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8			
9	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10	FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE		
11	CASSANDRA NEGRETE, as an individual	Case No.: 30-2021-0	1188066-CU-OE-CXC
12	and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	(Assigned for all purposes to the Hon. Randall J.	
13	Plaintiff,	Sherman, Dept. CX105)	
14	VS.	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER & JUDGMENT	
15	WINSUPPLY INC., a Delaware	JODGWIE! (1	
16	corporation; ORANGE COUNTY WINDUSTRIAL CO., a Delaware		
17	corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,	Complaint Filed: FAC Filed:	March 9, 2021 April 13, 2022
18	Defendants.	SAC Filed: Trial Date:	January 19, 2023 None Set
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TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT the Court has granted the Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement and Judgment on July 14, 2023. A true and correct copy of the Court's signed Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement and Judgment is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

DATED: July 17, 2023

DIVERSITY LAW GROUP, P.C.

By:

Larry W. Lee Max W. Gavron Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Class

EXHIBIT A

Electronically Filed by Superior Court of California, County of Orange, 07/14/2023 09:42:00 AM. 30-2021-01188066-CU-OE-CXC - ROA # 138 - DAVID H. YAMASAKI, Clerk of the Court By O. Lopez, Deputy Clerk

Plaintiff Cassandra Negrete ("Plaintiff"), and the settling Defendants Winsupply Inc. and Orange County Windustrial Co. (collectively, "Defendants") (together with Plaintiff, the "Parties") have entered into the Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement ("Stipulation" or "Settlement Agreement") to settle the above-captioned class action subject to the Court's approval (the "Settlement").

This matter is now before the Court on Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement, including approval of an Enhancement Payment for the Class Representative and Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and costs. The Court has read, heard, and considered all the pleadings and documents submitted, and the presentations made in connection with the Motion which came on for hearing on July 14, 2023.

I. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

On March 9, 2021, Plaintiff filed a complaint in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Orange on behalf of herself and all similarly situated employees. Plaintiff subsequently twice amended the complaint. On January 19, 2023, Plaintiff filed the operative Second Amended Complaint. The Second Amended Complaint asserted claims for: (1) violation of Labor Code §§ 226.7 and 512; (2) violation of Labor Code § 226.7; (3) violation of Labor Code §§ 510, 558, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197.1; (4) violation of Labor Code § 226; (5) violation of Labor Code §§ 201-203; (6) violation of Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.; (7) violation of Labor Code § 2802; and (8) violation of Labor Code § 2698, et seq. Specifically, Plaintiff alleged that Defendants failed to provide off-duty meal and rest breaks, correctly calculate the regular rate of pay for purposes of paying overtime wages, provide accurate itemized wage statements, reimburse business expenses, and pay all wages owed upon separation of employment to Plaintiff and the Class.

A. Class Members

The "Class" is defined as "all current and former hourly-paid, non-exempt employees of Defendants employed in the State of California at any time during the Class Period." The Class Period is from September 12, 2016, to May 1, 2022.

B. Operation of the Settlement

Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order dated March 10, 2023, this Court conditionally certified the Class and granted preliminary approval of the Settlement. The Preliminary Approval Order also approved of the proposed form of notice and notice plan. The Court entered the Preliminary Approval Order after review and consideration of all of the pleadings filed in connection herewith, and the oral presentations made by counsel at the hearing.

In compliance with the Preliminary Approval Order, the Class Notice was sent to all Class Members via first class mail. The notice process was timely completed. In response to the Class Notice, one individual, Michelle Dumford, requested to be excluded and thus did not release the Released Claims, as defined in the Settlement Agreement.

This Court finds that the Settlement appears to be the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations, has no obvious deficiencies, and does not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individuals. The Court finds that the Settlement was entered into in good faith pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 877.6. The Court further finds that the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and that Plaintiff has satisfied the standards for final approval of a class action settlement under California law. Under the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, as approved for use by the California state court in *Vasquez v. Superior Court*, 4 Cal. 3d 800, 821 (1971), the trial court has discretion to certify a class where:

[Q]uestions of law or fact common to the members of the class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, and that a class action is superior to the available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy...Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 23.

Certification of a settlement class is the appropriate judicial device under these circumstances.

Based on the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Court, for purposes of this Order, adopts all defined terms as set forth in the Settlement Agreement filed in this case.

- 2. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the litigation, the Class Representative, Participating Class Members, and Defendants.
- 3. The Court finds that the dissemination of the Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement, as disseminated to the Class Members, constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances to all Persons within the definition of the Class, and fully met the requirements of California law and due process under the United States Constitution.
- 4. The Court approves the settlement of the above-captioned action, as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, as fair, just, reasonable, and adequate as to the Settling Parties. The Settling Parties are directed to perform in accordance with the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 5. Except as otherwise provided in the Settlement Agreement, the Settling Parties are to bear their own costs and attorneys' fees.
- 6. The Court hereby certifies the following Class for settlement purposes only: all current and former hourly-paid, non-exempt employees of Defendants employed in the State of California at any time during the Class Period.
- 7. With respect to the Class and for purposes of approving the settlement only and for no other purpose, this Court finds and concludes that: (a) the members of the Class are ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law or fact common to the Class, and there is a well-defined community of interest among Members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the claims in the Litigation; (c) the claims of Class Representative are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d) the Class Representative has fairly and adequately protected the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class action is superior to other available methods for an efficient adjudication of this controversy; and (f) the counsel of record for the Class Representative, *i.e.*, Class Counsel, are qualified to serve as counsel for the Plaintiff in his individual and representative capacity and for the Class.
- 8. Defendants shall fund \$2,000,000.00 of the Gross Settlement Amount, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.
- 9. The Court approves the Individual Settlement Payments, which shall be distributed pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

- 10. Using the funds provided by Defendants, the Settlement Administrator shall pay (a) to Class Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$666,667.00 and reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$17,700.11; (b) an enhancement payment award to the Class Representative Cassandra Negrete to reimburse her for her unique services in the following amount: \$5,000.00 \\$10,000.00; (c) the sum of \$112,500.00 to be paid to the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency for PAGA penalties; and (d) \$18,925.00 to the Settlement Administrator, Phoenix Settlement Administrators, for its fees and costs relating to the settlement administration process. The Court finds that these amounts are fair and reasonable. Defendants are directed to make such payments in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement.
- 11. The court sets a Final Report Hearing for April 26, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., to confirm that distribution efforts are fully completed, including the distribution of uncashed class member checks to the California State Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund after 180 days, that the Settlement Administrator's work is complete, and that the Court's file thus may be closed.
 - 12. The Settlement Administrator shall post notice of this judgment on its website.
- 13. The Court hereby enters final judgment in this case in accordance with the terms of the Settlement, Preliminary Approval Order, and this Order. Without affecting the finality of the Settlement or Judgment entered, this Court shall retain exclusive and continuing jurisdiction over the action and the Parties, including all Settlement Class Members, for purposes of enforcing and interpreting this Order and the Settlement.

IT IS SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED.

DATED: July 14, 2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA