## CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is made by and between plaintiff Sergio Valdez ("Plaintiff") and defendants Ampere Computing, LLC and Ampere Computing Employer, LLC (together, "Ampere") and Aerotek, Inc. ("Aerotek") (collectively, "Defendants") in connection with a class action complaint (Case No. 24CV432716) and PAGA complaint (Case No. 24CV438808) Plaintiff filed against Defendants. The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendants collectively as "Parties," or individually as "Party." The Defendants deny the allegations in the complaints, deny any failure to comply with the laws identified in the complaints, and deny any and all liability for the causes of action alleged. The Parties wish to avoid the expense of further litigation and agree to resolve the disputed litigation as outlined in this Agreement.

# 1. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>.

- 1.1. "Action" means the Plaintiff's lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendants captioned *Sergio Valdez v. Ampere Computing, LLC, et al.* initiated on May 10, 2024 and pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Santa Clara, Case No. 24CV438808, which will include Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint, including the putative class action allegations that were previously dismissed in Plaintiff's lawsuit captioned *Sergio Valdez v. Ampere Computing, LLC, et al.* initiated on March 8, 2024 and pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Santa Clara, Case No. 24CV432716.
- 1.2. "Administrator" means ILYM Group, Inc. the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.
- 1.3. "Administration Expenses Payment" means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the Administrator's "not to exceed" bid submitted to the Court in connection with preliminary approval of the Settlement.
- 1.4. "Aggrieved Employee(s)" means all current and former non-exempt California employees employed directly by Ampere who worked for Ampere during the PAGA Period, and all Contingent Workers assigned by Aerotek to Ampere during the PAGA Period.
- 1.5. "Class" or "Class Member(s)" means all current and former non-exempt California employees employed directly by Ampere who worked for Ampere during the Class Period, and all Contingent Workers assigned by Aerotek to Ampere in California at any time during the Class Period.
- 1.6. "Class Counsel" means Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Joana Fang, Alexandra Rose, and Jared C. Osborne of Blackstone Law, APC.
- 1.7. "Class Counsel Fees Payment" and "Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment" mean the amounts allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, respectively, incurred to prosecute the Action.
- 1.8. "Class Data" means Class Member identifying information in Defendants' possession including the Class Member's full name, last-known mailing address, last known telephone number, Social Security number, dates worked during the Class Period and PAGA Period, and any other information as is necessary for the Settlement Administrator to calculate Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.
- 1.9. "Class Member Address Search" means the Administrator's investigation and search for current Class Member mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, methods, and means

- including, but not limited to, the National Change of Address database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Class Members.
- 1.10. "Class Notice" means the COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL, to be mailed to Class Members in English in the form, without material variation, attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- 1.11. "Class Period" means the period from March 8, 2020 to Preliminary Approval, subject to Paragraph 8.
- 1.12. "Class Representative" means the named Plaintiff in the operative complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as a Class Representative.
- 1.13. "Class Representative Service Payment" means the payment to the Class Representative for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.
- 1.14. "Contingent Worker(s)" means all current and former non-exempt California employees of Aerotek who were assigned by Aerotek to Ampere to renders services in California to Ampere.
- 1.15. "Court" means the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara.
- 1.16. "Defendants" means named Defendants Ampere Computing, LLC and Aerotek, Inc.
- 1.17. "Defense Counsel" means, for Ampere, Mitchell A. Wrosch and Andrew B. Levin of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C., and for Aerotek, Michael S. Kun and Kevin D. Sullivan of Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.
- 1.18. "Effective Date" means the date by when both of the following have occurred: (a) the Court enters the Final Approval and Judgment; and (b) the Final Approval Order and Judgment is final. The Final Approval Order and Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters the Final Approval Order and Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Final Approval Order and Judgment; or if a timely appeal from the Final Approval Order and Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Final Approval Order and Judgment and issues a remittitur.
- 1.19. "Final Approval Hearing" means the Court's hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.20. "Final Approval Order and Judgment" means Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement and entering judgment thereon.
- 1.21. "Gross Settlement Amount" means \$450,000.00 which is the total amount Ampere agrees on behalf of both Defendants Ampere and Aerotek to pay under the Settlement except as provided in Paragraph 8 below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, and Administration Expenses Payment.
- 1.22. "Individual Class Payment" means the Participating Class Member's pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class

Period.

- 1.23. "Individual PAGA Payment" means the Aggrieved Employee's pro rata share of 25% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of PAGA Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.
- 1.24. "LWDA" means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.25. "LWDA PAGA Payment" means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under the Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.26. "Net Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Individual PAGA Payments, LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.
- 1.27. "Non-Participating Class Member" means any Class Member who opts out of the Settlement by sending the Administrator a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.
- 1.28. "PAGA Pay Period" means any pay period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for or was assigned to render services to Ampere for at least one day during the PAGA Period. Excluded are pay periods where an Aggrieved Employee did not record any time in Defendants' timekeeping system, including vacation and leave weeks.
- 1.29. "PAGA Period" means the period from March 8, 2023 to Preliminary Approval, subject to Paragraph 8.
- 1.30. "PAGA" means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).
- 1.31. "PAGA Notice" means Plaintiff's March 5, 2024 letter to Defendants and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).
- 1.32. "PAGA Penalties" means the total amount of \$22,500.00 allocated to PAGA civil penalties and to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees and 75% to the LWDA in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.33. "Participating Class Member" means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.
- 1.34. "Plaintiff" means Sergio Valdez, the named plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.35. "Preliminary Approval" means the date on which the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order.
- 1.36. "Preliminary Approval Order" means the proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.
- 1.37. "Released Class Claims" means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.3 below.
- 1.38. "Released PAGA Claims" means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.4 below.

- 1.39. "Released Parties" means: Defendants and their respective past and present direct and/or indirect officers, directors, members, managers, exempt employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, shareholders, administrators, parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, assigns, and joint venturers.
- 1.40. "Request for Exclusion" means a Class Member's written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement signed by the Class Member.
- 1.41. "Response Deadline" means 60 days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, and shall be the last date on which Class Members may submit Requests for Exclusion, written objections, and/or challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods. Class Members to whom Class Notices are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional 14 calendar days beyond the expiration of the Response Deadline.
- 1.42. "Settlement" means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Final Approval Order and Judgment.
- 1.43. "Workweek" means any week during which a Class Member worked for or was assigned to render services to Ampere for at least one day during the Class Period. Excluded are weeks where a Class Member did not record any time in Defendants' timekeeping system, including vacation and leave weeks.

#### 2. RECITALS.

- 2.1. On March 8, 2024, Plaintiff commenced a putative class action by filing a Class Action Complaint (Case No. 24CV432716) alleging causes of action against Defendants for failure to pay minimum wages; failure to pay overtime wages; failure to provide meal periods; failure to permit rest breaks; failure to timely pay wages during employment; failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements; failure to pay all wages upon separation of employment; failure to reimburse business expenses; and violation of business and professions code §§ 17200, et. seg. On April 25, 2024, pursuant to Plaintiff's request, the Court dismissed the putative class action claims against Defendants without prejudice. On May 10, 2024, Plaintiff filed a separate PAGA complaint (Case No. 24CV438808) (i.e., the Action) against Defendants alleging one cause of action under PAGA based on similar allegations made in the Class Action Complaint. On August 8, 2024, the Court related the PAGA complaint case to the Class Action Complaint case. As part of this Agreement, Plaintiff and Defendants agree to stipulate to Plaintiff's filing of a First Amended Class and Representative Action Complaint in the Action reasserting the putative class allegations contained in the Class Action Complaint and adding Ampere Computing Employer, LLC as a named defendant. This First Amended Class and Representative Action Complaint shall be the operative complaint in the Action (the "Operative Complaint"). Defendants deny the allegations in the Operative Complaint, deny any failure to comply with the laws identified in the Operative Complaint, and deny any and all liability for the causes of action alleged. On August 8, 2024, Defendant Aerotek filed a Motion to Compel Arbitration and to Stay Action.
- 2.2. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a), Plaintiff gave timely written notice to Defendants and the LWDA by sending the PAGA Notice.
- 2.3. On December 27, 2024, Plaintiff and Ampere participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Peter Rukin which led the issuance of a mediator's proposal to which Plaintiff and Ampere agreed, and which led to this Agreement to settle the Action.

- 2.4. Plaintiff's investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 ("*Dunk/Kullar*").
- 2.5. The Court has not granted class certification.
- 2.6. The Parties, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel represent that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the Settlement.
- 2.7. As part of this Agreement, Defendant Aerotek agrees to withdraw its Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay Action without prejudice.

#### 3. MONETARY TERMS.

- 3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below, Ampere promises to pay on behalf of Defendants Ampere and Aerotek \$450,000.00 and no more as the Gross Settlement Amount and to separately pay any and all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments. Ampere has no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline stated in Paragraph 4.3 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendants.
- 3.2. <u>Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount.</u> The Administrator will make and deduct the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court in the Final Approval Order and Judgment:
  - 3.2.1. To Plaintiff: A Class Representative Service Payment to the Class Representative of not more than \$5,000.00 (in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a Participating Class Member and Aggrieved Employee). Defendants will not oppose Plaintiff's request for a Class Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of the motion for the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Plaintiff will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Service Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Representative Service Payment less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service Payment using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiff assumes full responsibility and liability for income taxes owed on the Class Representative Service Payment.
- 3.2.2. To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$150,000.00 and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$25,000. Defendants will not oppose requests for these payments provided they do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released Parties shall have no liability to Class Counsel or any other Plaintiff's counsel arising from any claim to any portion of the Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full

responsibility and liability for taxes owed on the Class Counsel Fees Payment and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and holds Defendants harmless, and indemnifies Defendants, from any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of either of these payments.

- 3.2.3. <u>To the Administrator</u>: An Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed \$7,000.00 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administrator's expenses are less or the Court approves payment less than \$7,000.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.
- 3.2.4. <u>To Each Participating Class Member</u>: Individual Class Payments will be calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's total number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period.
- 3.2.5. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. 20% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. 80% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to the settlement of claims for interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any income taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.
- 3.2.6. <u>Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual Class Payments</u>. Non-Participating Class Members will not receive any Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will retain amounts equal to their Individual Class Payments in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis.
- 3.2.7. To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$22,500.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$16,875.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$5,625.00) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.
- 3.2.8. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties (\$5,625.00) by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's total number of PAGA Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.
- 3.2.9. If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

### 4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.

4.1. Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods. Based on a review of its records, Ampere estimated there were 80 Class Members employed by Ampere who collectively worked a total of 4,354 Workweeks for Ampere from March 8, 2020 to December 27, 2024 and 13 Class Members employed by Aerotek who worked an estimated 697 Workweeks while assigned to work at Ampere from March 8, 2020 to March 7, 2025, as well as 42 Aggrieved Employees employed by Ampere who worked a total 1,077 bi-monthly PAGA Pay Periods for Ampere from March 8, 2023 to December 27, 2024 and 11 Aggrieved Employees employed by Aerotek who worked an

estimated 340 weekly PAGA Pay Periods while assigned to work at Ampere from March 8, 2023 to March 7, 2025.

- 4.2. Class Data. Not later than 21 days after Preliminary Approval, Defendants will simultaneously deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of the Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Defendants have a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendants must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.
- 4.3. <u>Funding of Gross Settlement Amount</u>. Ampere shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendants' share of payroll taxes, by transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 21 days after the Effective Date.
- 4.4. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 7 days after Ampere funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks for all Individual Class Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Expenses Payment, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Class Representative Service Payment shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.
- 4.5. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Participating Class Members and/or Aggrieved Employees via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (not less than 180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided. The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Class Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom a Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom a Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.
- 4.6. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all Participating Class Members and/or Aggrieved Employees whose checks are returned undelivered without a USPS forwarding address. Within 7 days of receiving a returned check, the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Participating Class Members and/or Aggrieved Employees whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Participating Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee whose original check was lost or misplaced, as requested by the Participating Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee prior to the void date.
- 4.7. For any Participating Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and canceled after the void date, the

Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to Child Advocates of Silicon Valley ("Cy Pres Recipient") consistent with California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b). The Parties, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the intended Cy Pres Recipient.

- 4.8. The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendants to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.
- 5. RELEASES OF CLAIMS. Upon the Effective Date and full funding of the entire Gross Settlement Amount and employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff, Participating Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:
  - 5.1. Plaintiff's Release. To the extent not already covered by other past settlements, Plaintiff, individually, and on behalf of his respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, releases and discharges the Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences arising out of Plaintiff's employment with Aerotek and assignment at Ampere that occurred prior to the date of execution of this Agreement, including, but not limited to: (a) all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained, in the Operative Complaint and (b) all PAGA claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on facts contained in the Operative Complaint, PAGA Notice, or ascertained during the Action and released under 5.3, below; and (c) all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, penalties, losses, and expenses, of any and every nature whatsoever, known or unknown, as a result of actions or omissions by the Released Parties arising out of, or in any way related to, Plaintiff's employment and/or separation with Defendants, including, without limitation, claims for negligent or intentional tortious conduct, express or implied contract, covenants of fair dealing and good faith, wrongful discharge, unpaid wages, unlawful discrimination, harassment, or failure to accommodate and any other claims related to the terms and conditions of employment including under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Sections 1981 through 1988 of Title 42 of the United States Code, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Family Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, the Worker Adjustment Retraining and Notification Act, the Equal Pay Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1395y(b)(3)(A) et seq., the Fair Labor Standards Act, the National Labor Relations Act, the California Family Rights Act, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Unruh Civil Rights Act, the Ralph Civil Rights Act, the California Fair Chance Act, the California Fair Pay Act, the California Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act, the California CROWN Act, the California Labor Code, the California Private Attorneys' General Act, and any amendments to the foregoing, or any other federal, state or local statute, rule, ordinance, or regulation, or other public policy, contract, tort, or common law theory, and any statutory or common law principle allowing for the recovery of attorneys' fees, costs, or other expenses ("Plaintiff's Release"). The Plaintiff's Release does not extend to any claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, or workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time. Additionally, nothing in the Plaintiff's Release shall be construed to prevent the disclosure of factual information related to any acts of sexual assault, sexual harassment, workplace harassment or discrimination, failure to prevent an act of workplace harassment or discrimination, or act of retaliation against a person for reporting harassment or discrimination, or waives Plaintiff's right to testify in an administrative, legislative, or judicial proceeding concerning alleged criminal conduct or alleged sexual harassment on the part of Defendants, or on the part of the agents or employees of Defendants, when Plaintiff has been required or requested to attend such a proceeding pursuant to

a court order, subpoena, or written request from an administrative agency or the legislature, or shall prevent Plaintiff from communicating with, filing a charge or complaint with, or from participating in an investigation or proceeding conducted by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, National Labor Relations Board, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or any other any federal, state, or local agency charged with the enforcement of any laws, including providing documents or any other information, or limit Plaintiff from exercising rights under Section 7 of the NLRA to engage in protected, concerted activity with other employees, although by signing the Agreement Plaintiff is waiving rights to individual relief in any charge, complaint, or lawsuit or other proceeding brought by Plaintiff or on Plaintiff's behalf by any third party, except for any right Plaintiff may have to receive a payment or an award from a government agency (and not Defendants) for information provided to the government agency or where otherwise prohibited. Plaintiff acknowledges that Plaintiff may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiff now knows or believes to be true but agrees, nonetheless, that the Plaintiff's Release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiff's discovery of them.

# 5.2. Plaintiff's Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542.

For purposes of the Plaintiff's Release, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

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.

# 5.3. Release by Participating Class Members:

All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release the Released Parties from all claims and causes of action that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, arising during the Class Period, including, but not limited to, all of the following claims for: (a) failure to pay all wages (including, but not limited to, overtime and minimum wages); (b) failure to provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments; (c) failure to reimburse necessary business-related expenses; (d) failure to provide compliant and/or timely wage statements; (e) failure to timely pay all wages owed upon termination of employment; (f) failure to timely pay all wages owed during employment; (g) violations of the Unfair Competition Law; (h) any other claims or penalties under the wage and hour laws or primary rights asserted in the Operative Complaint; and (i) all damages, penalties, interest, and other amounts recoverable under said causes of action under the law, to the extent permissible, including but not limited to the California Labor Code, the applicable Wage Orders, and the California Unfair Competition Law as to the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively, the "Released Class Claims").

Notwithstanding the above, only those Participating Class Members who were employed by Aerotek release the Released Parties from the Released Class Claims for the time period that they were assigned to work at Ampere.

Except as set forth in Paragraph 5.4 of this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

Plaintiff and the Participating Class Members may hereafter discover facts or legal arguments in addition to or different from those they now know or currently believe to be true with respect to the claims, causes of action, and legal theories of recovery in the Action which are the subject matter of the Released Class Claims. Regardless, the discovery of new facts or legal arguments shall in no way limit the scope or definition of the Released Class Claims, and by virtue of this Agreement, Plaintiff and the Participating Class Members shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the final judgment approved by the Court, shall have, fully, finally, and forever settled and released all of the Released Class Claims as defined in this Agreement.

## 5.4. Release by Aggrieved Employees:

All Aggrieved Employees, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice, arising during the PAGA Period, including, but not limited to, all of the following PAGA claims for: (a) failure to pay all wages (including, but not limited to, overtime and minimum wages); (b) failure to provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments; (c) failure to reimburse necessary business-related expenses; (d) failure to provide compliant and/or timely wage statements; (e) failure to timely pay all wages owed upon termination of employment; (f) failure to timely pay all wages owed during employment; (g) failure to maintain accurate payroll records; (h) any other claims or penalties under the wage and hour laws or primary rights asserted in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice; and (h) all penalties, interest, and other amounts recoverable under said claims under the law, to the extent permissible, including but not limited to the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders as to the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice (collectively, the "Released PAGA Claims").

Notwithstanding the above, only those Aggrieved Employees who were employed by Aerotek release the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims for the time period that they were assigned to work at Ampere.

- **6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL.** Plaintiff will prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval ("Motion for Preliminary Approval") that complies with the Court's current guidelines for motions for preliminary approval.
  - 6.1. Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval and will use best efforts to file the Motion for Preliminary Approval no later than 30 days after the full execution of this Agreement; obtaining a prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval; and for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court's Preliminary Approval Order to the Administrator.
  - 6.2. <u>Duty to Cooperate</u>. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement, or through further discussions with the Mediator Peter Rukin. If the Court does not grant preliminary approval or conditions preliminary approval on any material change to this Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

## 7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

- 7.1. Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected ILYM Group, Inc. to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, ILYM Group, Inc. agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for the Administration Expenses Payment. The Parties and their counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.
- 7.2. <u>Employer Identification Number</u>. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports to state and federal tax authorities.
- 7.3. Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.

### 7.4. Notice to Class Members.

- 7.4.1. No later than 3 business days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, Workweeks, and PAGA Pay Periods in the Class Data.
- 7.4.2. Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14 days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service ("USPS") mail, the Class Notice in the form attached to this Agreement as **Exhibit A**. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, and the number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if applicable) used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the National Change of Address database.
- 7.4.3. Not later than 3 business days after the Administrator's receipt of any Class Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. The Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send a Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.
- 7.4.4. The deadlines for Class Members' written objections, challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the original Response Deadline for all Class Members whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended deadline with the remailed Class Notice.
- 7.4.5. If the Administrator, Defendants, or Class Counsel is contacted by or otherwise discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should have received a Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in a good faith effort to determine whether to include them as Class Members. If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later

than 14 days after receipt of the Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever is later.

# 7.5. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

- 7.5.1. Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement must send the Administrator, by email or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not later than the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or the Class Member's representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member's election to be excluded from the Class Settlement and includes the Class Member's full name, mailing address, and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely emailed or postmarked by the Response Deadline.
- 7.5.2. The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain the identity of the person as a Class Member and the Class Member's desire to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. If the Administrator has reason to question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's determination of authenticity shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.
- 7.5.3. Every Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Released Class Claims, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Class Settlement.
- 7.5.4. Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement. Because future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the Final Approval Order and Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release the Released PAGA Claims and are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.
- 7.6. Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods. Each Class Member shall until the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods (if any) allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via email or mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods contained in the Class Notice are correct as long as they are consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator has the authority to address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class Member challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the

Administrator's determination of the challenges.

- 7.7. Objections to the Class Settlement.
  - 7.7.1. Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of the Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the Settlement, and/or amounts requested for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and/or Class Representative Service Payment.
  - 7.7.2. Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by email or mail not later than the Response Deadline (plus an additional fourteen (14) calendar days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed). In the alternative, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing.
  - 7.7.3. Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action components of the Settlement.
- 7.8. <u>Administrator Duties</u>. The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.
  - 7.8.1. Website, Email Address, and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish, maintain, and use an internet website (or maintain and use a portion of its existing website) to post information of interest to Class Members including the date, time, and location for the Final Approval Hearing and copies of the Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval Order, the Class Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, any motion for the Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Class Representative Service Payment, and the Final Approval Order and Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls and emails.
  - 7.8.2. Requests for Exclusion (Opt-outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity. Not later than 5 days after the expiration of the Response Deadline, the Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel containing (a) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion ("Exclusion List"); (b) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; and (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion submitted (whether valid or invalid).
  - 7.8.3. Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments ("Weekly Report"). The Weekly Reports must include the Administrator's assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received.
  - 7.8.4. <u>Administrator's Declaration</u>. Not later than 14 days before the date by which Plaintiff is required to file the Motion for Final Approval, the Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to

its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including but not limited to, its mailing of the Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the total number of Requests for Exclusion it received (both valid or invalid), the number of written objections, the number of challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

- 7.8.5. Final Report by Administrator. Within 10 days after the Administrator disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least 15 days before any deadline set by the Court, the Administrator will prepare, and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration in Court.
- 8. CLASS SIZE ESTIMATES and ESCALATOR CLAUSE. If the number of Workweeks between March 8, 2020 and Preliminary Approval exceeds 4,894 by more than 10% (i.e., greater than 5,383), the Gross Settlement Amount will increase in proportion to the increase in the number of Workweeks above 5,383. However, Ampere shall also maintain the right to end the Class Period and PAGA Period if the number of Workweeks exceeds 4,894 by 20% (i.e. 5,872). If Ampere exercises such right, the Gross Settlement Amount will also increase by 10%, to \$495,000.00.
- 9. AMPERE'S RIGHT TO TERMINATE SETTLEMENT. In the event that more than 10% of Class Members submit valid and timely Requests for Exclusion, Ampere may, in its sole discretion, revoke the Agreement. Ampere must exercise this right of revocation in writing that is provided to Class Counsel within 10 business days of the date that the Administrator notifies the Parties that more than 10% of the Class Members have submitted valid and timely Requests for Exclusion. If Ampere exercises this right, it shall be responsible for the reasonable costs incurred by the Administrator through that date.
- 10. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL. Not later than 16 court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff will file in Court, a motion for final approval of the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (1), and a proposed Final Approval Order and Judgment (collectively "Motion for Final Approval"). Defendants and Class Counsel shall jointly stipulate on the proposed Final Approval Order and Judgment prior to submission to the Court.
  - 10.1. Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later than five court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the Court.
  - Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant final approval or conditions final approval on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of releases to be granted by Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees), the Parties will expeditiously work together in good faith to address the Court's concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain final approval. The Court's decision to award less than the amounts requested for the Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and/or Administration Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this Paragraph.

- Order and Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or the Final Approval Order and Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Final Approval Order and Judgment matters as are permitted by law.
- 10.4. Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Final Approval Order and Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment set forth in the Agreement, the Parties, their respective counsel, and all Participating Class Members who did not object to the Settlement as provided in this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Final Approval Order and Judgment, including all rights to post-judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose such motions, writs or appeals. If an objector appeals the Final Approval Order and Judgment, the Parties' obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Final Approval Order and Judgment becomes final, except as to matters that do not affect the amount of the Net Settlement Amount.
- 10.5. Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Final Approval Order and Judgment in a manner that requires a material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of releases to be granted by Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court's concerns and to obtain final approval and entry of the Final Approval Order and Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administrator expenses reasonably incurred after remittitur. An appellate decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the Court's award of the Class Representative Service Payment or any payments to Class Counsel shall not constitute a material modification of the Final Approval Order and Judgment within the meaning of this Paragraph, as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.
- **11. AMENDED JUDGMENT**. If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil Procedure section 384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit a proposed amended judgment.

#### 12. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

12.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification, or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendants that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit, that Defendants have any liability for any claims asserted, or that Defendants operate as joint employers of one another; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendants' defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of the Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does not grant preliminary approval, final approval, or enter the Final Approval Order and Judgment, Defendants reserve the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendants reserve all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendants' defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement, and the Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

- 12.2. No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel will not directly or indirectly solicit, or encourage any third parties to directly or indirectly solicit, any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Final Approval Order and Judgment. Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel's ability to communicate with Class Members regarding the Settlement in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to Class Members.
- 12.3. <u>Integrated Agreement</u>. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.
- 12.4. <u>Attorney Authorization</u>. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiff and Defendants, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.
- 12.5. Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence and supplementing points and authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the assistance of the mediator Peter Rukin and/or the Court for resolution.
- 12.6. <u>No Prior Assignments</u>. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in the Settlement.
- 12.7. <u>No Tax Advice.</u> Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendants, nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Agreement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.
- 12.8. <u>Modification of Agreement</u>. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court.
- 12.9. <u>Agreement Binding on Successors</u>. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
- 12.10. <u>Applicable Law</u>. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the State of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.
- 12.11. <u>Cooperation in Drafting</u>. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

- 12.12. Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered during the Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive the execution of this Agreement. Additionally, Plaintiff and Class Counsel agree not to disclose or publicize the Settlement, including the mediator's proposal, its terms or contents, and the negotiations underlying the Settlement, in any manner or form, directly or indirectly, to any person or entity, except potential class members and as shall be contractually required to effectuate the terms of the Settlement as set forth herein. For the avoidance of doubt, this section means Plaintiff and Class Counsel will not issue press releases, communicate with, or respond to any media or publication entities, publish information in manner or form, whether printed or electronic, on any medium or otherwise communicate, whether by print, video, recording, or any other medium, with any person or entity concerning the Settlement, its terms or contents, and the negotiations underlying the Settlement, except as shall be contractually required to effectuate the terms of the Settlement as set forth herein. However, for the limited purpose of allowing Class Counsel to prove adequacy as class counsel in other actions, Class Counsel may disclose the name of the Parties in the Action, the venue/case number of the Action, and any other publicly available information regarding the Settlement for such purposes. Furthermore, Plaintiff and Class Counsel will undertake any and all disclosures required to be made to the LWDA inconformity with PAGA.
- 12.13. <u>Headings.</u> The descriptive heading of any Section or Paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.
- 12.14. <u>Calendar Days</u>. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to "days" in this Agreement shall be calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.
- 12.15. <u>Notice</u>. All notices, demands, or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiff: Blackstone Law, APC

Jonathan M. Genish
Miriam L. Schimmel
Joana Fang
Alexandra Rose
Jared C. Osborne
8383 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 745
Beverly Hills, California 90211
jgenish@blackstonepc.com
mschimmel@blackstonepc.com
jfang@blackstonepc.com
arose@blackstonepc.com
josborne@blackstonepc.com

To Ampere: Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

Mitchell A. Wrosch

Park Tower

965 Town Center Dr., Ste. 1500 Costa Mesa, California 92626 mitchell.wrosch@ogletree.com Andrew B. Levin 2415 E. Camelback Road, Ste. 800 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 andy.levin@ogletree.com

To Aerotek: Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.

Michael S. Kun Kevin D. Sullivan

1925 Century Park East, Suite 500 Los Angeles, California 90067

mkun@ebglaw.com ksullivan@eblaw.com

- 12.16. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically, (i.e. DocuSign), or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterparts will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
- 12.17. <u>Stay of Litigation</u>. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed (including with respect to CCP section 583.330), except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Date: April 05/07/22-025	Sergio Valdez  Sergio Valdez
Date: April <u>11</u> , 2025	DEFENDANT  Signed by:  Patrick J. Duffy  58689BB85A664C2
Date: April 11, 2025	By: Senior Director, Employment & Labor Law  DEFENDANT
	Patrick J. Duffy
Date: May 6, 2025	By: Senior Director, Employment & Labor Law  DEFENDANT
	Aerotek, Inc.  (ianna Myia
APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:	By: Cianna Mejia
Date: May 7, 2025	BLACKSTONE LAW, APC Attorneys for Plaintiff
	Jonathan M. Genish Miriam L. Schimmel Joana Fang Alexandra Rose Jared C. Osborne
May Date: April 2, 2025	OGLETREE, DEAKINS, NASH, SMOAK & STEWART, P.C. Attorneys for Ampere Mitchell A. Wrosch Andrew B. Levin
Date: May 6, 2025	EPSTEIN BECKER & GREEN P.C. Attorneys for Defendant Aerotek  Michael S. Kun

Kevin D. Sullivan

# **EXHIBIT A**

# COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL

Sergio Valdez v. Ampere Computing, LLC; Ampere Computing Employer, LLC; Aerotek, Inc. Santa Clara County Superior Court Case No. 24CV438808

The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it Carefully! It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.

You may be eligible to receive money from a class action lawsuit entitled Sergio Valdez v. Ampere Computing, LLC; Ampere Computing Employer, LLC; Aerotek, Inc., Santa Clara County Superior Court Case No. 24CV438808 ("Action") against Ampere Computing, LLC and Ampere Computing Employer, LLC (together, "Ampere") and Aerotek, Inc. ("Aerotek") (collectively, "Defendants") for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by Aerotek's former employee Sergio Valdez ("Plaintiff") who temporarily worked at Ampere Computing, LLC and seeks payment of (1) back wages and other relief for the Class Members and (2) penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") for the Aggrieved Employees.

The "Class" or "Class Member(s)" are all current and former non-exempt California employees employed directly by Ampere who worked for Ampere during the Class Period, and all Contingent Workers assigned by Aerotek to Ampere during the Class Period.

The "Contingent Worker(s)" are all current and former non-exempt California employees of Aerotek who were assigned by Aerotek to Ampere to renders services in California to Ampere.

The "Class Period" is the period from March 8, 2020 to [Preliminary Approval, subject to Paragraph 8 of the Settlement Agreement].

The "Aggrieved Employee(s)" are all current and former non-exempt California employees employed directly by Ampere who worked for Ampere during the PAGA Period, and all Contingent Workers assigned by Aerotek to Ampere during the PAGA Period.

The "PAGA Period" is the period from March 8, 2023 to [Preliminary Approval, subject to Paragraph 8 of the Settlement Agreement].

The proposed Settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class Settlement requiring Ampere to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA Settlement requiring Ampere to fund Individual PAGA Payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA").

Based on Defendants' records, and the Parties' current assumptions, your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$ (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ ... The actual amount you may receive likely will be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendants' records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you didn't work during the PAGA Period.)

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this Notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully read and understood it. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the Settlement and how much of the Settlement will be paid to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's attorneys. The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Ampere to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendants.

If you are a Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee as specified above during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have two basic options under the Settlement:

- (1) **Do Nothing.** You don't have to do anything to participate in the proposed Settlement and be eligible for an Individual Class Payment and/or an Individual PAGA Payment. As a Participating Class Member, though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims and PAGA Period penalty claims against Defendants.
- Opt-Out of the Class Settlement. You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting a written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the Class Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Defendants, and, if you are an Aggrieved Employee, remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement.

Defendants will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed Settlement.

#### SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT

You Don't Have to Do	If you do nothing, you will be a Participating Class Member, eligible for an		
Anything to	Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA Payment (if any). In exchange,		
Participate in the	you will give up your right to assert the wage claims against Defendants that are		
Settlement	covered by this Settlement (Released Class Claims).		
You Can Opt-Out of	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
the Class Settlement	of the Class Settlement by sending the Administrator a written Request for		
	, ,		
but not the PAGA	Exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no		
Settlement	longer eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class Members		
	cannot object to any portion of the proposed Settlement. See Section 6 of this		
	Notice.		
The Opt-Out Deadline			
is	You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement. Defendants		
	must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees and the		
	Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue the Released PAGA		
	Claims (defined below).		
	Claims (defined below).		
Participating Class	All Class Members who do not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion		
	* *		
Members Can Object	("Participating Class Members") can object to any aspect of the Class Settlement.		
to the Class Settlement	See Section 7 of this Notice.		
but not the PAGA			
Settlement			
Written Objections			
Must be Submitted by			
You Can Participate in	The Court's Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on		
the	You don't have to attend but you do have the right to appear (or		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
II	hire an attorney to appear on your behalf at your own cost), in person, by telephone		
Hearing	or by using the Court's virtual appearance platform. Participating Class Members		
	can verbally object to the Class Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing. See		
	Section 8 of this Notice.		

You Can Ch	allen	ge the		
Calculation	of	Your		
Workweeks/PAGA Pay				
Periods		•		

Written Challenges Must be Submitted by The amount of your Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many weeks you worked for or was assigned to render services to Ampere for at least one day during the Class Period ("Workweeks") and how many pay periods you worked for or was assigned to render services to Ampere for at least one day during the PAGA Period ("PAGA Pay Periods"), respectively. The number of Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods you worked according to Defendants' records is stated in Section 4 of this Notice. If you disagree with either of these numbers, you must challenge it by See Section 4 of this Notice.

#### 1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?

Plaintiff is a former employee of Defendant Aerotek who was temporarily assigned to work as a contingent worker at Ampere Computing, LLC. The Action alleges that Defendants violated California labor laws by failing to pay overtime wages, minimum wages, wages due upon termination and during employment, and reimbursable business expenses, and failing to provide meal periods, rest breaks, and accurate itemized wage statements. Based on the same claims, Plaintiff has also asserted a claim for civil penalties under PAGA. Plaintiff is represented by attorneys in the Action: Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Joana Fang, Alexandra Rose, and Jared C. Osborne from Blackstone Law, APC ("Class Counsel.")

Defendants strongly deny violating any laws or failing to pay any wages. Defendants contend that they complied with all applicable laws, but that settling this matter is a business decision that allows them to minimize risk and legal expenditures.

#### 2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Defendants or Plaintiff are correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiff and Defendants hired an experienced, neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating to end the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement ("Agreement") and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, Plaintiff and Defendants have negotiated a proposed Settlement that is subject to the Court's final approval. Both sides agree the proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims. By agreeing to settle, Defendants do not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims. Plaintiff and Class Counsel strongly believe the Settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Defendants have agreed to pay a fair, reasonable, and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) the Settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine final approval.

#### 3. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?

1. Ampere Will Pay \$450,000 as the "Gross Settlement Amount". On behalf of the Defendants, Ampere has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement Amount into an account controlled by the Administrator of the Settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel's attorney's fees and expenses, the Administrator's expenses, and penalties to be paid to the LWDA. Assuming the Court grants final approval, Ampere will fund the Gross Settlement Amount not more than 21 days after the Final Approval Order and Judgment entered by the Court becomes final. The Final Approval Order and Judgment will be final on the date the Court enters the Final Approval Order and Judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the Class Settlement or the Final Approval Order and Judgment is appealed.

- 2. <u>Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement Amount.</u> At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement Amount, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:
  - A. Up to one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement (currently estimated to be \$150,000.00) to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and up to \$25,000.00 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses in the Action without payment.
  - B. Up to \$5,000.00 as a Class Representative Service Payment for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel, and representing the Class. A Class Representative Service Payment will be the only monies Plaintiff will receive other than Plaintiff's Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
  - C. Up to \$7,000.00 to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.
  - D. Up to \$22,500.00 for PAGA Penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Pay Periods.
    - Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions. The Court will consider all objections.
- 3. <u>Net Settlement Amount Distributed to Participating Class Members.</u> After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement Amount (the "Net Settlement Amount") by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their number of Workweeks during the Class Period.
- 4. Taxes Owed on Payments to Participating Class Members. Plaintiff and Defendants are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages ("Wage Portion") and 80% to interest and penalties. ("Non-Wage Portion"). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Ampere will separately pay employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion. The Individual PAGA Payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.
- 5. Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks. The front of every check issued for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will show the date when the check expires (the void date). If you don't cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be irrevocably lost to you because they will be paid to a non-profit organization.
- 6. The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval. It is possible the Court will decline to grant final approval of the Settlement or decline to enter a Final Approval Order and Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Final Approval Order and Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiff and Defendants have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Ampere will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendants.
- 7. <u>Administrator</u>. The Court has appointed a neutral company, ILYM Group, Inc. (the "Administrator") to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' Requests for Exclusion and written objections. The Administrator will also decide Class Member challenges over Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the Settlement. The Administrator's contact information is contained in Section 9 of this Notice.

8. Participating Class Members' Release. After the Final Approval Order and Judgment is final and Ampere has fully funded the Gross Settlement Amount (and separately paid all employer payroll taxes), Participating Class Members will release the Released Class Claims against the Released Parties. This means that unless you opted-out by validly excluding yourself from the Class Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants or their related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The Participating Class Members will be bound by the following release:

All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release the Released Parties from all claims and causes of action that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, arising during the Class Period, including, but not limited to, all of the following claims for: (a) failure to pay all wages (including, but not limited to, overtime and minimum wages); (b) failure to provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments; (c) failure to reimburse necessary business-related expenses; (d) failure to provide compliant and/or timely wage statements; (e) failure to timely pay all wages owed upon termination of employment; (f) failure to timely pay all wages owed during employment; (g) violations of the Unfair Competition Law; (h) any other claims or penalties under the wage and hour laws or primary rights asserted in the Operative Complaint; and (i) all damages, penalties, interest, and other amounts recoverable under said causes of action under the law, to the extent permissible, including but not limited to the California Labor Code, the applicable Wage Orders, and the California Unfair Competition Law as to the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively, the "Released Class Claims").

Notwithstanding the above, only those Participating Class Members who were employed by Aerotek release the Released Parties from the Released Class Claims for the time period that they worked at Ampere.

Except as to the Released PAGA Claims, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

Plaintiff and the Participating Class Members may hereafter discover facts or legal arguments in addition to or different from those they now know or currently believe to be true with respect to the claims, causes of action, and legal theories of recovery in the Action which are the subject matter of the Released Class Claims. Regardless, the discovery of new facts or legal arguments shall in no way limit the scope or definition of the Released Class Claims, and by virtue of this Agreement, Plaintiff and the Participating Class Members shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the final judgment approved by the Court, shall have, fully, finally, and forever settled and released all of the Released Class Claims as defined above.

9. <u>Aggrieved Employees' Release.</u> After the Court's Final Approval Order and Judgment is final, and Ampere has fully funded the Gross Settlement Amount (and separately paid all employer payroll taxes), Aggrieved Employees will release the Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties, whether or not the Aggrieved Employees exclude themselves from the Class Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and any of those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Defendants or their related entities based on the PAGA Period facts allege in the Action and resolved by this Settlement. The Aggrieved Employees will be bound by the following release:

All Aggrieved Employees, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice, arising during the PAGA Period, including, but not limited to, all of the following PAGA claims for: (a) failure to pay all wages (including, but not limited to, overtime and minimum wages); (b)failure to provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments; (c) failure to reimburse necessary business-related expenses; (d) failure to provide compliant and/or timely wage statements; (e) failure to timely pay all wages owed upon termination of employment; (f) failure to timely pay all wages owed during employment; (g) failure to maintain accurate payroll records; (h) any other claims or penalties under the wage and hour laws or primary rights asserted in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice; and (h) all penalties, interest, and other amounts recoverable under said causes of action under the law, to the extent permissible, including but not limited to the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders as to the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice (collectively, the "Released PAGA Claims").

Notwithstanding the above, only those Aggrieved Employees who were employed by Aerotek release the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims for the time period that they worked at Ampere.

10. <u>Released Parties</u>. "Released Parties" is defined as Defendants and their past and present direct and/or indirect officers, directors, members, managers, exempt employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, shareholders, administrators, parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, assigns, and joint venturers.

#### 4. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?

- 1. <u>Individual Class Payments.</u> The Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's total number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period.
- 2. <u>Individual PAGA Payments.</u> The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$5,625.00 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period, and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.
- 3. Your Estimated Workweeks. Defendants' records show that, from March 8, 2020 and [Preliminary Approval, subject to Paragraph 8 of the Settlement Agreement] (i.e., the Class Period), you worked Workweeks. To the extent that you took vacation or a leave of absence during that period and thus did not record any work hours in the timekeeping system, those weeks are excluded from your total.
- 4. Your Estimated PAGA Pay Periods. Defendants' records show that, from March 8, 2023 and [Preliminary Approval, subject to Paragraph 8 of the Settlement Agreement] (i.e., the PAGA Period), you worked PAGA Pay Periods. To the extent that you took vacation or a leave of absence during that period and thus did not record any work hours in the timekeeping system, those pay periods are excluded from your total.
- 5. Workweek/PAGA Pay Period Challenges. The number of Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Defendants' records, are stated above. You have until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the

Administrator via mail or email. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Defendants' calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods based on Defendants' records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek and/or PAGA Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Class Members) and Defendants' counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

#### 5. HOW WILL I GET PAID?

- 1. <u>Participating Class Members.</u> The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who doesn't opt-out) including those who also qualify as Aggrieved Employees. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment.
- 2. <u>Aggrieved Employees.</u> The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee including those who opt-out of the Class Settlement (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

Your check will be sent to the same address as this Notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

#### 6. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

Submit a written and signed letter (i.e., Request for Exclusion) with a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the Class Settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing communicating your request be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Sergio Valdez v. Ampere Computing, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 24CV438808. and include your identifying information (full name, mailing address, and email address or telephone number). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. The request to the Administrator must be sent your Request for Exclusion by , or it will be invalid. Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement. Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement (Non-Participating Class Members) remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Defendants based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

#### 7. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Class Settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiff and Defendants are asking the Court to approve. At least 16 court days before the \_\_\_\_\_\_ Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court a Motion for Final Approval, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Class Representative Service Payment that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section 9 of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Administrator's website \_\_\_\_\_\_ or the Court's website https://santaclara.courts.ca.gov/online-services/case-information-online.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Class Settlement and/or the Motion for Final Approval, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and Class Representative Service Payment may wish to object, for example, that the proposed Settlement is unfair, or that the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiff are too high or too low. **The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is**Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action, *Sergio Valdez v. Ampere Computing, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 24CV438808, and include your signature, full name, mailing address, and email address or telephone number. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object orally (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the Final Approval Hearing either in person or remotely regardless of whether you have submitted a written objection. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing.

#### 8. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?

You can, but don't have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on \_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ in Department 19 of the Santa Clara Superior Court, located at Old Courthouse, 161 North First Street, San Jose, California 95113. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Judge will decide whether to grant final approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement Amount will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiff, and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel before making any decisions. You can attend (or hire a lawyer to attend) either personally or virtually. Check the Court's website for the most current information.

Class Members may appear at the Final Approval Hearing in person or remotely using the Microsoft Teams link for Department 19 (Afternoon Session). Instructions for appearing remotely are provided at <a href="https://www.scscourt.org/general\_info/ra\_teams/video\_hearings\_teams.shtml">https://www.scscourt.org/general\_info/ra\_teams/video\_hearings\_teams.shtml</a> and should be reviewed in advance. Class Members who wish to appear remotely are encouraged to contact Class Counsel at least three days before the hearing if possible, so that potential technology or audibility issues can be avoided or minimize.

It's possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. You should check the Administrator's website beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing.

#### 9. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The Agreement sets forth everything Defendants and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed Settlement. The easiest way to read the Agreement, the Final Approval Order and Judgment, or any other Settlement documents is to go to ILYM Group, Inc.'s website at \_\_\_\_\_\_. You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below. Additionally, you can consult the Superior Court website by going to (https://santaclara.courts.ca.gov/online-services/case-information-online) and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. 24CV438808, or in person at Records, Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, 161 North First Street, San Jose, California 95113, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Court holidays and closures.

DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SUPERIOR COURT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.

Class Counsel:

Name of Attorneys: Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Joana Fang, Alexandra Rose, Jared C.

Osborne

Email Addresses: mschimmel@blackstonepc.com; jfang@blackstonepc.com; arose@blackstonepc.com;

josborne@blackstonepc.com

Name of Firm: Blackstone Law, APC

Mailing Address: 8383 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 745, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Telephone: (310) 622-4278

## Administrator:

Name of Company: ILYM Group, Inc.

Email Address: Mailing Address: Telephone:

# 10. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void, you will have no way to recover the money.

#### 11. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.