

## I. RECITALS

This action is currently pending before this Court as a putative class action (the "Action"). Plaintiff Kendron Fryer has applied to this Court for an order preliminarily approving the settlement of the Action in accordance with the Joint Stipulation and Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement"), which together with the exhibits annexed thereto, sets forth the terms and conditions for a proposed settlement and entry of judgment upon the terms and conditions set forth therein. The Court has read and considered the Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, Conditional Certification, Approval of Class Notice, Setting of Final Approval Hearing Date; and Declaration of David Mara, Esq., in Support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, and attached exhibits. For purposes of this Order, the Court adopts all defined terms as set forth in the Agreement.

## II. FINDINGS

After review and consideration of the Agreement and Plaintiff's motion for preliminary approval and the papers in support thereof, the Court hereby finds and orders as follows:

- 1. The Agreement falls within the range of reasonableness meriting possible final approval.
- 2. The certification of the Class solely for purposes of settlement is appropriate in that: (1) the Class Members are ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all Class Members is impracticable; (2) there are questions of law and fact common to the Class which predominate over any individual questions; (3) Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class; (4) Plaintiff and his Counsel have fairly and adequately represented and protected the interests of the Class; and (5) a class action, and class-wide resolution of the action via class settlement procedures is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.
- 3. The Agreement, and the obligations of the Parties as set forth therein, is fair, reasonable, and is an adequate settlement of this case and is in the best interests of the Class in light of the factual, legal, practical, and procedural considerations raised by this case.

- 4. Plaintiff does not have any conflicts that would preclude him from serving as Class Representative, and his appointment comports with the requirements of due process.
- Class Counsel does not have any conflicts that would preclude them from acting as Class
  Counsel, and they meet the requirements for appointment as Class Counsel and the
  requirements of due process.
- 6. The Notice of Proposed Class Settlement attached as Exhibit A hereto and to the Agreement complies with due process because the Notice of Proposed Class Settlement is reasonably calculated to adequately apprise Class Members of: (i) the pending lawsuit; (ii) the terms of the proposed Agreement; and (iii) their rights, including the right to either participate in the settlement, exclude themselves from the settlement, or object to the settlement. Plaintiff's proposed plan for class notice and settlement administration is the best notice practicable under the circumstances.

## III. ORDER

The Court having considered the papers submitted in support of the motion for preliminary approval, HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that the provisions of the Agreement are fair, just, reasonable, and adequate and, therefore, meet the requirements for preliminary approval.
- The following Class is conditionally certified for purposes of settlement only: All hourly
  or non-exempt individuals employed as drivers by Defendant in California from August
  14, 2016, through September 1, 2021.
- 3. The Agreement provides for the following release as to Settlement Class Members, which is hereby approved conditionally: all claims made or that could have been made against the Releasees based on the facts and circumstances alleged in the Complaints, including claims under California Labor Code sections 201-204, 205.5, 218, 218.5, 222-224, 226, 226.7, 233-234, 246, 246.5, 510, 512, 515, 558, 1174-1175, 1194-1197.1, 1199, California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Sections 11090, 11040, and 11070, the federal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Settlement Class Members are Class Members who do not properly and timely request to be excluded from the Settlement.

Fair Labor Standards Act, California Business and Professions Code section 17200, et seq., California Wage Order No. 9-2001; and any claim for attorneys' fees and costs related to the above-referenced released claims. This release shall apply to claims arising at any point during the period of time from August 14, 2016, through September 1, 2021.

- 4. The Agreement also provides for the following release as to Aggrieved Employees,<sup>2</sup> which is hereby approved conditionally: all claims under the California Private Attorney General Act ("PAGA"), Cal. Lab. Code § 2698, et seq. to the extent such claims are predicated on a Released Class Claim. This release shall apply to claims arising at any point during the period of time from July 9, 2019, through September 1, 2021.
- 5. The settlement appears to be fair, adequate and reasonable to the Class. The settlement falls within the range of reasonableness and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised at the final approval hearing and final approval by this Court.
- 6. Plaintiff Kendron Fryer is conditionally approved as the Class Representative for the Class.
- 7. A final approval hearing on the question of whether the settlement, attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel, the Class Representative Enhancement, the claims administration fees and expenses, and amount allocated to Plaintiff's claims under the PAGA should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate as to Class Members is scheduled in Department 21 on the date and time set forth in the Implementation Schedule below.
- 8. The Court confirms Phoenix Settlement Administrators as the Settlement Administrator.
- 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice in substantially the form attached as Exhibit A hereto and to the Agreement. The Court approves the procedure for Class Members to participate in, to opt out of, and to object to, the settlement as set forth in the Notice.

<sup>2</sup> Aggrieved Employees are all hourly or non-exempt individuals employed as drivers by Defendant in California from July 9, 2019 through September 1, 2021.

- 10. The Court directs the mailing of the Notice by first class mail to Class Members in accordance with the implementation schedule set forth in the Implementation Schedule below. The Court finds the dates selected for the mailing and distribution of the Notice, as set forth in the Implementation Schedule, meet the requirements of due process and provide the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.
- 11. To facilitate administration of the settlement pending final approval, the Court hereby enjoins Plaintiff and all Class Members from filing or prosecuting any claims, suits or administrative proceedings (including, but not limited to, filing claims with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement of the California Department of Industrial Relations) regarding claims released by the Agreement unless and until such Class Members have filed valid Requests for Exclusion with the Settlement Administrator and the time for filing valid Requests for Exclusion with the Settlement Administrator has elapsed. This provision shall not apply to claims not alleged in the Action.

## IV. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The Court orders the following Implementation Schedule for further proceedings:

Deadline for Defendant to submit	[14 calendar days after Preliminary
Class Information to Settlement	Approval Order]
Administrator:	12pprovar oradij
Deadline for Settlement	[14 calendar days after receipt of
Administrator to Mail the Notice to	Class Information]
Class Members	Class mormation
Deadline for Class Members to	[60 salandar dans after mailing of
	[60 calendar days after mailing of
Postmark Requests for Exclusion	Notice to Class Members]
Forms	
Deadline for Receipt by Court and	[60 calendar days after mailing of
Counsel of any Objections to the	Notice to Class Members]
Settlement	

Dated:

Deadline for Class Counsel to file	[16 Court days before Final
Motion for Final Approval of	Approval Hearing]
Settlement	
Deadline for Class Counsel to file	[16 Court days before Final
Motion for Attorneys' Fees, Costs	Approval Hearing]
and Class Representative Payment	
Final Approval Hearing and Final	, 2022
Approval	

IT IS SO ORDERED.

APR 0 7 2022

Honorable Evelio Grillo

Alameda Superior Court Judge