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period. Any Class Member who submits a timely and valid request for exclusion pursuant to the procedures set forth herein, is not eligible to receive an Individual Class Payment.
- 1.25. “Individual PAGA Payment” means the Aggrieved Employee’s pro rata share of 25% of the PAGA Payment calculated according to the number of pay periods worked during the PAGA Period.
- 1.26. “Judgment” means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final Approval.
- 1.27. “LWDA” means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.28. “LWDA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Payment paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.29. “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: the PAGA Payment, Class Representative Payments, Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Costs, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.
- 1.30. “Non-Participating Class Member” means any Class Member who opts out of the

Settlement by sending the Administrator a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.

- 1.31. “PAGA Pay Period” means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendants for at least one day during the PAGA Period.
- 1.32. “PAGA Period” means the period between January 25, 2022 and January 12, 2024.
- 1.33. “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).
- 1.34. “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiff Adam Lor’s January 25, 2023, letter to Defendants and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).
- 1.35. “PAGA Penalties” means Forty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$40,000.00) which is the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$10,000.00) and the 75% to LWDA (\$30,000.00) in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.36. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.
- 1.37. “Plaintiffs” mean Lyndon Miller and Adam Lor, the named Plaintiffs in the Action.
- 1.38. “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.39. "Preliminary Approval Order" means the proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement.
- 1.40. “Released Class Claims” means upon entry of final judgment and funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, the Defendants shall be entitled to a release from the Class Members of all class claims alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged, in the operative complaint in the *Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD et al.* Action which occurred during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, and class claims outside the Class Period.
- 1.41. “Released PAGA Claims” means upon entry of final judgment and funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, the Defendants shall be entitled to a release from the Aggrieved Employees of all PAGA claims alleged in the operative complaint in the *Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD et al.* Action and Plaintiff Adam Lor’s PAGA notice to the LWDA which occurred during the PAGA period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security workers’ compensation, and PAGA claims outside the PAGA period .
- 1.42. “Released Parties” means Defendants Food Safety Net Services, LTD, Food Safety Net Services-California, LP and each of their past, present and/or future, direct and/or indirect, officers, directors, members, managers, employees, agents,

representatives, attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, shareholders, owners, administrators, parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, assigns, and joint ventures.

- 1.43. “Request for Exclusion” means a Class Member’s submission of a written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement signed by the Class Member.
- 1.44. "Response Deadline" means 45 days after the Administrator mails Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) fax, email, or mail Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, or (b) fax, email, or mail his or her Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional 14 calendar days beyond the Response Deadline has expired.
- 1.45. “Settlement” means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.
- 1.46. “Workweeks” shall mean any seven (7) consecutive days beginning on Sunday and ending on Saturday, in which a Class Member is employed by Defendant during the Class Period in California and recorded any time worked. The Workweeks will be calculated by the Claims Administrator based on the Class Data and will be presumed to be correct, unless a particular Class Member proves otherwise to the Claim Administrator by credible written evidence. All Workweek disputes will be resolved and decided by the Claims Administrator, and the Claims Administrator’s decision on all Workweek disputes will be final and non-appealable.

2. RECITALS.

- 2.1. On May 9, 2022, Plaintiff Lyndon Miller filed a Class Action Complaint against Defendants Food Safety Net Services, LTD and Food Safety Net Services-California, LP. Defendants deny the allegations in the Operative Complaint, deny any failure to comply with the laws identified in in the Operative Complaint and deny any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.

On January 25, 2023, Plaintiff Adam Lor filed a Notice of Violations with the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) and served the same on Defendants.

- 2.2. On DATE, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Complaint, adding Adam Lor and a PAGA claim.
- 2.3. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a), Plaintiff Lor gave timely written notice to Defendants and the LWDA by sending the PAGA Notice.
- 2.4. On Friday January 12, 2024, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by the Honorable Brian Walsh (Ret.) which led to this Agreement to settle the Action.
- 2.5. Prior to mediation, Plaintiffs obtained, through formal and informal discovery, the

class list, a 40% sampling of timekeeping and payroll records for the Class Members, Arbitration Agreements, class demographics, meal and rest break policies, meal break waivers, reimbursement expense breakdown, holiday gift card lists, amounts paid in premiums, and an employee handbook. Plaintiffs' investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 ("*Dunk/Kullar*").

- 2.6. The Court has not granted class certification.
- 2.7. The Parties, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel represent that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the Settlement.

3. MONETARY TERMS.

- 3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below, Defendants promises to pay Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$997,250.00) and no more as the Gross Settlement Amount and to separately pay any and all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments. Defendants have no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline stated in Paragraph 4.3 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendants.
- 3.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court in the Final Approval:
 - 3.2.1. To Plaintiffs: Class Representative Payment to each Class Representative of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$10,000.00). Defendants will not oppose Plaintiffs' request for a Class Representative Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of the motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs, Plaintiffs will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Payment no later than sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Representative Payment less than the amount requested, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Payment using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiffs assumes full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on the Class Representative Payment.
 - 3.2.2. To Class Counsel: Attorneys' Fees of not more than one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount which is currently estimated to be Three Hundred Thirty Two Thousand Four Hundred Sixteen Dollars and Sixty-Six Cents

(\$332,416.66) and a Litigation Costs of up to Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$35,000.00). Defendants will not oppose requests for these payments provided that do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiffs and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs no later than sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a payment for Attorneys' Fees and/or Litigation Costs less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released Parties shall have no liability to Class Counsel or any other Class Counsel arising from any claim to any portion any Attorneys' Fees and/or Litigation Costs. The Administrator will pay the Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full responsibility and liability for taxes owed on the Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs and holds Defendants harmless, and indemnifies Defendants, from any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these Payments.

3.2.3. To the Administrator: The Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed Six Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$6,500.00) except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. Defendants will not oppose requests for these payments provided that do not exceed this amount. To the extent the Administration Expenses Payment are less or the Court approves payment less than Six Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$6,500.00), the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.

3.2.4. To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's Workweeks worked during the Class Period.

3.2.4.1. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. Twenty percent (20%) of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. Eighty percent (80%) of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of claims for interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.

3.2.4.2. Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual Class Payments. Non-Participating Class Members will not receive any Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will retain amounts equal to their Individual Class Payments in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis.

3.2.5. To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$40,000.00) to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$40,000.00) allocated to the LWDA Payment and 25% (\$10,000.00) allocated to the Individual PAGA Penalties.

3.2.5.1. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Penalties by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties \$10,000.00 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Penalties.

3.2.5.2. If the Court approves PAGA Payment of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.

4.1. Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee PAGA Pay Periods. Based on a review of its records to date, Defendants estimate that there are 231 Class Members who collectively worked a total of 19,945 Workweeks, and 171 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 3,942 PAGA Pay Periods.

4.2. Class Data. Not later than seven (7) calendar days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendants will simultaneously deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendants have a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendants must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.

4.3. Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendants shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendants' share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 60 days after the court's final approval of the settlement or exhaustion of any appeal, whichever is later.

4.4. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 14 days after Defendants funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA Payment, the Administration Expenses Payment, Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs, and the Class Representative Payment. Disbursement of the Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs and the Class Representative Payment shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.

4.4.1. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided. The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Settlement Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

4.4.2. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding address. Within 7 days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Class Member prior to the void date.

4.4.3. For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 384 subd.(b).

4.4.4. The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendants to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.

5. RELEASES OF CLAIMS. Effective on the Funding, Plaintiffs, Participating Class

Members, and the Aggrieved Employees will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

- 5.1 Plaintiffs' Release. Plaintiffs and their respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences that occurred during the Class Period, including, but not limited to: (a) all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained, in the Operative Complaint and (b) all PAGA claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on facts contained in the Operative Complaint, Plaintiff Lor's PAGA Notice ("Plaintiffs' Release"). Plaintiffs' Release does not extend to any claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiffs acknowledge that Plaintiffs may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiffs now know or believe to be true but agree, nonetheless, that Plaintiffs' Release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiffs' discovery of them.

- 5.1.1 Plaintiffs Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542. For purposes of Plaintiffs' Release, Plaintiffs expressly waive and relinquish the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

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.

- 5.2 Release by Participating Class Members: All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties, upon entry of final judgment and funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, of all class claims alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged, in the operative complaint in the Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD et al. Action which occurred during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation and class claims outside the Class Period.
- 5.3 Release by Aggrieved Employees: As of the Funding Date, all Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the PAGA Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint and Plaintiff Lor's PAGA Notice.

6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL. The Parties agree to jointly prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval (“Motion for Preliminary Approval”) that complies with the Court’s current checklist for Preliminary Approvals.

- 6.1 Defendants’ Declaration in Support of Preliminary Approval. Within 30 days of the full execution of this Agreement, Defendants will prepare and deliver to Class Counsel a signed Declaration from Defendants and Defense Counsel disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with the Administrator. In their Declarations, Defense Counsel and Defendants shall aver that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement.
- 6.2 Plaintiffs’ Responsibilities. Plaintiffs will prepare and deliver to Defense Counsel all documents necessary for obtaining Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar* and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2)); (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement; and (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from the Administrator attaching its “not to exceed” bid for administering the Settlement and attesting to its willingness to serve; competency; operative procedures for protecting the security of Class Data; amounts of insurance coverage for any data breach, defalcation of funds or other misfeasance; all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members; and the nature and extent of any financial relationship with Plaintiffs, Class Counsel or Defense Counsel; (v) a signed declaration from Plaintiffs confirming willingness and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members; (v) a signed declaration from each Class Counsel firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)); (vi) a redlined version of the parties’ Agreement showing all modifications made to the Model Agreement ready for filing with the Court; and (vii) all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflict of interest with Class Members and the Administrator. In their Declarations, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel Declaration shall aver that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or adversely affected by the Settlement.
- 6.3 Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel is responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval no later than 75 days after the full execution of this Agreement; obtaining a prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval; and for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court’s Preliminary Approval to the Administrator.
- 6.4 Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class

Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

- 7.1 Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected Apex Class Action LLC to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, Apex Class Action LLC agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for Administration Expenses Payment. The Parties and their Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.
- 7.2 Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports to state and federal tax authorities.
- 7.3 Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.
- 7.4 Notice to Class Members.
 - 7.4.1 No later than three (3) business days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members, PAGA Members, Workweeks, and PAGA Pay Periods in the Class Data.
 - 7.4.2 Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than fourteen (14) days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service ("USPS") mail, the Class Notice, substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, and the number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if applicable) used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the National Change of Address database.
 - 7.4.3 Not later than 3 business days after the Administrator's receipt of any Class Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail

the Class Notice using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.

7.4.4 The deadlines for Class Members' written objections, Challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional fourteen (14) days beyond the forty-five (45) days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

7.4.5 If the Administrator, Defendants or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith, in an effort to agree on whether to include them as Class Members. If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever are later.

7.5 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

7.5.1 Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not later than forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member's election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, emailed, or postmarked by the Response Deadline.

7.5.2 The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain the identity of the person as a Class Member and the Class Member's desire to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. If the Administrator has reason to question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's

determination of authenticity shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

7.5.3 Every Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Participating Class Members' Releases under Paragraphs 5.2 of this Agreement, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.

7.5.4 Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement. Because future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release the claims identified in Paragraph 5.3 of this Agreement and are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.

7.6 Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have forty-five (45) days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if any) allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email, or mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Workweeks contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the Administrator's determination the challenges.

7.7 Objections to Settlement.

7.7.1 Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of the Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the Settlement, and/or amounts requested for the Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs and/or Class Representative Payment.

7.7.2 Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail. In the alternative, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing. A Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator

must do so not later than forty-five (45) days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed).

7.7.3 Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action components of the Settlement.

7.8 Administrator Duties. The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.

7.8.1 Website, Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish and maintain and use an internet website to post information of interest to Class Members including the date, time and location for the Final Approval Hearing and copies of the Settlement Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval, the Class Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, the Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs and Class Representative Payment, the Final Approval and the Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes and emails.

7.8.2 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity. Not later than five (5) days after the expiration of the deadline for submitting Requests for Exclusion, the Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel containing (a) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion ("Exclusion List"); (b) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid).

7.8.3 Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments ("Weekly Report"). The Weekly Reports must include the Administrator's assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received.

7.8.4 Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class Member challenges over the calculation of

Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods. The Administrator's decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

7.8.5 Administrator's Declaration. Not later than fourteen (14) days before the date by which Plaintiffs are required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List, the high, low, and average Individual Class Payments, and the high, low, and average Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

7.8.6 Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within ten (10) days after the Administrator disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least fifteen (15) days before any deadline set by the Court, the Administrator will prepare, and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration in Court.

8. CLASS SIZE ESTIMATES and ESCALATOR CLAUSE. Based on its records, Defendants estimates that, as of the date of this Settlement Agreement, (1) there are 231 Class Members and 19,945 Total Workweeks during the Class Period and (2) there were 171 Aggrieved Employees who worked 3,942 Pay Periods during the PAGA Period. The Parties acknowledge and agree that this data was relied on to extrapolate and reach an arms-length negotiation of Plaintiffs' claims in the Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD et al. Action through the Class Period. Defendants will provide a declaration under penalty of perjury confirming the number of applicable Class Members and workweeks they worked during the applicable Class Period one week prior to Plaintiffs' deadline to file their motion for preliminary approval of the settlement. Should the number of workweeks increase by more than 10% of what was represented at the mediation during the Class Period, the Gross Settlement Amount will increase proportionally for the number of workweeks over 110% of 19,945, for example if the total workweeks in the Class Period are 115% of 19,945, the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase by 5%.

9. DEFENDANTS' RIGHT TO WITHDRAW. If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List exceeds 10% of the total of all Class Members, Defendants may, but is not obligated, elect to withdraw from the Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendants withdraw, the Settlement shall be void ab initio, have no force or

effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however, Defendants will remain responsible for paying all Administration Expenses Payment incurred to that point. Defendants must notify Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than 7 days within learning this information; late elections will have no effect.

10. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL. Not later than sixteen (16) court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiffs will file in Court, a motion for final approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l), a Proposed Final Approval Order and a proposed Judgment (collectively “Motion for Final Approval”). Plaintiffs shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel not later than ten (10) days prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

10.1 Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the Court.

10.2 Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final Approval on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), the Parties will expeditiously work together in good faith to address the Court’s concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain Final Approval. The Court’s decision to award less than the amounts requested for the Class Representative Payment, Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Costs and/or Administration Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.

10.3 Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

10.4 Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Costs reflected set forth in this Settlement, the Parties, their respective counsel, and all Participating Class Members who did not object to the Settlement as provided in this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to post-judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose such motions, writs or appeals. If an objector appeals the Judgment, the Parties’ obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final, except as to matters that do not affect the amount of the Net Settlement Amount.

- 10.5 Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain Final Approval and entry of Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration Expenses Payment reasonably incurred after remittitur. An appellate decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the Court's award of the Class Representative Payment or any payments to Class Counsel shall not constitute a material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.

11. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

- 11.1 No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendants that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendants has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiffs that Defendants' defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or enter Judgment, Defendants reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendants reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiffs reserve the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendants' defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).
- 11.2 Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendants and Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or cause or permit another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the Agreement directly or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Parties' attorneys, accountants, or spouses, all of whom will be instructed to keep this Agreement confidential; (2) counsel in a related matter; (3) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4) in response to a court order or subpoena; or (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal government agency.

Each Party agrees to immediately notify each other Party of any judicial or agency order, inquiry, or subpoena seeking such information. Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendants and Defense Counsel separately agree not to, directly or indirectly,

initiate any conversation or other communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, any with third party regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that “the matter was resolved,” or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class Counsel’s communications with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

- 11.3 No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees will not solicit any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Judgment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel’s ability to communicate with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations owed to Class Members.
- 11.4 Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.
- 11.5 Attorney Authorization. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiffs and Defendants, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.
- 11.6 Cooperation. The Parties will work together expeditiously to obtain preliminary and final approval of this settlement.
- 11.7 No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Settlement.
- 11.8 No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendants nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.
- 11.9 Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court.
- 11.10 Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
- 11.11 Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.

- 11.12 Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.
- 11.13 Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered during Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive the execution of this Agreement.
- 11.14 Use and Return of Class Data. Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code §1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendants in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court. Not later than 90 days after the date when the Court discharges the Administrator's obligation to provide a Declaration confirming the final pay out of all Settlement funds, Plaintiffs shall destroy, all paper and electronic versions of Class Data received from Defendants unless, prior to the Court's discharge of the Administrator's obligation, Defendants makes a written request to Class Counsel for the return, rather than the destructions, of Class Data.
- 11.15 Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.
- 11.16 Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to "days" in this Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.
- 11.17 Notice. All notices, demands or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiffs:

JCL LAW FIRM, APC
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
T: 619-599-8292
jlapuyade@jcl-lawfirm.com

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
T: 619-892-7095
F: 858-404-9203
Shani@zakaylaw.com

LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC.

410 Arden Ave. #203

Glendale, CA 91203

T :818-619-2080

F : 818-265-1021

vartan@calljustice.com

To Defendants:

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

600 Anton Boulevard

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

T: 714-800-1404

Dillion.heather@dorsey.com

- 11.18 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e. DocuSign), or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
- 11.19 Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

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IT IS SO AGREED TO AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY PLAINTIFFS:

Dated: 02/20, 2024


Lyndon Miller (Feb 20, 2024 09:59 PST)

Plaintiff Lyndon Miller

Dated: 02/16, 2024

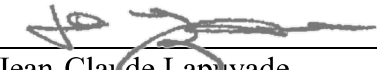

Adam Lor (Feb 16, 2024 10:25 PST)

Plaintiff Adam Lor

Dated: February 21, 2024


Shani O. Zakay
Zakay Law Group, APLC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: February 21, 2024


Jean-Claude Lapuyade
The JCL Law Firm, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

Vartan Madoyan
Edwin Aiwazian
Lawyers for Justice, PC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

IT IS SO AGREED TO AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY DEFENDANTS:

Dated: _____, 2024

For Defendants
Food Safety Net Services, LTD and Net Services-
California, LP

Dated: _____, 2024

Heather B. Dillion
Attorney for Defendants

IT IS SO AGREED TO AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY PLAINTIFFS:

Dated: _____, 2024

Plaintiff Lyndon Miller

Dated: _____, 2024

Plaintiff Adam Lor

Dated: _____, 2024

Shani O. Zakay
Zakay Law Group, APLC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

Jean-Claude Lapuyade
The JCL Law Firm, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: March 1, 2024



Vartan Madoyan
Edwin Aiwarzian
Lawyers for Justice, PC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

IT IS SO AGREED TO AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY DEFENDANTS:

Dated: _____, 2024

For Defendants
Food Safety Net Services, LTD and Net Services-
California, LP

Dated: _____, 2024

Heather B. Dillion
Attorney for Defendants

IT IS SO AGREED TO AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY PLAINTIFFS:

Dated: _____, 2024

Plaintiff Lyndon Miller

Dated: _____, 2024

Plaintiff Adam Lor

Dated: _____, 2024

Shani O. Zakay
Zakay Law Group, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

Jean-Claude Lapuyade
The JCL Law Firm, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

Vartan Madoyan
Edwin Aiwazian
Lawyers for Justice, PC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

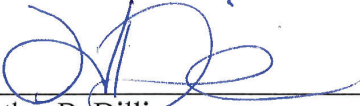
IT IS SO AGREED TO AS TO FORM AND CONTENT BY DEFENDANTS:

Dated: 2/16, 2024



For Defendants
Food Safety Net Services, LTD and Net Services-
California, LP

Dated: February 16, 2024



Heather B. Dillion
Attorney for Defendants

Exhibit A

**COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR
FINAL COURT APPROVAL**

*Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD.
Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles
Case No. 22STCV15337*

***The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!
It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.***

You may be eligible to receive money from an employee class action lawsuit (“Action”) against Food Safety Net Services, LTD and/or Food Safety Net Services-California, LP (“Defendants”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by Lyndon Miller and Adam Lor (“Plaintiffs”) and seeks payment of (1) back wages and other relief for a class of all non-exempt employees who are or previously were employed by (“Class Members”) Defendants during the Class Period (May 9, 2018 to January 12, 2024) and did not sign an Arbitration Agreement (Effective date of November 6, 2020) before May 9, 2022; and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all non-exempt employees who are or previously were employed by Defendants and performed work in California during the PAGA Period. (“Aggrieved Employees”). The PAGA Period is defined as the period from January 25, 2022 to January 12, 2024.

The proposed settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class Settlement requiring Defendants to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA Settlement requiring Defendants to fund Individual PAGA Payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

Based on Defendants’ records, and the Parties’ current assumptions, **your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$ XX (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ XX.** The actual amount you may receive may be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendants’ records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you did not work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Defendants’ records showing that **you worked XX workweeks** during the Class Period, and **you worked XX PAGA Pay Periods** during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more workweeks during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section 4 of this Notice.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this Notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully read and understood it. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the Settlement and how much of the Settlement will be paid to Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs’ attorneys (“Class Counsel”). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Defendants to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendants.

If you worked for Defendants during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have two basic options under the Settlement:

- (1) **Do Nothing.** You do not have to do anything to participate in the proposed Settlement and be eligible for an Individual Class Payment and/or an Individual PAGA Payment. As a Participating Class Member, though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims and PAGA Period penalty claims against Defendants.
- (2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting the written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Defendants, and, if you are an Aggrieved Employee, remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement.

Defendants will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed Settlement.

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 a Participating Class Member, eligible for an Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA Payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert the wage claims against Defendants that are covered by this Settlement (Released Claims).
You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement The Opt-out Deadline is _____	If you don't want to fully participate in the proposed Settlement, you can opt-out of the Class Settlement by sending the Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed Settlement. See Section 6 of this Notice. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. Defendants must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released Claims (defined below).

Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement Written Objections Must be Submitted by	All Class Members who do not opt-out (“Participating Class Members”) can object to any aspect of the proposed Settlement. The Court’s decision whether to finally approve the Settlement will include a determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiffs who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel.
You Can Participate in the Final Approval Hearing	The Court’s Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on . You do not 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. See Section 8 of this Notice.
You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks/Pay Periods Written Challenges Must be Submitted by	The amount of your Individual Class Payment and PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one day during the Class Period and how many PAGA Pay Periods you worked at least one day during the PAGA Period, respectively. The number Class Period Workweeks and number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked according to Defendants’ records is stated on the first page of this Notice. If you disagree with either of these numbers, you must challenge it by _____. See Section 4 of this Notice.

1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiffs are former employees of Defendants. The Action accuses Defendants of violating California labor laws by failing to pay minimum wages, including straight time, overtime and double time wages; failing to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods and paying applicable premiums; failing to pay wages when due during employment and upon termination; failing to maintain requisite payroll records; failing to reimburse for mandatory business expenses; failing to provide accurate itemized wage statements and a claim brought under the Business and Professions Code section 17200 et seq. Based on the same claims, Plaintiffs have also asserted a claim for civil penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.) (“PAGA”). Plaintiffs are represented by attorneys in the Action:

The JCL Law Firm, APC, the Zakay Law Group, APLC and Lawyers for Justice, PC (“Class Counsel.”)

Defendants strongly deny violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contend it complied with all applicable laws.

2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Defendants or Plaintiffs are correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiffs and Defendants hired a neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating to end the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement (“Agreement”) and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, Plaintiffs and Defendants have negotiated a proposed Settlement that is subject to the Court’s Final Approval. Both sides agree the proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims. By agreeing to settle, Defendants do not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims.

Plaintiffs and Class Counsel strongly believe the Settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Defendants has agreed to pay a fair, reasonable and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) Settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine Final Approval.

3. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

1. Gross Settlement Amount. Defendants Will Pay \$997,250 as the Gross Settlement Amount (“Gross Settlement Amount”). Defendants have agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement Amount into an account controlled by the Administrator of the Settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement Amount to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, Class Representative Payments, Class Counsel’s attorney’s fees and expenses, the Administrator’s expenses, and penalties to be paid to the California

Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”). Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Defendants will fund the Gross Settlement Amount not more than 60 days after the Judgment entered by the Court become final. The Judgment will be final on the date the Court enters Judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed Settlement or the Judgment is appealed.

2. Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement Amount. At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement Amount, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:
 - A. Up to \$332,241.66 (1/3 of the Gross Settlement Amount) to Class Counsel for attorneys’ fees and up to \$35,000.00 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.
 - B. Up to \$10,000 to each Class Representative as a Class Representative Payment for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. A Class Representative Award will be the only monies Plaintiffs will receive other than each Plaintiffs’ respective Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
 - C. Up to \$6,500.00 to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.
 - D. Up to \$40,000.00 for PAGA Payment, allocated 75% to the LWDA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Pay Periods.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions. The Court will consider all objections.

3. Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement Amount (the “Net Settlement”) by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period Workweeks.
4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Defendants are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages (“Wage Portion”) and 80% to interests and penalties (“Non-Wage Portion.”). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Defendants will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes on the Wage Portion. The Individual PAGA Payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiff and Defendants have agreed to these allocations, neither side is giving you any advice on whether your Payments are taxable or how much you might owe in taxes. You are responsible for paying all taxes (including penalties and interest on back taxes) on

any Payments received from the proposed Settlement. You should consult a tax advisor if you have any questions about the tax consequences of the proposed Settlement.

5. Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks. The front of every check issued for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will show the date when the check expires (the void date). If you do not cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be deposited with the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

If the monies represented by your check are sent to the Controller's Unclaimed Property, you should consult the rules of the Fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.

6. Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs). You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Class Settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than **MONTH XX, 202X**, that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed Request for Exclusion by **MONTH XX, 202X**, Response Deadline. The Request for Exclusion should be a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative setting forth a Class Member's name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the Settlement. Excluded Class Members (i.e., Non-Participating Class Members) will not receive Individual Class Payments but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Defendants.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement. Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement (Non-Participating Class Members) remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Defendants based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

7. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will decline to grant Final Approval of the Settlement or decline enter a Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiffs and Defendants have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Defendants will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendants.
8. Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral company, Apex Class Action LLC (the Administrator") to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' Requests for Exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member Challenges over Workweeks, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the Settlement. The Administrator's contact information is contained in Section 9 of this Notice.
9. Participating Class Members' Release. After the Judgment is final and Defendants have fully funded the Gross Settlement Amount, and separately paid all employer payroll taxes, Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the Settlement. This means that unless you opted out by validly excluding yourself from the Class Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit

against Defendants or related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA Payment based on PAGA Period facts, as alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The Participating Class Members will be bound by the following release: all Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties from, upon entry of final judgment and funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, of all class claims alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged, in the operative complaint in the Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD et al. Action which occurred during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation and class claims outside the Class Period.

10. Aggrieved Employees' PAGA Release. After the Court's judgment is final, and Defendants, has paid the Gross Settlement Amount (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), all Aggrieved Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against Defendants, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Defendants or its related entities based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement. The Aggrieved Employees' Releases for Participating and Non-Participating Class Members are as follows:

All Participating and Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties, from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the PAGA Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint and Plaintiff Lor's PAGA Notice.

4. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

1. Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member.
2. Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$10,000.00 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.
3. Workweek/PAGA Pay Period Challenges. The number of Class Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Defendants' records, are stated in the first page of this Notice. You

have until **MONTH XX, 202X** to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail, email, or fax. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Defendants' calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods based on Defendants' records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Defendants' Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You cannot appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

5. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

1. Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who does not opt-out) including those who also qualify as Aggrieved Employees. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment.
2. Non-Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts out of the Class Settlement (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

Your check will be sent to the same address as in this Notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

6. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

Submit a written and signed letter with your name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the Settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing communicating your request be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD. Case No. 22STCV15337*, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number, approximate dates of employment, and social security number for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. **The Administrator must receive your request to be excluded by **MONTH XX, 202X**, or it will be invalid.** Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

7. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiffs and Defendants are asking the Court to

approve. At least sixteen (16) days before the **MONTH XX, 202X** Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court (1) a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair, and (2) a Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs and Service Award stating (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; and (ii) the amount Plaintiff is requesting as a Class Representative Award. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section 9 of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Administrator's Website www._____.com or the Court's website <https://www.lacourt.org/casesummary/ui/>.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Agreement, the Motion for Final Approval and/or Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs, and Service Award may wish to object. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is MONTH XX, 202X.** Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action *Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD. Case No. 22STCV15337* and include your name, current address, telephone number, and approximate dates of employment for Defendants and sign the objection. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the Final Approval Hearing. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing.

8. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on **MONTH XX, 202X** at **XX:XX am/pm** in Department 10 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. At the Hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement Amount will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiff, and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel before making a decision. You can attend (or hire a lawyer to attend) either personally or virtually via LACourtConnect (<https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/>). Check the Court's website for the most current information.

It is possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. You should check the Administrator's website www._____.com beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing.

9. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The Agreement sets forth everything Defendants and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed Settlement. The easiest way to read the Agreement, the Judgment or any other Settlement documents is to go to Apex Class Action LLC's website at www._____.com. You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information

listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to (<https://portal.sccourt.org/search>) and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. 22STCV15337. You can also make an appointment to personally review court documents in the Clerk's Office at the Los Angeles Superior Court.

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SUPERIOR COURT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.

JCL LAW FIRM, APC
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
T: 619-599-8292
jlapuyade@jcl-lawfirm.com

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
T: 619-892-7095
F: 858-404-9203
Shani@zakaylaw.com

LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE
410 Arden Ave. #203
Glendale, CA 91203
T: 818-619-2080
F: 818-265-1021
vartan@calljustice.com

Settlement Administrator:

Apex Class Action LLC
20371 Irvine Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660;
Tel: (800) 355-0700

10. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void, you should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

11. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.

JCL LAW FIRM, APC

Jean-Claude Lapuyade (State Bar #248676)
Monnett De La Torre (State Bar #272884)
Andrea Amaya Silva (State Bar #348080)
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
Telephone: (619)599-8292
Facsimile: (619) 599-8291
jlapuyade@jcl-lawfirm.com
mdelatorre@jcl-lawfirm.com
aamaya@jcl-lawfirm.com

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC

Shani O. Zakay (State Bar #277924)
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
Telephone: (619) 892-7095
Facsimile: (858) 404-9203
shani@zakaylaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

(Additional Counsel on Next Page)

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

LYNDON MILLER and ADAM LOR,
individually, and on behalf of other members of
the general public similarly situated;

Plaintiffs,

v.

FOOD SAFETY NET SERVICES, LTD., an
unknown business entity; FOOD SAFETY NET
SERVICES-CALIFORNIA, LP., a Nevada
limited partnership; and DOES 1 through 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No: 22STCV15337

**AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO CLASS ACTION
AND PAGA SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT**

Date: August 13, 2024
Time: 10:30am

Judge: Hon. William F. Highberger
Dept.: 10

LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC

Edwin Aiwazian, Esq.

Vartan Madoyan, Esq.

410 West Arden Avenue, Suite 203

Glendale, California 91203

Telephone: (818) 265-1020

Facsimile: (818) 265-1021

edwin@calljustice.com

vartan@calljustice.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

1 Plaintiffs LYNDON MILLER and ADAM LOR (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), and
2 Defendants FOOD SAFETY NET SERVICES, LTD., and FOOD SAFETY NET SERVICES-
3 CALIFORNIA, LP., (together, "Defendants," and collectively with Plaintiffs, the "Parties"),
4 pursuant to Paragraph 11.9 of the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Original
5 Agreement") entered into on or around February 16, 2024, hereby agree to amend the Original
6 Agreement, as stated herein. The amendments stated herein are incorporated by this reference:

7 **A. Paragraph 3.2.3 of the Original Agreement is hereby amended to state as follows:**

8 3.2.3. To the Administrator: The Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed
9 Seven Thousand, Three Hundred and Forty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$7,340.00) except for a
10 showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. Defendants will not oppose requests for
11 these payments provided that do not exceed this amount. To the extent the Administration
12 Expenses Payment are less or the Court approves payment less than Seven Thousand, Three
13 Hundred and Forty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$7,340.00), the Administrator will retain the
14 remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.

15 **B. Exhibit A to the Original Agreement will be replaced with:** revised Notice of Class
16 Action Settlement that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

17
18 **IT IS SO AGREED.**
19

20
21 Dated: 07/09/24, 2024


Lyndon Miller (Jul 9, 2024 19:14 PDT)
Plaintiff Lyndon Miller

22
23 Dated: 07/09/24, 2024


Adam Lor (Jul 9, 2024 19:37 PDT)
Plaintiff Adam Lor

24
25 Dated: July 9th, 2024


Shani O. Zakay
Zakay Law Group, APLC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

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Dated: July 9th, 2024



Jean-Claude Lapuyade
The JCL Law Firm, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

Vartan Madoyan
Edwin Aiwarzian
Lawyers for Justice, PC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

For Defendants
Food Safety Net Services, LTD., and
Net Services-California, LP

Dated: _____, 2024

Heather B. Dillion
Nisha Verma
Attorney for Defendants

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Dated: _____, 2024

Jean-Claude Lapuyade
The JCL Law Firm, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: July 9, 2024



Vartan Madoyan
Edwin Aiwarzian
Lawyers for Justice, PC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

For Defendants
Food Safety Net Services, LTD., and
Net Services-California, LP

Dated: _____, 2024

Heather B. Dillion
Nisha Verma
Attorney for Defendants

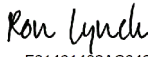
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Dated: _____, 2024

Jean-Claude Lapuyade
The JCL Law Firm, APC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: _____, 2024

Vartan Madoyan
Edwin Aiwarzian
Lawyers for Justice, PC
Attorney for Plaintiffs

DocuSigned by:

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Dated: July 9, 2024

For Defendants
Food Safety Net Services, LTD., and
Net Services-California, LP



Dated: July 9, 2024

Heather B. Dillion
Nisha Verma
Attorney for Defendants

EXHIBIT A

**COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR
FINAL COURT APPROVAL**

*Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD.
Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles
Case No. 22STCV15337*

***The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!
It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.***

You may be eligible to receive money from an employee class action lawsuit (“Action”) against Food Safety Net Services, LTD and/or Food Safety Net Services-California, LP (“Defendants”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by Lyndon Miller and Adam Lor (“Plaintiffs”) and seeks payment of (1) back wages and other relief for a class of all non-exempt employees who are or previously were employed by (“Class Members”) Defendants during the Class Period (May 9, 2018 to January 12, 2024) and did not sign an Arbitration Agreement (Effective date of November 6, 2020) before May 9, 2022; and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all non-exempt employees who are or previously were employed by Defendants and performed work in California during the PAGA Period. (“Aggrieved Employees”). The PAGA Period is defined as the period from January 25, 2022 to January 12, 2024.

The proposed settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class Settlement requiring Defendants to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA Settlement requiring Defendants to fund Individual PAGA Payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

Based on Defendants’ records, and the Parties’ current assumptions, **your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$ XX (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ XX.** The actual amount you may receive may be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendants’ records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you did not work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Defendants’ records showing that **you worked XX workweeks** during the Class Period, and **you worked XX PAGA Pay Periods** during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more workweeks during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section 4 of this Notice.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this Notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully read and understood it. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the Settlement and how much of the Settlement will be paid to Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs’ attorneys (“Class Counsel”). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Defendants to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendants.

If you worked for Defendants during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have two basic options under the Settlement:

- (1) **Do Nothing.** You do not have to do anything to participate in the proposed Settlement and be eligible for an Individual Class Payment and/or an Individual PAGA Payment. As a Participating Class Member, though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims and PAGA Period penalty claims against Defendants.
- (2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting the written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Defendants, and, if you are an Aggrieved Employee, remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement.

Defendants will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed Settlement.

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 a Participating Class Member, eligible for an Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA Payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert the wage claims against Defendants that are covered by this Settlement (Released Claims).
You Can Opt-out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement The Opt-out Deadline is _____	If you don't want to fully participate in the proposed Settlement, you can opt-out of the Class Settlement by sending the Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed Settlement. See Section 6 of this Notice. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. Defendants must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released Claims (defined below).

Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement Written Objections Must be Submitted by	All Class Members who do not opt-out (“Participating Class Members”) can object to any aspect of the proposed Settlement. The Court’s decision whether to finally approve the Settlement will include a determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiffs who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel.
You Can Participate in the Final Approval Hearing	The Court’s Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on . You do not 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. See Section 8 of this Notice.
You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks/Pay Periods Written Challenges Must be Submitted by	The amount of your Individual Class Payment and PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one day during the Class Period and how many PAGA Pay Periods you worked at least one day during the PAGA Period, respectively. The number Class Period Workweeks and number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked according to Defendants’ records is stated on the first page of this Notice. If you disagree with either of these numbers, you must challenge it by _____. See Section 4 of this Notice.

1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiffs are former employees of Defendants. The Action accuses Defendants of violating California labor laws by failing to pay minimum wages, including straight time, overtime and double time wages; failing to provide legally compliant meal and rest periods and paying applicable premiums; failing to pay wages when due during employment and upon termination; failing to maintain requisite payroll records; failing to reimburse for mandatory business expenses; failing to provide accurate itemized wage statements and a claim brought under the Business and Professions Code section 17200 et seq. Based on the same claims, Plaintiffs have also asserted a claim for civil penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.) (“PAGA”). Plaintiffs are represented by attorneys in the Action:

The JCL Law Firm, APC, the Zakay Law Group, APLC and Lawyers for Justice, PC (“Class Counsel.”)

Defendants strongly deny violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contend it complied with all applicable laws.

2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Defendants or Plaintiffs are correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiffs and Defendants hired a neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating to end the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement (“Agreement”) and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, Plaintiffs and Defendants have negotiated a proposed Settlement that is subject to the Court’s Final Approval. Both sides agree the proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims. By agreeing to settle, Defendants do not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims.

Plaintiffs and Class Counsel strongly believe the Settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Defendants has agreed to pay a fair, reasonable and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) Settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine Final Approval.

3. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

1. Gross Settlement Amount. Defendants Will Pay \$997,250 as the Gross Settlement Amount (“Gross Settlement Amount”). Defendants have agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement Amount into an account controlled by the Administrator of the Settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement Amount to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, Class Representative Payments, Class Counsel’s attorney’s fees and expenses, the Administrator’s expenses, and penalties to be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”). Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Defendants will fund the Gross Settlement Amount not more than 60 days after

the Judgment entered by the Court become final. The Judgment will be final on the date the Court enters Judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed Settlement or the Judgment is appealed.

2. Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement Amount. At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement Amount, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:
 - A. Up to \$332,241.66 (1/3 of the Gross Settlement Amount) to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and up to \$35,000.00 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.
 - B. Up to \$10,000 to each Class Representative as a Class Representative Payment for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. A Class Representative Award will be the only monies Plaintiffs will receive other than each Plaintiffs' respective Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
 - C. Up to \$7,340.00 to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.
 - D. Up to \$40,000.00 for PAGA Payment, allocated 75% to the LWDA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Pay Periods.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions. The Court will consider all objections.

3. Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement Amount (the "Net Settlement") by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period Workweeks.
4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Defendants are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages ("Wage Portion") and 80% to interests and penalties ("Non-Wage Portion."). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Defendants will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes on the Wage Portion. The Individual PAGA Payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiff and Defendants have agreed to these allocations, neither side is giving you any advice on whether your Payments are taxable or how much you might owe in taxes. You are responsible for paying all taxes (including penalties and interest on back taxes) on any Payments received from the proposed Settlement. You should consult a tax advisor if you have any questions about the tax consequences of the proposed Settlement.

5. Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks. The front of every check issued for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will show the date when the check expires (the void date). If you do not cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be deposited with the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

If the monies represented by your check are sent to the Controller's Unclaimed Property, you should consult the rules of the Fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.

6. Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs). You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Class Settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than **MONTH XX, 202X**, that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed Request for Exclusion by **MONTH XX, 202X**, Response Deadline. The Request for Exclusion should be a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative setting forth a Class Member's name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the Settlement. Excluded Class Members (i.e., Non-Participating Class Members) will not receive Individual Class Payments but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Defendants.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement. Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement (Non-Participating Class Members) remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Defendants based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

7. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will decline to grant Final Approval of the Settlement or decline enter a Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiffs and Defendants have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Defendants will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendants.
8. Administrator. The Court has appointed a neutral company, Apex Class Action LLC (the Administrator") to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' Requests for Exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member Challenges over Workweeks, mail and re- mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the Settlement. The Administrator's contact information is contained in Section 9 of this Notice.
9. Participating Class Members' Release. After the Judgment is final and Defendants have fully funded the Gross Settlement Amount, and separately paid all employer payroll taxes, Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the Settlement. This means that unless you opted out by validly excluding yourself from the Class Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants or related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA Payment based on PAGA Period facts, as alleged in the Action and resolved by this

Settlement.

The Participating Class Members will be bound by the following release: all Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release Released Parties from, upon entry of final judgment and funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, of all class claims alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged, in the operative complaint in the Lyndon Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD et al. Action which occurred during the Class Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation and class claims outside the Class Period.

10. Aggrieved Employees' PAGA Release. After the Court's judgment is final, and Defendants, has paid the Gross Settlement Amount (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), all Aggrieved Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against Defendants, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Defendants or its related entities based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement. The Aggrieved Employees' Releases for Participating and Non-Participating Class Members are as follows:

All Participating and Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties, from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the PAGA Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint and Plaintiff Lor's PAGA Notice.

4. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

1. Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member.
2. Individual PAGA Payments. The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$10,000.00 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.
3. Workweek/PAGA Pay Period Challenges. The number of Class Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Defendants' records, are stated in the first page of this Notice. You have until **MONTH XX, 202X** to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to

the Administrator via mail, email, or fax. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Defendants' calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods based on Defendants' records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Defendants' Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You cannot appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

5. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

1. Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who does not opt-out) including those who also qualify as Aggrieved Employees. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment.
2. Non-Participating Class Members. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts out of the Class Settlement (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

Your check will be sent to the same address as in this Notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

6. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

Submit a written and signed letter with your name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the Settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing communicating your request be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD. Case No. 22STCV15337*, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number, approximate dates of employment, and social security number for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. **The Administrator must receive your request to be excluded by MONTH XX, 202X, or it will be invalid.** Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

7. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiffs and Defendants are asking the Court to approve. At least sixteen (16) days before the MONTH XX, 202X Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court (1) a Motion for Final Approval that includes,

among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair, and (2) a Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs and Service Award stating (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; and (ii) the amount Plaintiff is requesting as a Class Representative Award. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section 9 of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Administrator's Website www._____.com or the Court's website <https://www.lacourt.org/casesummary/ui/>.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Agreement, the Motion for Final Approval and/or Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs, and Service Award may wish to object. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is MONTH XX, 202X.** Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action *Miller v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD. Case No. 22STCV15337* and include your name, current address, telephone number, and approximate dates of employment for Defendants and sign the objection. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the Final Approval Hearing. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing.

8. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on **MONTH XX, 202X** at **XX:XX am/pm** in Department 10 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. At the Hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement Amount will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiff, and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel before making a decision. You can attend (or hire a lawyer to attend) either personally or virtually via LACourtConnect (<https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/>). Check the Court's website for the most current information.

It is possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. You should check the Administrator's website www._____.com beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing.

9. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The Agreement sets forth everything Defendants and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed Settlement. The easiest way to read the Agreement, the Judgment or any other Settlement documents is to go to Apex Class Action LLC's website at www._____.com. You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to (<https://portal.sescourt.org/search>) and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. 22STCV15337. You can also make an

appointment to personally review court documents in the Clerk's Office at the Los Angeles Superior Court.

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SUPERIOR COURT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.

JCL LAW FIRM, APC
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
T: 619-599-8292
jlapyade@jcl-lawfirm.com

ZAKAY LAW GROUP, APLC
5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 3600
San Diego, CA 92121
T: 619-892-7095
F: 858-404-9203
Shani@zakaylaw.com

LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE
410 Arden Ave. #203
Glendale, CA 91203
T: 818-619-2080
F: 818-265-1021
vartan@calljustice.com

Settlement Administrator:

Apex Class Action LLC
20371 Irvine Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660;
Tel: (800) 355-0700

10. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void, you should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

11. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.

EXHIBIT 2

EXHIBIT 3

**Quotation Request:**

Donia Saadi
Zakay Law Group, APC
donia@zakaylaw.com
619.255.9047

Case Name:

Miller et al. v. Food Safety Net Services, LTD

Date:

Monday, February 5, 2024

RFP Number:

90470017

Prepared By:

Sean Hartranft
Apex Class Action LLC
Sean@apexclassaction.com
949.878.3676

Settlement Specifications

Estimated Class Size:	231
Certified Language Translation:	Optional
Static Settlement Website	No
Percentage of Undeliverable Mail	20%

Professional Services	Fee Calculation	Rate(s)	Quantity	Estimated Cost
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Data Analytics and Standardization

Import and Standardize Data*	Per Hour	\$125.00	2	\$250.00
Data Analyst	Per Hour	\$150.00	2	\$300.00
*Data provided must be in a workable format. Apex can standardize provided data at an additional cost of \$150/hr.				
Sub Total:				\$550.00

Mailing of Class Notice

Form Set Up	Per Hour	\$120.00	1	\$120.00
Print & Mail Class Notice	Per Piece	\$1.50	231	\$346.50
USPS First Class Postage	Per Piece	\$0.68	231	\$157.08
Remail Undeliverable Mail (Skip-Trace)	Per Piece	\$2.15	46	\$99.33
Receive and Process Undeliverable Mail	Per Hour	\$75.00	1	\$75.00
Process Class Member Correspondence via mail, e-mail & fax	Per Piece	\$75.00	1	\$75.00
NCOA Address Update (USPS)	Static Rate	\$65.00	1	\$65.00
Certified Language Translation: Spanish	Static Rate	\$1,200.00	1	Optional
Sub Total:				\$937.91

Project Management

Project Management	Per Hour	\$150.00	2	\$300.00
Project Coordinator	Per Hour	\$90.00	2	\$180.00
Data Analyst and Reporting	Per Hour	\$140.00	1	\$140.00
Sub Total:				\$620.00

APEX
CLASS ACTION ADMINISTRATION

Professional Services	Fee Calculation	Rate(s)	Quantity	Estimated Cost
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Toll-Free Contact Center, Website & Reporting				
Bilingual Toll-Free Contact Center	Static Rate	\$98.84	1	\$98.84
Settlement Status Reports	Static Rate	\$750.00	1	Waived
			Sub Total:	\$98.84

Distribution & Settlement Fund Management				
Settlement Calculations (Preliminary and Final)	Per Hour	\$120.00	2	\$240.00
Account Management and Reconciliation	Per Hour	\$140.00	2	\$280.00
Print & Mail Distribution Settlement Check (W-2/1099)	Per Piece	\$1.50	231	\$346.50
USPS First Class Postage	Per Piece	\$0.68	231	\$157.08
Remail Distribution to Updated Address (Skip Trace)	Per Piece	\$2.15	23	\$49.67
Individual Income Tax Preparation & Reporting	Per Hour	\$100.00	8	\$800.00
QSF Income Tax Reporting (per calendar year)	Per Year	\$1,200.00	1	\$1,200.00
			Sub Total:	\$3,073.25

Post Distribution Reconciliation				
Bank Account Reconciliation	Per Hour	\$135.00	2	\$270.00
Project Management Reconciliation	Per Hour	\$100.00	2	\$200.00
Declarations	Per Hour	\$120.00	2	\$240.00
			Sub Total:	\$710.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED ADMINISTRATION COST:				\$5,990.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED ADMINISTRATION COST INCLUDING SPANISH TRANSLATION:				\$7,340.00

Thank you for your business!



Terms & Conditions

The following Terms and Conditions govern the provision of all services to be provided by Apex Class Action and its affiliates ("Apex") to the Client. These terms and conditions are binding and shall apply to all services provided by Apex in relation to any related services or products.

1. **Services:** Apex commits to providing the Client with the administrative services detailed in the attached Proposal (the "Services").

2. **Payment Terms:** As compensation for the legal services to be provided, the Client agrees to pay Apex all fees detailed in the Proposal. The fees quoted in the Proposal (and any subsequent proposals for additional services) are estimates based on the information provided to Apex by the Client. Apex makes no representation that the estimated fees in the Proposal or any subsequent proposals for additional services shall equal the actual fees charged by Apex to the Client, which fees (including individual line items) may be greater or less than estimated. If additional services are requested on an hourly basis and are not specifically detailed in the Proposal, Apex will prepare estimates for such services subject to approval by the Client. In the performance of such additional services, Apex will charge standard hourly fees which shall apply.

3. **Incurred Expenses:** In relation to the provision of services outlined in this agreement, the Client agrees to reimburse Apex for all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred. Such expenses may include, but are not limited to, costs associated with postage, media production or publication, banking fees, brokerage fees, messenger and delivery service expenses, travel expenses, filing fees, office supplies, meals, staff overtime expenses, and other related costs and expenses. If not otherwise specified in writing, fees for print notice and certain expenses, such as media publication and postage, must be paid immediately upon invoicing and, in certain cases, at least ten (10) days prior to the date on which such expenses will be incurred.

4. **Invoicing:** Apex shall present invoices for its fees and expenses on a monthly basis, except as provided in Section 3. The Client agrees to pay each invoice within 30 days of receipt. In case of non-payment within 90 days of the billing date, an additional service charge of 1.5% per month may apply. Apex reserves the right to increase its prices, charges, and rates annually, subject to reasonable adjustments. If any price increases exceed 10%, Apex shall give thirty (30) days' notice to the Client. In the event of any unpaid invoices beyond 120 days of the due date, Apex reserves the right to withhold services and reports until payment is received, subject to notice to the Client. It is important to note that Apex's failure to provide services and reports in such instances shall not constitute a default under this agreement.

5. **Case Duration:** The duration of these Terms and Conditions, except for the data storage obligations stated in Section 13, shall be in effect until 30 days following the completion of the Services as described in the Proposal. The parties may extend these Terms and Conditions in writing for a mutually agreed-upon period beyond this initial 30-day period.

6. **Termination of Services:** Either party may terminate the Services by providing thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. Alternatively, termination may occur immediately upon written notice for Cause, as defined below. Cause means (i) Apex's gross negligence or willful misconduct that causes serious and material harm to the Client; (ii) the Client's failure to pay Apex invoices for more than one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the invoice; or (iii) the accrual of invoices or unpaid services where Apex reasonably believes it will not be paid. Termination of the Services shall not relieve the Client of its obligation to pay Apex for services rendered prior to the termination.

7. **Independent Contractor:** As an independent contractor, Apex will provide services under the terms of this agreement. It is agreed that neither Apex nor any of its employees will be considered an employee of the Client. Consequently, Apex and its employees will not be eligible for any benefits provided by the Client to its employees. The Client will not make any tax deductions from the payments due to Apex for state or federal tax purposes. Apex will be solely responsible for paying all taxes and other payments due on payments received from the Client under this agreement.

8. Apex warrants that the Services outlined in the Proposal will be performed in accordance with the standards generally adhered to by professionals providing similar services. It is acknowledged that the Services may entail the likelihood of some human and machine errors, omissions, delays, and losses that may result in damage. However, Apex shall not be held liable for such errors, omissions, delays, or losses unless they are caused by its gross negligence or willful misconduct. In the event of any breach of this warranty by Apex, the Client's sole remedy will be limited to Apex's rerunning, at its expense, any inaccurate output provided that such inaccuracies occurred solely as a result of Apex's gross negligence or willful misconduct under this agreement.

9. **Limitation of Liability:** The Client acknowledges that Apex shall not be held liable for any consequential, special, or incidental damages incurred by the Client in relation to the performance of Services, whether the claim is based on breach of warranty, contract, tort (including negligence), strict liability, or any other grounds. Under no circumstances shall Apex's liability to the Client, for any Losses (including court costs and reasonable attorney's fees), arising out of or in connection with these Terms and Conditions, exceed the total amount charged or chargeable to the Client for the specific service(s) that caused the Losses.

10. **Indemnification:** The Client agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Apex from any losses, suits, actions, judgments, fines, costs, liabilities, or claims arising from any action or proceeding relating to the Services provided by Apex, regardless of whether or not it results in liability (collectively referred to as "Indemnified Claims"). However, this indemnification provision shall not apply to the extent that such Indemnified Claims are caused by Apex's willful misconduct, gross negligence, or breach of these Terms and Conditions. This provision shall survive termination of the Services.

11. **Confidentiality:** Apex will uphold strict confidentiality between Apex and the Client and applies to all non-public records, documents, systems, procedures, processes, software, and other information received by either party in connection with the performance of services under these terms. Both Apex and the Client agree to keep confidential all such non-public information, including any material marked or identified as confidential or proprietary. Any such confidential information shall not be disclosed, provided, disseminated, or otherwise made available to any third party, except as required to fulfill the parties' obligations under these terms. The parties acknowledge that in the event of any request to disclose any confidential information in connection with a legal or administrative proceeding, or otherwise to comply with a legal requirement, prompt notice of such request must be given to the other party to enable that party to seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy or to waive compliance with the relevant provisions of these terms. If the Client seeks a protective order or another remedy, Apex, at the Client's expense, will cooperate with and assist the Client in such efforts. If the Client fails to obtain a protective order or waives compliance with the relevant provisions of these terms, Apex will disclose only that portion of the confidential information that it determines it is required to disclose. This confidentiality provision shall survive termination of the services provided. Both parties acknowledge and agree that any breach of these terms may cause irreparable harm to the non-breaching party and that injunctive relief may be necessary to prevent any actual or threatened breach. The terms set forth between the parties supersede all prior negotiations, understandings, and agreements between the parties concerning confidentiality. These terms may only be amended in writing and signed by both parties.

12. **Ownership of the programs, system data, and materials provided by Apex to the Client during the course of providing services herein shall solely belong to Apex. It is acknowledged that fees and expenses paid by the Client do not confer any rights in such property. It is also understood that the said property is made available to the Client solely for the purpose of using it during and in connection with the services provided by Apex.**

13. Upon the completion of the administration and unless retention instructions are ordered by the court, Apex will notify the client that it will destroy and/or return all confidential information and property within 90 days upon the client's written request. Alternatively, the material may be stored for one year at a monthly fee of \$1.50 per storage box for paper documents and \$0.01 per image for electronic copies over a period of three years, which compensates Apex for its electronic and hard-copy storage costs. Apex will not be liable for any damages, liability, or expenses incurred in connection with any delay in delivery of, or damage to disks, magnetic tapes, or any input data provided by the client or its representatives unless Apex has agreed in writing to assume such responsibility.

14. **COMPLETE AGREEMENT.** These Terms and Conditions, along with the attached Proposal, represent the complete agreement and understanding between the parties and override any prior agreements (whether written or oral) between Apex and the Client regarding the subject matter. Any modification to these Terms and Conditions may only be made in writing and must be signed by both Apex and the Client. The headings in this document are included for convenience only and do not alter or restrict any provisions in these Terms and Conditions. They may not be used in the interpretation of these Terms and Conditions.

15. This provision outlines the requirements for providing notice or other communication under this agreement. All such communications must be in writing and can be delivered either by personal delivery or through U.S. Mail with prepaid postage or overnight courier. Once delivered personally or sent through the mail, the notice will be considered given after five (5) days from the deposit date in the U.S. Mail. Alternatively, if sent through an overnight courier, the notice will be considered given one business day after delivery to the such courier. It's important to note that the notice must be provided to a responsible officer or principal of the Client or Apex, depending on the case.

16. **Force Majeure:** In the event of any failure or delay in performance due to circumstances beyond Apex's control, including but not limited to strikes, lockouts, fires, floods, acts of God or public enemy, riots, civil disorders, insurrections, war or war conditions, or interference by civil or military authorities, Apex shall not be held liable for any resulting loss or damage. The time for performance under this agreement shall be extended for a period equal to the duration of the disabling cause and a reasonable time thereafter. This provision shall constitute a force majeure clause and shall be construed accordingly.

17. The applicable state and federal laws shall govern the interpretation and enforcement of these Terms and Conditions. No choice of law or conflict of laws provisions shall affect this governing law provision.

18. **Severability:** This applies to all clauses and covenants contained within these Terms and Conditions. In the event that any clause or covenant is deemed invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permissible by law. The validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall in no way be affected or impaired by the invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability of any provision deemed so.

19. **Nonwaiver:** This applies to these Terms and Conditions. This means that any failure by one party to enforce a provision of these terms on one or more occasions shall not be construed as a waiver of that provision. In other words, any failure to enforce a provision does not give up the right to enforce it in the future. All provisions of these Terms and Conditions remain in full force and effect, regardless of any prior failure to enforce them.