1 Kevin Mahoney (SBN: 235367) kmahoney@mahoney-law.net Katherine Odenbreit (SBN: 184619) 3 kodenbreit@mahoney-law.net John A. Young (SBN: 299809) jyoung@mahoney-law.net 5 MAHONEY LAW GROUP, APC 249 E. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 814 6 Long Beach, CA 90802 Telephone No.:562-590-5550 Facsimile No.: 562-590-8400 8 Attorneys for Plaintiff ANITA TREJO, as an individual and on behalf of all 9 similarly situated employees 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 12 13 Case No.: 2:19-cv-4132-DSF (JCx) ANITA TREJO, 14 Plaintiff, **DECLARATION OF ANITA** 15 TREJO IN SUPPORT OF FINAL v. APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION 16 LYNEER STAFFING SOLUTIONS, SETTLEMENT, ATTORNEYS' LLC; CIERA STAFFING, LLC; 17 EMPLOYERS HR LLC; YUSEN FEES AND EXPENSES, AND LOGISTICS (AMERICAS) INC.; and ENHANCEMENT AWARD 18 DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, 19 Assigned to; Defendants. Hon. Dale S. Fischer, Courtroom 7D 20 21 June 6, 2022 Date: 1:30 p.m. Time: 22 7D Courtroom: 23 Complaint Filed: March 27, 2019 24 25 26 27 28

I, ANITA TREJO, hereby declare as follows:

- 1. I am an individual residing in California. I am over the age of eighteen and the Plaintiff in the cases of *Anita Trejo v. Lyneer Staffing Solutions, LLC, et al.*, filed in the Central District of California, case number 2:19-cv-04132DSF (JCx). The information contained herein is based on my personal knowledge and if called as a witness I could and would testify competently hereto.
- 2. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement in this matter and for my class representative incentive payment request for seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00).
- 3. I worked for Defendants Lyneer Staffing Solutions, LLC, Ciera Staffing, LLC, Employers HR, LLC, and Yusen Logistics (Americas), Inc. (collectively referred to herein as "Defendants") from in or about July 2017 through in or around August 2018, as a non-exempt hourly worker.
- 4. I believe that certain employment practices of Defendants, were unlawful, including but not limited to: (1) failure to pay all wages due including overtime wages and minimum wages; (2) failure to provide meal periods or premium compensation in lieu thereof; (3) failure to provide rest periods or premium compensation in lieu thereof; (4) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements; (5) failure to pay wages due upon termination of employment; (6) unfair business practices under Business and Professions Code section 17200, et seq; and (7) violation of the Private Attorney General Act ("PAGA").
- 5. I decided to file a class action lawsuit based on these allegations and violations and agreed to serve as a Named Class Representative in order to represent other employees that I knew were similarly affected by Defendants' conduct. I understood that by acting as the Class Representative I had a duty to protect the interests of the class even to the detriment of my own individual claims and interests. In addition, I understood that a class action lawsuit would likely take

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Class Members.

6. I believed I could adequately represent the proposed class of employees and would prevail in my case. I believe I am an adequate class representative because my interests are the same as all current and former nonexempt workers employed by Defendants in California during the Class Period.

longer than an individual action and I accepted that burden to seek benefits for other

- By agreeing to be a named class representative in this case, I took a 7. significant professional risk. Subsequent employers could easily learn I had sued my former employer, which could jeopardize my prospective employment. I was willing to take on this risk in order to pursue recovery on behalf of other employees. There is also a real possibility that due to my involvement in this case, future employers may be less inclined to hire me or could even refuse to hire me.
- I have not received any benefits as a result of agreeing to be a named class representative in this case other than the benefit of being a class member and the incentive payment that I am seeking.
- 9. Despite the risks associated with filing a class action lawsuit, I believed I could adequately represent the proposed class of employees and would prevail in my case. I believe I am an adequate class representative because my interests are the same as all current and former non-exempt workers employed by Defendants in California during the Class Period. I willingly and knowingly brought the claims on behalf of the Class Members. I fully understand that as class representative, I hold certain fiduciary duties to the Class Members and must always consider their interests. Throughout this lawsuit I sought the same damages and remedies, specifically for unpaid wages, meal and rest period penalties, penalties for failure to provide accurate itemized wages statements, and other available remedies. I believe that I have diligently served as class representative in this matter.
- 10. Throughout this litigation and mediation, I made myself available to my attorneys at their request. I attended multiple meetings with my attorneys,

prepared for and attended my deposition, spent a significant number of hours searching for, producing, and reviewing documents in my possession and with my attorneys, and reviewing documents produced by Defendants in this action. I participated in a multitude of telephone calls with my attorneys and provided them with a wealth of information about my employment with Defendants and Defendants' policies and procedures. I assisted my attorneys prior to filing the lawsuit with investigation into the claims, providing documents and gathering information. In addition, I reviewed the several versions of the settlement agreement and conducted several conferences with Class Counsel discussing the terms of the settlement. In total, I estimate having spent at least fifty (50) hours participating in the above activities throughout, and prior to, the litigation of this case.

- 11. Subject to and without waiving the attorney-client privilege, I also understand that I may have had individual causes of action under the Labor Code, but I gave up those individual claims to proceed with this action as a class action. Nevertheless, I agreed to execute a general release for this class settlement. In other words, I sacrificed my claims for the benefit of the class.
 - 12. I have not incurred any expenses to further the prosecution of this case.
- 13. During settlement negotiations I understood the risk of moving forward with further class certification efforts and potential trial. Based on the substantial information provided and conversations with my attorneys, I believe the pending settlement terms are fair, reasonable and adequate, and the consideration to the proposed class in exchange for a release of the claims asserted in the lawsuit is merited.
- 14. I understand that I may be entitled to an additional payment for my role as a class representative for the time I spent working on the case. I also understand that this amount is not guaranteed and is subject to court approval.
- 15. For the reasons stated above, I believe I am entitled to the requested representative incentive payment of seven thousand five hundred dollars

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