| 1 2 | AARON C. GUNDZIK (State Bar No. 132137) REBECCA G. GUNDZIK (State Bar No. 138446) GARTENBERG GELFAND HAYTON LLP | |
|--------|---|---|
| 3 | 15260 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1920 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 | |
| 4 | Telephone: (213) 542-2100 Facsimile: (213) 542-2101 | |
| 5 | MARSHALL A. CASKEY (State Bar No. 65410) | |
| 6 | DANIEL M. HOLZMAN (State Bar No. 176663) N. CORY BARARI (State Bar No. 295306) | |
| 7 | CASKEY & HOLZMAN 24025 Park Sorrento, Ste. 400 | |
| 8 | Calabasas, CA 91302 Telephone: (818) 657-1070 | |
| 9 | Facsimile: (818) 297-1775 | |
| 10 | Attorneys for Plaintiff SAM YOO, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated | |
| 11 | STELLA K PARK, ESQ. [SB#152659] YALAN ZHENG, ESQ. [SB#241294] | |
| 12 | LAW OFFICES OF PARK & ZHENG | |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | Telephone: (949)679-3372 Facsimile: (949)258-9808 | |
| 15 | S. YOUNG LIM (SBN 126679) | |
| 16 | JESSIE Y. KIM (SBN 289173) | |
| 17 | 3530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1300 | |
| | Telephone: (213) 386-5595 | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | Attorneys for Defendants NGL TRANSPORTATION, LLC And SHANG-IL ROH | |
| 20 | SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA | |
| 21 | FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | SAM YOO, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, | Case No.: BC682160 |
| 24 | Plaintiff, | Assigned to Hon. Amy D. Hogue |
| 25 | VS. | STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT |
| 26 | NGL TRANSPORTATION, LLC, an Arizona | |
| 27 | limited liability company; SHANG-IL ROH, an individual; and DOES 1 through 25, | |
| 28 | Defendants. | Case Filed: November 7, 2017 |
| | 1 | |
| | STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT | |
| | | |

I.

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT TERMS

2 The Parties to this Stipulation of Class Action Settlement are Plaintiff Sam Yoo and Defendants NGL Transportation, LLC and Shang-Il Roh. This Action was brought by 3 4 Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of others who worked for Defendants as drivers. In his Second Amended Complaint, Plaintiff alleges causes of action for: (1) failure to pay wages 5 earned, (2) failure to pay overtime in violation of Labor Code section 510, (3) failure to 6 provide meal periods and rest breaks in violation of the IWC Wage Order and Labor Code 7 sections 226.7 and 512(a), (4) failure to provide compliant wage statements in violation of 8 9 Labor Code section 226, (5) failure to pay unpaid wages at time of discharge in violation of Labor Code sections 201 and 202, (6) failure to reimburse for necessary expenditures in 10 11 violation of Labor Code section 2802, (7) unfair business practices in violation of Business & 12 Professions Code sections 17200, et seq., and (8) recovery of civil penalties pursuant to Labor 13 Code sections 2698-2699.5 ("PAGA").

Under the terms of the Settlement and after final approval and entry of judgment 14 15 pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769, subject to Paragraph IV.J, Defendants will pay a 16 Gross Settlement Amount not to exceed three hundred and thirty thousand dollars (\$330,000), plus the Employer's Withholding Share. The Settlement will be administered by a third-party 17 18 settlement administrator with experience administering class action settlements of this type. 19 Until distribution, the Gross Settlement Amount will be held in a Qualified Settlement Fund 20 established by the Settlement Administrator. This is an opt-out settlement, and Class Members 21 (as defined in Section II) will receive a settlement payment unless they opt-out of the 22 Settlement. Class Members shall not be required to submit a claim form.

23 Subject to Court approval, the following disbursements will be made from the Gross 24 Settlement Amount:

25

A.

Settlement Administration Costs not to exceed \$8,000.

26 Β. Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees, to be approved by the Court, in an amount 27 not to exceed \$110,000, which is one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount;

1C.Class Counsel's Costs, as approved by the Court, in an amount not to exceed2\$18,000;

3 D. A Service and Release Award to the Representative Plaintiff in the amount of
4 \$10,000, as payment for his significant time and efforts in pursuing this Action, and for the
5 broader release that he will be providing to Defendants;

E. A payment in settlement of all of Plaintiffs' PAGA claims in the amount of
\$10,000. Seventy-five percent (75%) of this amount, which is \$7,500 will be paid to the
California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and \$2,500, which is 25%
will be distributed to all Settlement Class Members as part of the Net Settlement Amount.

F. The remainder of the Gross Settlement Amount (the "Net Settlement Amount")
will be distributed to Settlement Class Members based on the methodology discussed in
section IV.L, below. It is estimated that the Net Settlement Amount will be approximately
\$176,500.

Defendants represent that the Class consisted of approximately 65 members who have
worked approximately 5,050 work weeks.

16 **II.**

DEFINITIONS

As used in this Stipulation, the following terms shall have the meanings set forthbelow:

A. "Action" means this putative class and representative action pending in Los
Angeles County Superior Court titled *Yoo v. NGL Transportation, LLC*, BC682160.

B. "Agreement" or "Stipulation" means this Stipulation of Class Action
Settlement.

C. "Class" all persons who worked as truck drivers for Defendants and drove
company-owned trucks in California during the Class Period.

D. "Class Counsel" means Aaron C. Gundzik and Rebecca G. Gundzik,
Gartenberg Gelfand Hayton LLP, 15260 Ventura Blvd, Suite 1920, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403,
(213) 542-2100 and Daniel M. Holzman, Caskey & Holzman, 24025 Park Sorrento, Ste. 400,
Calabasas, CA 91302, (818) 657-1070.

E. "Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees" means the amount to be paid to Class 2 Counsel for attorneys' fees from the Gross Settlement Amount, subject to Court approval at the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing. Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees will not exceed 3 4 \$110,000, which is one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount. F. 5 "Class Counsel's Costs" means the amount to be reimbursed from the Gross Settlement Amount to Class Counsel for their reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the 6 Action, subject to Court approval at the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing. Class Counsel's 7 Costs will not exceed \$18,000. 8 G. "Class Data" means each Class Member's full name, last known address, email 9 address, telephone number, social security number and the number of Qualifying Work Weeks 10 11 worked by such Class Member. 12 H. "Class Member" is a person who is a member of the Class. I. 13 "Class Period" means the period from November 7, 2013 through July 23, 2019. 14 15 J. "Complaint" means the Second Amended Class Action Complaint on file in the Action. 16 17 K. "Court" means the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the 18 County of Los Angeles, where the Action is pending. 19 "Defendants" means NGL Transportation, LLC ("NGL") and Shang-Il Roh L. ("Roh"). 20 21 M. "Defendants' Counsel" means Stella K. Park, Law Offices of Park & Zheng, 6 22 Venture, Suite 270, Irvine, CA 92618 and S. Young Lim, Park & Lim, 3530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90010. 23 24 N. "Effective Date" means the date of entry of the "Final Approval Order," if no 25 objection is filed. If a timely objection to the settlement is filed, the "Effective Date" will be 26 the later of (1) 65 days following entry of the Final Approval Order and (2) if an appeal, 27 review or writ is sought from the Final Approval Order, the date on which (i) the highest reviewing court renders its decision denying the petition or writ challenging the Final 28 STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Approval Order or renders its decision affirming the Final Approval Order and (ii) the Final 2 Approval Order is no longer subject to review.

О. "Employer's Withholding Share" means the employer's mandated share of all 3 4 federal, state, and local taxes and required withholdings, including without limitation, FICA, Medicare tax, FUTA, and state unemployment taxes. 5

6

P. "Final Approval Order" means the Order Granting Final Approval of Class 7 Action Settlement and Judgment entered by the Court.

Q. "Final Fairness and Approval Hearing" means the hearing on Plaintiff's 8 9 Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement at which the Court will be asked to give 10 final approval to the Settlement and to enter judgment.

R. 11 "Gross Settlement Amount" means the \$330,000, which Defendants will pay under this Settlement. As provided for in Paragraph IV.J of this Agreement, the Gross 12 Settlement will increase if the number of Qualifying Work Weeks exceeds 5,300. 13

S. "Net Settlement Amount" means the amount remaining from the Gross 14 15 Settlement Amount after payments of Court-approved Class Counsel's Attorney's Fees and Class Counsel's Costs, Service and Release Award, Settlement Administration Costs, and 16 17 PAGA Payment to the LWDA.

T. "Notice of Settlement" means the "Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement 18 and Final Approval Hearing," the form of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The Notice 19 of Settlement sent to each Class Member will be in English and Spanish. 20

21 U. "Objection to Settlement" means any written objection to this Settlement sent 22 by a Settlement Class Member to the Settlement Administrator as specified herein and in the 23 Notice of Settlement. An Objection to Settlement must be sent to the Settlement Administrator 24 by the Response Deadline.

25 V. "Parties" means the Representative Plaintiff on behalf of himself and all 26 Settlement Class Members and Defendants.

27 W. "PAGA Penalties" means \$10,000 of the Gross Settlement Amount that the Parties have agreed will settle Plaintiffs' PAGA claim for civil penalties. Pursuant to PAGA, 28

75% of the PAGA Civil Penalties, which is \$7,500 will be paid from the Gross Settlement
 Amount to the LWDA; the remaining 25%, which is \$2,500, will be paid to Settlement Class
 Members as part of the Net Settlement Amount.

4 X. "Preliminary Approval Date" is the date the Court grants preliminary approval
5 of this Settlement pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769(c).

Y. "Qualified Settlement Fund" or QSF means a federally insured bank account
to be established by the Settlement Administrator into which all payments from Defendants
related to this Settlement will be deposited and from which all payments authorized by the
Court will be made. The QSF will be established prior to Defendant's deposit of any portion
of the Gross Settlement Amount.

Z. "Qualifying Work Week" means a work week during which a Class Member
has worked one or more days for Defendants in a Class position.

AA. As determined by the Court, "Released Claims" means all causes of action and factual or legal theories that were alleged in the Complaint or arise from facts alleged in the Complaint, including all damages, penalties, interest and other amounts recoverable under said claims, causes of action or legal theories of relief. The time period governing these Released Claims shall be at any time from November 7, 2013 through July 23, 2019. Claims and damages that were not alleged in the Complaint and do not arise from the facts alleged in the Complaint are specifically excluded from the release.

BB. "Released Parties" means Defendants, their past, present and/or future, direct
and/or indirect, officers, directors, members, managers, employees, agents, representatives,
attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, shareholders, administrators, parent companies,
subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, assigns, and joint venturers, but
only as to the Released Claims.

25

CC. "Representative Plaintiff" means Sam Yoo.

DD. "Request for Exclusion" means a written and signed request by a Class
Member to be excluded from the Settlement Class that is submitted in accordance with the
procedure set forth herein by the Response Deadline.

EE. "Response Deadline" means the date that is 60 days after mailing of Notices
 of Settlement. Provided, for Notices of Settlement that are re-mailed to a different address,
 the Response Deadline will be the earlier of: (1) 60 days after re-mailing, and (2) ten days
 before the initial date set by the Court for the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing.

5 FF. "Service and Release Award" means the Court-approved payment to be made 6 from the Gross Settlement Amount to the Representative Plaintiff for his service to the Class 7 and for the broader general release that he will be providing to Defendants, which is in addition 8 to whatever payment he is otherwise entitled to receive as a Settlement Class Member. The 9 Service and Release Award will not exceed \$10,000 and the amount is subject to Court 10 approval.

11 GG. "Settlement" means the disposition of the Action and all related claims
12 effectuated by this Agreement.

13 HH. "Settlement Administration Costs" means the fee paid from the Gross 14 Settlement Amount to the Settlement Administrator for the performance of its duties under 15 this Agreement including, but not limited to: (1) establishing and maintaining the QSF; (2) preparing, issuing and/or monitoring reports, filings, and notices (including the cost of 16 translating, printing and mailing all notices and other documents to the Class Members) 17 18 required to be prepared in the course of administering the Settlement; (3) computing the 19 amount of the settlement payments, taxes, and any other payments to be made under this 20 Agreement; (4) calculating and handling inquiries about the calculation of individual 21 settlement payments; (5) establishing and operating a settlement payment center website, 22 address, and phone number to receive Class Members' inquiries about the Settlement; (6) 23 providing a due diligence declaration for submission to the Court prior to the final approval 24 hearing; (7) printing and providing Settlement Class Members and the Representative 25 Plaintiffs with W-2 and 1099 forms as required under this Agreement and applicable law; (8) 26 preparing, issuing, and filing any tax returns and information returns and any other filings 27 required by any governmental taxing authority or other governmental agency; and (9) for such

1 other tasks as the Parties mutually agree or the Court orders the Settlement Administrator to
2 perform. Settlement Administration Costs will not exceed \$8,000.

3 II. "Settlement Administrator" refers to Phoenix Class Action Administration
4 Solutions.

JJ. "Settlement Class" means all Class Members who have not timely submitted a
valid and complete Request for Exclusion.

7 KK. "Settlement Class Member" is a person who is a member of the Settlement
8 Class.

9||III. BACKGROUND

10During the Class Period, Defendant NGL operated a transportation and trucking11business. Plaintiff contends that he and other employees were not always paid for all hours12worked, were not provided with compliant meal and rest breaks, were not reimbursed for all13business expenditures, were not provided compliant wage statements and were not paid all14amounts due at separation. Defendants deny all of Plaintiff's claims and contends that they15fully complied with California law as to all Class Members in regard to the claims alleged by16Plaintiff.

17 The Parties have undertaken significant investigation and discovery during the prosecution of this Action. Such discovery and investigation included extensively 18 19 interviewing the Representative Plaintiff and several Class Members, taking and participating 20in depositions of Defendant and the Class Representative, obtaining and reviewing time and 21 pay records for the Class Representative and a sample of Class Members and obtaining and 22 reviewing policy and other documents produced by Defendants. Counsel for the Parties have 23 researched the law as applied to the facts discovered regarding the alleged claims of the Class 24 and potential defenses thereto, and the potential damages claimed by the Class.

The Parties' attorneys have engaged in extensive discussions about the strengths and weaknesses of the claims and defenses in the Action. On June 21, 2018, the Representative Plaintiff and Class Counsel, and Defendants and Defendants' Counsel, attended a mediation session before an experienced and well-regarded mediator, Jeff Krivis. Though the mediation

- 8

did not result in a settlement, the Parties continued to negotiate and in July 2019 reached an
agreement on the principle elements of the Settlement that is memorialized in this Agreement.
Plaintiff and Class Counsel have concluded, after considering the sharply disputed
factual and legal issues involved in this Action, the risks attending further prosecution, and
the substantial benefits to be received pursuant to the compromise and settlement of the Action
as set forth in this Agreement, that this Settlement is in the best interests of the Settlement
Class and is fair and reasonable.

8 Similarly, Defendants have concluded that there are benefits associated with settling 9 this Action. After considering the sharply disputed factual and legal issues involved in the 10 Action, the expense and burden of protracted litigation, and its desire to put the controversy 11 to rest, Defendants believe that this Settlement is in Defendants' best interests and is fair and 12 reasonable.

This Settlement contemplates: (i) entry of an order preliminarily approving the
Settlement and approving certification of a provisional Class for settlement purposes only,
contingent upon final approval of the Settlement; (ii) dissemination of a notice to Class
Members about the settlement; (iii) entry of a Final Approval Order granting final approval
of the Settlement; and (iv) entry of final judgment.

SETTLEMENT APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE

18

19

IV.

A. Preliminary Approval of Settlement

20As soon as practicable, Class Counsel will submit this Stipulation to the Court for 21 preliminary approval. Such submission will include such motions, pleadings, and evidence 22 as may be required for the Court to determine that this Agreement is fair and reasonable, as 23 required by California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and California Rule of Court 24 3.769, including a motion filed by Class Counsel requesting that the Court enter a preliminary 25 approval order. Such submission will also include a proposed order. Class Counsel will 26 provide Defendants' Counsel with a draft of the motion for comment at least three court days 27 prior to the deadline for filing such motion. Defendants shall not oppose the motion for preliminary approval of the settlement to the extent it is consistent with the terms and 28

1 conditions of this Agreement. Defendants may, however, provide a written response to any2 characterization of the law or facts contained in the motion for preliminary approval.

The Parties have agreed to the certification of the Class for the sole purposes of 3 4 effectuating this Settlement. Should the Settlement be terminated for any reason, or should the Settlement not be approved by the Court or the judgment not become final, the fact that 5 the Parties were willing to stipulate to class certification as part of the Settlement will have no 6 bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether a class should 7 be certified in a non-settlement context in this Action, and in any of those events, Defendants 8 9 expressly reserve the right to oppose class certification. Additionally, if the Settlement does not become final, this Agreement and all negotiations, court orders, and proceedings related 10 11 thereto shall be without prejudice to the rights of all Parties hereto, and evidence relating to 12 the Agreement and all negotiations shall not be admissible in the Action or otherwise.

13

B. Cooperation

The Parties agree to fully cooperate with each other to accomplish the terms of this Agreement, including but not limited to, execution of such documents and to take such other reasonably necessary actions to implement the terms of this Agreement. No party, nor any of its attorneys or agents, shall solicit or encourage any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement.

19

C. Notice of Settlement

20Within 10 calendar days of the Preliminay Approval Date, Defendants will provide 21 the Settlement Administrator with the Class Data in an electronic format acceptable to the 22 Settlement Administrator. Defendants or the Settlement Administrator will provide the Class 23 Data (including the total number of Class Member Qualifying Work Weeks), without Class 24 Member names, contact information and social security numbers, to Class Counsel. This 25 information will remain confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone without Defendants' 26 express written authorization, an order of the Court, or as otherwise provided for in this 27 Agreement.

Using the Class Data, the Settlement Administrator will: (1) advise Class Counsel and
Defendants' Counsel of the number of Class Members and Qualifying Work Weeks included
in the Class Data, (2) finalize and print the Notice of Settlement in English and Spanish; (3)
check all addresses against the National Change of Address database; and (4) within ten
calendar days of receiving the Class Data, send to each Class Member via First-Class United
States mail an English and Spanish version of the Notice of Settlement to the most recent
address known for each Class Member.

8

D. Re-Sending Class Notices

9 In the event that Defendants' Counsel or Class Counsel becomes aware of new
10 addresses for any Class Member, prior to the filing of the motion for final approval, such
11 information must immediately be communicated to the Settlement Administrator. The
12 Settlement Administrator will then re-send a Notice of Settlement to the Class Member(s) at
13 the new address.

For any Notice of Settlement that is returned as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator will perform a skip trace. The returned Notices of Settlement will be re-mailed to the new addresses obtained for such Class Members. Such searching and re-mailing will be completed within ten calendar days of the date that Notices of Settlement were originally returned as undeliverable.

19

E. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs)

Any Class Member who wishes to be excluded from the Settlement must notify the Settlement Administrator in writing of his or her desire to be excluded by mailing his or her own written statement to the Settlement Administrator that clearly expresses such desire and is signed by such Class Member. Any such statement shall include the Class Member's name (and former names, if any), current address, telephone number, and last four numbers of the Class Member's social security number. To be valid, the Request for Exclusion must be postmarked no later than the Response Deadline.

Any Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion shall be
barred from participating in this Settlement, shall be barred from objecting to this Settlement,

1 shall receive no benefit from this Settlement.

Any Class Member who fails to submit a timely, complete, and valid Request for Exclusion shall be barred from opting out of the Settlement. It shall be conclusively presumed that, if a Request for Exclusion is not postmarked on or before the expiration of the period to submit a Request for Exclusion, the Class Member did not make the request in a timely manner. Under no circumstances shall the Settlement Administrator have the authority to extend the deadline for Class Members to file a Request for Exclusion.

8 Unless a Class Member submits a timely, complete, and valid Request for Exclusion,
9 he or she shall be deemed a Settlement Class Member and shall be bound by the terms and
10 conditions of this Agreement. The releases provided for in this Agreement shall conclusively
11 preclude any Settlement Class Member from asserting any of the Released Claims against any
12 of the Released Parties in any judicial, administrative, or arbitral forum.

By signing this Agreement, the Representative Plaintiff agrees that he will not request
to be excluded from the Class or otherwise opt out of the Class. The Parties, Class Counsel
and Defendants' Counsel will not take any steps to encourage any Class Member to request
to be excluded from the Class.

The Settlement Administrator shall promptly provide Class Counsel and Defendants'
Counsel with copies of all Requests for Exclusion that it receives.

19

F.

Declaration of Compliance

On the date to be determined by Class Counsel, the Settlement Administrator shall
provide Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel with a declaration attesting to completion of
the notice process set forth in this Section IV, including the number of notices sent and
returned, an explanation of efforts to resend undeliverable notices, and copies of all Requests
for Exclusion, which declaration shall be filed with the Court by Class Counsel, at the time
directed by the Court.

26

G. Sufficient Notice

27 Compliance with the procedures described in this Section IV shall constitute due and
28 sufficient notice to Class Members of this Settlement and of the Final Fairness and Approval

Hearing, shall satisfy the requirements of due process, and nothing else shall be required of
 the Representative Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendants, Defendants' Counsel, or the
 Settlement Administrator to provide notice of the Settlement and the Final Fairness and
 Approval Hearing.

5||

6

H.

Objections to Settlement

1. Deadline for Objections

Any Class Member wishing to object to the approval of this Settlement shall inform
the Settlement Administrator in writing of his or her intent to object by following the
procedure set forth in the Notice of Settlement on or before the Response Deadline. A Class
Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion and who objects to
the Settlement will still be considered a Settlement Class Member.

12

2. Responses to Objections

Class Counsel and/or Defendants' Counsel shall file any written objections from Class
Members submitted to the Settlement Administrator in accordance with this Agreement, and
Class Counsel's and Defendants' Counsel's responses to such objections, at least five (5) court
days before the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing, or as otherwise directed by the Court.

17

I. Defendants' Right to Rescind

If more than 13 Class Members opt out of the settlement, Defendants may terminate
this settlement. Defendants must exercise its termination right in writing to Class Counsel
within 14 days following Defendants' counsel's receipt of information from the Settlement
Administrator indicating that the number of opt-outs exceeds this limit. If Defendants exercise
this right of rescission, Defendants must pay the all expenses incurred by the Settlement
Administrator as of the date of Defendants' notice of rescission.

24

J. Escalation of Gross Settlement Amount

If, upon Defendant's delivery of the Class Data to the Settlement Administrator, the
total number of Class Members' Qualifying Work Weeks exceeds 5,300, Defendants will
increase the Gross Settlement Amount by the same percentage that Qualifying Work Weeks
exceed 5,300.

K. Final Fairness and Approval Hearing

2 On the date set by the Court, the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing shall be held before the Court in order to: (1) determine whether the Court should give this Stipulation final 3 4 approval; (2) determine whether Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and costs, and request for the Service and Release Award to the Representative Plaintiff, should be granted; 5 and (3) consider any timely Objections to Settlement, including Class Counsel's and 6 Defendants' Counsel's responses thereto. Prior to the hearing, on the deadline set by the 7 Court, Class Counsel shall file a motion for final approval. Class Counsel will provide 8 9 Defendants' Counsel with a draft of the motion for comment at least three court days prior to 10 the deadline for filing such motion.

Upon final approval, the Court shall enter a Final Approval Order (in a form submitted by Class Counsel and approved by Defendants' Counsel) which has the effect of adjudicating all claims set forth in the Complaint and implementing the release of Released Claims, as set forth in this Agreement. The Final Approval Order will be posted on the Settlement Administrator's website. The posting of the Final Approval Order on the Settlement Administrator's website will constitute notice of entry of the judgment, as required by California Rule of Court 3.771(b).

18

L. Settlement Payments to Participating Settlement Class Members

19

1. Calculation of Settlement Class Members' Payments

20 Payment will be made to Settlement Class Members based on the number of
21 Qualifying Work Weeks worked by Settlement Class Members. Each Settlement Class
22 Member's settlement payment will be calculated using the following formula:

[1] (Individual Settlement Class Member's Qualifying Work Weeks ÷ All Settlement Class [24] Members' Qualifying Work Weeks) x Net Settlement Amount.

The Settlement Administrator, on Defendants' and Class Counsel's collective behalf,
shall have the authority and obligation to make payments, credits, and disbursements,
including payments and credits in the manner set forth herein, to Settlement Class Members

calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in this Agreement and orders of the
 Court.

The Parties acknowledge and agree that the formula used to calculate individual settlement payments does not imply that all the elements of damages alleged in the Action are not being considered. The above formula was devised as a practical and logistical tool to simplify the settlement process.

7

8

2. Inclusion of Qualifying Work Weeks and Estimated Settlement Payment Information in Notice of Settlement

9 The Notice of Settlement sent to each Class Member shall state the amount of the Class
10 Member's Qualifying Work Weeks, as reflected in the Class Data. Each Notice of Settlement
11 shall also include an estimate of the Class Member's settlement payment as a member of the
12 Settlement Class, as calculated by the Settlement Administrator. The estimated settlement
13 payment included in the Notice of Settlement will be calculated by assuming that no Class
14 Members will be excluded from the Settlement.

15

3. Eligibility

Settlement Class Members (but not Class Members who exclude themselves (or optout) of the Settlement), will become eligible to receive a settlement payment from Defendants,
distributed through the Settlement Administrator.

Should any question arise regarding the determination of eligibility for, or the amounts
of, any settlement payments under the terms of this Agreement, Class Counsel and
Defendants' Counsel shall meet and confer in an attempt to reach agreement and, if they are
unable to do so, the issue shall be submitted to the Court for determination on an expedited
basis, through the submission of letter briefs of no more than three pages.

24

4. Disputes about Qualifying Work Weeks

If a Class Member disagrees with the number of Qualifying Work Weeks, as stated in
his or her Notice of Settlement, he or she may dispute such information by informing the
Settlement Administrator of the number of Qualifying Work Weeks in dispute and submitting
supporting documentation (such as, without limitation, payroll or time keeping records, and
15

paycheck stubs) prior to the Response Deadline. If there is a dispute, the Settlement
 Administrator will consult with Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel to determine whether
 an adjustment is warranted. However, the Settlement Administrator shall have the sole
 discretion to determine any such disputes.

5

5. Allocation of Settlement Payments

Payment to each Settlement Class Member shall be allocated as follows: one-third
shall be attributed to wages, to be reported on a W-2 form; one-third as penalties; and onethird as interest. The amount of interest and penalties will be reported on an IRS Form 1099.

9

6. Payment of Payroll Taxes

The amount paid to each Settlement Class Member attributable to wages shall be subject to all applicable taxes and other withholdings and shall be net of the participating Settlement Class Member's share of all federal, state, and local taxes and required withholdings, including without limitation, FICA, Medicare tax, FUTA, and state unemployment taxes. The Employer's Withholding Share shall be paid by Defendants separately and in addition to Defendants' payment of the Gross Settlement Amount.

For each participating Settlement Class Member, the Settlement Administrator shall determine the Employer's Withholding Share. Information related to the Employer's Withholding Share for each participating Settlement Class Member shall be provided to Defendants by the Settlement Administrator. If Defendants disagree with the Settlement Administrator's determination of the Employer's Withholding Share, they will communicate with and share information reasonably necessary to reach a good faith determination of the correct Employer's Withholding Share.

23

M. Time for Payment by Defendants

Defendants shall pay the Gross Settlement Amount, including any escalated amount pursuant to Paragraph IV.J, in 24 equal monthly installments. If the Gross Settlement Amount does not escalate, the monthly installments shall be in the amount of \$13,750 each. The first such installment was made by Defendants on August 30, 2019. The 23 subsequent installments shall be paid on or before the 30th day of each month, beginning on September 16 30, 2019. If the 30th day of any month falls on a Saturday, Sunday or United States banking
holiday, the installment shall be due on the first Monday or day that is not a banking holiday
following the 30th day of the month. Defendants shall pay the required portion of the
Employer's Withholding Share at least 15 calendar days prior to each distribution of
settlement proceeds, as specified in Paragraph IV.N.1, 2 of this Agreement.

6

7

8

9

If the Settlement is terminated for any reason other than Defendants' failure to make timely payments to satisfy the Gross Settlement Amount, all payments made by Defendants toward the Gross Settlement Amount shall be immediately returned to Defendants, less any Settlement Administration Costs owed by Defendants.

10

N. Distribution of Gross Settlement Amount.

All payments to Settlement Class Members (for individual settlement payments),
Class Counsel (for Class Counsel's Fees and Class Counsel's Costs), Representative Plaintiffs
(for individual settlement payments and Service and Release Awards), the LWDA (for 75%
of the PAGA Civil Penalties) and the Settlement Administrator (for the Settlement
Administration Costs) shall be made in two installments as follows.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

1. On the later of: (a) the Effective Date; and (b) ten days after the date that 50% of the Gross Settlement Amount has been paid by Defendants, the Settlement Administrator will distribute the first \$165,000 of the Gross Settlement Amount (along with the required amount of the Employer's Withholding Share) in pro-rata amounts to all Settlement Class Members, Class Counsel, Representative Plaintiffs the Settlement Administrator and the LWDA.

2. On the later of: (a) the Effective Date; and (b) ten days after the date that the remainder of the Gross Settlement Amount has been paid by Defendants, the Settlement Administrator will distribute the first \$165,000 of the Gross Settlement Amount (along with the required amount of the Employer's Withholding Share) in pro-rata amounts to all Settlement Class Members, Class Counsel, Representative Plaintiffs the Settlement Administrator and the LWDA.

STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

• ||

O. Service and Release Award to the Representative Plaintiff

The Representative Plaintiff may request a Service and Release Award not to exceed \$10,000. Any such award must be approved by the Court and will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. Any amount disallowed by the Court will remain a portion of the Net Settlement Amount and be distributed in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation and the Parties agree that the settlement shall remain binding with such modification(s) and its terms will otherwise be unchanged.

8 The payment of the Service and Release Awards will be reported on an IRS Form 9 1099. The Representative Plaintiff shall be responsible for all portions of federal, state, and 10 local tax liabilities that may result from the payment of the Service and Release Award and 11 agree that Defendants shall bear no responsibility for any such tax liabilities.

12

P.

Payments to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency

The parties have allocated a total of \$10,000 as PAGA Civil Penalties. Such allocation
must be approved by the Court and will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. Seventyfive percent of the PAGA Civil Penalties, which is \$7,500, will be paid to the LWDA. The
other 25% (\$2,500) will be paid to all Settlement Class Members as part of the Net Settlement
Amount.

18

Q. The Settlement Administrator's Duties and Fees

19 The Settlement Administrator will perform the duties specified in this Stipulation and 20any other duties incidental to such obligations. The Settlement Administrator's duties shall 21 include, without limitation: establishing the QSF, preparing, translating and distributing the 22 Notice of Settlement; calculating and directing the disbursement of payments to Settlement 23 Class Members, Class Counsel, the Class Representative and the LWDA; calculating and 24 timely paying any and all payroll taxes from the wages portion of the Net Settlement Amount 25 to the appropriate tax authorities, as required under this Agreement and applicable law; 26 handling inquiries about the calculation of individual settlement payments; preparing and 27 filing any tax returns and information returns and any other filings required by any governmental taxing authority or other governmental agency; providing weekly status reports 28

to the Parties' counsel; advising Defendants and Class Counsel of any Class Members who submit objections and/or requests for exclusions from the Settlement; providing a declaration 2 for submission to the Court prior to the final approval hearing, after distributions have been 3 4 made and as otherwise ordered by the Court; printing and providing Settlement Class Members and Representative Plaintiffs with W-2 and 1099 forms as required under this 5 Agreement and applicable law; arranging for and remitting funds from any uncashed 6 settlement payment to the designated recipient, as determined by the Court; and for such other 7 tasks as the Parties mutually agree or the Court orders the Settlement Administrator to 8 9 perform.

The Settlement Administrator shall establish a settlement payment center address,
telephone number, facsimile number, and email address to receive Class Members' inquiries
about the Notice of Settlement, requests to be excluded from the Settlement and settlement
payments.

In addition, the Settlement Administrator shall establish a static website and post this
stipulation, any preliminary approval order and the Final Approval Order and Judgment.
Posting of the Final Approval Order and Judgment on such website shall constitute notice of
judgment to the Class, as required by California Rule of Court 3.771(b).

The Parties confirm, and Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel confirm that they do
not have any financial interest in the Settlement Administrator or otherwise have a relationship
with the Settlement Administrator that could create a conflict of interest.

The Settlement Administrator will be paid a fee not to exceed \$8,000 for its services,
as specified in this Stipulation. The Settlement Administration Costs must be approved by the
Court and will be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

24

R. Class Counsel Attorneys' Fees and Costs

Defendants will not oppose Class Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees
of up to \$110,000, which is one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount.

27 Defendants will not oppose Class Counsel's application for an award of their
28 reasonable litigation expenses and costs in an amount not to exceed \$18,000.

Class Counsel's Attorney's Fees and Class Counsel's Costs, as awarded by the Court,
 shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.

-

To the extent the Court does not approve any or the entire amount of Class Counsel's Attorney's Fees or Class Counsel's Costs, and Class Counsel does not seek review of such decision, such unapproved amounts shall remain part of the Net Settlement Amount and distributed in accordance with the provisions of this Stipulation.

Upon the payment of the Court-approved amount of Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees 7 and Class Counsel's Costs, and except as otherwise provided by this Stipulation, Class 8 9 Counsel waives any claim to costs and attorneys' fees and expenses against Defendants arising from or related to the Action, including but not limited to claims based on the California Labor 10 11 Code, the California Code of Civil Procedure, or any other statute or law. Provided, however, 12 nothing in this Agreement shall prevent Class Counsel from seeking additional fees for 13 enforcing the terms of this Stipulation and investigating and recovering amounts owed under 14 this Agreement.

15

S. Un-negotiated Settlement Payment Checks

If any Settlement Class Member's settlement payment check has not been negotiated sixty (60) days after disbursement, the Settlement Administrator shall attempt to contact each individual to advise them to cash their checks, and to offer to replace any checks reported as either lost or stolen. In attempting to contact such persons, the Settlement Administrator will send notices by email (if an email address has been provided) and mail to the individuals' last known addresses (as provided by Defendants) after first checking those addresses against the NCOA database and utility database.

If a Settlement Class Member's check is not cashed within 180 days, the check will be void and a stop payment order may be placed on the check. In such event, the Settlement nevertheless will be binding upon the Settlement Class Member. The funds represented by all uncashed settlement checks will be transmitted by the Settlement Administrator to the California State Controller's Office Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the individual Settlement Class Member.

T. Circular 230 Disclaimer

2 Each party to this Agreement (for purposes of this section, the "Acknowledging Party"; and each party to this Agreement other than the Acknowledging Party, and "Other 3 4 Party") acknowledges and agrees that: (1) no provision of this Agreement, and no written communication or disclosure between or among the Parties or their attorneys and other 5 advisers, is or was intended to be, nor shall any such communication or disclosure constitute 6 or be construed or be relied upon as, tax advice within the meaning of United States Treasury 7 Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended); (2) the Acknowledging Party (a) has 8 9 relied exclusively upon his, her, or its own, independent legal and tax advisers for advice (including tax advice) in connection with this Agreement, (b) has not entered into this 10 11 Agreement based upon the recommendation of any other party or any attorney or advisor to 12 any other party, and (c) is not entitled to rely upon any communication or disclosure by any 13 attorney or adviser to any other party to avoid any tax penalty that may be imposed on the 14 Acknowledging Party; and (3) no attorney or adviser to any other party has imposed any 15 limitation that protects the confidentiality of any such attorney's or adviser's tax strategies 16 (regardless of whether such limitation is legally binding) upon disclosure by the 17 Acknowledging Party of the tax treatment or tax structure of any transaction, including any 18 transaction contemplated by this Agreement.

19

20

V. LIMITATIONS ON USE OF THIS SETTLEMENT

A. No Admission of Liability

21 Neither the acceptance nor the performance by Defendants of the terms of this 22 Stipulation nor any of the related negotiations or proceedings is or shall be claimed to be, 23 construed as, or deemed a precedent or an admission by Defendants of the truth or merit of 24 any allegations in the Complaint, or that they have any liability to any of the Representative 25 Plaintiff or the Class Members on their claims. Defendants deny that they have engaged in 26 any unlawful activity, have failed to comply with the law in any respect, or have any liability 27 to anyone under the claims asserted in the Action. This Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising highly disputed claims. 28

B. Nullification

If the Court for any reason does not approve this Settlement, this Stipulation shall be null and void and all Parties to this Settlement shall stand in the same position, without prejudice, as if the Settlement had been neither entered into nor filed with the Court.

Invalidation of any material portion of this Stipulation shall invalidate this Settlement
in its entirety unless the Parties shall agree in writing that the remaining provisions shall
remain in full force and effect.

8||VI. RELEASE

9 It is the desire of the Representative Plaintiff, Class Members (except those who exclude themselves from the Settlement), and Defendants to fully, finally, and forever settle, 10 11 compromise, and discharge the Released Claims. Upon entry of the Final Approval Order and 12 Defendants' payment of the Gross Settlement Amount and Employer's Withholding Share, 13 and except as to such rights or claims as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, the 14 Class Members, on behalf of themselves, and each of their heirs, representatives, successors, 15 assigns, and attorneys, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the final judgment shall have, fully released and discharged the Released Parties from any and all Released Claims 16 that accrued during the Class Period. This release shall be binding on all Class Members who 17 18 have not timely submitted a valid and complete Request for Exclusion, including each of their 19 respective attorneys, agents, spouses, executors, representatives, guardians ad litem, heirs, 20successors, and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of the Released Parties.

21

VII. RELEASES BY THE REPRESENTATIVE PLAINTIFFS

Upon entry of the Final Approval Order and Defendants' payment of the Gross
Settlement Amount and Employer's Withholding Share, and except as to such rights or claims
as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, the Representative Plaintiff releases the
Released Parties from any and all known claims.

The Representative Plaintiff agrees that, notwithstanding section 1542 of the California Civil Code, all claims that the Representative Plaintiff may have, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, are hereby released. Section 1542 provides:

"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."

The Representative Plaintiff expressly waives the provisions of section 1542 with full knowledge and with the specific intent to release all known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, claims arising on or before the Effective Date of the Settlement, and therefore specifically waives the provisions of any statute, rule, decision, or other source of law of the United States or of any state of the United States or any subdivision of a state which prevents the release of unknown claims.

10 VIII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

11

2

3

A. Amendments

12 This Settlement Agreement may only be modified or changed by a writing signed by13 the Parties or by their counsel.

14

B. Integrated Agreement

After this Stipulation is signed and delivered by all Parties to the Action and their counsel, this Stipulation and its exhibits will constitute the entire agreement between the Parties to the Action relating to the Settlement, and it will then be deemed that no oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements have been made to any Party concerning this Stipulation or its exhibits other than the representations, warranties, covenants, and inducements expressly stated in this Stipulation and its exhibits.

21

C. No Inducements

The Parties acknowledge that they are entering into this Agreement as a free and voluntary act without duress or undue pressure or influence of any kind or nature whatsoever and that they have not relied on any promises, representations, or warranties regarding the subject matter hereof other than as set forth in this Stipulation.

26

D. No Prior Assignment

The Parties hereto represent, covenant, and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly, assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to

any person or entity any portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or
rights herein released and discharged except as set forth herein.

3

E. No Retaliation or Advice

4 Defendants agree not to retaliate against any Class Member, and Defendants will not
5 induce or offer any advice to any current or former employee to opt out of, or object to, the
6 Settlement.

7

F. Attorney's Fees

8 To the extent that any Party institutes any legal action or other proceeding to enforce
9 the terms of the Settlement, the prevailing Party will be entitled to recover reasonable
10 attorneys' fees and costs from the other Party or Parties.

11

G. Applicable Law

All terms and conditions of this Stipulation and its exhibits will be governed by and
interpreted according to the laws of the State of California, without giving effect to any
conflict of law principles or choice of law principles.

15

H. Entry of Judgment Pursuant to Terms of Settlement

The Parties agree that upon the Settlement of this case, the Court may enter judgment
pursuant to the terms of this Settlement and the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties
to enforce the Settlement until performance in full of the terms of the Settlement.

19

I. Notices

All notices, requests, demands and other communications required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing, and shall be delivered personally or by first class mail to Class Counsel or Defendants' Counsel at their respective addresses as set forth on the first page of this Agreement or at any new address as to which counsel have advised the Court and the other Parties.

25

J. Binding on Successors

This Agreement shall be binding and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties to the Action and their respective successors, assigns, executors, administrators, heirs, and legal representatives.

K. Counterparts

This Stipulation, and any amendments hereto, may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute the same instrument.

5

L. Warranties and Representations

With respect to themselves, each of the Parties to this Action and or their agent or
counsel represents, covenants, and warrants that they have full power and authority to enter
into and consummate all transactions contemplated by this Stipulation and have duly
authorized the execution, delivery, and performance of this Stipulation.

10

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

M. Representation by Counsel

The Parties to this Action acknowledge that they have been represented by counsel
throughout all negotiations that preceded the execution of this Stipulation, and that this
Stipulation has been executed with the consent and advice of counsel.

14 Dated: September 26, 2019 15 16

Dated: September ____, 2019

Dated: September , 2019

Approved as to form:

Dated: September , 2019

SAM YOO SHANG-IL ROH

NGL TRANSPORTATION, LLC

By Shang-Il Roh, its President

LAW OFFICES OF PARK & ZHENG

By:_______Stella K. Park Attorneys for Defendants, NGL Transportation, LLC and Shang Il Roh, individually

STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

К. **Counterparts**

2 This Stipulation, and any amendments hereto, may be executed in any number of 3 counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall be deemed to be an original 4 and all of which taken together shall constitute the same instrument.

5

1

L. Warranties and Representations

6 With respect to themselves, each of the Parties to this Action and or their agent or 7 counsel represents, covenants, and warrants that they have full power and authority to enter 8 into and consummate all transactions contemplated by this Stipulation and have duly 9 authorized the execution, delivery, and performance of this Stipulation.

10

14

25

26

27

28

M, **Representation by Counsel**

11 The Parties to this Action acknowledge that they have been represented by counsel 12 throughout all negotiations that preceded the execution of this Stipulation, and that this 13 Stipulation has been executed with the consent and advice of counsel.

Dated: September ____, 2019 15 16 17 Dated: September26, 2019 18 19 Dated: September24, 2019 20 21 22 23 Approved as to form: 24

Dated: September **26**, 2019

' SAM YOO

SHANG-IL ROH

NGL TRANSPORTATION, LLC

By Shang-Il Roh, its President

LAW OFFICES OF PARK & ZHENG

Stella K.

Attomeys for Defendants, NGL Transportation. LLC and Shang II Roh, individually

25 STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Dated: September <u>30</u>, 2019 GARTENBERG GELFAND HAYTON LLP Aaron C. Gundzik Attorneys for Plaintiff Sam Yoo, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated CASKEY & HOL Dated: September, 29,2019 AN Daniel M. Izman Attorneys for Plaintiff Sam Yoo, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT