

CLERK OF THE COURT

BY: Debuty Clerk

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT 613

VANESSA BUSTOS; REZELLE BUSTOS; and all others similarly situated,

COFFEE MEETS BAGEL, INC.: ARUM

KANG: DAWOON KANG and DOES 1-60

v.

Plaintiffs,

Defendants.

Case No. CGC-19-575734

inclusive.

ORDER GRANTING UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES, COSTS & SERVICE AWARDS

Plaintiffs Vanessa Bustos and Rezelle Bustos worked in customer service for an online dating start-up, namely defendant Coffee Meets Bagel, Inc. of which defendants Arum Kang and Dawoon Kang are officers. The parties reached a settlement of all claims, including individual claims, class claims, and claims brought on behalf of California's Labor and Workforce Development Agency under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004. On March 30, 2022, the Court preliminarily approved the settlement. Plaintiffs now seek final approval of the settlement and move for an award of attorney's fees, costs, and service awards for Vanessa's and Rezelle's service to the class. Both of Plaintiffs' motions are unopposed, and there are no objections from the putative class. The Court finally approves the settlement by separate, concurrent order and addresses the motion for attorney's fees, costs, and service awards here.

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The Court has reviewed all briefing and pertinent records in the matter and, good cause appearing, **VACATES** the hearing set for August 2, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., **GRANTS** the motion, and **ORDERS** as follows:

- 1. The Court awards Class Counsel the requested attorney's fees in the amount of \$64,652.42. The fees requested amount to less than 30% of the settlement fund and are reasonable under the percentage-of-recovery method. The reasonableness of the fee award is confirmed by a lodestar crosscheck. The rates charged by experienced Class Counsel, namely Mr. Jato (\$575) and Mr. Berko (\$800), are reasonable for the geographic area and the level of experience and skill of Class Counsel. The detailed time entries submitted by Class Counsel reflect a reasonable number of hours (153.45) were spent litigating the case, including propounding discovery, conducting depositions, and participating in mediation with an appropriate division of labor that avoided duplication of fees. The amount requested is less than the total lodestar amount of \$98,336.25, which supports the conclusion that an award of \$64,652.42 is reasonable. (See, e.g., Chun-Hoon v. McKee Foods Corp. (N.D. Cal. 2010) 716 F.Supp.2d 848, 854.) Additionally, the Court finds the award to be reasonable based on: (1) the results obtained by counsel in this case; (2) the risks and complex issues involved in this case, which required a high level of skill and a high quality of work to overcome; (3) the fees' contingency upon success, which meant counsel risked time and effort and advanced costs with no guarantee of compensation; (4) the range of awards made in similar cases; and (5) the notice and opportunity to object available to the putative class and the absence of any objections. In sum, the requested fee award of \$64,652.42 is lawful, reasonable, and justified by the circumstances of this case. The award shall be paid from the Class Settlement Amount subject to the terms, conditions and obligations of the Settlement Agreement.
- 2. The Court authorizes reimbursement of Class Counsel's litigation costs and expenses in the amount of \$12,014.25. The Court finds that this amount is reasonable and was reasonably incurred in the prosecution of this action. The award shall be paid from the Class Settlement Amount subject to the terms, conditions and obligations of the Settlement Agreement.

¹ At times Plaintiffs and their counsel state that they are requesting, variously, \$12,014, \$12,014.24, and \$12,014.25 in litigation expenses. The Court approves \$12,014.25 based on the summation of the itemized expenses set forth in the Berko Declaration.

3. The Court awards representatives and plaintiffs Vanessa Bustos \$2,500 and Rezelle Bustos \$1,000 for their contributions to this litigation. These awards are reasonable and justified in light of the amount of time and effort spent, the risks undertaken, and the duration of the litigation. These awards are separate from and in addition to any award to which they may be entitled as Class Members. The service awards shall be paid from the Class Settlement Amount subject to the terms, conditions and obligations of the Settlement Agreement.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 26, 2022

ANDREW Y.S. CHENG
Judge of the Superior Court

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC SERVICE (CCP 1010.6(6) & CRC 2.251)

I, CLARK BANAYAD, a Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of San Francisco, certify that I am not a party to the within action.

On July 26, 2022, I electronically served the ATTACHED DOCUMENT(S) via File&ServeXpress on the recipients designated on the Transaction Receipt located on the File&ServeXpress website.

Dated: July 26, 2022

T. Michael Yuen, Clerk

By:

CLARK BANAYAD, Deputy Clerk