

REVISED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Revised Class Action Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiff Melvin George (“Plaintiff”) and Defendant Total Professional Network, Inc. (“Defendant” or “TPN”) and Defendant Carrilee Nery (“Defendant Nery”) (collectively “Defendants”). Plaintiff and Defendants collectively are referred to in this Agreement as the “Parties.”

I. DEFINITIONS

In addition to other terms defined in this Agreement, the terms below have the following meaning in this Agreement:

- A. “Action” means the putative class and PAGA action lawsuit designated as *George v. Total Professional Network, Inc., et al.* (Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV01913).
- B. “Class” is defined as all non-exempt employees working for Defendant TPN who were assigned to work at any healthcare facility inside California during the Class Period.
- C. “Class Member” is a member of the Class.
- D. “Class Period” means the period of time from January 16, 2016 to April 21, 2021.
- E. “Class Counsel” means Ashkan Shakouri and Sharon Lin of Shakouri Law Firm.
- F. “Attorneys’ Fees” means the amount awarded to Class Counsel by the Court to compensate them as attorneys’ fees in connection with prosecuting the Action, including their pre-filing investigation, their filing of the Action, all related litigation activities, all related Settlement activities, and all post-Settlement compliance procedures.
- G. “Litigation Expenses” means the amount awarded by the Court to pay Class Counsel for all litigation expenses incurred in connection with the Action.
- H. “Class Data” means, for each Class Member: his or her name; last-known mailing address; Social Security Number; and the total number of workweeks worked during the Class Period.
- I. “Class Notice” means the Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class Action and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval substantively in the form attached as Exhibit A to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

- J. “Class Notice Packet” means the Class Notice to be provided to the Class Members by the Settlement Administrator which contains the individualized information for each Class Member.
- K. “Service Award” means the service payment made to Plaintiff Melvin George in his individual capacity as a Class Representative in order to compensate him for initiating the Action, performing work in support of the Action, undertaking the risk of liability for Defendants’ fees, costs and expenses in the event he was unsuccessful in the prosecution of the Action, and for the general release of all his claims.
- L. “Court” means the Los Angeles Superior Court.
- M. “Defendants’ Counsel” means Travis K. Jang-Busby and Lindsay C. David of Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP.
- N. “Effective Date” means the date by which this Settlement is approved as provided herein and the Court’s Approval Order becomes binding. For purposes of Settlement, the Approval Order becomes binding upon the later of: (1) the day after the last day by which a notice of appeal of the Final Approval Order of the Settlement and/or of an order rejecting any motion to intervene may be timely filed, and none is filed; (2) if such an appeal is filed, and the Final Approval Order is affirmed, the day after the last date for filing a request for further review of the decision passes and no further review is requested; (3) if an appeal is filed and further review of the decision affirming the Final Approval Order is requested, the day after the request for review is denied with prejudice and/or no further review of the decision can be requested; or (4) if review is accepted, the day after the United States or California Supreme Court affirms the Settlement. The Effective Date cannot occur, and Defendants will not be obligated to fund this Settlement, until and unless there is no timely possibility of an appeal or further appeal that could potentially prevent the Settlement Agreement from becoming final and binding.
- O. “Election Not to Participate in Settlement” means the written request by a Class Member to exclude himself or herself from the Settlement submitted in accordance with the instructions in the Class Notice.
- P. “Final Approval” means the date on which the Court enters a final order approving the Settlement.
- Q. “Final Approval Hearing” means the final fairness hearing to be conducted by the Court to determine whether to enter an order granting final approval of this Settlement and implement the terms of this Agreement.

- R. “Gross Settlement Amount” means Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) to be paid by Defendants as provided by this Agreement. This amount is the maximum settlement amount to be paid by or on behalf of Defendants and is all-inclusive of all payments contemplated in this Agreement for final resolution of the Action including all payments to Class Members, any attorneys’ fees, costs and expenses related to the Action (which include all such fees and costs incurred to date, as well as all such fees and costs incurred in documenting the Settlement, securing court approval of the settlement, administering the Settlement, and obtaining a dismissal of the Action), the payment to the Plaintiff, the payment to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”), and all costs of settlement administration. The employer’s share of payroll taxes shall not be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount and shall remain the sole responsibility of the Defendants. The Gross Settlement Amount is all-in with no reversion to Defendants and shall be paid without the need to submit a claim form.
- S. “Judgment” means the Judgment entered by the Court following the Court's order granting Final Approval of this Settlement and dismissal of the Action in a form consistent with the form attached hereto as Exhibit C.
- T. “PAGA Payment” means the amount the Parties have agreed to allocate to civil penalties in order to settle claims arising under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Labor Code sections 2698, et seq.). “LWDA Payment” means the amount paid to the LWDA as its portion (75%) of the total PAGA penalties allocated to it in this Agreement and approved by the Court. “Net PAGA Amount” means the amount paid to PAGA Members as their portion (25%) of the total PAGA penalties allocated to them in this Agreement and approved by the Court.
- U. “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount less the Court-approved amounts for attorneys’ Fees, Litigation Expenses, the Service Award, the LWDA Payment, and the Settlement Administration Expenses. All disbursements will be made by the Settlement Administrator.
- V. “Non-Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who excludes himself or herself from the Class by submitting a valid and timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement.
- W. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement.
- X. “Preliminary Approval of the Settlement” means the date on which the Court enters an order granting preliminary approval of this Settlement.
- Y. “Released Parties” means Defendant TPN and its former, present and future owners, parents, subsidiaries, and all of their current, former and future officers, directors, members, managers, employees, consultants, partners, shareholders, joint

venturers, agents, successors, assigns, accountants, insurers, or legal representatives and Defendant Carrie Nery. Any of the Released Parties individually shall be referred to as a “Released Party.”

- Z. “Settlement” or “Settlement Agreement” means the settlement and disposition of the Action as embodied and effectuated by this Agreement.
- AA. “Settlement Administrator” means the third-party administrator proposed by the Parties and appointed by the Court to administer the Settlement. The parties have selected Phoenix Class Action Settlement Administration Solutions as the Settlement Administrator.
- BB. “Settlement Share” means each Participating Class Member’s share of the Net Settlement Amount as provided by this Agreement.
- CC. “PAGA Members” means all non-exempt employees working for Defendant TPN who were assigned to work at any healthcare facility inside California during the PAGA Period. The PAGA Members are a subset of the Class Members.
- DD. “PAGA Period” means the period of time from January 16, 2019 to April 21, 2021.

II. RECITALS

- A. On January 16, 2020, Plaintiff filed a class action Complaint in the Action against Defendant in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles. On July 15, 2020, Plaintiff amended the Complaint to add claims under PAGA.
- B. On December 1, 2020, Defendant filed an Answer to the First Amended Complaint in the Action.
- C. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated, asserted claims against Defendant in the Action for:
 - 1. Failure to reimburse for business expenses;
 - 2. Failure to pay for all hours worked;
 - 3. Failure to pay overtime;
 - 4. Failure to pay minimum wage;
 - 5. Failure to authorize and/or permit meal breaks;
 - 6. Failure to authorize and/or permit rest breaks;

7. Failure to furnish accurate wage statements;
 8. Waiting time penalties;
 9. Unfair business practices; and
 10. PAGA violations.
- D. On November 23, 2020, the Parties participated in a mediation presided over by Hon. Carl J. West (Ret.), a mediator with extensive experience involving employment class actions but the Parties were unable to settle the Action at the mediation. However, the Parties continued settlement negotiations and with the aid of Hon. Carl J. West, agreed to settle the Action and all other matters covered by this Agreement pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Parties' Memorandum of Understanding (the "Parties' MOU"). This Agreement replaces and supersedes the Parties' MOU and any other agreements, understandings, or representations, whether oral or written, between the Parties.
- E. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission by Defendants or any Released Party that the claims in the Action of Plaintiff or the Class have merit or that Defendant bears any liability to Plaintiff or the Class on those claims or any other claims, or as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendants' defenses in the Action have merit. Defendants deny each of the allegations and claims asserted in the Action. Defendants enter into this Agreement for the sole purpose of avoiding the operational burden, expense and uncertainty of continuing litigation.
- F. The Parties stipulate to the conditional certification of the Class for purposes of this Settlement only. This Agreement is contingent upon the Preliminary and Final Approval and certification of the Class only for purposes of this Settlement. Should this Settlement not become final, for whatever reason or the Effective Date does not occur, the Parties' stipulation to class certification as part of this Settlement shall become null and void *ab initio*, and the fact that the Parties were willing to stipulate provisionally to class certification as part of this Settlement shall have no bearing on, and shall not be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether a class should be certified in a non-settlement context in the Action, and shall not be admissible for any purpose in any action, including the Action. Nothing in this Agreement will be construed as an admission or acknowledgement of any kind that any class should be certified in the Action or in any other action or proceeding.
- G. Defendants expressly reserve the right and declare that they intend to oppose class certification vigorously should this Settlement not be granted Final Approval or be modified or reversed on appeal or otherwise not become final. If for any reason this Agreement does not become effective, Defendants reserve the right to contest

certification of any class, including the Class, for any reason. Defendants do not concede the merits of Plaintiff's contentions regarding the suitability of the litigation for class certification under California Code of Civil Procedure, but have agreed to resolve the litigation through this Settlement in recognition of the expense and risk of continuing with the litigation and in the belief that the Settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable. Therefore, in entering into this Agreement, it is the Parties' mutual intention and agreement that if for any reason the Agreement does not become final, the conditional class certification will be vacated, Plaintiff and Defendant will retain all rights to support or oppose certification for the purposes of litigation, and any certification arising from the Court's Final Approval of this Settlement may not be used by Plaintiff or Defendants in support of any argument for or against certification of any class. Plaintiff will not be deemed to have waived, limited or affected in any way any claims, rights or remedies in the Action, and Defendants will not be deemed to have waived, limited, or affected in any way any of their claims, rights, remedies, objections or defenses in the Action. Neither the provisional certification nor, if ultimately approved, the certification of the Class to consummate this Settlement shall constitute a determination by the Court that a plaintiff class should be certified for purposes of trial or for any other purpose in any action. Thus, if any appeal is successful in the Court of Appeals, the Court's certification of the class for settlement purposes shall be deemed void *nunc pro tunc*.

Based on these Recitals that are a part of this Agreement, the Parties agree as follows:

III. SETTLEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. **Dismissal of Defendant Nery.** Plaintiff agrees to file a request for dismissal of Defendant Nery from the lawsuit without prejudice within 14 calendar days of executing this Settlement Agreement, provided that the parties enter into a tolling agreement, which will toll all of Plaintiff's class claims against Defendant Nery during the time it will take to obtain court approval of the settlement, and will allow Plaintiff to re-assert all class claims against Defendant Nery should Defendants fail to pay the Gross Settlement Amount in full, as set forth herein. Defendants will draft said tolling agreement and request for dismissal with a supporting declaration, subject to Plaintiff's review and approval.
- B. **Gross Settlement Amount.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Gross Settlement Amount that Defendant TPN will pay under this Settlement is Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000). The entirety of the Gross Settlement Amount will be disbursed pursuant to this Agreement, with no reversion to Defendants.
- C. **Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator will make the following payments to be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount as follows:

1. **To Plaintiff:** In addition to his respective Settlement Share, Plaintiff will apply to the Court for an award of not more than \$10,000 as his Service Award. Defendants agree not to oppose a Service Award of up to \$10,000 to the Plaintiff. The Settlement Administrator will pay the Service Award approved by the Court out of the Gross Settlement Amount. If the Court approves a Service Award of less than \$10,000 to Plaintiff, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members. Because such payments do not constitute alleged wage loss, payroll tax withholding and deductions will not be taken from the Service Award and instead a Form 1099 will be issued to the Plaintiff with respects to the payment. To receive this payment, Plaintiff as consideration agrees to waive all known and unknown claims under California Civil Code Section 1542 and agree to a general release of all claims as set forth in Section III(F)(3) below.

2. **To Class Counsel:** Class Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of not more than \$666,666.67 (one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount) as their Attorneys' Fees to be supported by their billing records, and an amount not more than \$20,000 as their Litigation Expenses for their billed expenses. Defendants agree not to oppose Class Counsel's request for such Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses. The Settlement Administrator will pay the amounts for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses approved by the Court (but not more than \$666,666.67 and \$20,000, respectively) out of the Gross Settlement Amount. If the Court approves attorneys' fees or litigation Expenses of less than \$666,666.67 or \$20,000, respectively, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members. Payroll tax withholding and deductions will not be taken from any awarded attorneys' fees or litigation expenses and instead one or more Forms 1099 will be issued to Class Counsel as appropriate under applicable regulations with respect to those payments. The payment of awarded attorneys' fees and litigation expenses shall be made to Class Counsel by the Settlement Administrator in accordance with this Agreement.

3. **To the LWDA.** The Parties will seek approval from the Court for a PAGA Payment of \$25,000 out of the Gross Settlement Amount for PAGA claims that occurred between January 16, 2019 and April 21, 2021, which shall be allocated \$18,750 to LWDA as its share of the Settlement of civil penalties paid under this Agreement pursuant to the PAGA (the "LWDA Payment") and \$6,250 for distribution to the PAGA Members (the "Net PAGA Amount"). If the Court approves a PAGA Payment of less than \$25,000, the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to the PAGA Members.

4. **To the Settlement Administrator.** The Settlement Administrator will pay out of the Gross Settlement Amount to itself its reasonable fees and expenses that are documented and approved by the Court in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 (“Settlement Administration Expenses”). To the extent the Settlement Administration Expenses that are documented and approved by the Court are less than \$25,000 the remainder will be retained in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members.

D. **Payments From the Net Settlement Amount and Net PAGA Amount.** The Net Settlement Amount shall be used to make the following payments after the deductions have been taken from the Gross Settlement Amount as described in Section III.B. above for the Service Award, Attorneys’ Fees, Litigation Expenses, the LWDA Payment, and Settlement Administration Expenses. The Net Settlement Amount shall be paid as follows:

1. **Calculation for Class.** From the Net Settlement Amount less \$6,250 which is allocated to PAGA Members as provided to in subsection 2 below, the Settlement Share for each Participating Class Member in the Class will be calculated by (a) dividing this amount by the total number of workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members in the Class during the Class Period to determine a dollar amount per workweek (“Workweek Payment”), and (b) multiplying the total number of workweeks worked by each Participating Class Member in the Class during the Class Period by the Workweek Payment.

Taxation. Twenty percent (20%) of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share shall be treated as wages (the “Wage Portion”). Accordingly, the Wage Portion is subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form W-2. The Wage Portion as well as the Employees’ withholdings will be paid from the Net Settlement Amount. Eighty percent (80%) of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share shall be treated as reimbursement of business expenses, interest and penalties (the “Non-Wage Portion”). Accordingly, the Non-Wage Portion shall not be subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form 1099. The Non-Wage Portion will be paid from the Net Settlement Amount.

2. **Calculation for PAGA Members.** The value of each PAGA Member’s PAGA Share will be based on the number of each PAGA Member’s workweeks during the PAGA Period. Specifically, 25% of the approved PAGA Payment allocated to the Net PAGA Amount will be divided by the total number of workweeks worked by all PAGA Members during the PAGA Period, and then taking that number and multiplying it by the number of workweeks worked by each respective PAGA Member. PAGA Members will receive payment from the Net PAGA Amount regardless of their decision to participate in the Action if the PAGA Payment is approved by

the Court.

3. **Taxation.** The Net PAGA Amount shall not be subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form 1099.
 4. **Effect of Non-Participating Class Members.** Non-Participating Class Members will receive no Settlement Share, and their election not to participate will reduce neither the Gross Settlement Amount nor the Net Settlement Amount. Their respective Settlement Shares will remain a part of the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on an equal *pro rata* basis. Defendants reserve the right to cancel the Settlement in the event the number of Non-Participating Class Members exceeds ten percent (10%) of the Class. PAGA Members may not opt of the settlement and will receive the Net PAGA Amount regardless of whether or not they are Non-Participating Class Members.
 5. **Class Size Modification.** Defendants has represented that there are approximately 110,664 workweeks worked by approximately 1,537 Class Members in California during the Class Period. In the event the actual number of workweeks increases by more than ten percent (10%) (i.e., increase by more than 11,067 workweeks) by the time Plaintiff seeks Final Approval, the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase on a pro-rata basis equal to the percentage increase in the number of workweeks worked by Class Members above 10%.
- E. **Appointment of Settlement Administrator.** The Parties will ask the Court to appoint Phoenix Settlement Administrators, as the qualified administrator, to serve as the Settlement Administrator, which, as a condition of appointment, will agree to be bound by this Agreement with respect to the performance of its duties and its compensation. The Settlement Administrator's duties will include preparing, printing, and mailing the Class Notice Packet to all Class Members; conducting a National Change of Address search to update addresses prior to mailing; performing a reasonable address search for any Class Notice Packet returned by the U.S. Postal Service as non-deliverable, and re-mailing the Class Notice Packet to the Class Member's new address; setting up a toll-free telephone number to receive calls from Class Members; receiving and reviewing for validity completed Elections Not to Participate in Settlement; providing the Parties with weekly status reports about the delivery of Class Notice Packets and receipt of completed Elections Not to Participate in Settlement; calculating Defendants' employer share of any payroll taxes, calculating Settlement Shares; issuing the checks and accompanying notices to effectuate the payments due under the Settlement; issuing the tax reports required under this Settlement; and otherwise administering the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement. Subject to consultation with Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel, the Settlement Administrator will have the final authority to resolve all disputes concerning the calculation of a Participating Class Member's

Settlement Share, subject to the dollar limitations and calculations set forth in this Agreement. In the event that any questions or disputes arise regarding an individual's membership in the Class, Defendant TPN's records will be presumed to be accurate and correct, and will be presumptively determinative to resolve the dispute. The Settlement Administration Expenses, including the cost of printing and mailing the Class Notice Packet, will be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

The Settlement Administrator shall have its own Employer Identification Number under Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 and shall use its own Employer Identification Number and shall transmit the required employers' and employees' share of the withholdings to the appropriate state and federal tax authorities. The Settlement Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1 and section 468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The Settlement Administrator shall be treated as an "administrator" as defined at Treasury Regulation section 1.468B-2(k) for purposes of federal and state income tax reporting with respect to the distributions from the Net Settlement Amount. Accordingly, Forms 1099 will be distributed by the Settlement Administrator at times and in the manner required by the Code and consistent with this Agreement. If the Code, the regulations promulgated thereunder, or other applicable tax law, is changed after the date of this Agreement, the processes set forth in this section may be modified in a manner to comply with any such changes.

F. Procedure for Approving Settlement.

1. Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement by the Court.

- a. After execution of this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiff will file a Preliminary Approval Motion with the Court for an order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, setting a date for the Final Approval Hearing, and approving the Class Notice (the "Motion for Preliminary Approval"), which Defendants agree not to oppose as long it is consistent with the terms set forth in this Agreement. Plaintiff will provide Defendants with a copy of the Preliminary Approval Motion and related exhibits at least one week prior to filing such Motion. Any disagreements among the Parties concerning the Class Notice, or other documents necessary to implement the Settlement will be referred to the Court presiding over the Action.
- b. Class Counsel agrees to meet-and-confer with Defendants' Counsel as to a mutually agreed-upon date for the hearing on the Motion for Preliminary Approval. At the hearing on the Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Parties will jointly appear and support the granting of

the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel will submit a Proposed Preliminary Approval Order substantially in the form evidenced by Exhibit B to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

- c. Should the Court decline to preliminarily approve all material aspects of the Settlement (including but not limited to the scope of release for Participating Class Members and/or for Plaintiff, or the binding effect of the Settlement on Participating Class Members), the Settlement will be void and the Parties will submit the issues to a mutually-agreeable mediator for resolution.
- d. A decision by the Court not to enter the Preliminary Approval Order in its entirety, or a decision by the Court to enter the Preliminary Approval Order with material modifications (other than modifications concerning the proposed amount of any attorneys' fees or litigation expenses to be paid to Class Counsel or the amount of any service award to Plaintiff) that either of the Parties determines in their reasonable and good faith judgment to be material, will be discretionary grounds for that Party to terminate this Agreement by providing written notice to the other Party and the Court within twenty-one (21) calendar days of receipt of the Court's decision. In such event, the Parties agree to submit any unresolved issues to a mutually agreeable mediator for resolution.

2. **Notice to Class Members.** After the Court enters its order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, the Claims Administrator will provide every Class Member with the Class Notice Packet, which will include the Class Notice completed to reflect the order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement and showing the Class Member's Class Data as follows:

- a. No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Court enters its order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendants will provide to the Settlement Administrator an Excel file with each Class Member's Class Data. The Class Data, its contents and any files containing Class Data shall remain strictly confidential for the Settlement Administrator's eyes only, and shall not to be disclosed to Plaintiff or to Class Counsel. The Settlement Administrator shall agree to keep the Class Data and its contents strictly confidential. This provision shall not be construed to impede Class Counsel's ability to discharge their fiduciary duties to the Class, and if additional disclosures are necessary, Class Counsel will obtain written authorization from Defendants and/or an order from the Court.

- b. Using best efforts to mail it as soon as possible, and in no event later than fourteen (14) calendar days after receiving the Class Data, the Settlement Administrator will mail the Class Notice Packets to all Class Members via first-class regular U.S. Mail using the mailing address information provided by Defendants, unless modified by any updated address information that the Settlement Administrator obtains in the course of administration of the Settlement.
- c. If a Class Notice Packet is returned because of an incorrect address, the Settlement Administrator will promptly, and not longer than ten (10) days from receipt of the returned packet, search for a more current address for the Class Member and re-mail the Class Notice Packet to the Class Member. The Settlement Administrator will use the Class Data and otherwise work with Defendants to find that more current address. The Settlement Administrator will be responsible for taking reasonable steps, consistent with its agreed-upon job parameters, Court orders, and as agreed to with Class Counsel and according to the following deadlines, to trace the mailing address of any Class Member for whom a Class Notice Packet is returned by the U.S. Postal Service as undeliverable. These reasonable steps shall include, at a minimum, the tracking of all undelivered mail; performing address searches for all mail returned without a forwarding address; and promptly re-mailing to Class Members for whom new addresses are found. If the Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the Settlement Administrator will note for its own records and notify Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel of the date and address of each such re-mailing as part of a weekly status report provided to the Parties.
- d. As part of its weekly status report, the Settlement Administrator will inform Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel of the number of Elections Not to Participate in Settlement it receives (including the numbers of valid and deficient Forms) and the number of objections it receives (including objections to Settlement and/or objections to Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses).
- e. Not later than fourteen (14) days before Plaintiff files his Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will provide the Parties for filing with the Court a declaration of due diligence setting forth its compliance with its obligations under this Agreement and detailing the Elections Not to Participate in Settlement that it has received (including the numbers of valid and deficient Forms) and detailing any objections that it has received (including objections to Settlement and/or objections to Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses). Prior to the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator will supplement its declaration of due

diligence if any material changes occur from the date of the filing of its prior declaration.

3. **Objections to Settlement; Objections to Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses; Elections Not to Participate in Settlement.** Participating Class Members may submit objections to the Settlement and objections to Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses. Class Members may also submit Elections Not to Participate in Settlement pursuant to the following procedures:

- a. **Objections to Settlement.** The Class Notice will provide that only Participating Class Members who wish to object to the Settlement must submit their written objection to the Settlement Administrator setting forth the grounds for the objection. Such objection must be postmarked to and/or received by the Settlement Administrator not later than 45 calendar days after the Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets or 45 calendar days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Class Notice Packets to Class Members whose first mailing came back because of an incorrect address. The Settlement Administrator will forward all written objections received to the Parties' Counsel who will file the objections along with any response thereto at the time of filing the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement. The Court will hear from any Class Member who attends the Final Approval Hearing and asks to speak regarding his or her objection, regardless of whether he or she submitted a written objection in the manner and by the deadline specified hereinabove. Non-Participating Class Members shall have no ability to comment on or object to the Settlement, except with the Court's permission.

- b. **Objections to Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses.** Class Counsel shall file their application for the Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses concurrently with Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval, and the application will be scheduled to be heard by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing. The Settlement Administrator will forward all written objections received to the Parties' Counsel who will file the objections along with any response thereto at the time of filing the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement. The Class Notice will provide that Participating Class Members who wish to object to the Attorneys' Fees and/or Litigation Expenses must submit their written objection to the Settlement Administrator setting forth the grounds for the objection. Such objection must be postmarked to and/or received by the Settlement Administrator not later than 45 days after the Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets or 45 days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Class Notice Packets to Class Members whose first

mailing came back because of an incorrect address. The Court will hear from any Class Member who attends the Final Approval Hearing and asks to speak regarding his or her objection, regardless of whether he or she submitted a written objection in the manner and by the deadline specified hereinabove. Non-Participating Class Members shall have no ability to object to Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses, except with the Court's permission.

- c. **Election Not to Participate in Settlement.** The Class Notice also will provide that Class Members who wish to exclude themselves from the Settlement must mail to the Settlement Administrator not later than 45 days after the Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets, or 45 days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Class Notice Packets to Class Members whose first mailing came back because of an incorrect address, a signed Election Not to Participate in Settlement or a response in another verifiable format advising the Settlement Administrator that the Class Member elects not to participate in the Settlement. If a question is raised about the authenticity of a signed Election Not to Participate in Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will have the right to demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity.

A Non-Participating Class Member will not participate in or be bound by the Settlement and the Judgment, except that PAGA Members will receive payment from the Net PAGA Amount and will be bound by and release all Released PAGA Claims, irrespective of whether they are a Non-Participating Class Member. Defendants will remain free to contest any claim or action brought by the Non-Participating Class Member, and nothing in this Agreement will constitute or be construed as a waiver of any defense against such a claim or action. A Class Member who does not complete and mail a timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement in the manner and by the deadline specified above will automatically become a Participating Class Member and be bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Released Class Claims by the Class, if the Settlement is approved by the Court, and by the Judgment, regardless of whether he or she has objected to the Settlement. Persons who submit an Election Not to Participate in Settlement shall not be permitted to object to the Settlement, except with the Court's permission.

All Participating Class Members who do not submit a valid and timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement will receive a Settlement Share, and will be bound by all of the terms of the Settlement, including without limitation, the release of the Released Class Claims by the Class as set forth in this Agreement.

The Settlement Administrator shall retain the originals of all Elections Not to Participate in Settlement and objections in its files until such time as the Settlement Administrator is relieved of its duties and responsibilities under this Agreement.

- d. **Disputes to Workweeks and Estimated Payments.** Class Members will have the opportunity, should they disagree with Defendant TPN's records regarding the start and end dates of their employment, their total workweek count, and/or their estimated payment, to provide documentation and/or an explanation to show contrary dates or workweeks. If there is a dispute, the Settlement Administrator will consult with the Parties to determine whether an adjustment is warranted. The Settlement Administrator shall determine the eligibility for, and the amounts of, any Individual Settlement Payments under the terms of this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator's determination of the eligibility for and amount of any Settlement Share shall be binding upon the Class Member and the Parties. Any disputes not resolved by the Settlement Administrator concerning the administration of the Settlement will be resolved by the Court under the laws of the State of California. Before any such involvement of the Court, counsel for the Parties will confer in good faith to resolve the disputes without the necessity of involving the Court. Class Members shall have 45 days after the Settlement Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets, or 45 days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Class Notice Packets to Class Members whose first mailing came back because of an incorrect address, to submit a dispute to the Settlement Administrator.
4. **Right of Defendants to Reject Settlement.** If ten percent (10%) or more Class Members timely submit valid Elections Not to Participate in Settlement, Defendants will have the right, but not the obligation, to void the Settlement and the Parties will have no further obligations under the Settlement, including any obligation by Defendants to pay the Gross Settlement Amount, or any amounts that otherwise would have been owed under this Agreement. The Defendants will pay the reasonable amount of the Settlement Administration Expenses incurred as of the date that Defendants exercise their right to void the Settlement. Defendants will notify Class Counsel and the Court whether they are exercising this right to void not later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the Settlement Administrator notifies the Parties of the final total number of valid Elections Not to Participate in Settlement it has received following the deadline for Class Members to submit a timely Election Not to Participate in Settlement.
5. **No Solicitation of Objection or Election Not to Participate.** The Parties and their respective counsel represent that neither the Parties nor their

respective counsel have or will solicit or otherwise encourage directly or indirectly any Class Member to object to the Settlement, appeal from the Judgment, or elect not to participate in the Settlement.

6. Additional Briefing and Final Approval.

- a. Class Counsel will file with the Court their application for the Attorneys' Fees, Litigation Expenses and Service Award before filing, or concurrently with, Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval, and the application will be scheduled to be heard by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing.
- b. Not later than sixteen (16) court days before the Final Approval Hearing, the Plaintiff will file with the Court a Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, which Defendants agree not to oppose as long as it is consistent with the terms set forth in this Agreement.
- c. If any objection is filed, then not later than seven calendar days before the Final Approval Hearing, both Parties may file a reply in support of the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement; and Plaintiff and Class Counsel may file a reply in support of their motions for the Service Award, the Attorneys' Fees, and the Litigation Expenses.
- d. If the Court does not grant final approval of the Settlement or grants final approval conditioned on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release for Participating Class Members and/or for Plaintiff, or the binding effect of the Settlement on Participating Class Members), then the Settlement, at either Parties' option, will be null and void and the Parties will have no further obligations under the Settlement, including any obligation by Defendants to pay the Gross Settlement Amount or any amounts that otherwise would have been owed under this Agreement. However, an award by the Court of a lesser amount than that sought by Plaintiff and Class Counsel for the Service Award, the Attorneys' Fees, or the Litigation Expenses, will not constitute a material modification to the Settlement within the meaning of this paragraph.
- e. Upon the Court's entry of an Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement and entry of Judgment stating that the Action was settled; Plaintiff and Participating Class Members will take that which is stated in the Agreement. After entry of the Judgment, the Los Angeles Superior Court in which the Parties will seek approval of the Settlement will have continuing jurisdiction over the Action and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement, including resolution of any dispute concerning any provision of this

Agreement, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as may be appropriate under California court rules and applicable law, including California Code of Civil Procedure Section 664.6.

7. **Waiver of Right to Appeal.** Provided that the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, that the Court does not make any material modification to the Settlement, and that the Parties have fully performed under the Agreement, Plaintiff and Participating Class Members who did not timely submit an objection to the Settlement, Defendants, and their respective counsel hereby waive any and all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to any post-judgment proceeding and appellate proceeding, such as, but not limited to, a motion to vacate judgment, a motion for new trial, and any extraordinary writ, and the Judgment therefore will become non-appealable at the time it is entered. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose any appeal, appellate proceedings or post-judgment proceedings. If an appeal is taken from the Judgment, the time for consummation of the Settlement (including making payments under the Settlement) will be suspended until such time as their appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes Final.
8. **Modifying, Vacating, or Altering Settlement.** Should the Settlement, or any terms therein, be modified, vacated, altered, or become otherwise subject to challenge by law, including, but not limited to, any law that became effective after the execution of this Settlement Agreement, so that this Settlement is not approved by the Court in its entirety and therefore the intent of the Parties cannot be accomplished after jointly taken efforts to enforce it have been exhausted, the Parties shall have the option to revoke the Settlement Agreement at their sole discretion. A vacation or modification of the Court's award of the Service Award or the Attorneys' Fees or Litigation Expenses will not constitute a vacation or material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, provided that Defendants' obligation to make payments under this Settlement will remain limited by the Gross Settlement Amount.
9. **Vacating, Reversal, or Material Modification of Judgment on Appeal or Review.** If, after a notice of appeal, a petition for review, or a petition for *certiorari*, or any other motion, petition, writ or application, the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment such that there is a material modification to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release for Participating Class Members and/or Plaintiff, or the binding effect of the Settlement on Participating Class Members), and that Court's decision is not completely reversed and the Judgment is not fully affirmed on review by a higher Court, then either Plaintiff or Defendants will have the right to void the Settlement, which the Party must do by giving

written notice to the other Parties, the reviewing Court, and the Court not later than fourteen (14) days after the reviewing Court's decision vacating, reversing, or materially modifying the Judgment becomes Final. A vacation, reversal, or modification of the Court's award of the Service Award or the Attorneys' Fees or Litigation Expenses will not constitute a vacation, reversal, or material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, provided that Defendants' obligation to make payments under this Settlement will remain limited by the Gross Settlement Amount.

10. **Funding of Settlement, Timing of Provision of Settlement Shares and Other Payments.** Within ten (10) calendar days of the Effective Date, Defendant shall begin to pay the Gross Settlement Amount pursuant to the installment plan set forth below. The Gross Settlement Amount will consist of the Net Settlement Amount; awarded settlement administration expenses; awarded attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; awarded service award; and awarded PAGA payment to the Settlement Administrator for distribution pursuant to the Settlement Agreement.

- i. Defendant shall pay one million dollars (\$1,000,000) within 10 calendar days of the Effective Date;
- ii. Defendant shall pay five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) within 180 days of the Effective Date; and
- iii. Defendant shall pay five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) within 365 days of the Effective Date.

Within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the second installment payment from Defendant, as set forth above, the Settlement Administrator shall make the following distributions: to each Participating Class Member a check for their full Settlement Share, including any Net PAGA Amount if they qualify for such payment, at their last known home address; the LWDA payment to the LWDA; the awarded settlement administration costs to the Settlement Administrator; the awarded litigation expenses to Class Counsel; and the remaining portion of the second installment to Class Counsel as part of their awarded attorneys' fees.

Within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the third and last installment payment from Defendant, as set forth above, the Settlement Administrator shall pay Class Counsel the remaining portion of their awarded attorneys' fees.

All of the installment payments shall be wired or electronically transferred by Defendant to the Qualified Settlement Fund account created by the Settlement Administrator.

11. **Full Discharge of Obligations by Defendant.** Defendant's transfer of the Gross Settlement Amount to the Qualified Settlement Fund created by the Settlement Administrator shall constitute full and complete discharge of the entire obligation of Defendants under this Agreement.
12. **Uncashed Settlement Share Checks.** A Participating Class Member must cash his or her Settlement Share check within 180 days after it is mailed to him or her. If a check is returned to the Settlement Administrator, the Settlement Administrator will make all reasonable efforts to re-mail it to the Participating Class Member at his or her correct address. If Participating Class Member's Settlement Share check is not cashed within 120 days after its last mailing to the Participating Class Member, the Settlement Administrator will send the Participating Class Member a letter informing him or her that unless the check is cashed in the next 60 days, it will expire and become non-negotiable, and offer to replace the check if it was lost or misplaced but not cashed. If the Settlement Share check of a Participating Class Member remains uncashed by the expiration of the 180-day period, the uncashed funds shall be distributed to the Controller of the State of California to be held pursuant to the Unclaimed Property Law, California Civil Code Section 1500, *et seq.* for the benefit of those Participating Class Members who did not cash their Settlement Share checks until such time that they claim their property and who will remain bound by the Settlement. The Parties agree that this disposition results in no "unpaid residue" under California Civil Procedure Code Section 384, as the entire Net Settlement Amount will be paid out to Participating Class Members, whether or not they cash their Settlement Share checks.
13. **Final Report by Settlement Administrator to Court.** Within ten (10) days after final disbursement of all funds from the Gross Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator will provide the Parties a final report on the disbursements of all funds from the Gross Settlement Amount.

G. Release of Claims.

14. **Participating Class Members.** Upon funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendants, all Participating Class Members who do not timely and validly opt out of the Settlement shall be deemed to have fully and finally released all claims against all Released Parties that were alleged or that could have been alleged based on the facts asserted in in the operative Complaint that occurred during the Class Period. The release expressly excludes all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, and claims outside of the Class Period and, and the Released PAGA Claims. This release shall be referred to here is the "Released Class Claims."

Upon funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendants, all PAGA Members shall also release all Released Parties from all Released PAGA Claims, irrespective of whether they opted out of the Settlement, and will be bound by this PAGA Release. The Released PAGA Claims are defined as the claims asserted by PAGA Members for alleged violations of the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Order provisions identified in the PAGA Notice sent to the LWDA by Plaintiff and further identified in the operative Complaint that are alleged to have occurred during the PAGA Period (“Released PAGA Claims”).

15. **Plaintiff.** Upon funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant and except as otherwise provided by this Agreement, in addition to the release specified in Section III.F.1 above, Plaintiff makes the additional following general release of any and all claims, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, that Plaintiff had, now has, or may hereafter claim to have against Defendant and Released Parties. Plaintiff hereby fully and finally releases the Released Parties including Defendant, from any and all claims, known or unknown, accrued or unaccrued, he has or may have against Defendant and the Released Parties (“Plaintiff’s Released Claims”). Plaintiff agrees not to object to or opt out of the Settlement.
16. **Plaintiff’s Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542.** As partial consideration for the Service Award, Plaintiff’s Released Claims shall include all such claims, whether known or unknown by the releasing party. Thus, even if Plaintiff discovers facts and/or claims in addition to or different from those that he now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of Plaintiff’s Released Claims, those claims will remain released and forever barred. Therefore, with respect to Plaintiff’s Released Claims, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes all of the provisions and all of his rights and benefits under the provisions of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

A general release does not extend to claims which 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.

- H. **No Effect on Other Benefits.** The Settlement Shares will not result in any additional benefit payments (such as 401(k) or bonus) beyond those provided by this Agreement to Plaintiff or Participating Class Members, and Plaintiff and Participating Class Members will be deemed to have waived all such claims, whether known or unknown by them, as part of their release of claims under this Agreement. Specifically, the Parties agree and understand that none of the amounts

paid under this Agreement to Plaintiff and the Participating Class Members constitute compensation under any “Employee Benefit Plan” as defined by section 3(3) of ERISA; Participating Class Members waive any and all claims for additional contributions to, and/or benefits under, any Employee Benefit Plan maintained or sponsored by Defendant based on any amount paid under this Agreement; and they release any claim for employee benefits, including any and all claims arising under ERISA, arising out of, or related to, the amounts paid under this Agreement.

I. Miscellaneous Terms.

17. No Admission of Liability or Class Certification for Other Purposes.

- a. Defendants deny that they have engaged in any unlawful activity, have failed to comply with the law in any respect, have any liability to anyone under the claims asserted in the Action, or that but for the Settlement a class should be certified in the Action. Defendants specifically deny any liability to Plaintiff or to any Class Member upon any claim or cause of action asserted in this Action. This Agreement does not constitute, and is not intended to constitute, an admission by Defendants as to the merits, validity, or accuracy of any of the allegations or claims made in the Action. This Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendants, or an admission by Plaintiff that any of the claims was non-meritorious or any defense asserted by Defendants were meritorious. This Settlement and the fact that Plaintiff and Defendants were willing to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (other than solely in connection with the Settlement).
- b. Whether or not the Judgment becomes Final, neither the Settlement, this Agreement, the negotiation and execution of the Agreement, any document, statement, proceeding, act or conduct related to the Settlement or the Agreement, nor any reports or accounting of those matters, will be (i) construed as, offered or admitted in evidence as, received as, or deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to Defendants or any of the other Released Parties, including, but not limited to, evidence of a presumption, concession, indication or admission by Defendants or any of the Released Parties of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession or damage; nor (ii) disclosed, referred to or offered in evidence against Defendants or any of the Released Parties, in any further proceeding in the Action, or in any other civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding except for purposes of effectuating the Settlement

pursuant to this Agreement; nor (iii) shall be deemed to be, or used as, an admission or evidence of the appropriateness of these or similar claims for class certification in the Action or with respect to any other proceeding.

c. This section and all other provisions of this Agreement notwithstanding, any and all provisions of this Agreement may be admitted in evidence and otherwise used in any and all proceedings solely to enforce any or all terms of this Agreement or in defense of any claims released or barred by this Agreement.

18. **Integrated Agreement.** After this Agreement is signed and delivered by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement and its exhibits will constitute the entire agreement between the Parties 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 Agreement or its exhibits other than the representations, warranties, covenants, and inducements expressly stated in this Agreement and its exhibits.
19. **Attorney Authorization.** Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff 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 will seek authorization to execute any other documents required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement, if necessary. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts to effect the implementation of the Settlement. In the event the Parties disagree about application or interpretation of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Parties will seek the assistance of a mutually agreeable mediator for resolution.
20. **No Prior Assignments:** The Parties 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 and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged in this Settlement.
21. **No Tax Advice:** Neither Class Counsel nor Defendants' Counsel intend anything contained in this Settlement to constitute 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.
22. **Modification of Agreement.** Except as set forth in Section III.I.3 hereinabove this Agreement, and any and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed

by all Parties and their representatives.

23. **Agreement Binding on Successors.** This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
24. **Applicable Law.** All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the substantive and procedural laws of the State of California and procedural laws of the United States of America to the extent applicable, without giving effect to any conflict of law principles or choice of law principles.
25. **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.
26. **Continuing Cooperation.** The Parties, to the greatest extent possible, are obligated to work together jointly to effectuate the Settlement, and each term therein. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, this joint obligation includes, but is not limited to, fully documenting the Settlement, expeditiously completing or filing any other required documents or pleadings, arguing that the terms and conditions agreed upon should be enforced fully, commencing any required action (either in court or in arbitration), jointly appealing and/or otherwise exhausting judicial review of any adverse ruling, etc.
27. **Fair Settlement.** The Parties and their respective counsel believe and warrant that this Agreement reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Action and have arrived at this Agreement through arms-length negotiations, taking into account all relevant factors, current and potential.
28. **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.
29. **Notice.** All notices, demands or other communications given under 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, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff and the Class:

Ashkan Shakouri
Sharon Lin
Shakouri Law Firm
11601 Wilshire Blvd., Fifth Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90024
Tel: (310) 575-1827
E-mail: ash@shakourilawfirm.com
sharon@shakourilawfirm.com

To Defendant:

Travis K. Jang-Busby
Lindsay C. David
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
633 West Fifth Street, 52nd floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
Telephone: (213) 270-7868
Facsimile: (213) 680-4470
E-mail: tjang-busby@gprm.com
ldavid@gprm.com

30. **Execution in Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, or electronic signatures 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 provided that counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves original signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
31. **Severability.** In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall in no way effect any other provision in this Agreement.
32. **Continuing Jurisdiction.** The Los Angeles Superior Court in which the Parties will seek approval of the Settlement shall retain continuing jurisdiction over this case to ensure the continuing implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement under applicable law, including, but not limited to, California Code of Civil Section 664.6.

V. EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL

The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.

Dated: 1/20/2022

MELVIN GEORGE

By: _____

DocuSigned by:
Melvin George
E8A5DC1F1D504F0

Dated: 2/2/2022

TOTAL PROFESSIONAL NETWORK, INC.

By: _____

Name: Carrielee Nery

Title: CEO

Approved as to Form:

Dated: 1/20/22


SHAKOURI LAW FIRM

By: _____

Ashkan Shakouri
Ashkan Shakouri
Sharon Lin
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: 2/23/2022

GORDON REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI, LLP

By: 

Lindsay C. David
Travis K. Jang-Busby
Attorneys for Defendant

EXHIBIT A

[NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION AND HEARING DATE
FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL]

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT
AND FINAL APPROVAL HEARING**

George v. Total Professional Network, Inc. (Case No. 20STCV01913)

**YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED WHETHER YOU ACT OR DO NOT ACT. PLEASE
READ THIS CLASS NOTICE CAREFULLY.**

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT:	
Do Nothing and Receive a Payment	<p>To receive a cash payment from the Settlement, you do not have to do anything.</p> <p>Your estimated Settlement Share is: \$<< [REDACTED] >>. See the explanation below.</p> <p>After final approval by the Court, the payment will be mailed to you at the same address as this Class Notice. If your address has changed, please notify the Settlement Administrator as explained below. In exchange for the settlement payment, you will release claims against the Defendant as detailed below.</p>
Exclude Yourself	<p>To exclude yourself, you must send a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator as provided below. If you request exclusion, you will receive no money from the Settlement, except as noted in Section 7 below.</p> <p>Instructions are set forth below.</p>
Object	<p>Write to the Court about why you do not like the Settlement.</p> <p>Directions are provided below.</p>

1. Why did I get this Class Notice?

A proposed class action settlement (the “Settlement”) of the above-captioned action (the “Lawsuit”) pending in the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles (the “Court”) has been reached between Plaintiff Melvin George (“Plaintiff”), on the one hand, and Defendant Total Professional Network, Inc., doing business as Core MedStaff (“Total Professional Network” or “Defendant”), on the other hand, and has been preliminarily approved by the Court. **You may be entitled to receive money from this Settlement. The Court has not made a determination about any of the contentions of the parties. This Class Notice is not to be understood as an expression of any opinion by the Court as to the merits of the claims or defenses asserted by either side.**

You have received this Class Notice because you have been identified as a member of the Class, which is defined as:

all non-exempt employees working for Defendant TPN who were assigned to work at any healthcare facility inside California from January 16, 2016 to April 21, 2021 (the “Class Period”).

This Class Notice explains the Lawsuit, the Settlement, and your legal rights. It is important that you read this Class Notice carefully as your rights may be affected by the Settlement.

2. What is this class action lawsuit about?

The Lawsuit is brought by Plaintiff who is an individual formerly employed by Total Professional Network as a healthcare professional in California. This Lawsuit is against Total Professional Network.

In the Lawsuit, Plaintiff alleges that Total Professional Network violated California law in several ways. Specifically, the Lawsuit includes claims for (1) failure to reimburse for business expenses; (2) failure to pay for all hours worked; (3) failure to pay overtime; (4) failure to pay minimum wage; (5) failure to authorize and/or permit meal breaks; (6) failure to authorize and/or permit rest breaks; (7) failure to provide accurate wage statements; (8) failure to pay all wages timely upon separation of employment; (9) unfair business practices; and (10) violation of the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (“PAGA”). Total Professional Network denies, and continues to deny, all claims asserted by Plaintiff and contends that it fully complied with the California Labor Code and all other applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

Following mediation on November 23, 2020, the Parties reached a settlement in order to avoid the risk, inconvenience and expense of further litigation. Plaintiff and Class Counsel believe the proposed Settlement is fair, adequate and in the best interest of the Class Members given the outcome of their investigation, the consumption of time and resources required in connection with further litigation, and the uncertainty in the law governing some of the claims presented. Total Professional Network enters into this Settlement for the sole purpose of avoiding the operational burden, expense and uncertainty of continuing litigation.

The Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement on <<INSERT PRELIMINARY APPROVAL DATE>>. At that time, the Court also preliminarily approved the Plaintiff to serve as the Class Representative, and Ashkan Shakouri and Sharon Lin of Shakouri Law Firm to serve as Class Counsel.

3. What are the terms of the Settlement?

Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant has agreed to pay Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) (the “Gross Settlement Amount”) to fund the Settlement of the Lawsuit. The Gross Settlement Amount includes all payments of Settlement Shares to the Class contemplated by the Settlement, Attorneys’ Fees, Litigation Expenses, Settlement Administration Expenses, Service Award to the Plaintiff, and the PAGA Payment, but excludes the employer’s share of payroll taxes, which shall remain the sole responsibility of Defendant. The entirety of the Gross Settlement Amount will be disbursed, with no reversion to Defendant.

Amounts to be Paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Court has tentatively approved certain payments to be made from the Gross Settlement Amount as follows, which will be subject to final approval by the Court, and which will be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount before Settlement Shares are made to Class Members who do not request exclusion (“Participating Class Members”):

- Settlement Administration Expenses. Payment to the Settlement Administrator, estimated not to exceed \$20,000, for expenses, including expenses of notifying the Class of the Settlement, processing opt-outs, and distributing Settlement Shares and tax forms.
- Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Expense Payments. Payment to Class Counsel of reasonable attorneys’ fees not to exceed \$666,666.67 (1/3 of the Gross Settlement Amount), and an additional amount to reimburse actual litigation expenses not to exceed \$20,000. Class Counsel has been prosecuting the Lawsuit on behalf of Plaintiff and the Class on a contingency fee basis (that is, without being paid any money to date) and has been paying all litigation costs and expenses.
- Service Award. Service Award not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to Plaintiff, or such lesser amount as may be approved by the Court, to compensate him for his services on behalf of the Class in initiating and prosecuting the Lawsuit, and for the risks he undertook.

- **PAGA Payment.** A payment of \$25,000, which shall be allocated \$18,750 to the State of California’s Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”) and \$6,250 for distribution to the PAGA Members (all non-exempt employees working for Defendant TPN who were assigned to work at any healthcare facility inside California from January 16, 2019 to April 21, 2021) as part of the Net PAGA Amount.

Calculation of Payments to Participating Class Members. After all of the payments of the court-approved Class Counsel Fee Payment, Litigation Expenses, Service Award, the PAGA Payment and the Settlement Administration Expenses are deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount, the remaining portion, the “Net Settlement Amount” shall be distributed to Class Members who do **not** request exclusion (“Participating Class Members”). The Net Settlement Amount shall be paid as follows:

Calculation for Class Members. From the Net Settlement Amount, the Settlement Share for each Participating Class Member in the Class will be calculated by (a) dividing this amount by the total number of workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members in the Class during the Class Period to determine a dollar amount per workweek (“Workweek Payment”), and (b) multiplying the total number of workweeks worked by each Participating Class Member in the Class during the Class Period by the Workweek Payment.

Calculation of PAGA Penalties Payments to PAGA Members. The Net PAGA Amount shall be distributed to PAGA Members **irrespective of whether they exclude themselves or opt-out of the Class Settlement.** The Net PAGA Amount will be divided by the total number of Workweeks worked by all PAGA Members and then taking that number and multiplying it by the number of Workweeks worked by each respective PAGA Members. “PAGA Members” means all non-exempt employees who worked for Total Professional Network, Inc. in California at any time from January 16, 2019 to April 21, 2021 (the “PAGA Period”).

If the Settlement is approved by the Court and you do not opt out, you will automatically be mailed a check for your Settlement Share to the same address as this Class Notice. You do not have to do anything to receive a payment. If your address has changed, you must contact the Settlement Administrator to inform them of your correct address to ensure you receive your payment.

Tax Matters. Twenty percent (20%) of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share is in settlement of wage claims, which is subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form W-2. Eighty percent (80%) of each Participating Class Member’s Settlement Share from the Class is in settlement of claims for reimbursement of business expenses, interest and penalties, which is not subject to wage withholdings, and shall be reported on IRS Form 1099.

Participating Class Members shall be responsible for paying any taxes owing on their Settlement Shares. Plaintiff, Defendant, and their respective counsel do not intend anything contained in this Settlement to constitute advice regarding taxes or taxability. You may wish to consult a tax advisor concerning the tax consequences of the payments received under the Settlement.

Conditions of Settlement. This Settlement is conditioned upon the Court entering an order granting final approval of the Settlement.

4. What Do I Release Under the Settlement?

Released Class Claims. Upon the Effective Date and funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant, any person who is a Participating Class Member who does not opt-out shall be deemed to have fully and finally released all claims that were alleged or that could have been alleged based on the facts asserted in the First Amended Complaint that occurred during the Class Period. The release expressly excludes all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, claims outside of the Class Period and the Released PAGA Claims, which shall be released as follows: Upon the Effective Date and funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant,

all PAGA Members shall release all Released PAGA Claims, irrespective of whether they opted-out of the class settlement, and will be bound by this PAGA Release (the “PAGA Release”). “Released PAGA Claims” are defined as the claims asserted by the PAGA Members for alleged violations of the California Labor Code and IWC Wage Order provisions identified in the PAGA notice sent to the LWDA by Plaintiff and further identified in the First Amended Complaint that are alleged to have occurred during the PAGA Period (“Released PAGA Claims”).

This means that, if you do not timely and formally exclude yourself from the Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant about the legal issues resolved by this Settlement. It also means that all of the Court’s orders in the Lawsuit will apply to you and legally bind you.

5. How much will my payment be?

Defendant’s records reflect that you worked << [redacted] >> weeks during the Class Period as a non-exempt employee for Defendant. Your estimated Settlement Share as a Class Member is << [redacted] >>.

If you wish to challenge the information set forth above, then you must submit a written, signed dispute challenging the information along with supporting documents, to the Settlement Administrator at the address provided in this Notice no later than [redacted], 2021 [forty-five (45) days after the Notice or re-mailed Notice].

6. How can I get a payment?

To get money from the settlement, you do not have to do anything. A check for your Settlement Share will be mailed automatically to the same address as this Class Notice. If your address is incorrect or has changed, you must notify the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator is: [redacted] (800) [redacted]; address:

The Court will hold a hearing on [redacted] to decide whether to approve the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement and there are no appeals, you will receive your Settlement Share in installments, with the first check mailed to you approximately 3 months after the Court approves the Settlement and the second and final check mailed to you approximately 6 months after the Court approves the Settlement. The Parties have agreed to this installment plan due to Defendant’s inability to pay the Gross Settlement Amount in a lump-sum payment. You will receive your Settlement Share before Class Counsel is paid their Attorneys’ Fee or Litigation Expenses. If there are appeals, resolving the issue on appeal can take more time. Please be patient.

7. What if I don’t want to be a part of the Settlement?

If you do not wish to participate in the Settlement, you may exclude yourself from the Settlement or “opt out.” **If you opt out, you will receive NO money from the Settlement, and you will not be bound by its terms, except as provided as follows:** Irrespective of whether you exclude yourself from the Settlement or “opt out,” you will be bound by the PAGA Release, you will be deemed to have released the Released PAGA Claims, and you will receive a share of the Net PAGA Amount.

To opt out, you must submit to the Settlement Administrator, by First Class Mail, a written, signed and dated request to opt-out postmarked no later than [redacted], [forty-five (45) days after the Notice or re-mailed Notice]. The request to opt-out may state in substance: “I have read the Class Notice and I wish to opt-out of the class action and settlement of the case *George v. Total Professional Network, Inc. (Case No. 20STCV01913)*” or a response in another verifiable format advising the Settlement Administrator that you elect not to participate in the Settlement. The request to opt-out must contain your name, address, and signature. To be valid, the request to opt-out must be completed by you and must be timely mailed to the Settlement Administrator. No other person may opt-out for a living member of the Class. Anyone who submits a timely and valid request to opt out shall not be deemed a Participating Class Member and will not receive any payment as

part of this Settlement except as provided above.

The address for the Settlement Administrator is [REDACTED]. Written requests for exclusion that are postmarked after [REDACTED], or are incomplete or unsigned will be rejected, and those Class Members will remain bound by the Settlement and the release described above.

8. How do I tell the Court that I don't like the Settlement?

Any Class Member who has not opted out and believes that the Settlement should not be finally approved by the Court for any reason may object to the proposed Settlement. Objections may be in writing and state your (the Class Member's) name, current address, telephone number, and describe why you believe the Settlement is unfair and whether you intend to appear at the final approval hearing. All written objections or other correspondence must also state the name and number of the case, which is *George v. Total Professional Network, Inc. (Case No. 20STCV01913)*. In addition, Class Members may enter an appearance through an attorney if they so desire, or may appear at the final approval hearing to make their objection orally.

Any objections must be postmarked and mailed to the Settlement Administrator no later than [REDACTED] [forty-five (45) days after the Notice or re-mailed Notice]. The address for the Settlement Administrator is [REDACTED].

To object to the Settlement, you must not opt out, and if the Court approves the Settlement despite your objection, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement in the same way as Class Members who do not object.

The addresses for Parties' counsel are as follows:

Class Counsel:

Ashkan Shakouri
Sharon Lin
Shakouri Law Firm
11601 Wilshire Blvd., Fifth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024
Tel: (310) 575-1827
E-mail: ash@shakourilawfirm.com
sharon@shakourilawfirm.com

Counsel for Defendant:

Travis K. Jang-Busby
Lindsay C. David
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
633 West Fifth Street, 52nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
Tel: (213) 270-7868
E-mail: tjang-busby@grsm.com
ldavid@grsm.com

9. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at 00:00 AM/PM on [REDACTED], at the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles, located at 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, in Department 9. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. The purpose of this hearing is for the Court to determine whether to grant final approval of the Settlement. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will listen to Class Members who ask to speak regarding their objections, regardless of whether they have made a timely written request to speak at the hearing. This hearing may be rescheduled by the Court without further notice to you. **You are not required to attend** the Final Approval Hearing, although any Class Member is welcome to attend the hearing remotely using the Court Connect procedure at <https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/>.

Under General Order (2020-GEN-25-00), public access to courthouses is limited at all times to judicial officers, court employees, co-lessees, Judicial Council staff, vendors, jurors, mediators, authorized persons (including news media representatives and news reporters), attorneys, litigants and witnesses with matters on calendar, and individuals with confirmed appointments. Members of the public, not otherwise referenced above, who wish to attend a court proceeding may do so upon advance request and at the discretion of the judicial officer presiding

over the matter. Instructions on how to make such a request are available on the Court's website at <http://www.lacourt.org/newsmedia/ui/HfySfy.aspx>.

10. How do I get more information about the Settlement?

This Class Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement. You can get a copy of the Settlement Agreement and Final Judgment by viewing the settlement located on the Settlement Administrator's website at [REDACTED] or by contacting the Settlement Administrator or Class Counsel. You may also get more details by examining the Court's file using the court's website at <http://www.lacourt.org/> and entering the Case No. *20STCV01913* in the website's case access page, or by going to the Clerk's Office located at 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012 during regular business hours.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT ABOUT THIS CLASS NOTICE.

IMPORTANT:

- You must inform the Settlement Administrator of any change of address to ensure receipt of your settlement payment.
- Settlement checks will be null and void 180 days after issuance if not deposited or cashed. If the Settlement Share check of a Participating Class Member remains uncashed by the expiration of the 180 day period, the uncashed funds shall be distributed to the Controller of the State of California to be held pursuant to the Unclaimed Property Law, California Civil Code section 1500, *et seq.* for the benefit of those Participating Class Members who did not cash their Settlement Share checks until such time that they claim their property and who will remain bound by the Settlement.
- If your check is lost or misplaced, you should contact the Settlement Administrator immediately to request a replacement.

EXHIBIT B

[PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER]

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EXHIBIT B

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SUPERIOR COURT OF LOS ANGELES

MELVIN GEORGE, on behalf of
himself and others similarly situated

Plaintiff,

vs.

TOTAL PROFESSIONAL NETWORK,
INC.; CARRIELEE NERY; and DOES 1-
20, inclusive

Defendants.

CASE NO. 20STCV01913

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

1 On _____, 2021, a hearing was held on Plaintiff Melvin George’s (“Plaintiff”)
2 Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of the Class Action Settlement. Shakouri Law Firm
3 appeared for Plaintiff and Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP appeared for Defendant Total
4 Professional Network, Inc. (“Defendant”).

5 The Court having read and considered the papers on the motion, the arguments of counsel,
6 and the law, and good cause appearing therefore,

7 **IT IS ORDERED:**

8 1. This Order incorporates the defined terms in the Class Action Settlement Agreement
9 (the “Agreement” or “Settlement”). Unless otherwise specified, all capitalized terms in this Order
10 shall have the same meaning given to those terms in the Agreement.

11 2. The Class is defined as all non-exempt employees working for Total Professional
12 Network, Inc. in California at any time from January 16, 2016 to April 21, 2021 (the “Class
13 Period”). There are approximately 1,537 Class Members. “PAGA Members” is defined as all
14 non-exempt employees working for Total Professional Network, Inc. in California at any time
15 from January 16, 2019 to April 21, 2021 (“PAGA Period”). There are approximately 861 PAGA
16 Members. Pursuant to the Agreement, the Class is conditionally certified for settlement purposes
17 only.

18 3. The Parties’ Agreement is granted preliminary approval as it meets the criteria for
19 preliminary settlement approval. The Settlement falls within the range of possible approval as
20 fair, adequate and reasonable, and appears to be the product of arm’s-length and informed
21 negotiations and to treat all Class Members fairly. Continued litigation would have been
22 expensive for both sides. The Parties acknowledge that litigating and trying this action may have
23 resulted in delay of any recovery, involved significant risk as to liability and certification, and led
24 to possible appeals. Class Counsel received the relevant information for the Class. Plaintiff has
25 adequately demonstrated that the Settlement did not occur until Plaintiff and Class Counsel
26 possessed sufficient information to evaluate the case and make an informed decision about
27 settlement.

28 4. The Parties’ proposed notice plan is legally sound because individual notices will be

1 mailed to all Class Members whose identities are known to the Parties, and such notice is the best
2 notice practicable. The Parties' proposed Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement and Final
3 Approval Hearing ("Class Notice") attached to the Agreement as Exhibit A, sufficiently informs
4 Class Members of the terms of the Settlement, their rights under the Settlement, their rights to
5 object to the Settlement, their right to receive a Settlement Share or elect not to participate in the
6 Settlement, the processes for doing so, and the date and location of the Final Approval Hearing.
7 The Class Notice also provides notice that PAGA Members will receive payment from the Net
8 PAGA Amount and will be bound by and release all Released PAGA Claims, irrespective of
9 whether they opt out of the Settlement. Thus, the Court approves the Class Notice because it
10 provides adequate notice to Class Members.

11 5. Any Class Member who does not submit a valid request for exclusion will receive a
12 Settlement Share based upon the allocation formula in the Agreement. Class Members who wish
13 to exclude themselves from the Settlement must mail a signed Election Not to Participate in
14 Settlement to the Settlement Administrator not later than 45 days after the Settlement
15 Administrator mails the Class Notice Packets to them. PAGA Members will receive payment
16 from the Net PAGA Amount and will be bound by and release all Released PAGA Claims,
17 irrespective of whether they opt out of the Settlement.

18 6. Any Class Member who elects not to participate in the Settlement has 45 days after
19 the mailing of the Class Notice to request exclusion from the Settlement pursuant to the
20 procedures set forth in the Class Notice. Any Class Member who wishes to object to the
21 Settlement, the proposed Attorneys' Fees, Litigation Expenses, Service Awards, and/or
22 Settlement Administration Expenses will have the opportunity to do so at the Final Approval
23 Hearing.

24 7. Class Counsel must file their application for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation
25 Expenses concurrently with their motion for final approval of the Settlement.

26 8. Phoenix Settlement Administrators is appointed to act as the Settlement
27 Administrator, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Settlement.

1 9. Ashkan Shakouri and Sharon Lin of Shakouri Law Firm are approved as Class
2 Counsel.

3 10. Plaintiff is approved as the representative of the Class.

4 11. Defendant is directed to provide the Settlement Administrator with the Class
5 Members' Class Data as specified by the Agreement no later than 10 days after the date of entry
6 of this Order. Pursuant to the terms set forth in the Agreement, the Class Data, its contents and
7 any files containing Class Data shall remain strictly confidential for the Settlement
8 Administrator's eyes only, not to be disclosed to Plaintiff or to Class Counsel or to any Class
9 Member.

10 12. The Class Notice attached as Exhibit A to the Agreement is approved. The
11 Settlement Administrator is directed to mail the approved Class Notice by first-class mail to the
12 Class Members at their last known address no later than 14 days after receipt of the Class Data.

13 13. A Final Approval Hearing will be held on _____, at _____ in
14 Department 9, to determine whether the Settlement should be granted final approval as fair,
15 reasonable, and whether there was adequate notice to the Class Members. The Court will hear all
16 evidence and argument necessary to evaluate the Settlement, and will consider the request for
17 approval of Attorneys' Fees, Litigation Expenses, Service Award, and Settlement Administration
18 Expenses. Participating Class Members and their counsel may support or oppose the Settlement
19 and the motion for an award of Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses and the Service Award,
20 if they so desire, as set forth in the Class Notice.

21 14. Any Participating Class Member may appear at the Final Approval Hearing in
22 person or by his or her own attorney and show cause why the Court should not approve the
23 Settlement, or object to the motion for an award of Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses and
24 the Service Award.

25 15. The Court reserves the right to continue the date of the Final Approval Hearing
26 without further notice to Class Members. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further
27 applications arising out of or in connection with the Settlement.

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DATED: _____

HON. YVETTE M. PALAZUELOS
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

EXHIBIT C

[FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT]

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EXHIBIT C

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SUPERIOR COURT OF LOS ANGELES

MELVIN GEORGE, on behalf of
himself and others similarly situated

Plaintiffs,

vs.

TOTAL PROFESSIONAL NETWORK,
INC.; CARRIELEE NERY; and DOES 1-
20, inclusive

Defendants.

CASE NO. 19STCV21926

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING FINAL
APPROVAL TO CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT AND APPLICATION FOR
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND LITIGATION
EXPENSES, AND FINAL JUDGMENT
THEREON**

1 On _____, a hearing was held Plaintiff Melvin George’s (“Plaintiff”)
2 Unopposed Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement. Shakouri Law Firm appeared
3 for Plaintiff and Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP appeared for Defendant Total
4 Professional Network, Inc. (“Defendant”).

5 The Parties have submitted their Class Action Settlement Agreement (the “Agreement” or
6 “Settlement”), which this Court preliminarily approved by its _____, order (the
7 “Preliminary Approval Order”). In accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order, Class
8 Members have been given adequate notice of the terms of the Settlement and the opportunity to
9 object to it or to exclude themselves from it.

10 Having received and considered the Settlement, the supporting papers filed by the Parties,
11 and the evidence and argument received by the Court before entering the Preliminary Approval
12 Order and at the Final Approval Hearing, the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, enters
13 this Final Approval Order and Judgment, and HEREBY ORDERS and MAKES
14 DETERMINATIONS as follows:

15 1. Except as otherwise specified herein, the Court for purposes of this Final Approval
16 Order and Judgment adopts all defined terms set forth in the Agreement.

17 2. For settlement purposes only, the Court grants certification of the Class. The Class
18 is defined as all non-exempt employees working for Defendant at any time from January 16, 2016
19 to April 21, 2021 (the “Class Period”).

20 3. “PAGA Members” means all non-exempt employees working for Defendant from
21 January 16, 2019 to April 21, 2021 (the “PAGA Period”).

22 4. Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order, the Notice of Proposed Class Action
23 Settlement and Final Approval Hearing (“Class Notice”) was sent to each Class Member by first-
24 class mail. The Class Notice informed Class Members of the terms of the Settlement, their right
25 to receive a Settlement Share, their right to comment on or object to the Settlement and/or the
26 requested Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Expenses, their right to elect not to participate in the
27 Settlement and pursue their own remedies, and their right to appear in person and/or by counsel at
28 the Final Approval Hearing and be heard regarding approval of the Settlement. Adequate periods

1 of time were provided by each of these procedures.

2 5. The Court finds and determines that this notice procedure afforded adequate
3 protections to Class Members and provides the basis for the Court to make an informed decision
4 regarding approval of the Settlement based on the responses of Class Members. The Court finds
5 and determines that the notice provided in this case was the best notice practicable, which
6 satisfied the requirements of law and due process.

7 6. [REDACTED] Class Members objected to the Settlement. [*As applicable* The Court
8 overrules the objections raised by objecting Class Members.]

9 7. The following Class Members have elected not to participate in the Settlement and
10 thus shall not be bound by the Settlement or the Judgment, except that if they are a PAGA
11 Member, they will receive payment from the Net PAGA Amount and will be bound by and
12 release all Released PAGA Claims:

13 [Names of Opt-Outs]

14 8. For the reasons stated in the Preliminary Approval Order, the Court finds and
15 determines that the terms of the Settlement are fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class and to
16 each Class Member and that the Participating Class Members will be bound by the Settlement,
17 that the Settlement is ordered finally approved, and that all terms and provisions of the Settlement
18 should be and hereby are ordered to be consummated.

19 9. The Court finds and determines that the all-inclusive Gross Settlement Amount in
20 the amount of \$2,000,000.00 and the Settlement Shares to be paid to the Participating Class
21 Members under the Settlement are fair and reasonable. The Court hereby grants final approval to
22 and orders the payment of those amounts be distributed to the Participating Class Members out of
23 the Net Settlement Amount in accordance with the Agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the
24 Agreement, the Settlement Administrator is directed to make the payments to each Participating
25 Class Member.

26 10. The Court finds and determines that the Settlement Administration Cost for
27 administrating the Settlement, in the amount of \$20,000 are fair and reasonable. The Court hereby
28 grants final approval to and orders that the payment of that amount be paid out of the Gross

1 Settlement Amount to the Settlement Administrator in accordance with the Agreement.

2 11. The Court finds and determines that the request by Plaintiff for the Service Award
3 is fair and reasonable and hereby orders that the requested payment in the amount of \$10,000.00
4 be paid to Plaintiff out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

5 12. The Court further finds and determines that the request by Class Counsel for
6 Attorneys' Fees is fair and reasonable and hereby orders that \$666,666.67 (one-third of the Gross
7 Settlement Amount) be paid to Shakouri Law Firm out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

8 13. The Court also finds and determines that the request by Class Counsel for
9 Litigation Expenses is fair and reasonable and hereby orders that _____ be paid to
10 Shakouri Law Firm out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

11 14. Upon the Effective Date and upon funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount
12 by Defendant, any person who is a Participating Class Member of the Class who did not timely
13 and validly excluded themselves from the Settlement shall be deemed to have fully and finally
14 released all claims that were set forth, or could have been set forth based on the facts alleged, in
15 the First Amended Complaint that occurred during the Class Period. The release expressly
16 excludes all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination,
17 unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, claims outside of the
18 respective Class Period, and the Released PAGA Claims. As of the Settlement Effective Date and
19 upon funding in full of the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendant, all PAGA Members shall
20 release all Released PAGA Claims, irrespective of whether they opted-out of the class settlement,
21 and will be bound by this PAGA Release. The Released PAGA Claims are defined as the claims
22 asserted by the PAGA Members for alleged violations of the California Labor Code and IWC
23 Wage Order provisions identified in the PAGA notice sent to the LWDA by Plaintiff and further
24 identified in the First Amended Complaint that are alleged to have occurred during the PAGA
25 Period ("Released PAGA Claims").

26 15. Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, Plaintiff makes the additional following
27 general release of any and all Released Claims as defined in the Agreement.

28 16. As partial consideration for the Service Award, Plaintiff's Released Claims shall

1 include all such claims, whether known or unknown, by the releasing party. Thus, even if
2 Plaintiff discovers facts and/or claims in addition to or different from those that he now knows or
3 believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of Plaintiff's Released Claims, those claims
4 will remain released and forever barred. Therefore, with respect to Plaintiff's Released Claims,
5 Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes all of the provisions and all of his rights and benefits
6 under the provisions of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

7 **A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor or releasing**
8 **party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of**
9 **executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have**
10 **materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.**

11 17. Nothing in this Order shall preclude any action to enforce the Parties' obligations
12 under the Settlement or under this Order, including the requirement that Defendant make payment
13 in accordance with the Agreement.

14 18. If, for any reason, the Settlement ultimately does not become Final (as defined by
15 the Settlement), this Final Approval Order will be vacated; the Parties will return to their
16 respective positions in the Actions as those positions existed immediately before the Parties
17 executed the Agreement; and nothing stated in the Agreement or any other papers filed with this
18 Court in connection with the Settlement will be deemed an admission of any kind by any of the
19 Parties or used as evidence against, or over the objection of, any of the Parties for any purpose in
20 the Action or in any other action.

21 19. The Parties entered into the Settlement solely for the purpose of compromising and
22 settling disputed claims. Defendant in no way admits any violation of law or any liability
23 whatsoever to Plaintiff and the Class, individually or collectively, all such liability being
24 expressly denied by Defendant.

25 20. By means of this Final Approval Order, this Court hereby enters final judgment in
26 this Action.

27 21. Without affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order and Judgment in any
28 way, the Court retains jurisdiction of all matters relating to the interpretation, administration,
implementation, effectuation and enforcement of this Order and the Settlement under Code of

1 Civil Procedure § 664.6.

2 22. The Parties are hereby ordered to comply with the terms of the Agreement.

3 23. Each side to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees except as provided by the
4 Settlement and this Final Approval Order and Judgment.

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DATED: _____

HON. YVETTE M. PALAZUELOS
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

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