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12 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

13 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
14 **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

15 TONY VILLANUEVA, PAUL MENCHACA,  
16 SUNTI SINGHANATE, and MARIO  
17 ONTIVEROS, individually and on behalf of  
18 all others similarly situated,

19 Plaintiff,

20 v.

21 MESQUITE PRODUCTIONS, INC., a  
22 California Corporation and Does 1 to 100,  
23 inclusive,

24 Defendants.

Case No. 20STCV37528

*Assigned to the Hon. Elihu M. Berle, Dept: 6*

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER  
GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL  
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION  
SETTLEMENT AND FINAL JUDGMENT**

Date: June 20, 2022

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: Dept. 6

United States Courthouse

312 N. Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Complaint Filed: Sept. 30, 2020*

1 **TO EACH PARTY AND THEIR ATTORNEY(S) OF RECORD:**

2 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on June 20, 2022, the Court entered an Order Granting Final  
3 Approval and Judgment in this Class Action Settlement. The Court's Order and Judgment are attached.

4 DATED: June 20, 2022

HARRIS & RUBLE

*Alan Harris*

Alan Harris  
David Garrett  
*Attorney for Plaintiff*

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**Civil Division**

Central District, Spring Street Courthouse, Department 6

**20STCV37528**

**TONY VILLANUEVA vs MESQUITE PRODUCTIONS, INC.,  
et al.**

June 20, 2022

11:00 AM

Judge: Honorable Elihu M. Berle  
Judicial Assistant: M. Fregoso  
Courtroom Assistant: M. Molinar

CSR: None  
ERM: None  
Deputy Sheriff: None

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**APPEARANCES:**

For Plaintiff(s): David Covington Garrett via LACC

For Defendant(s): Emma Luevano via LACC

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**NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS:** Hearing on Motion for Final Approval of Settlement; Hearing on Motion for Attorney Fees

The matter is called for hearing.

The Court has reviewed and considered the supplemental briefs submitted by counsel.

The Motion for Final Approval of Settlement is heard. No objections were filed and there are no objectors present.

The Court finds that the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate.

The Motion for Final Approval of Settlement is GRANTED. The Court awards attorneys' fees in the amount of \$125,000. The Court grants the enhancement award in the amount of \$5,000, for each of the four class representatives, totaling \$20,000. Costs are awarded in the amount of \$9,718.93. The Court further awards administration fees in the amount of \$5,000.

Order and Judgment, as modified by the Court, is signed and filed this date.

Order to Show Cause Re: Compliance with the Terms of the Settlement is scheduled for 02/27/2023 at 08:30 AM in Department 6 at Spring Street Courthouse.

The parties are ordered to meet and confer and file a joint status report and/or declaration by February 20, 2023, advising the Court of the status of the distribution of settlement funds.

Plaintiff is directed to give notice and post a copy of same on the parties' electronic service website.

Electronically Received 04/25/2022 02:49 PM

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12 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

**FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of Los Angeles  
**06/20/2022**

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court  
By:           M. Fregoso           Deputy

13 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
14 **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

15 TONY VILLANUEVA, PAUL MENCHACA,  
16 SUNTI SINGHANATE, and MARIO  
17 ONTIVEROS, individually and on behalf of  
18 all others similarly situated,

19 Plaintiff,

20 v.

21 MESQUITE PRODUCTIONS, INC., a  
22 California Corporation and Does 1 to 100,  
23 inclusive,

24 Defendants.

Case No. 20STCV37528

*Assigned to the Hon. Elihu M. Berle, Dept: 6*

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING  
MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF  
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND  
FINAL JUDGMENT**

Date: June 20, 2022  
Time: 11 a.m.  
Place: Dept. 6  
United States Courthouse  
312 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Complaint Filed: Sept. 30, 2020*

1 **ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND**  
2 **FINAL JUDGMENT**

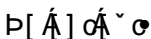
3 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

4 The Unopposed Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement came on for hearing  
5 before this Court, the Honorable Elihu Berle presiding, on June 20, 2022. The Court, having considered  
6 the papers submitted in support of the motion and having heard oral argument of the parties, IT IS  
7 HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

8 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Action and over all parties to  
9 this Action, including all members of the Settlement Class. The Court grants final approval of the  
10 settlement based upon the terms set forth in the “First Amended Class Settlement Agreement” (the  
11 “Settlement”). Capitalized terms in this Order shall have the definitions set forth in the Settlement.

12 2. The Court hereby certifies a Settlement Class as defined in the Settlement pursuant to the  
13 terms and conditions of the Settlement and solely for the purposes set forth therein. The Settlement  
14 Class is defined as:

15 All persons who were issued an itemized wage statement for services on Season 2  
16 of the television production of *L.A. 's Finest* (the “Production”) between July 1,  
2019 and April 3, 2020 (the “Release Period”).

17 

18 Excluded from the Settlement Class are all Persons who properly and timely elect to opt out.

19 3. The Court hereby determines that the settlement set forth in the Settlement falls within  
20 the range of reasonableness and appears to be valid. There were € objections raised at the final  
21 settlement hearing. It appears to the Court that substantial investigation and research have been  
22 conducted such that counsel for the Parties are reasonably able to evaluate their respective positions. It  
23 further appears to the Court that settlement will avoid substantial additional costs by all parties, as well  
24 as the delay and risk that would be presented by further prosecution of the Action. It further appears to  
25 the Court that the proposed settlement that has been reached is the result of intensive, serious, non-  
26 collusive, arm’s-length negotiations.

27 4. The Court approves, as to form and content, the form of Class Notice. The Court finds  
28 that this document fairly and adequately apprised Settlement Class Members of their rights under the  
Settlement. The Court determines that the Parties complied with the distribution of the Class Notice to

1 the Settlement Class in the manner and form set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order, and that the  
2 Class Notice provided to the Settlement Class was the best notice practicable under the circumstances  
3 and constituted due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to such notice. The procedures required  
4 by the Preliminary Approval Order have been carried out and satisfy due process requirements such that  
5 all absent Settlement Class Members have been given the opportunity to participate fully in the claims  
6 exclusion and the approval process.

7 5. The Court finds that the Settlement Administrator (Phoenix Class Administration) mailed  
8 the Class Notice, in English, to all Settlement Class Members via First Class U.S. mail in accordance  
9 with the Order Granting Preliminary Approval. The Settlement Class Members had sixty (60) days to  
10 request exclusion or object to the First Amended Class Settlement Agreement by the method set out in  
11 the Settlement. The Court finds that this procedure meets the requirements of due process and provided  
12 the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constituted due and sufficient notice to all  
13 persons entitled thereto.

14 6. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and Rule 3.769 of the California Rules  
15 of Court, the Court grants final approval of the Settlement as set forth in the First Amended Class  
16 Settlement Agreement. For settlement purposes only, the Court finds that Alan Harris and David Garrett  
17 of Harris & Ruble have adequately represented the Class and are appointed as Class Counsel solely for  
18 the purposes set forth in the Settlement.

19 7. For settlement purposes only, the Court finds that Plaintiffs Tony Villanueva, Sunti  
20 Singhanate, Mario Ontiveros and Paul Menchaca (“Plaintiffs”) are adequate representatives of the  
21 Settlement Class and appoints them as such.

22 8. The court has reviewed all documentation submitted in conjunction with the request for  
23 Enhancement Awards for Plaintiffs for their efforts in bringing and prosecuting this case, the financial  
24 risk undertaken in bringing the action, recognizing the scope of the release, and to acknowledge  
25 Plaintiffs’ willingness to act as a private attorney general. Applying these standards to the instant  
26 motion, the Court approves class representative enhancement awards in the amount of \$ 100,000  
27 each to Plaintiffs Tony Villanueva, Sunti Singhanate, Mario Ontiveros and Paul Menchaca (for a total of  
28 \$ 400,000), which the Court determines to be fair and reasonable.

1           9.       Counsel for Plaintiff seeks an award of \$125,000 in attorneys' fees and reimbursement of  
2 costs not to exceed \$12,500. The Court awards \$           FG ~~RECE~~           in attorneys' fees and  
3 \$   JË Fì ÒH   in actual costs to Class Counsel, which the Court determines to be fair and  
4 reasonable. The Court finds that the forgoing award reflects reasonable payment for the efforts of  
5 counsel in prosecuting this class action, and that the costs and expenses reimbursed represent those costs  
6 and expenses actually and reasonably incurred in prosecuting the case. Upon entry of this Order, the  
7 Court hereby authorizes the Claims Administrator to make payment to Harris & Ruble as set forth in the  
8 First Amended Class Settlement Agreement.

9           10.       The Court hereby approves a net payment of \$7,500 to California's Labor and Workforce  
10 Development Agency ("LWDA") to pay all applicable penalties under the Labor Code's Private  
11 Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA"), Labor Code sections 2699, 2699.3, and 2699.5.

12           11.       The Court hereby approves a payment of \$5,000 to Phoenix Class Administration for  
13 services as claims administrator.

14           12.       The Court directs the Parties to effectuate the Settlement according to the terms of the  
15 Settlement, including payment to Class Members in accordance with the terms of the Settlement. All  
16 settlement checks sent to Participating Class Members and not cashed within one hundred eighty (180)  
17 calendar days of issuance shall be canceled. All settlement checks sent to Participating Class Members  
18 and not cashed within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days of issuance shall be sent to the California  
19 State Controller's Office: Unclaimed Property Fund.

20           13.       Pursuant to California Rule of Court, Rule 3.769(h), and without affecting the finality of  
21 this Judgment, the Court shall retain jurisdiction over the parties to enforce the terms of the Judgment.  
22 Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6 and Rule 3.769(h) of the California Rules of Court  
23 and without affecting the finality of this Judgment, the Court reserves exclusive and continuing  
24 jurisdiction over this Action, Plaintiffs, the Class Members, and Defendant for the purposes of  
25 supervising:

- 26           (a)       the implementation, enforcement, construction, and interpretation of the Settlement, the  
27 Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, the plan of allocation, the  
28 Order Granting Final Approval of Class Action Settlement, and the Judgment;

- (b) distribution of amounts paid under the Settlement; and
- (c) final declaration regarding total amount actually paid to the Class Members.

14. The Court orders Class Counsel to file a final report by February 20, 2023, summarizing all distributions made to the Class Members, supported by a declaration. Code Civ. Proc., § 384, subd. (b). The status conference concerning the final report shall be set for February 27, 2023, or a date that the Court deems proper. The final report shall be in the form of a declaration from the Settlement Administrator or other declarant with personal knowledge of the facts, and shall describe (i) the date the checks were mailed, (ii) the total number of checks mailed to Class Members, (iii) the average amount of those checks, (iv) the number of checks that remain uncashed, (v) the total value of those uncashed checks, (vi) the average amount of the uncashed checks, and (vii) the nature and date of the disposition of those unclaimed funds.

15. The Parties shall bear all their own costs and attorneys' fees, except as otherwise set forth in the First Amended Class Settlement Agreement or this Judgment.

16. Notice of this Judgment and of Entry of this Judgment which states that “[o]n [date of entry of Judgment], 2022, the Court entered Judgment in this Class Action Settlement. The Court’s Judgment Re Class Action Settlement is attached.” shall be effectuated by: (a) serving it on the Settlement Class through service upon Defendant’s counsel by Class Counsel, and (b) posting it on the Claims Administrator’s website. Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.771(b)).

~~17. The following people opted out of the settlement:~~

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_



**Elihu M. Berle**

JUDGE, CALIFORNIA SUPERIOR COURT

Elihu M. Berle / Judge



1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 I am attorney for the plaintiff herein, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the within action.  
3 My business address is Harris & Ruble, 655 North Central Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Glendale, CA 91203. On  
4 April 25, 2022, I served the within document(s):

5 **[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION  
6 SETTLEMENT**

7 Electronic Service: Based on a court order, I cause the above-entitled document(s) to be served  
8 through Case Anywhere addressed to all parties appearing on the electronic service list for the above-  
9 entitled case and on the interested parties in this case:

10 Emma Luevano (eyl@msk.com)  
11 Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp LLP  
12 11377 W. Olympic Blvd.  
13 Los Angeles, CA 90064

14 I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct. Executed on April 25, 2022, at  
15 Los Angeles, California.

16 */s/ David Garrett*  
17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 David Garrett

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 I am attorney for the plaintiff herein, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the within action.  
3 My business address is Harris & Ruble, 655 North Central Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Glendale, CA 91203. On  
4 June 21, 2022, I served the within document(s):

5 **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS  
6 ACTION SETTLEMENT**

7 Electronic Service: Based on a court order, I cause the above-entitled document(s) to be served  
8 through Case Anywhere addressed to all parties appearing on the electronic service list for the above-  
9 entitled case and on the interested parties in this case:

10 Emma Luevano (eyl@msk.com)  
11 Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp LLP  
12 11377 W. Olympic Blvd.  
13 Los Angeles, CA 90064

14 I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct. Executed on June 21, 2022, at Los  
15 Angeles, California.

16 */s/ David Garrett*  
17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 David Garrett