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length negotiations. The Court further finds that the parties have conducted extensive and costly investigation and research and counsel for the parties are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions. The Court also finds that settlement at this time will avoid additional substantial costs, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the action. The Court has noted the significant benefits to the Class Members and PAGA Group Members under the settlement. The Court also finds that the class is properly certified as a class for settlement purposes only.

- 8. For settlement purposes only, the Court certifies the following class: All current and former hourly non-exempt employees of Defendant within California at any time during the period from May 21, 2020 through September 17, 2022.
- 9. For settlement purposes, PAGA Group Members are defined as: All current and former hourly non-exempt employees of Defendant within California at any time during the period of May 21, 2020 through September 17, 2022.
- 10. Class Members, except those that have submitted a valid and timely request to be excluded from the Settlement Agreement, release Defendant and Defendant's former and present parents, subsidiaries and affiliated companies and entities, franchisors and franchisees, and its current, former, and future owners, officers, shareholders, directors, members, managers, operators, employees, consultants, vendors, partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, shareholders, attorneys, insurers, payroll providers, joint venturers and agents, and any successors, assigns, or legal representatives ("Released Parties") from all California wage and hour claims, penalties, interest, and causes of action, arising from or related to the claims pled in Plaintiff's operative complaint ("Complaint") or that could have been pled in the Complaint based on the factual allegations pled in the Complaint, including all claims for allegedly unpaid minimum and overtime wages, failure to provide compliant meal breaks, failure to provide compliant rest breaks, inaccurate wage statements, failure to pay all wages owed upon termination, failure to reimburse

business related expenses, unfair competition claims under California Business & Professions Code §17200, et seq. based on the labor code violations alleged in the Complaint, and any penalties, restitution, disgorgement, interest or attorneys' fees that occurred during the period of May 21, 2020 through September 17, 2022 ("Released Claims").

11. PAGA Group Members released any and all claims for civil Penalties under PAGA [Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2699, et seq.] based on the labor code violations alleged in the operative Complaint and Plaintiff's notice sent to the LWDA, including all attorneys' fees and costs related thereto, regardless of whether PAGA Group Member submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion to exclude themselves from the Settlement ("Released PAGA Claims).

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12. Nothing contained in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed or deemed an admission of liability, culpability, negligence, or wrongdoing on the part of Defendant. Each of the parties has entered into this Settlement Agreement with the intention to avoid further disputes and litigation, and the attendant inconvenience and expense. This Settlement Agreement shall be inadmissible in evidence in any action or proceeding, except an action or proceeding to approve, interpret, or enforce its terms.

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13. The Settlement Agreement provides for the "Gross Settlement Amount" in the amount of \$300,000.00. From the Gross Settlement Amount individual settlement payments to Class Members, Court approved attorneys' fees and costs, the claims administrative costs, the class representatives enhancement fee, and payment for PAGA penalties (of the PAGA Settlement Amount, 75% or \$7,500 will be paid to the LWDA ("LWDA Payment"), and the remaining 25% or \$2,500 will be distributed to PAGA Group Members) shall be deducted. Defendant shall fund the employer's share of payroll taxes in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall also pay an additional \$19,162.00 to the Net Settlement Amount pursuant to the Escalation Clause and the increase in Workweeks. The payment of the settlement funds by Defendant and payment of individual settlement checks to Class Members and PAGA Group Members will be

made as set forth in the Settlement Agreement. 2 14. The Court hereby awards Class Counsel attorneys' fees in the total amount of 3 \$100,000.00 which is approximately 1/3 of the Gross Settlement Amount and to be deducted therefrom. In addition, the Court awards Class Counsel reimbursement of their costs of \$12,755.87 to be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount. Attorneys' fees and costs will be paid by the Claims Administrator from the Gross Settlement Amount as set forth in the Settlement Agreement. 9 15. 10 The Court hereby approves a Class Representative Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff in the amount of \$7,500.00. Payment for the enhancement fee will be paid by the Claims Administrator from the Gross Settlement Amount as set forth in the Settlement Agreement. 13 16. The Court hereby approves the Claims Administrator, Phoenix Settlement 14 15 Administrators' ("Phoenix") fees and cost in the amount of \$7,000.00. The Claims Administrator, Phoenix, shall be paid the cost of administration of the settlement from the Gross Settlement 16 17 Amount. 18 17. Except as expressly provided herein, the parties each shall bear all of their own fees 19 and costs in connection with this matter. 21 18. 22 The Court approves the named Plaintiff as class representative. 23 19. The Court approves Michael Nourmand, Esq. and James A. De Sario, Esq. of The 24 Nourmand Law Firm, APC as class counsel. 25 26 20. The Court approves Phoenix as the Claims Administrator. 2.7 28

1	21. Upon completion of administration of the settlement, the claims administrator shall
2	execute a declaration with a final reporting with respect to the final distribution and payment of
3	the individual settlement payments to participating Class Members by March 22, 2024. A non-
4	appearance case review regarding the status of the declaration from the claims administrator is set
5	for April 22 , 2024, at 4:00 a.m./p.m., in Department 1 of the above-entitled Court.
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7	22. The Court finds that class and PAGA settlement on the terms set forth in the
8	Settlement Agreement was made in good faith, and constitutes a fair, reasonable and adequate
9	compromise of the released claims against Defendant.
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L1	23. The Court finds the class and PAGA settlement on the terms set forth in the
L2	Settlement Agreement was made in good faith, and constitutes a fair, reasonable and adequate
L3	compromise of the released claims against Defendant. Without affecting the finality of the
L4	Judgment in any way, this Court hereby retains continuing jurisdiction over the interpretation,
L5	implementation and enforcement of the settlement and all orders and judgments entered in
L6	connection therewith.
L7	IT IS SO ORDERED.
L8	DATED: September 7 , 2023
L9	
20	Stuart M. Rice/Judge HONORABLE STUART M. RICE
21	LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
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PROOF OF SERVICE 1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within entitled action; my business address is 8822 West Olympic Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California 90211. On August 10, 2023, I served the following document(s) described as: 5 PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT, APPLICATION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS, AND **ENHANCEMENT AWARD** on the interested parties in this action as follows: Timothy R. Hanigan, Esq. LANG, HANIGAN & CARVALHO, LLP 21550 Oxnard Street, Suite 760 10 Woodland Hills, California 91367 11 BY NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING THROUGH CASE ANYWHERE: I caused a true and correct copy of the above listed document(s) to be served by electronic transmission to the parties and/or counsel who are registered above and set forth in said service list. 13 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct and that this Proof of Service was executed on August 10, 2023, at Beverly Hills, California. 15 <u>/s/ Alejandra Beltran</u> 16 Alejandra Beltran 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28