1 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 2 FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE 3 JUAN ROJO, individually, and on behalf of Case No. 30-2022-01259062-CU-OE-CXC 4 other members of the general public similarly situated; Honorable Layne H. Melzer 5 Department CX102 Plaintiff, 6 **CLASS ACTION** VS. 7 **[ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL** FARWEST INSULATION CONTRACTING, a OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND 8 California corporation; and DOES 1 through 100, **ENTERING JUDGMENT** inclusive. 9 Defendant. 10 Date: March 27, 2025 Time: 2:00 p.m. 11 CX102 Dept.: 12 Complaint Filed: May 11, 2022 FAC Filed: April 29, 2024 13 Trial Date: None Set 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

[] ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND ENTERING JUDGMENT

ORDER

Plaintiff Juan Rojo's ("Plaintiff") Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement ("Motion") came on for hearing on March 27, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. before the Honorable Layne H. Melzer in Department CX102 of the above-entitled Court, located at 751 W. Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana, California 92701. Parker & Minne, LLP and Lawyers *for* Justice, PC appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, and Littler Mendelson, P.C. appeared on behalf of Farwest Insulation Contracting ("Defendant").

On October 18, 2024, the Court entered an Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement ("Preliminary Approval Order"), thereby preliminarily approving the settlement of the above-entitled Action in accordance with the Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement, ROA Number 150, and the First Amendment to Class Action Settlement Agreement and Class Notice, ROA Number 180, which, together with the exhibits thereto, set forth the terms and conditions for settlement of this Action (collectively, the Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and the First Amendment to Class Action Settlement Agreement and Class Notice are referred to herein as the "Agreement," "Settlement," or "Settlement Agreement").

Due and adequate notice having been given to all Class Members as required in the Preliminary Approval Order, and the Court, having considered the Agreement, Plaintiff's Motion and all documents submitted in support thereof, all papers filed and proceedings had herein, and otherwise being fully informed and good cause appearing therefore, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**,

ADJUDGED, AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Pursuant to California law, the Court hereby grants final approval of the Agreement. The Agreement is hereby deemed incorporated into this Order and Judgment. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Agreement.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Action and over all Parties to this Action, including all Class Members.
- 3. The Court finds that the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and Rule 3.769 of the California Rules of Court have been satisfied with respect to the Class and the Settlement. The Court hereby makes its earlier provisional certification of the Class for

settlement purposes, as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order, final. The Class is hereby defined to include:

All current and former non-exempt and/or hourly-paid employees who are or were members of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers, Local No. 5 and who worked for Defendant in the State of California at any time during the period from May 11, 2018 through April 27, 2024.

- 4. The Court hereby confirms Edwin Aiwazian, Arby Aiwazian, Joanna Ghosh, and Yasmin Hosseini of Lawyers *for* Justice, PC and Jill J. Parker and S. Emi Minne of Parker & Minne, LLP as Class Counsel.
- 5. The Court concludes that distribution of the Notice directed to the Class Members as set forth in the Agreement and the other matters set forth therein has been completed in conformity with the Preliminary Approval Order, and constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances. The Court concludes that the Administrator, ILYM Group, Inc., took all reasonable and necessary steps to locate and notify each Class Member of the Agreement, as required in the Preliminary Approval Order. The notice given to the Class fully and accurately informed the Class of all material elements of the Settlement and their opportunity to object or comment thereon; was the best notice practicable under the circumstances; was valid, due and sufficient notice to all Class Members; and complied fully with the laws of the State of California, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the United States Constitution, due process, and other applicable law. The notice fairly and adequately described the Settlement and provided Class Members adequate instructions and a variety of means to obtain additional information.
- 6. The Court hereby finds the Agreement was entered into in good faith pursuant to and within the meaning of California Code of Civil Procedure section 877.6. For the reasons set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order, and in the proceedings at the Final Approval hearing, which are adopted and incorporated herein by reference, the Court further finds that Plaintiff has satisfied the standards and applicable requirements for final approval of this class action settlement under California law, including the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, approved for use by the California state courts in *Vasquez v*.

Superior Court, 4 Cal.3d 800, 821 (1971).

- 7. The Court finds that the Settlement is, in all respects, fair, adequate, and reasonable, and in the best interests of the Class as a whole. More specifically, the Court finds that the Settlement was reached following meaningful informal discovery and investigation by Class Counsel; that the Settlement is the product of intensive, serious, and non-collusive arms-length negotiations between the parties; and that the terms of the Settlement are in all respects fair, adequate, and reasonable. In so finding, the Court has considered all of the evidence presented, including evidence regarding the strength of Plaintiff's claims, Defendant's potential exposure; the risk, expense, complexity, and delay associated with further litigation; the risk of maintaining Plaintiff's claims through class certification, trial, and appeals; the amount offered in the Settlement and the benefit provided to Class Members; the extent of investigation and informal discovery completed; the experience and views of Class Counsel; and the absence of objections to the Settlement, as well as other relevant factors. Accordingly, the Court hereby directs that the Settlement be affected in accordance with the Agreement and the terms and conditions set forth in this Judgment.
- 8. A full opportunity has been afforded to Class Members to participate in this hearing, and all persons wishing to be heard have been heard. Accordingly, the Court determines that all Class Members who did not timely and properly request exclusion from the Settlement ("Participating Class Members") are bound by the Settlement and by this Judgment.
- 9. The deadline for Class Members to request to be excluded from the Agreement was December 20, 2024. The Court hereby finds that zero (0) Class Members requested to be excluded from the Agreement. Accordingly, 216 Participating Class Members are bound by this Judgment.
- 10. The deadline for Class Members to submit written objections to the Agreement was December 20, 2024. The Court hereby finds that there have been zero (0) objections to the Agreement. The Court also finds that there were zero (0) objections at the hearing on Final Approval.
- 11. Upon entry of this Judgment and the full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff and all Participating Class Members waive, release, and discharge the Released Parties

from all claims, rights, demands, liabilities and causes of action that are alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts and claims asserted in the operative complaint in the Action including the following claims: (i) failure to pay all overtime wages due (Labor Code sections 510 and 1198); (ii) failure to provide meal periods or compensation in lieu thereof (Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512(a)); (iii) failure to provide rest periods or compensation in lieu thereof (Labor Code section 226.7); (iv) failure to pay all minimum wages due (Labor Code sections 1194, 1197, and 1197.1); (v) failure to timely pay wages at time of termination or resignation (Labor Code sections 201-203); (vi) failure to timely pay wages during employment (Labor Code section 204); (vii) failure to provide complete, accurate wage statements; (viii) failure to keep requisite payroll records (Labor Code section 1174(d); (ix) failure to reimburse necessary business expenses (Labor Code section 2800 and 2802); and (x) unfair business practices that could have been premised on the claims, causes of action or legal theories of relief described above or any of the claims, causes of action or legal theories of relief pleaded in the operative complaint.

12. Upon entry of this Judgment and the full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, in consideration for his Class Representative Enhancement Award, Plaintiff Juan Rojo, for himself only, releases the Released Parties from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, known or unknown, asserted or that might have been asserted, whether in tort, contract, or for violation of any state or federal statute, rule or regulation arising out of, relating to, or in connection with Plaintiff's relationship with Defendant as well as any and all acts or omissions by or on the part of Defendant, excluding only claims that, by law, may not be privately released. Plaintiff has expressly waived all rights and benefits afforded by California Civil Code Section 1542, which provides:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT 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.

Accordingly, if the facts relating in any manner to this Settlement are found hereafter to be other than or different from the facts now believed to be true, the release of claims contained herein shall

be effective as to all unknown claims. This release specifically excludes claims for unemployment insurance, disability, social security, and workers compensation (with the exception of claims arising pursuant to California Labor Code Sections 132(a) and 4553).

- 13. The Court finds the settlement payments provided for under the Agreement to be fair and reasonable in light of all of the circumstances. Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, the Court orders Defendant to fund the Gross Settlement Amount of \$800,000.00 within twenty-one (21) calendar days of entry of this Judgment to provide payments for Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members, the Class Representative Enhancement Award to Plaintiff, Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Costs, and Administration Costs to the Settlement Administrator. The Court further orders Defendant to separately pay any and all employer payroll taxes owed on the wages portion of the Individual Settlement Payments. Defendant shall fund and the Settlement Administrator shall distribute these amounts in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.
- 14. Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, and the authorities, evidence, and argument submitted by Class Counsel, the Court hereby awards Class Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$280,000.00, and awards reimbursement of costs and expenses incurred by Class Counsel in the amount of \$12,411.94 from the Gross Settlement Amount. The award of attorneys' fees and costs is the final payment for and complete satisfaction of any and all attorneys' fees and costs incurred by and/or owed to Class Counsel and any other person or entity related to the Action. Any allocation of attorneys' fees and costs between and among Class Counsel shall be made by the Administrator pursuant to the separate and independent agreement between Class Counsel.
- 15. The Court hereby approves and orders a Class Representative Enhancement Award of \$7,500.00 to Plaintiff Juan Rojo from the Gross Settlement Amount in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.
- 16. The Court also hereby approves and orders payment from the Gross Settlement Amount for actual settlement administration expenses incurred by the Settlement Administrator, ILYM Group, Inc., in the amount of \$7,950.00.
 - 17. The Court hereby approves and orders payment of Individual Settlement Payments

from the Net Settlement Amount to the Participating Class Members on a *pro rata* basis as set forth in the Agreement.

- 18. The Court also hereby approves and orders that any checks distributed from the Gross Settlement Amount that remain uncashed after one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days after being issued shall be void. Any funds associated with such cancelled checks will be submitted to the Controller of the State of California pursuant to the Unclaimed Property Law, California Civil Code § 1500, et seq., to be held in trust for those Class Members who did not timely cash their Settlement checks within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days of their issuance.
- 19. Without affecting the finality of this Judgment, the Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over this Action and the Parties, including all Class Members, and over all matters pertaining to the implementation and enforcement of the terms of the Agreement pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769(h) and California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6. Except as provided to the contrary herein, any disputes or controversies arising with or with respect to the interpretation, enforcement, or implementation of the Agreement shall be presented to the Court for resolution.
- 20. A post-approval final accounting hearing shall be held on March 5th, 2026 at 2PM in Dept CX102. Class Counsel shall submit a final report on the disbursement of settlement payments Sixteen (16) days before the hearing. The court orders that at the time of the final accounting that Class Counsel transmit a copy of this order and the final judgment and the final accounting to the Judicial Council. (CCP 384.5; Govt Code 68520.)
- 21. Notice of this Order and Judgment shall be posted by the Settlement Administrator on its website for a period of at least sixty (60) days.

IT IS SO ORDERED. LET JUDGMENT BE ENTERED ACCORDINGLY.

The Honorable Layne H. Melzer Judge of The Superior Court