### CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, AND PROPOSED CLASS NOTICE, PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER AND FINAL APPROVAL ORDER

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is made by and between plaintiff Particia Bodemer ("Plaintiff") and defendant California Psychiatric Transitions Incorporated. ("Defendant"). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendant collectively as "Parties," or individually as "Party."

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

- 1.1. "Action" means the Plaintiff's lawsuit alleging wage and hour violations against Defendant captioned *Patricia Bodemer v. California Psychiatric Transitions, Inc.* initiated on October 26, 2022, and pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Merced.
- 1.2. "Administrator" means the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint, and the Court has approved, 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" means all non-exempt employees employed by Defendant in the State of California at any time during the PAGA Period.
- 1.5. "Class" means all non-exempt employees employed by Defendant in the State of California at any time during the Class Period.
- 1.6. "Class Counsel" means Kashif Haque, Samuel Wong, Jessica L. Campbell and Jamie M. Loos of Aegis Law Firm, PC.
- 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 Defendant's possession including the Class Member's name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, and number of Class Period Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods.
- 1.9. "Class Member" or "Settlement Class Member" means a member of the Class, as either a Participating Class Member or Non-Participating Class Member (including a Non-Participating Class Member who qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee).

- 1.10. "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.
- 1.11. "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, and a Spanish translation if the Parties or the Court determine such is necessary, in substantially the same form, and without material variation unless revisions are required by the Court, attached as Exhibit A hereto and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- 1.12. "Class Period" means the period from May 1, 2018 to September 8, 2024.
- 1.13. "Class Representative" means the named Plaintiff in the operative complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as a Class Representative.
- 1.14. "Class Representative Service Payment" means the payment to the Class Representative for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.
- 1.15. "Court" means the Superior Court of California, County of Merced.
- 1.16. "Defendant" means named Defendant California Psychiatric Transitions Incorporated
- 1.17. "Defense Counsel" means Cary Palmer and Keelia K. Lee of Jackson Lewis, P.C.
- 1.18. "Effective Date" means the date by when both of the following have occurred:

  (a) the Court enters a Judgment on its Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement; and (b) the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to or challenges the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to or challenges the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment and no appeal is filed; or (c) if any appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court either dismisses the appeal or affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur, and the time for filing any other appeal or challenge has expired.
- 1.19. "Final Approval" means the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement, in substantially the same form and as approved by the Court, attached as Exhibit C hereto and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- 1.20. "Final Approval Hearing" means the Court's hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.

- 1.21. "Final Judgment" means the Judgment Entered by the Court upon Granting Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.22. "Gross Settlement Amount" means \$1,050,000.00 which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement, unless required by Paragraph 8 below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Counsel Fees, Class Counsel Expenses, Class Representative Service Payment and the Administrator's Expenses.
- 1.23. "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.
- 1.24. "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.
- 1.25. "Judgment" means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final Approval.
- 1.26. "LWDA" means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.27. "LWDA PAGA Payment" means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under the Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).
- 1.28. "Net Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Representative Service Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.
- 1.29. "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.
- 1.30. "PAGA Pay Period" means any Pay Period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.
- 1.31. "PAGA Period" means the period from October 26, 2021 to September 8, 2024.
- 1.32. "PAGA" means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).
- 1.33. "PAGA Notice" means Plaintiff's October 26, 2022 letter to Defendant and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).

- 1.34. "PAGA Penalties" means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$37,500.00) and the 75% to the LWDA (\$12,500.00) in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.35. "Participating Class Member" means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.
- 1.36. "Plaintiff" means Particia Bodemer, the named plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.37. "Preliminary Approval" means the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, in substantially the same form and as approved by the Court, attached as Exhibit B hereto and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- 1.38. "Preliminary Approval Order" means the proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement.
- 1.39. "Released Class Claims" means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2 below.
- 1.40. "Released PAGA Claims" means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.3 below.
- 1.41. "Released Parties" means: (i) Defendant; (ii) and each of Defendant's past and present parents, subsidiaries, partners, affiliates, including, without limitation, any corporation, limited liability company, or partnership; (iii) the past and present board members, directors, officers, agents, employees, attorneys, insurers, members, partners, managers, contractors, agents, consultants, representatives, administrators, fiduciaries, benefit plans, transferees, predecessors, successors, and assigns of any of the foregoing; and (iv) any individual or entity which could be jointly liable with any of the foregoing.
- 1.42. "Request for Exclusion" means a Class Member's submission of a written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement signed by the Class Member.
- 1.43. "Response Deadline" means 45 days after the Administrator mails Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) fax, email, or mail Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, or (b) fax, email, or mail his or her Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional 14 calendar days beyond the Response Deadline has expired.
- 1.44. "Settlement" means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.
- 1.45. "Workweek" means any week during which a Class Member worked for Defendant for at least one day, during the Class Period.

#### 2. RECITALS.

- 2.1. On October 26, 2022, Plaintiff commenced this Action by filing a Complaint alleging causes of action against Defendant for (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages; (3) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; (4) Failure to Permit Rest Breaks; (5) Failure to Reimburse Business Expenses; (6) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements; (7) Failure to Pay Wages Timely During Employment; (8) Failure to Pay All Wages Due Upon Separation of Employment; and (9) Violation of Business and Professions Code Sections 17200, et seq. On January 11, 2023, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Complaint alleging an additional cause of action against Defendant for Enforcement of Labor Code § 2698 et seq. ("PAGA"). The First Amended Complaint is the operative complaint in the Action (the "Operative Complaint.") Defendant denies the allegations in the Operative Complaint, denies any failure to comply with the laws identified in the Operative Complaint and denies any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.
- 2.2. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a), Plaintiff gave timely written notice to Defendant and the LWDA by sending the PAGA Notice.
- 2.3. On June 10, 2024, the Parties participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Mediator Steven J. Serratore, which led to this Agreement to settle the Action.
- 2.4. Prior to mediation, Plaintiff obtained through informal discovery, Plaintiff's personnel file, employee handbooks, time and pay records of potential Class Members, and data pertaining to the Class. 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.

#### 3. MONETARY TERMS.

3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Unless required by Paragraph 8 below, Defendant promises to pay \$1,050,000.00 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. Defendant 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

Defendant.

- 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:
  - To Plaintiff: Class Representative Service Payment to the Class 3.2.1. Representative of not more than \$10,000.00 (in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a Participating Class Member), at no additional cost to Defendant, subject to approval by the Court and subject to the Class Representative's execution of a general release before Preliminary Approval of all claims under California Code of Civil Procedure section 1542 as provided below. Defendant will not oppose Plaintiff's request for a Class Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount. As part of the motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Litigation Expenses Payment, Plaintiff will seek Court approval for a 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 retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service payment using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiff assumes full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on the Class Representative Service Payment.
  - 3.2.2. To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than onethird (1/3) of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$350,000.00 and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$30,000.00. Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments provided that they do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class 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 any Class Counsel Fee Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel 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 Defendant harmless, and indemnifies Defendant, from any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these Payments.
  - 3.2.3. To the Administrator: The Administrator Expenses Payment approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Expenses are less than what the Court has approved, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement

Amount.

- 3.2.4. <u>To Each Participating Class Member</u>: An Individual Class Payment 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 Workweeks.
  - 3.2.4.1. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. 10% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of alleged unpaid wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS Form W-2. The remaining 90% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of claims for alleged unpaid interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS Form 1099. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.
  - 3.2.4.2. Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual Class Payments. 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.
- 3.2.5. To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees: PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$50,000.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$37,500.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$12,500.00) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.
  - 3.2.5.1. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties \$12,500.00 by the total number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Period Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.
  - 3.2.5.2. 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. <u>Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods</u>. Based on a review of its records prior to mediation, Defendant estimated Class Members collectively worked

approximately 52,000 Workweeks from May 1, 2018 to June 10, 2024.

- 4.2. <u>Class Data</u>. Not later than 30 calendar days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant will confidentially transfer 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 this 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. Defendant has 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 Defendant 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>. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator 60 calendar after the Effective Date.
- 4.4. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 14 days after Defendant 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.
  - 4.4.1. The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members 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 Settlement Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom 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 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 Settlement Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

- 4.4.2. The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without 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 Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Class Member prior to the void date.
- 4.4.3. For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by such checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member thereby leaving no "unpaid residue" subject to the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384, subd. (b).
- 4.4.4. The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendant 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**. Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff, Class Members, and Class Counsel will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:
  - 5.1. Plaintiff's General Release. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims (known and unknown), transactions, or occurrences arising out of Plaintiff's employment 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, Plaintiff's PAGA Notice,. ("Plaintiff's Release.") 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, workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based on occurrences outside the Class Period. 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 Plaintiff's Release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiff's discovery of them.
    - 5.1.1. <u>Plaintiff's Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542.</u> For purposes of 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

#### 5.2. 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 Released Parties from all claims alleged or that reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint, including without limitation, California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, California Industrial Commission Wage Orders, California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11040, et. Seq., Business and Professions Code Sections 17200, et seq., California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1021.5, and including all claims for alleged unpaid wages, minimum wages, hours worked, overtime or double time wages, regular rate of pay, bonus and incentive pay, timely payment of wages during employment, timely payment of wages at separation, wage statements, payroll records and recordkeeping, unreimbursed business expenses, meal periods and meal period premiums, rest breaks and rest break premiums, failure to pay additional 401(k) benefits and/or deferred compensation benefits and/or matching benefits for payments received under the Settlement, unfair competition, unfair business practices, unlawful business practices, fraudulent business practices, class actions, representative actions, aggrieved party claims, declaratory relief, penalties of any nature (including but not limited to civil penalties, waiting-time penalties) interest, fees, costs, as well as all other claims and allegations alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively "Released Class Claims"), which arose during the Class Period.

#### 5.3. Release by Aggrieved Employees:

All Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims arising during the PAGA Period seeking civil penalties under PAGA, that Plaintiff as a proxy for the State of California and/or the LWDA, to the maximum extent permitted by law, and as a private attorney general acting on behalf of Plaintiff and the PAGA employees, asserted or could reasonably have asserted based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint or the PAGA Notice, including but not limited to all claims arising under the California Labor Code including, but not limited to Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2698 et seq., 2800, and 2802, and the wage orders of the California Industrial Welfare Commission based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively, "Released PAGA Claims"). The Settlement shall release and bar all Released PAGA Claims by or on behalf of Plaintiff and all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA

Period, regardless of whether Plaintiff and/or an Aggrieved Employee negotiates (cashes) their/his/her settlement checks sent pursuant to this Settlement. Aggrieved Employees cannot and do not have the right to opt out as an Aggrieved Employee and/or release of their Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties. As such, an individual opting out of the Settlement Class has no impact as to his/her standing and/or inclusion as an Aggrieved Employee, assuming they/he/she qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee.

- **6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL.** The Parties agree to jointly prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval ("Motion for Preliminary Approval") that complies with the Court's current checklist for Preliminary Approvals, and includes the Parties' agreed-upon Preliminary Approval Order (Exhibit B).
  - 6.1. Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel are jointly responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval no later than 30 calendar 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. 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 agree to jointly select the Administrator to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, the Administrator agrees to be bound by this Agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Expenses. 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. <u>Qualified Settlement Fund</u>. 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 three (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, PAGA Members, Workweeks, and 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 calendar 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, substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A and as approved by the Court. 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 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 Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the 45 calendar days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.
- 7.4.5. If the Administrator, Defendant 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 Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith in an effort to agree on 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 calendar days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, which ever are 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 fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not later than 45 calendar days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (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 his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member's election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, 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, except at Final Approval. 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 timely and valid 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 Participating Class Members' Releases under Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of this Agreement, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the 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 Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release the claims identified in Paragraph 5.3 of this Agreement and are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.
- 7.6. Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have 45 calendar days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and 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 fax, email or mail, and must provide any supporting documentation to the Administrator. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting documentation and must provide Defendant the opportunity to submit

documentation and/or data supporting the Class Member's Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of Class 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 the calculation of Class Workweeks and/or Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the Administrator's determination of the challenges after considering all information submitted by the Class Member and Defendant.

#### 7.7. Objections to 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 fax, email, or mail. 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. A Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator must do so not later than 45 calendar days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed).
- 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 and maintain and use an internet website to post information of interest to Class Members including the date, time and location for the Final Approval Hearing and copies of the Settlement Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval, the Class Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, the Motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and Class Representative Service Payment, the Final Approval and the Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes 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 calendar days after the expiration of the deadline for submitting Requests for Exclusion, the Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel containing (a) the names of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion ("Exclusion List"); (b) the names of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid), with Class Data and other private information redacted. The Exclusion List shall be used solely for purposes of the Settlement, shall not be disclosed to third parties, and shall not be filed with the Court unless required by the Court.
- 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 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. Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. 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 Pay Periods. The Administrator's decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.
- 7.8.5. Administrator's Declaration. Not later than 14 calendar days before the date by which Plaintiff is required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, 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 from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), and the number of written objections. 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.
- 7.8.6. Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within 10 calendar 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. To negotiate and reach the Settlement, the Parties understood and agreed that Class Members represent approximately 52,000 workweeks from May 1, 2018 to June 10, 2024. The Parties further understood and agreed that if the final workweeks from May 1, 2018 to June 10, 2024, which formed the basis for the Settlement, increases by more than 10% above 52,000 (e.g., to greater than 57,200 workweeks), the Gross Settlement Amount will increase by the proportional amount for the percentage of workweeks above 57,200 workweeks.
- 9. DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO TERMINATE SETTLEMENT. If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List exceeds 10% of all Class Members, Defendant may, but is not obligated, to elect to terminate the Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendant withdraws, the Settlement shall be void ab initio, have no force or effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however, Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Settlement Administration Expenses incurred up to that point in time. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than 14 calendar days after receipt of the Exclusion List; late Requests for Exclusion will have no effect on the Settlement and must be denied by the Administrator.
- **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), a Proposed Final Approval Order and Judgment (Exhibit C) (collectively "Motion for Final Approval").
  - 10.1. <u>Response to Objections</u>. 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.
  - 10.2. <u>Duty to Cooperate</u>. 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 release to be granted by Class Members), 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 Administrator Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.
  - 10.3. <u>Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court</u>. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement

solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

- 10.4. Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Gross Settlement Amount and Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment set forth in this Settlement, 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 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 by any Class Member, Aggrieved Individual or attorney objecting to or challenging the Settlement. If an objector appeals the Judgment, the Parties' obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final consistent with the terms of the Settlement.
- 10.5. Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the Gross Settlement Amount, and the scope of Released Class Claims and the Released PAGA Claims), 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 Judgment, if possible and consistent with the terms of this Agreement, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration 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 Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, so 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 that is consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

#### 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 Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendant has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does not grant

Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or enter Judgment, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendant reserves all available rights and defenses to the claims alleged in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and 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. <u>No Solicitation</u>. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees will not solicit any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Judgment. Class Counsel further agree to cease all affirmative communication (oral and written) with Class Members, other than through Court-approved notices; this provision does not prevent Class Counsel from communicating with any Class Members who may contact Class Counsel 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 Defendant, 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. <u>Cooperation</u>. 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 Settlement 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 a mediator 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 this Settlement.
- 12.7. <u>No Tax Advice.</u> Neither Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Settlement 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. Plaintiff and Class Counsel agree that the terms of this Settlement (including, but not limited to, the Gross Settlement Amount), the negotiations leading to this Settlement, and all documents related to the Settlement, including this Settlement Agreement and any subsequent settlement contracts, shall not be discussed with, publicized, or promoted to the public, except through public court filings as necessary to obtain preliminary and final court approval of the Settlement, and if necessary to enforce the terms of this Settlement Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Plaintiff and Class Counsel may tell the public in general only the claims "have been resolved by the parties." This provision does not prevent Class Counsel from fulfilling its duties as Class Counsel, nor describing their qualifications to seek approval as Class Counsel.
- 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 to 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: Aegis Law Firm, PC

Kashif Haque Samuel Wong Jessica L. Campbell

jcampbell@aegislawfirm.com

Jamie M. Loos

jloos@aegislawfirm.com

9811 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 100

Irvine, California 92618

To Defendant: Jackson Lewis, PC

Cary G. Palmer Keelia K. Lee

cary.palmer@jacksonlewis.com keelia.lee@jacksonlewis.com 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1600 Sacramento, California 95814

- 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 and Discovery</u>. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation and discovery shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

Date: 09/20/24	PLAINTIFF PATRICIA BODEMER Patricia Biodeme (Sep 20, 2024 11:21 PDT)  Plaintiff
Date:	DEFENDANT CALIFORNIA PSYCHIATRIC TRANSITIONS INCORPORATED
	By:

Jamie M. Loos

iloos@aegislawfirm.com

9811 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 100

Irvine, California 92618

To Defendant: Jackson Lewis, PC

Cary G. Palmer Keelia K. Lee

cary.palmer@jacksonlewis.com keelia.lee@jacksonlewis.com 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1600 Sacramento, California 95814

- 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 and Discovery</u>. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation and discovery shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

Date:	PLAINTIFF PATRICIA BODEMER
	Plaintiff
Date: 9/16/2024	DEFENDANT CALIFORNIA PSYCHIATRIC TRANSITIONS INCORPORATED Mia Youga
	By: Julia Youga
	CF0

Date: 9/20/2024

AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC

Samuel Wong
Kashif Haque
Jessica Campbell
Jamie M. Loos
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Date: <u>10.15.24</u> JACKSON LEWIS, P.C.

Cary G. Palmer Keelia K. Lee

Attorneys for Defendant

#### **EXHIBIT A**

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

Patricia Bodemer v. California Psychiatric Transitions, Inc. Case No. 22CV-03472

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 an employee class action lawsuit ("Action") against California Psychiatric Transitions Incorporated ("Defendant" is used herein as a placeholder) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action was filed by a former employee Particia Bodemer ("Plaintiff") and seeks payment of (1) alleged back wages and other relief for a class of hourly employees ("Class Members") who worked for Defendant during the Class Period (May 1, 2018 to September 8, 2024); and (2) alleged penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") for all hourly employees who worked for Defendant during the PAGA Period (October 26, 2021 to September 8, 2024) ("Aggrieved Employees").

Without admitting any wrongdoing or liability, the proposed Settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class Settlement requiring Defendant to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA Settlement requiring Defendant to fund individual PAGA Payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA").

Based on Defendant's records, and the Parties' current assumptions, your Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$ (less withholdings) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ (less withholdings) are receive likely will be different and will depend on a number of factors, including any changes to the number weeks worked by Class Members. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Defendant's records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you didn't work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Defendant's records showing that **you worked**workweeks during the Class Period and **you worked**workweeks during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more workweeks during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section 4 of this Notice.

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 ("Class Counsel"). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Defendant to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employ6ees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Defendant.

If you worked for Defendant 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 to 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 the Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims described below.
- (2) **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting the written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to individually pursue the Released Class Claims. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement and remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.

Defendant 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,		
Anything to	eligible for an Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA		
Participate in the	Payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert		
Settlement	the claims against Defendant that are covered by this Settlement		
	(Released Class Claims).		
You Can Opt-out of	If you don't want to fully participate in the proposed Settlement,		
the Class Settlement,	you can opt-out of the Class Settlement by sending the		
but not the PAGA	Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded,		
Settlement	you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer		
	eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class		
	Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed Settlement.		
The Opt-out Deadline	See Section 6 of this Notice.		
is			
	You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed		
	Settlement. Defendant must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all		
	Aggrieved Employees, and the Aggrieved Employees must give up		
	their rights to pursue Released PAGA Claims (described below).		
Participating Class	All Class Members who do not op-out ("Participating Class		
Members Can Object	Members") can object to the proposed Settlement. The Court's		
to the Class Settlement	decision whether to finally approve the Settlement will include a		
but not the PAGA	determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and		
Settlement	Plaintiff who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are		
	not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel or		
Written Objections	Plaintiff, but every dollar paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiff		
Must be Submitted by	reduces the overall amount paid to Participating Class Members.		
	You can object to the amounts requested by Class Counsel or		

	Plaintiff if you think they are unreasonable. See Section 7 of this		
	Notice.		
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		
Final Approval	right to appear (or hire an attorney to appear on your behalf at your		
Hearing	own cost), in person, by telephone or by using the Court's virtual		
	appearance platform. Participating Class Members can verbally		
	object to the Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing. See Section		
	8 of this Notice.		
You Can Challenge the	The amount of your Individual Class Payment and PAGA Payment		
Calculation of Your	(if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one		
Workweeks/Pay	day during the Class Period and how many Pay Periods you worked		
Periods	at least one day during the PAGA Period, respectively. The		
	number of Class Period Workweeks and number of PAGA Period		
Written Challenges	Pay Periods you worked according to Defendant's records is stated		
Must be Submitted by	on the first page 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. The Action alleges that Defendant violated California labor laws by failing to pay overtime wages, minimum wages, wages due upon termination and reimbursable 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 the California Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.) ("PAGA"). Plaintiff is represented by attorneys in the Action: Samuel A. Wong, Kashif Haque, Jessica L. Campbell, and Jamie M. Loos from Aegis Law Firm, PC ("Class Counsel.") Defendant is represented by Cary G. Palmer and Keelia K. Lee of Jackson Lewis, P.C. ("Defendant's Counsel")

Defendant strongly denies violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contends it complied with all applicable laws.

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

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Defendant or Plaintiff is correct on the merits. In the meantime, Plaintiff and Defendant 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 settlement negotiations were successful and resulted in the settlement. 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 Defendant 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, Defendant does 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) Defendant has 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) 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?

- A. Defendant Will Pay \$1,050,000.00 as the Gross Settlement Amount (Gross Settlement). Defendant has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement 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 California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"). Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Defendant will fund the Gross Settlement 60 calendar days after the Judgment entered by the Court becomes final. The Judgment will be final on the date the Court enters Judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed Settlement or the Judgment is appealed.
- B. <u>Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement.</u> At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:
  - i. Up to \$350,000.00 (one-third (1/3) of the Gross Settlement) to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and up to \$30,000.00 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.
  - ii. Up to \$10,000.00 as a Class Representative Award for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class, and signing a general release of all claims. A Class Representative Award will be the only monies Plaintiff will receive other than Plaintiff's Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment.
  - iii. Up to \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.
  - iv. Up to \$50,000.00 for PAGA Penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Period Pay Periods.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions. The Court will consider all objections.

- C. <u>Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members</u>. After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement (the "Net Settlement") by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period Workweeks.
- D. Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members. Plaintiff and Defendant are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 10% of each Individual Class Payment to alleged unpaid wages ("Wage Portion") and 90% to alleged interest and penalties ("Non-Wage Portion"). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. (Defendant will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes 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.
- E. 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 deposited with the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in your name. If the monies represented by your check is sent to the Controller's Unclaimed Property, you should consult the rules of the Fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.
- F. Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs). You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Class Settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed Request for Exclusion by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Response Deadline. The Request for Exclusion should be a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative setting forth a Class Member's name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the Settlement. Excluded Class Members (i.e., Non-Participating Class Members) will not receive Individual Class Payments, but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Defendant.

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 Defendant based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

G. 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 Judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a Judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiff and Defendant have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Defendant will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Defendant.

- H. <u>Administrator</u>. The Court has appointed a neutral company, (the "Administrator") to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' Requests for Exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member Challenges over Workweeks, 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.
- I. Participating Class Members' Release. After the Judgment is final and Defendant has fully funded the Gross Settlement (and separately paid all employer payroll taxes), Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the Settlement. 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 Defendant or related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA penalties based on PAGA Period facts, as 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 Released Parties from all claims alleged or that reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint, including without limitation, California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, California Industrial Commission Wage Orders, California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11040, et. Seq., Business and Professions Code Sections 17200, et seq., California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1021.5, and including all claims for alleged unpaid wages, minimum wages, hours worked, overtime or double time wages, regular rate of pay, bonus and incentive pay, timely payment of wages during employment, timely payment of wages at separation, wage statements, payroll records and recordkeeping, unreimbursed business expenses, meal periods and meal period premiums, rest breaks and rest break premiums, failure to pay additional 401(k) benefits and/or deferred compensation benefits and/or matching benefits for payments received under the Settlement, unfair competition, unfair business practices, unlawful business practices, fraudulent business practices, class actions, representative actions, aggrieved party claims, declaratory relief, penalties of any nature (including but not limited to civil penalties, waiting-time penalties) interest, fees, costs, as well as all other claims and allegations alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively "Released Class Claims"), which arose during the Class Period.

J. <u>Aggrieved Employees' PAGA Release.</u> After the Court's judgment is final, and Defendant has paid the Gross Settlement (and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes), all Aggrieved Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against Defendant, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and

those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Defendant or its related entities based on the PAGA Period facts allege in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The Aggrieved Employees' Releases for Participating and Non-Participating Class Members are as follows:

All Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, the Released Parties from all claims arising during the PAGA Period seeking civil penalties under PAGA, that Plaintiff as a proxy for the State of California and/or the LWDA, to the maximum extent permitted by law, and as a private attorney general acting on behalf of Plaintiff and the PAGA employees, asserted or could reasonably have asserted based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint or the PAGA Notice, including but not limited to all claims arising under the California Labor Code including, but not limited to Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2698 et seq., 2800, and 2802, and the wage orders of the California Industrial Welfare Commission based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively, "Released PAGA Claims"). The Settlement shall release and bar all Released PAGA Claims by or on behalf of Plaintiff and all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period, regardless of whether Plaintiff and/or an Aggrieved Employee negotiates (cashes) their/his/her settlement checks sent pursuant to this Settlement. Aggrieved Employees cannot and do not have the right to opt out of the PAGA Group and/or release their PAGA Claims against the Released Parties. As such, an individual opting out of the Settlement Class has no impact as to his/her standing and/or inclusion in the PAGA Group assuming they/he/she qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee.

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

- A. <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, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member.
- B. <u>Individual PAGA Payments.</u> The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$12,500.00 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of PAGA Period Pay Periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.
- C. Workweek/Pay Period Challenges. The number of Class Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of PAGA Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Defendant's records, are stated in the first page of this Notice. You have until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to challenge the number of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail, email or fax. 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 Defendant's calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods based on Defendant's 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 Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Defendant's Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

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

- A. <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.
- B. <u>Non-Participating Class Members.</u> The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts 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 with your name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the 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 *Bodemer v. California Psychiatric Transitions Incorporated*, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number, and approximate dates of employment for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. The Administrator must be sent your request to be excluded by or it will be invalid. Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

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

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiff and Defendant are asking the Court to approve. At least 16 business days before the Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiff will file in Court (1) a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair, and (2) a Motion for Fees, Litigation Expenses and Service Award stating (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting as a Class Representative Service Award. 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 <a href="https://www.merced.courts.ca.gov/civil-and-probate-remote-appearance">(url)</a> or the Court's website <a href="https://www.merced.courts.ca.gov/civil-and-probate-remote-appearance">https://www.merced.courts.ca.gov/civil-and-probate-remote-appearance</a>.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Agreement, the Motion for Final Approval and/or Motion for Fees, Litigation Expenses and Service Award 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 *Patricia Bodemer v. California Psychiatric Transitions, Inc.* and include your name, current address, telephone number, and approximate dates of employment for Defendant and sign the objection. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the Final Approval Hearing. 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (time) in Department 3 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, located at 2260 N. Street, Merced, California, 95340. At the Hearing, the judge will decide whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement 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.

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

The Agreement sets forth everything Defendant and Plaintiff have promised to do under the proposed Settlement. The easiest way to read the Agreement, the Judgment or any other Settlement documents is to go to <a href="(specify entity)">(specify entity)</a> 's website at <a href="(url)">(url)</a>.
You can also telephone or send an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to

(https://www.merced.courts.ca.gov/online-services/online-records) and entering the Case Number for the Action, Case No. 22CV-03472.

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

Class Counsel:

Name of Attorney: Kashif Haque, Samuel Wong, Jessica L. Campbell, and Jamie M. Loos

Email Address: <u>jloos@aegislawfirm.com</u> Name of Firm: Aegis Law Firm, PC

Mailing Address: 9811 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92618

Telephone: (949) 379-6250

#### **Settlement Administrator:**

Name of Company: Email Address: Mailing Address: Telephone: Fax Number:

#### 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 should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund <a href="https://www.sco.ca.gov/Files-UPD/guide\_upd\_claiming.pdf">https://www.sco.ca.gov/Files-UPD/guide\_upd\_claiming.pdf</a> for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

#### 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.

#### EXHIBIT B

# [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AND RELASE BETWEEN PLAINTIFF AND DEFENDANT

The Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement ("Motion")					
of Plaintiff Patricia Bodemer ("Plaintiff") came before this Court on in Departmen					
	before the Honorable, presiding. The Court having considered the papers				
submitted in support of the Motion and good cause appearing therefor,					

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. The Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement and the Settlement Class based upon the terms set forth in the Class Action and PAGA Settlement ("Settlement") filed with the Motion. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement.
- 2. It appears to the Court on a preliminary basis that (a) the Settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable; (b) the Gross Settlement Amount and Net Settlement Amount are fair, adequate and reasonable when balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to liability and damages issues; (c) sufficient investigation and research have been conducted such that counsel for the Parties at this time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions; (d) settlement at this time will avoid additional costs by all Parties, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the Action; and (e) the Settlement has been reached as the result of non-collusive, arms-length negotiations. The Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised at the final fairness hearing and final approval by this Court.
- 3. With respect to the Class and for purposes of proceeding pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 for approval of the settlement only, the Court finds on a preliminary basis that (a) Class Members are ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all Class Members is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members; (c) Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class' claims; (d) class certification is a superior method for implementing the Settlement and

adjudicating this Action in a fair and efficient manner; (e) the Class Representative can fairly and adequately protect the Class' interests; and (f) Class Counsel are qualified to serve as counsel for the Class.

- 4. A final fairness hearing on the question of whether the proposed Settlement, attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel, Class Representative's Service Award, penalties of any nature and costs of settlement administration should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate as to Class Members is scheduled in Department on the date and time set forth in the Implementation Schedule in Paragraph 10 below.
- 5. This Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Proposed Class Action and PAGA Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval of Settlement ("Class Notice") (**Exhibit 1**). The Court approves the procedure for Class Members to opt out of and to object to the Settlement as set forth in the Settlement and Class Notice.
- 6. The Court directs the mailing of the Class Notice by first-class mail to the Class Members in accordance with the Implementation Schedule set forth in Paragraph 10 below. The Court finds the dates selected for the mailing and distribution of the Class Notice, as set forth in the Implementation Schedule, meet the requirements of due process and provide the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.
- 7. It is ordered the Settlement Class is preliminarily certified for settlement purposes. The Class is defined as all non-exempt employees employed by Defendant in the State of California at any time during the period of May 1, 2018 to September 8, 2024.
- 8. Plaintiff Patricia Bodemer is hereby preliminarily appointed and designated, for all purposes, as the Class Representative and the attorneys of Aegis Law Firm, PC are hereby preliminarily appointed and designated as counsel for the Class ("Class Counsel"). Class Counsel is authorized to act on behalf of the Class Members with respect to all acts or consents required by, or which may be given pursuant to, the Settlement, and such other acts reasonably necessary to consummate the Settlement. Any Class Member may enter an appearance either personally or

through counsel of such individual's own choosing and at such individual's own expense. Any Class Member who does not enter an appearance or appear on his or her own will be represented by Class Counsel.

- 9. The Court hereby preliminarily approves Class Counsel attorneys' fees of up to one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount, Class Counsel litigation expenses not to exceed \$30,000.00, an Enhancement Award up to \$10,000.00 to Plaintiff, payment to the LWDA in the amount of \$37,500.00, and costs of administration not to exceed \$ subject to final approval.
  - 10. The Court confirms as the Administrator.
- 11. To facilitate administration of the Settlement pending final approval, the Court hereby enjoins Plaintiffs and all Class Members from filing or prosecuting any claims, suits or administrative proceedings (including filing claims with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement of the California Department of Industrial Relations) regarding claims released by the Settlement, unless and until such Class Members have filed valid Requests for Exclusion with the Settlement Administrator and the time for opting out of the class has elapsed.
- 12. Pending the Final Approval and Fairness Hearing, all proceedings in this Action, other than proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms of the Settlement and this Order, are hereby stayed.
- 13. Jurisdiction is hereby retained over this Action, the Parties to the Action, and each of the Class Members for all matters relating to this Action, and this Settlement, including (without limitation) all matters relating to the administration, interpretation, effectuation, and/or enforcement of this Settlement and this Order.
- 14. This Judgment is intended to be a final disposition in its entirety of the above captioned action. Without affecting the finality of this judgment in any way, the Court retains jurisdiction of all matters relating to the interpretation, administration, implementation, effectuation, and enforcement of the Settlement pursuant to C.C.P. § 664.6.
- 15. The Parties will bear their own costs and attorneys' fees except as otherwise provided by this Court's Order awarding Class Counsels' Award for attorneys' fees and litigation

costs.

16. The Court orders the following Implementation Schedule for further proceedings:

10. 1	The Court orders the following implementation	r
a.	Deadline for Defendant to Submit Class Member and PAGA Member Information to Settlement Administrator	30 calendar days after Order Granting Preliminary Approval
b.	Deadline for Settlement Administrator to Mail Class Notice to Class Members and PAGA Members	45 calendar days after Order Granting Preliminary Approval
c.	Deadline for Class Members to Postmark Requests for Exclusion	45 calendar days after mailing of Class Notice
d.	Deadline for Defendant to provide written Notice of Rescission of Settlement to Class Counsel (if applicable)	14 calendar days after receipt of the Exclusion Report
e.	Deadline for Receipt by Court, Settlement Administrator, and Counsel of any Objections to Settlement	45 calendar days after mailing of Class Notice
f.	Deadline for Class Counsel to file Motion for Final Approval of Settlement, including Request for Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and Service Award	16 Court days before Final Approval Hearing
g.	Deadline for Settlement Administrator to file Declaration of Due Diligence and Proof of Mailing	16 Court days before Final Approval Hearing
h.	Final Approval Hearing	Date: Time: Department:
i.	Deadline for Defendant to fund Gross Settlement Amount	60 calendar days after Final Effective Date
j.	Deadline for Settlement Administrator to mail Settlement Awards and Service Award, and to wire transfer Attorneys' Fees and Costs (if Settlement is Effective)	74 calendar days after the Effective Date (e.g., 14 calendar days after Defendant funds the Settlement)
k.	Deadline for Class Members and PAGA Members to cash Settlement checks (if Settlement is Effective)	180 calendar days after Settlement Administrator mails Settlement Awards and Service Award

1.	Deadline for Settlement Administrator to distribute uncashed Settlement checks amount to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in name of the Class Members (if Settlement is Effective)	14 calendar days after deadline for Class Members to cash Settlement checks
m.	Settlement Administrator to File Proof of Payment of Settlement Awards, Service Award, Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and payment to LWDA (if Settlement is Effective)	21 calendar days after deadline for Settlement Administrator to distribute any uncashed checks

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED.		

II IS HEREDI GRUERED.	
Dated:	By:

#### EXHIBIT C

## [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AND JUDGMENT

The above-referenced Class Acti	ion and PAGA Repre	esentative Action ("Action") naving
come before the Court on	, in Department	before the Honorable George J.
Abdullah, presiding for a hearing and Or	der Granting Final A	pproval of Class Action and PAGA
Settlement and Judgment ("Final Order")	), consistent with the (	Court's Preliminary Approval Order
("Preliminary Approval Order"), filed an	d entered	, and as set forth in the Class
Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement	ent between Plaintiff	f Patricia Bodemer and Defendant
California Psychiatric Transitions Inco	orporated ("Settlemer	nt") in this Action, and due and
adequate notice having been given to all	Class Members and	PAGA Members as required in the
Preliminary Approval Order, and the Cou	urt having considered	all papers filed and proceedings had
herein and otherwise being fully informe	d, and good cause ap	pearing therefor,

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

- 1. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Action and over all Parties to this Action, including all Class Members and PAGA Members.
- 3. Distribution of the Class and PAGA Notice directed to the Class Members and PAGA Members as set forth in the Settlement and the other matters set forth therein has been completed in conformity with the Preliminary Approval Order, including notice to all Class Members and PAGA Members who could be identified through reasonable effort, and is the best notice practicable under the circumstances. The Class and PAGA Notice provided due and adequate notice of the proceedings and of the matters set forth therein, including the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement, to all persons entitled to such Class and PAGA Notice, and the Class and PAGA Notice fully satisfied the requirements of due process. All Class Members, PAGA Members, Released Class Claims and all Released PAGA Claims, are covered by and included within the Settlement and this Final Order.

- 4. The Court hereby finds the Settlement was entered into in good faith pursuant to and within the meaning of California Code of Civil Procedure section 877.6. The Court further finds that the Settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable and that Plaintiffs have satisfied the standards and applicable requirements for final approval of this class action Settlement under California law, including the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 23, approved for use by the California state courts in *Vasquez v. Superior Court* (1971) 4 Cal.3d 800, 821.
- 5. The Court hereby approves the Settlement set forth in the Settlement and finds that the Settlement is, in all respects, fair, adequate and reasonable, and directs the Parties to effectuate the Settlement according to its terms. The Court finds that the Settlement has been reached as a result of arms-length negotiations and private mediation. The Court further finds that the Parties have conducted investigation and research, and counsel for the Parties are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions. The Court also finds that Settlement at this time will avoid additional substantial costs, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the Action. The Court has reviewed the benefits that are being granted as part of the Settlement and recognizes the significant value to the Class Members and PAGA Members. The Court also finds that the Class is properly certified as a class for settlement purposes only.
- 6. As of the date of entry of this Final Order, each and every Released Claim (as defined in the Settlement and set forth below) of each and every Class Member is and shall be deemed to be conclusively released as against the Released Parties. As of the date of this Final Order, the Class Representatives and each and every Class Member who have not submitted a valid Request for Exclusion are hereby released and forever barred and enjoined from prosecuting the Released Claims, except as to such rights or claims as may be created by the Settlement, against Defendant and the Released Parties from any and all claims under state, federal and local law ultimately alleged in this Action and that reasonably could have been alleged in this Action based on the factual allegations contained in the Operative Complaint in this Action and any amendments

thereto, as to the Class Members, including without limitation, California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, California Industrial Commission Wage Orders, California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11040, et. Seq., Business and Professions Code Sections 17200, et seq., California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1021.5, and including all claims for alleged unpaid wages, minimum wages, hours worked, overtime or double time wages, regular rate of pay, bonus and incentive pay, timely payment of wages during employment, timely payment of wages at separation, wage statements, payroll records and recordkeeping, unreimbursed business expenses, meal periods and meal period premiums, rest breaks and rest break premiums, failure to pay additional 401(k) benefits and/or deferred compensation benefits and/or matching benefits for payments received under the Settlement, unfair competition, unfair business practices, unlawful business practices, fraudulent business practices, class actions, representative actions, aggrieved party claims, declaratory relief, penalties of any nature (including but not limited to civil penalties, waiting-time penalties) interest, fees, costs, as well as all other claims and allegations alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively "Released Class Claims"), which arose during the Class Period.

As of the date of entry of this Final Order, the claims to be released by the PAGA Members include all claims arising during the PAGA Period seeking civil penalties under PAGA, that Plaintiffs as proxy for the State of California and/or the LWDA, to the maximum extent permitted by law, and as a private attorney general acting on behalf of Plaintiffs and the PAGA Members, asserted or could reasonably have asserted based on the facts alleged in the Action and/or the LWDA letter, including but not limited to all claims arising under the California Labor Code including, but not limited to, sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2698 et seq., 2800, and 2802, and the wage orders of the California Industrial Welfare Commission based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint (collectively, "Released PAGA Claims"). The Settlement shall release and bar all Released PAGA Claims by or on behalf of Plaintiff and all Aggrieved Employees during

the PAGA Period, regardless of whether Plaintiff and/or an Aggrieved Employee negotiates (cashes) their/his/her settlement checks sent pursuant to this Settlement. Aggrieved Employees cannot and do not have the right to opt out as an Aggrieved Employee and/or release of their Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties. As such, an individual opting out of the Settlement Class has no impact as to his/her standing and/or inclusion as an Aggrieved Employee, assuming they/he/she qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee.

- Neither the Settlement nor any of the terms set forth in the Settlement is an 8. admission by Defendant, or any of the other Released Parties, nor is this Final Order a finding of the validity of any claims in this Action, or of any wrongdoing by Defendant or any of the other Released Parties. Neither this Final Order, the Settlement, nor any document referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Settlement, may be construed as, or may be used as, an admission by or against Defendant, or any of the other Released Parties, of any fault, wrongdoing or liability whatsoever. The entering into or carrying out of the Settlement, and any negotiations or proceedings related thereto, shall not in any event be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, an admission or concession with regard to the denials or defenses by Defendant, or any of the other Released Parties, and shall not be offered in evidence in any action or proceeding in any court, administrative agency or other tribunal for any purpose whatsoever other than to enforce the provisions of this Final Order, the Settlement, the Released Class Claims, the Released PAGA Claims, and any related agreement or release. Notwithstanding these restrictions, any of the Released Parties may file in this Action, or submit in any other proceeding, the Final Order, the Settlement, and any other papers and records on file in this Action as evidence of the Settlement to support a defense of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release or other theory of claim or issue preclusion or similar defense as to the Released Class Claims and the Released PAGA Claims.
- 9. The Court hereby enters judgment in the entire Action as of the filing date of this Final Order, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Settlement. Without affecting the finality of this Final Order in any way, the Court hereby retains continuing jurisdiction over the interpretation, implementation and enforcement of the Settlement and all orders entered in connection therewith

pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6.

- 10. With respect to the Class and for purposes of approving this Settlement only, this Court finds and concludes that: (a) the members of the Class are ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law or fact common to the Class, and there is a well-defined community of interest among members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the Action; (c) the claims of Class Representatives Sara Simas and Adonte Donastorg are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d) the Class Representatives have fairly and adequately protected the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class action is superior to other available methods for an efficient adjudication of this controversy; and (f) the counsel of record for the Class Representatives, i.e., Class Counsel, are qualified to serve as counsel for Plaintiffs in their individual and representative capacities for the Class. The Court finds the settlement payments provided for under the Settlement to be fair and reasonable in light of all of the circumstances. The Court orders the calculations and the payments to be made and administered in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.
- 11. The Court hereby confirms Aegis Law Firm, PC as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class and for all PAGA Members.
- 12. The Court further finds that the common fund doctrine is applicable to this Action because there is a sufficiently identifiable class of beneficiaries ("the Class"), the benefits can be accurately traced to the Settlement that Plaintiffs and Class Counsel negotiated on behalf of the Class, and the fee can be shifted with exactitude to those benefiting as the fee request is a specific, lump-sum percentage of the common fund. *See Serrano v. Priest* (1977) 20 Cal.3d 25, 34-35. The Court finds the attorneys' fees request of thirty-three and one-third percent (33 1/3%) of the Gross Settlement Amount to be appropriate compensation for Class Counsel. The attorneys' fees request is within the range that has been approved by other courts in similar cases and reasonable in light of the circumstances of this Action, the substantial and beneficial results obtained on behalf of the Class, and the contingent nature of the recovery over the course of this Action, which included potential loss at summary judgment, certification and/or trial proceedings. Pursuant to the terms

of the Settlement, and the authorities, evidence, and argument submitted by Class Counsel, the Court hereby awards Class Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$350,000.00 and attorneys' costs in the amount of \$30,000.00, from the Gross Settlement Amount as final payment for and complete satisfaction of any and all attorneys' fees and costs incurred by and/or owed to Class Counsel and any other person or entity related to this Action. The Court further orders that the award of attorneys' fees and costs set forth in this Paragraph shall be administered pursuant to the terms of the Settlement and made payable to and deposited into the bank account of "Aegis Law Firm, PC" as Class Counsel in this Action.

- 13. The Court also hereby approves and orders payment of a Service Award to Plaintiff and Class Representative Patricia Bodemer in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 14. The Court also hereby approves and orders payment in the amount of \$37,500.00 from the Gross Settlement Amount for PAGA penalties, payable to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.
- 15. The Court also hereby approves and orders payment from the Gross Settlement Amount for actual claims administration expenses incurred by the Settlement Administrator, in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 16. The Court also hereby approves and orders that any residue from uncashed settlement award checks after the expiration date will be paid out to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member, thereby leaving no unclaimed residue subject to California Code of Civil Procedure section 384.
- 17. The Court also hereby finds and orders that the Settlement is and constitutes a fair, adequate, and reasonable compromise of the Released Claims against Defendant and the Released Parties.
- 18. Provided the Settlement becomes effective under the terms of the Settlement, the Court also hereby orders that the deadline for mailing the Court-approved Settlement Awards,

attorneys' fees and costs, and Service Award is as set forth in the Implementation Schedule within the Preliminary Approval Order.

19. The Court also hereby finds that there were no objections to the Settlement raised by any person on the record at the hearing on the Final Approval Order.

IT	IS SO	ORDERED.	LET	HIDGMEN	TREEN	ITERED	ACCO	RDINGLY
11	10 00	ONDENED.		JUDUMEN		TERED	ACCO	MDINGEL.

Dated:	Bv: