

FILED  
MAY 21 2026

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS

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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS**

9 Jose V. Hernandez as an individual and  
10 on behalf of all others similarly situated,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13  
14 Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., Pick-n-Pull  
Dismantlers, LLC, Pick-n-Pull  
15 Dismantlers, Stockton, LLC, Pick-n-Pull  
Dismantlers, Pasadena, Inc. and DOES 1  
16 through 50, inclusive;

17 Defendants.  
18

Case No.: CV-24-000171

ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO:  
HON. SONNY SANDHU

~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER GRANTING  
FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION  
AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AND  
JUDGMENT

Date: May 21, 2026

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Dept.: 24

1 **[PROPOSED] ORDER**

2 WHEREAS, this matter has come before the Court for hearing on May 21, 2026  
3 pursuant to the Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and  
4 PAGA Settlement dated January 14, 2026, for final approval of the Settlement between Plaintiff  
5 Jenny Hernandez ("Plaintiff") and Defendants Schnitzer Steel Industries Inc., Pick-N- Pull Auto  
6 Dismantlers, LLC, Pick-N- Pull Auto Dismantlers a California General Partnership, and Pick-N-  
7 Pull Dismantlers Stockton LLC ("Defendants") (collectively referred to as "the Parties") as set  
8 forth in the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Settlement" or "Settlement  
9 Agreement") attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and the Court having considered all papers filed and  
10 the proceedings had and otherwise being fully informed.

11 **THE COURT HEREBY MAKES THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATIONS AND**  
12 **ORDERS:**

13 1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement,  
14 and all terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order as set forth in the  
15 Settlement Agreement. A copy of the Settlement Agreement is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

16 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this litigation and over all  
17 Parties to this litigation, including Plaintiff Jose Hernandez and all 2,979 "Class Members".

18 3. Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order, the appointed Settlement  
19 Administrator, ILYM Group, Inc. ("Settlement Administrator"), implemented a comprehensive  
20 notice program. The Settlement Administrator received the Class Data on January 30, 2026, and  
21 mailed the Court-Approved Notice of Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court  
22 Approval ("Notice Packet"), in English and Spanish, to all 2,985 "Class Members" by First-Class  
23 U.S. Mail on February 16, 2026. The Notice Packet fairly and adequately informed Class  
24 Members of the terms of the proposed Settlement, their rights and options, and the benefits  
25 available to them thereunder. Prior to the mailing, the Settlement Administrator processed all  
26 addresses through the National Change of Address database. Of the 84 Notice Packets returned  
27 as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator performed skip-trace searches and successfully

1 re-mailed 77 packets to updated addresses, with 11 notices remaining undeliverable. The  
2 Settlement Administrator received 6 requests for exclusion from the following individuals: Ludin  
3 E. Castaneda Perez, Martin S. Fuentes, Oscar I. Garcia, Alicia A Moreno, Martin J. Tinajero and  
4 Lillie Hambrick.

5 4. The Court finds that the Settlement, which provides for a Gross Settlement  
6 Amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,500,000.00) and a  
7 Net Settlement Amount of Seven Hundred Twenty-One Thousand, Two Hundred Twenty-Seven  
8 dollars and eighty-nine cents (\$721, 227.89), offers significant monetary recovery to the 2,979  
9 Class Members. The Court finds that such recovery is fair, adequate, and reasonable when  
10 balanced against the risks, expenses, and delays of continued litigation, particularly concerning  
11 contested liability and damages issues.

12 5. The Court hereby orders the Settlement Administrator to distribute Individual  
13 Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments to Settlement Class Members and Aggrieved  
14 Employees in accordance with the provisions of the Settlement Agreement. The Individual Class  
15 Payment and Individual PAGA Payment checks shall remain valid for a period of one hundred  
16 eighty (180) calendar days.

17 6. All Settlement Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, regardless of whether  
18 or not they cash their Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment checks, will  
19 be bound by the releases detailed in this Settlement Agreement. Settlement Class Members and  
20 Aggrieved Employees must cash or deposit their Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA  
21 Payment checks within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days after the checks are mailed to  
22 them. If any checks remain uncashed or not deposited by the expiration of the 180-day period,  
23 the Settlement Administrator will submit the amount of the uncashed or not deposited payments  
24 to the California State Controller as unclaimed property in the name of the Settlement Class  
25 Member or Aggrieved Employee who did not cash his or her check.

26 7. The Court finds that the Gross Settlement Amount (\$1,500,000.00), Net  
27 Settlement Amount (\$721, 227.89), and the methodology used to calculate and pay each

1 Individual Class Payment and Individual PAGA Payment, in accordance with the Settlement, are  
2 fair, adequate, and reasonable, and are hereby approved. Each Individual Class Payment shall be  
3 calculated by dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks (204,149)  
4 worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and multiplying the result by  
5 each Participating Class Member's Workweeks. The tax allocation shall be ten percent (10%) to  
6 wages (reported on IRS Form W-2 and subject to withholding) and sixty-six percent (90%) to  
7 non-wage amounts (reported on IRS Form 1099). Defendant shall separately pay all employer  
8 payroll taxes owed on the wage portion. The average gross payment to Settlement Class  
9 Members is \$242.10, with the highest gross payment being \$1,033.44 and the lowest gross  
10 payment being \$3.72.

11 8. For purposes of this Final Approval Order and this Settlement only, the Court  
12 hereby confirms the appointment of Jose Hernandez as the Class Representative for the 2,980  
13 Settlement Class Members. The Court finally approves and awards the Class Representative  
14 Service Payment to Plaintiff, as fair and reasonable, in the amount of ten thousand dollars  
15 (\$10,00.00). The Court hereby orders the Settlement Administrator to distribute the Class  
16 Representative Service Payment to Plaintiff in accordance with the provisions of the Settlement  
17 Agreement.

18 9. The Court hereby approves the PAGA Allocation of two hundred thousand  
19 dollars (\$200,000.00) from the Gross Settlement Amount as penalties payable pursuant to the  
20 Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code § 2699 et seq.).

21 10. For purposes of this Final Approval Order and this Settlement only, the Court  
22 hereby confirms the appointment of Amir H. Seyedfarshi of Employment Rights Lawyers, APC  
23 as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class Members. The Court hereby finally approves and  
24 awards attorney fees in the amount of Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand dollars and Zero  
25 cents (\$525,000.00), representing exactly 35% of the Gross Settlement Amount of  
26 \$1,500,000.00.



1 558, 1182.12, 1174, 1174.5, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, and 1198, as well as applicable  
2 IWC Wage Orders, including sections 3, 11, and 12 (the "Released Claims"),  
3 except Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including  
4 claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment  
5 and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers'  
6 compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

7 14. The Court further finds that all Aggrieved Employees, regardless of whether they  
8 submitted a Request for Exclusion from the Class Settlement, are deemed to have released the  
9 Released Parties from all Released PAGA Claims. All 1,596 Aggrieved Employees are bound by  
10 this PAGA release. The "Released PAGA Claims" are defined as:

11 All claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been  
12 alleged, based on the allegations, facts, legal theories or causes of action set forth  
13 in the PAGA Notice or Operative Complaint including claims under Labor Code  
14 201, 202, 203, 204, 206, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1182.12, 1174,  
15 1174.5, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, and 1198, as well as applicable IWC Wage Orders,  
16 including sections 3, 11, and 12.

17 15. Neither this Final Approval Order, the Settlement Agreement, nor any document  
18 referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Settlement Agreement is, may be construed  
19 as, or may be used by Plaintiff as an admission by or against Defendants Schnitzer Steel Industries  
20 Inc., Pick-N- Pull Auto Dismantlers, LLC, Pick-N- Pull Auto Dismantlers a California General  
21 Partnership, and Pick-N-Pull Dismantlers Stockton LLC or any of the other Released Parties of  
22 any fault, wrongdoing or liability whatsoever. Nor is this Final Approval Order a finding of the  
23 validity of any claims in the Action or of any wrongdoing by Defendant or any of the other  
24 Released Parties.

25 16. The Court hereby enters judgment, with prejudice, for the reasons set forth above,  
26 and in accordance with the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement. This Order and Judgment  
27 is intended to be a final disposition of the Action in its entirety as to the class and PAGA claims

1 and shall constitute a complete bar to any further litigation against the Released Parties concerning  
2 the Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims.

3 17. Without affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order and Judgment in any  
4 way, this Court hereby retains continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over the interpretation,  
5 implementation, and enforcement of the Settlement Agreement and all orders and judgments  
6 entered in connection therewith, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6 and  
7 California Rule of Court 3.769(h). 12/11/24

8 18. A Post-Distribution Compliance Hearing is hereby set for \_\_\_\_\_, 2027 in  
9 Department 24 of this Court.

10 19. No later than ~~10~~<sup>5</sup> court days prior to the Post-Distribution Compliance Hearing,  
11 Plaintiff shall cause the Settlement Administrator to file a declaration with the Court reporting on  
12 the status of the settlement administration. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section  
13 384, subdivision (b), the report shall be in the form of a declaration from the Settlement  
14 Administrator, and shall describe: (i) the date the checks were mailed to Settlement Class Members  
15 and Aggrieved Employees; (ii) the total number of checks mailed; (iii) the average amount of those  
16 checks; (iv) the number of checks that remained uncashed; (v) the total value of those uncashed  
17 checks; (vi) the average amount of the uncashed checks; (vii) the nature and date of the disposition  
18 of unclaimed funds transmitted to the California State Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund; and  
19 (viii) all other amounts disbursed pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, including payments for  
20 attorneys' fees and costs, the Class Representative Service Payment, PAGA payments to the  
21 LWDA and Aggrieved Employees, and settlement administration expenses.

22  
23  
24 **IT IS SO ORDERED AND JUDGMENT IS HEREBY ENTERED.**

25  
26 Dated: 5/21/24

  
HONORABLE SONNY SANDHU  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

## EXHIBIT A

## CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CLASS NOTICE

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiff JOSE V. HERNANDEZ (“Plaintiff”) and Defendants RADIUS RECYCLING, INC. f/k/a/ SCHNITZER STEEL INDUSTRIES, INC., PICK-N-PULL DISMANTLERS, LLC, PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS, a California General Partnership, and PICK-N-PULL DISMANTLERS, STOCKTON, LLC (collectively, “Defendants”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiff and Defendants collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

### 1. DEFINITIONS.

- 1.1. “Action” means the Plaintiff’s lawsuit entitled *Jose V. Hernandez v. Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., et al.*, Stanislaus County Superior Court Case No. CV-24-000171 alleging wage and hour violations against Defendants initiated on January 8, 2024, in the County of Stanislaus and pending in Superior Court of the State of California.
- 1.2. “Administrator” means ILYM Group, Inc. (“ILYM”), the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.
- 1.3. “Administration Expenses Payment” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses in accordance with the Administrator’s “not to exceed” bid submitted to the Court in connection with Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.4. “Aggrieved Employee” means a person employed by Defendants in California and classified as an hourly, non-exempt employee who worked for Defendants during the PAGA Period.
- 1.5. “Class” means a person employed by Defendants in California and classified as an hourly, non-exempt employee who worked for Defendants during the Class Period.
- 1.6. “Class Counsel” means the Law Offices of Farrah Mirabel, including Farrah Mirabel, Esq. and Amir Seyedfarshi of Employment Rights Lawyers, APC.
- 1.7. “Class Counsel Fees Payment” and “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” mean the amounts allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses, respectively, incurred to prosecute the Action.
- 1.8. “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendants’ possession including the Class Member’s 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 with a Spanish translation, if applicable in the form, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- 1.12. "Class Period" means the period from January 8, 2020, through April 25, 2025.
- 1.13. "Class Representatives" 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 Payments" means the payment to the Class Representatives for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.
- 1.15. "Court" means the Superior Court of California, County of San Stanislaus.
- 1.16. "Defendants" means named Defendants Radius Recycling, Inc. f/k/a Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., Pick-n-Pull Dismantlers, LLC, Pick-N-Pull Auto Dismantlers, a California General Partnership, and Pick-n-Pull Dismantlers, Stockton, LLC.
- 1.17. "Defense Counsel" means Fisher & Phillips LLP.
- 1.18. "Effective Date" means the date by when both of the following have occurred: (1) the Court enters a Judgment on its Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement; and (2) the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, 61 days after the Court enters Judgment; or (c) if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.
- 1.19. "Final Approval" means the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.
- 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 One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,500,000.00), which is the total amount Defendants agree to pay under the Settlement except as provided in 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 Payments, and the Administration Expenses Payment.
- 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 Workweeks 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.
- 1.27. “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, *former* subd. (i).
- 1.28. “Mediation Date” means April 25, 2025.
- 1.29. “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 Payments, 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.
- 1.30. “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.
- 1.31. “PAGA Pay Period” means any pay period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendants for at least one day during the PAGA Period.
- 1.32. “PAGA Period” means the period from January 8, 2023, through April 25, 2025.
- 1.33. “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).
- 1.34. “PAGA Notice” means Plaintiff’s July 21, 2023, and August 21, 2025 letters to Defendants and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd.(a).
- 1.35. “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$50,000.00) and 75% to the LWDA (\$150,000.00) in settlement of PAGA claims.
- 1.36. “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.
- 1.37. “Plaintiff” means Jose V. Hernandez, the named Plaintiff in the Action.
- 1.38. “Preliminary Approval Order” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.
- 1.39. “Released Class Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.1 below.
- 1.40. “Released PAGA Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2 below.
- 1.41. “Released Parties” means: Defendants, Radius Recycling, Inc. f/k/a Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., Pick-n-Pull Dismantlers, LLC, Pick-N-Pull Auto Dismantlers, a California General Partnership, and Pick-n-Pull Dismantlers, Stockton, LLC, and each of their former and present directors, officers, shareholders, owners, members, attorneys, insurers, predecessors, successors, and assigns.

- 1.42. “Request for Exclusion” means a Class Member’s submission of a valid request to be excluded from the Class Settlement, prior to the Response Deadline.
- 1.43. “Response Deadline” means 45 calendar days after the Administrator mails Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, and is 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 Objection(s) to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator will have an additional 14 calendar days beyond the Response Deadline.
- 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 Defendants for at least one day during the Class Period.

## **2. RECITALS.**

- 2.1. On January 8, 2024, Plaintiff Jose V. Hernandez commenced this Action by filing the Operative Complaint, alleging causes of action against Defendants for unpaid missed rest breaks, unpaid missed meal breaks, failure to pay for all overtime wages earned, failure to pay minimum wage and pay for all wages earned and pay for vacation time, failure to reimburse required business expenses, failure to maintain accurate payroll records, failure to pay wages upon separation, failure to pay for sick days, retaliation for complaining about wages, failure to pay accurate COVID-19 supplemental sick leave, unfair business practices, failure to provide suitable seating, and civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act. Plaintiff also alleges individual claims for failure to allow medical leave, violation of California Family Rights Act, unlawful discrimination and retaliation, wrongful termination, failure to accommodate, failure to engage in the interactive process, retaliatory termination, and failure to provide workers’ compensation coverage. Defendants deny the allegations in the Operative Complaint, deny any failure to comply with the laws identified in the Operative Complaint, and deny any and all liability for the causes of action alleged.
- 2.2. Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, *former* subd.(a), Plaintiff gave timely written notice to Defendants and the LWDA by sending the PAGA Notice initially on July 21, 2023, and an amended PAGA Notice on August 21, 2025.
- 2.3. On April 25, 2025, Plaintiff and Defendants participated in an all-day mediation presided over by Francis J. “Tripper” Ortman III, Esq., which led to this Agreement to settle the Action.
- 2.4. Prior to mediation, Plaintiff obtained, through informal discovery, time records, pay records, and information relating to the size and scope of the Class and Aggrieved Employees, as well as data permitting Plaintiff to fully understand the nature and scope of the allegations in the Complaint, including approximately 10% of time and wage records which were analyzed by Plaintiff’s counsel. 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*”).

### 3. MONETARY TERMS.

- 3.1. Gross Settlement Amount. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below, Defendants promise to pay \$1,500,000.00 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. Defendants have no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline stated in Paragraph 4.2 of this Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendants.
- 3.2. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. 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:
  - 3.2.1 To Plaintiff: A Class Representative Service Payment of not more than \$10,000.00 to the Class Representative (in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a Participating Class Member). Defendants will not oppose Plaintiff’s request for a Class Representative Service Payment that does not exceed this amount. If the Court approves a Class Representative Service Payment for 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.
  - 3.2.2 To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than 35% of the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be \$525,000.00, and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of actual, reasonable costs. Defendants shall not oppose requests for Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount and for a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment which does not exceed \$25,000.00. In the event that the escalator clause described in Paragraph 8 herein is triggered and the Gross Settlement Amount is increased, the amount of Class Counsel Fees Payment will increase in order to remain one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount. Defendants will not oppose requests for these payments provided that they do not exceed these amounts. 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. The Administrator will pay the Class

Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Expenses Payment using one or more IRS 1099-MISC Form(s).

- 3.2.3 To the Administrator: An Administration Expenses Payment not to exceed \$24,000.00 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administrator's expenses are less or the Court approves payment less than \$24,000.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.
- 3.2.4 To Each Participating Class Member: 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 wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. The other 90% of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of claims for interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any 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 \$200,000.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$150,000.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$50,000.00) 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 by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Pay Periods.
  - 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.

3.2.6 In the event that the Court reduces or does not approve the requested Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or Class Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Counsel reserve their right to appeal such order, however, Plaintiff and/or Class Counsel will not request or demand an increase to the Gross Settlement Amount on that basis.

#### 4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.

- 4.1. Class Data. Not later than 15 days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendants will simultaneously deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of 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. Defendants have a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendants must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.
- 4.2. Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendants shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendants' share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator no later than 21 days after the Effective Date.
- 4.3. Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within 14 days after Defendants fund 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 Payments. Disbursement of the Class Counsel Fees Payment, the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and the Class Representative Service Payments shall not precede disbursement of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.
  - 4.3.1 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.

4.3.2 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.

4.3.3 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).

4.3.4 The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendants to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.

5. **RELEASES OF CLAIMS.** Effective on the date when Defendants fully fund the entire Gross Settlement Amount and funds all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Plaintiff and Class Members will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

5.1. Release by Participating Class Members: All Participating Class Members release Released Parties from all claims that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the Class Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint. Except as set forth in Section 5.2 of this Agreement, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class

Period.

- 5.2. Release by Aggrieved Employees: All Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release the Released Parties from all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged, based on the PAGA Period facts stated in the Operative Complaint and PAGA Notice.

**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.

- 6.1. Plaintiff’s Responsibilities. Plaintiff will prepare and deliver to Defense Counsel all documents necessary for obtaining Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar* and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2)); (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement; (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from Plaintiff confirming willingness and competency to serve and disclosing all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflicts of interest with Class Members, and/or the Administrator; (v) a signed declaration from each Class Counsel firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)); and (vi) all facts relevant to any actual or potential conflict of interest with Class Members and/or the Administrator.
- 6.2. Responsibilities of Counsel. The Parties are jointly responsible for expeditiously finalizing and filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval no later than 30 days after the full execution of this Agreement; obtaining a prompt hearing date for the Motion for Preliminary Approval; and for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Plaintiff is responsible for delivering the Court’s Preliminary Approval to the Administrator.
- 6.3. Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, the Parties will expeditiously work together, by and through their respective Counsel, 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, the Parties, by and through their respective Counsel, will expeditiously work together by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court’s concerns.

**7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

- 7.1. Selection of Administrator. The Parties have selected ILYM to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, ILYM agrees to be

bound by this agreement and to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for the Administration Expenses Payment. The Parties represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator. In their declarations, Class Counsel will aver 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. Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports state and federal tax authorities.
- 7.3. Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund (“QSF”) under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.
- 7.4. Notice to Class Members.
  - 7.4.1 No later than 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 PAGA Pay Periods in the Class Data.
  - 7.4.2 Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than 14 days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service (“USPS”) mail, the Class Notice with Spanish translation, if applicable, substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A. 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 PAGA Pay Periods, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional 14 days beyond the 45 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, Defense Counsel 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 days after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever 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 the Response Deadline (plus an additional 14 days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or 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 cannot reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator will 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. 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 validity and/or authenticity will be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

7.5.3 Each 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 releases under Paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 of this Agreement, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member

actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.

7.5.4 Each 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 5.2 of this Agreement and are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment

7.6. Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member will have until the Response Deadline (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. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Workweeks 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 Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to calculation of Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and the Administrator's determination the challenges.

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 (e.g., 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 Payments).

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 the Response Deadline (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 the Settlement.

7.8. Administrator Duties. 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, the Preliminary Approval Order, the Class Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, 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 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 and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion (“Exclusion List”); (b) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion; (c) copies of all Requests for Exclusion from Settlement submitted (whether valid or invalid).
- 7.8.3 Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments (“Weekly Report”). The Weekly Reports must include the Administrator’s assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received.
- 7.8.4 Workweek and/or PAGA 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 PAGA 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 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 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), the number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Plaintiff is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

7.8.6 Final Report by Settlement Administrator. Within 10 days after the Administrator disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least 15 days before any deadline set by the Court, the Administrator will prepare, and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement. Plaintiff is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration in Court.

8. **CLASS SIZE ESTIMATES AND ESCALATOR CLAUSE.** Based on their records, Defendants estimate that, as of the date of this Settlement Agreement, there are 204,149 Total Workweeks during the Class Period. If the total number of Workweeks as of the end of the Class Period exceeds the above figure by greater than 10% (i.e., 224,564 or greater), then, at Defendants' sole discretion, either: (i) the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase pro rata based on the number of additional Workweeks above 10% (e.g., if the number of Workweeks is 11% greater than the above figure, then the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase by 1%), or (ii) the final day of the Class Period shall be set on the date at which the total number of workweeks would otherwise exceed 10%.
9. **MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL.** 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, *former* subd. (l), a Proposed Final Approval Order and a proposed Judgment (collectively "Motion for Final Approval"). Plaintiff shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel not later than 7 days prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. The Parties, by and through their respective Counsel, will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.
  - 9.1. Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later than 5 court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the Court.

- 9.2. Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final Approval on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of 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 Payments, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Administration Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.
- 9.3. Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. 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.
- 9.4. Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment reflected 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. 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, except as to matters that do not affect the amount of the Net Settlement Amount.
- 9.5. 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 scope of release to be granted by Class Members), 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, 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 Payments or any payments to Class Counsel shall not constitute a material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.

10. **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 and a proposed amended judgment.

## 11. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

- 11.1. No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendants that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendants have any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiff that Defendants' defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or enter Judgment, Defendants reserve the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendants reserve all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiff reserves the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendants' defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and 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).
- 11.2. Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval. The Parties separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or cause or permit another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the Agreement directly or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Parties' attorneys, accountants, or spouses, all of whom will be instructed to keep this Agreement confidential; (2) counsel in a related matter; (3) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4) in response to a court order or subpoena; or (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal government agency. Each Party agrees to immediately notify each other Party of any judicial or agency order, inquiry, or subpoena seeking such information. The Parties separately agree not to, directly or indirectly, initiate any conversation or other communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, any with third party regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that "the matter was resolved," or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class Counsel's communications with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to Class Members.
- 11.3. No Solicitation. 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. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel's ability to communicate with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel's ethical obligations owed to Class Members.
- 11.4. Integrated Agreement. 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.

- 11.5. Attorney Authorization. The Parties separately warrant and represent that they have authorized their respective Counsel to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken 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.
- 11.6. Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the 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.
- 11.7. No Prior Assignments. 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.
- 11.8. No Tax Advice. The Parties are not 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.
- 11.9. Modification of Agreement. 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. After the Preliminary Approval Order is entered, such amendment, modification, change, or waiver also requires Court approval.
- 11.10. Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
- 11.11. Applicable Law. The internal laws of the State of California govern all terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits, without regard to conflict of law principles.
- 11.12. Cooperation in Drafting. 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.
- 11.13. Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered during Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive the execution of this Agreement.
- 11.14. Use and Return of Class Data. Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to

Cal. Evid. Code §1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendants in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court. Not later than 90 days after the date when the Court discharges the Administrator's obligation to provide a Declaration confirming the final pay out of all Settlement funds, Plaintiff shall destroy, all paper and electronic versions of Class Data received from Defendants unless, prior to the Court's discharge of the Administrator's obligation, Defendants make a written request to Class Counsel for the return, rather than the destructions, of Class Data.

- 11.15. Headings. 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.
- 11.16. Calendar Days. 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.
- 11.17. Notice. 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, to the other Party's respective counsel of record.
- 11.18. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (e.g., 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 counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.
- 11.19. Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation 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.
- 11.20. Bankruptcy. In the event that any Defendant files for bankruptcy prior to the final disbursement of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff shall be permitted to file the claims asserted in the Action in the bankruptcy proceedings, and such claims are not limited by the amount of the Gross Settlement Amount as set forth in this Settlement Agreement. If any settlement funds have been disbursed as provided in this agreement as of the date that the Defendant files for bankruptcy, the Defendant shall not be entitled to a return of such funds from the recipients. However, the Defendant will be

entitled to claim a credit for any previously disbursed funds in the bankruptcy proceedings.

- 11.21. **Enforcement Action.** In the event that one or more of the Parties institutes any legal action or other proceeding against any other Party or Parties to enforce the provisions of this Settlement or to declare rights and/or obligations under this Settlement, the successful Party or Parties will be entitled to recover from the unsuccessful Party or Parties reasonable attorney's fees and costs, including expert witness fees in connection with any enforcement actions.

Dated: 10-21-25

JOSE V. HERNDANDEZ

*Jose Vladimir Hernandez*

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIUS RECYCLING, INC. F/K/A/  
SCHNITZER STEEL INDUSTRIES, INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS,  
LLC**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS,  
A CALIFORNIA GENERAL  
PARTNERSHIP**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS,  
STOCKTON, LLC**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**JOSE V. HERNDANDEZ**

\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 10-21-25

**RADIUS RECYCLING, INC. F/K/A/  
SCHNITZER STEEL INDUSTRIES, INC.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Eric Wilson

Title: Sup. Clerk

Dated: 10-21-25

**PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS,  
LLC**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Eric Wilson

Title: Sup. Clerk

Dated: 10-21-25

**PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS,  
A CALIFORNIA GENERAL  
PARTNERSHIP**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Eric Wilson

Title: Sup. Clerk

Dated: 10-21-25

**PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS,  
STOCKTON, LLC**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

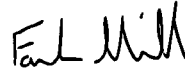
Name: Eric Wilson

Title: Sup. Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:**

Dated: 10-21-25

**LAW OFFICES OF FARRAH MIRABEL**



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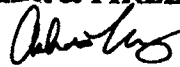
Farrah Mirabel, Esq.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff, Jose V. Hernandez as an individual and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Dated: October 22, 2025

Employment Rights Lawyers,  
*Amir Seyedfarshi*  
Amir Seyedfarshi

Dated: October 22, 2025

**FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP**



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Ashton M. Riley, Esq.  
Joshua D. Klein, Esq.  
Attorneys for Defendants Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., Pick-n-Pull Dismantlers, LLC, Pick-N-Pull Auto Dismantlers, a California General Partnership and Pick-n-Pull Dismantlers, Stockton, LLC

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STANISLAUS**

800 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Modesto, CA 95355

Case Name: HERNANDEZ , JOSE V vs SCHNITZER STEEL INDUSTRIES  
 INC

Case #: CV-24-000171

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC SERVICE**

I certify that I am over the age of 18, employed by the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Stanislaus, and not a party to this action. I certify that I served a copy of the attached **ORDER AFTER HEARING** by electronic service as indicated below.

Recipients Served Electronically

The transmission originated from a Stanislaus County Superior Court email address on **May 22, 2026**, at **7:33 AM PST**.

AMIR@EMPLOYMENTRIGHTSLAWGROUP.COM

FMESQ@FMIRABEL.COM

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on **May 22, 2026**, at Modesto, California.

By *Cynthia Hurtado*

Cynthia Hurtado, Deputy Clerk  
 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS