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6 7	Irvine, California 92618 Telephone: (949) 379-6250	Fax (949) 777-6218
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8		
9	[Additional counsel listed on following page]	
10	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11	COUNTY OF	FORANGE
12		
13	In re WATERMARK WAGE AND HOUR	Judicial Counsel Coordination Proceedings No.
14	CASES	JCCP 5176
15	Coordination Proceedings Special Title (C.R.C. Rule 3.550)	Assigned for all Purposes to the Honorable William Claster, Dept. CX104
16	Included Actions:	
17		JOINT STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT
18	Daniel Carillo-Salazar v. Watermark Services IV, LLC, et al.	
19	Orange County Superior Court	
20	Case No. 30-2020-01126766-CU-OE-CXC	
21	Evanina Alaniz v. Watermark Retirement Communities LLC, et al.,	
22	Los Angeles County Superior Court	
23	Case No. 20STCV16386	
24	Katherine Greene v. Watermark Retirement Properties, Inc., et al	
25	Monterey County Superior Court	
26	Case No. 20CV002422	
27		
28		

1	UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP Walter Haines, State Bar No. 71075
2	5500 Bolsa Avenue, Suite 201
3	Huntington Beach, California 92649 Telephone: (562) 256-1047
4	Facsimile: (562) 256-1006
5	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Evanina Alaniz,
6	individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated
7	JACKSON LEWIS P.C. Michael A. Hood, State Bar No. 71258
8	Michael.Hood@jacksonlewis.com
9	Kelli M. Dreger, State Bar No. 267404 Kelli.Dreger@jacksonlewis.com
10	200 Spectrum Center Drive, Suite 500 Irvine, California 92618
11	Telephone: (949) 885-1360
12	Facsimile: (949) 885-1380
13	Attorneys for Defendants Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC; Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc. and Watermark Services IV, LLC
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It is stipulated and agreed by and among the undersigned Parties, subject to the approval of the Court pursuant to the California Rules of Court, that the Settlement of these Actions shall be effectuated upon and subject to the following terms and conditions. Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings set forth in Article I or as defined elsewhere in this Joint Stipulation of Settlement ("Agreement" or "Settlement").

This Agreement is made by and between Named Plaintiffs Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Evanina Alaniz ("Named Plaintiffs") and the Class Members, on the one hand, and Defendants Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC; Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc.; Watermark Services IV, LLC ("Defendants") and all of their respective entities, affiliate, subsidiaries, parent corporations, *et al.* as set forth herein, on the other hand. Named Plaintiffs and Defendants collectively are referred to in this Agreement as "the Parties."

The Parties agree that the Actions shall be, and hereby are, ended, settled, resolved, and concluded by agreement of Defendants to pay the settlement amount of Two Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000.00) as provided in Section 3.06(a) below ("Gross Settlement Amount") pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and for the consideration set forth herein, including but not limited to, a release of all claims by Named Plaintiffs and the Class Members as set forth herein.

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise defined herein, the following terms used in this Agreement shall have the meanings ascribed to them as set forth below:

- a. "Actions" means the actions described as follows:
 - i. Daniel Carillo-Salazar individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Watermark Services IV, LLC, a Delaware corporation, Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc., an Arizona corporation, and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, Case No. 30-2020-01126766-CU-OE-CXC, commenced on January 27, 2020 in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange; and

1		ii. Evanina Alaniz, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v.
2		Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC, Watermark Retirement
3		Communities, Inc., Watermark Services IV, LLC, and DOES 1 through 20,
4		inclusive, Case No. 20STCV16386, commenced on April 29, 2020, in the
5		Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles,
6		pending as coordinated cases captioned Watermark Wage and Hour Cases, in
7		the Orange County Superior Court, Judicial Counsel Coordination
8		Proceedings No. JCCP 5176.
9	b.	"Agreement" means this Joint Stipulation of Settlement, including the attached
10	Exhibit(s).	
11	c.	"Class" means all current and former non-exempt employees who are or were
12	employed by	Defendants in California at any time during the Class Period.
13	d.	"Class Counsel" means the attorneys for the Class and the Class Members, who are:
14		JACKSON LAW, APC
15		Armond M. Jackson 2 Venture Plaza, Ste. 240
16		Irvine, CA 92618 Phone: (949) 281-6857
17		Fax: (949) 777-6218
18		AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC
19		Kashif Haque Samuel A. Wong
20		Jessica L. Campbell Kristy R. Connolly
21		9811 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 100 Irvine, California 92618
22		Telephone: (949) 379-6250 Facsimile: (949) 379-6251
23		UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP
24		Walter Haines 5500 Bolsa Avenue, Suite 201
25		Huntington Beach, California 92649 Telephone: (562) 256-1047
26		Facsimile: (562) 256-1006
27	e.	"Class List" means a list based on Defendants' business records that identifies each
28	Class Memb	per's name, last known home or mailing address, Social Security number or, as

(\$2,400,000.00) to be paid by Defendants as provided by this Agreement to settle these Actions. All

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payments to the Class, administration costs, attorney's fees and costs, and Enhancement Awards, pursuant to Section 3.07(a) below, shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount. The employer's share of payroll taxes arising from the payments made under this settlement shall be paid by Defendants separate from and in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount. The Gross Settlement Amount is subject to a pro rata increase pursuant to Section 3.04(e) below. No part of the Gross Settlement Amount shall revert to Defendant.

- o. "Incentive Awards" means a monetary amount of up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for Plaintiff Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for Plaintiff Evanina Alaniz (\$15,000 total) subject to Court approval, in recognition of their effort and work in prosecuting these Actions on behalf of Class Members, and for their general release of claims.
- p. "Individual Settlement Payment(s)" means each Participating Class Member's respective share of the Net Settlement Amount. Individual Settlement Payments will be determined by the calculations provided in this Agreement.
 - q. "LWDA" means The State of California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.
- r. "LWDA Payment" means 75% of the \$24,000 allocated to the settlement of PAGA claims (or, \$18,000) which, subject to Court approval, will be paid to the LWDA pursuant to Section 3.07(e) of this Agreement, as provided for below.
- s. "Motion for Final Approval" means Plaintiffs' submission of a written motion, including any evidence as may be required for the Court to conduct an inquiry into the fairness of the Settlement as set forth in this Agreement, to conduct a Final Fairness and Approval Hearing, and to enter a Final Order in these Actions.
- t. "Motion for Preliminary Approval" means Plaintiffs' submission of a written motion, including any evidence as may be required for the Court to grant preliminary approval of the Settlement as required by Rule 3.769 of the California Rules of Court.
 - u. "Named Plaintiffs" means Evanina Alaniz and Daniel Carillo-Salazar.
- v. "Net Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount less Court-approved administration costs, Class Counsels' attorney's fees and costs, Enhancement Awards, and LWDA Payment, pursuant to Section 3.07(a)-(f) below.

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Carmel, LLC), subsidiaries, divisions, predecessors, insurers, reinsurers, successors, and assigns, and their current and former employees, attorneys, officers, directors, and agents thereof, both individually and in their business capacities, and their employee benefit plans and programs and the trustees, administrators, fiduciaries, and insurers of such plans and programs, both individually and in their business capacities at any time during the Class Period.

gg. "Response Deadline" means the deadline by which Class Members must postmark or fax to the Settlement Administrator requests for exclusion or written notices of objection. The Response Deadline will be sixty (60) calendar days after the initial mailing of the Notice Packet by the Settlement Administrator, unless the sixth (60th) calendar day falls on a Sunday or federal holiday, in which case the Response Deadline will be extended to the next day on which the U.S. Postal Service is open. The Response Deadline will be extended as set forth herein if there is a remailing.

hh. "Settlement Administration Costs" means all costs incurred by the Settlement Administrator in administration of the Settlement, including, but not limited to, mailing of notice to the class, calculation of Individual Settlement Payments, generation of Individual Settlement Payment checks and related tax reporting forms, administration of unclaimed checks, and generation of checks to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and costs, to Named Plaintiffs for their Enhancement Awards, and to the LWDA. The Settlement Administration Costs shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.

ii. "Settlement Administrator" means ILYM Group, Inc., which the Parties have agreed will be responsible for the administration of the Individual Settlement Payments to be made by Defendants from the Gross Settlement Amount and related matters under this Agreement.

ARTICLE II

CONTINGENT NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT

Section 2.01: Stipulation of Class Certification for Settlement Purposes

Because the Parties have stipulated to the certification of the Class with respect to all causes of action alleged in the Actions for settlement purposes only, this Agreement requires preliminary and final approval by the Court. Accordingly, the Parties enter into this Agreement on a conditional

basis. This Agreement is contingent upon the approval and certification by the Court. If the Date of Finality does not occur, the fact that the Parties were willing to stipulate for the purposes of this Agreement to a Class shall have no bearing on, nor be admissible in connection with, the issue of certification of the Class with respect to all causes of action alleged in the Actions. Defendants do not consent to certification of the Class for any purpose other than to effectuate settlement of the Actions. If the Date of Finality does not occur, or if Disposition of these Actions are not effectuated, any certification of the Class as to Defendants will be vacated and Named Plaintiffs, Defendants, and the Class will be returned to their positions with respect to the Actions as if the Agreement had not been entered into. In the event that the Date of Finality does not occur: (a) any Court orders preliminarily or finally approving certification of any class contemplated by this Agreement shall be null, void, and vacated, and shall not be used or cited thereafter by any person or entity; and (b) the fact of the settlement reflected in this Agreement, the fact that Defendants did not oppose the certification of a Class under this Agreement, or that the Court preliminarily approved the certification of the Class, shall not be used or cited thereafter by any person or entity, including in any manner whatsoever, including without limitation any contested proceeding relating to the certification of any class. If the Date of Finality does not occur, this Agreement shall be deemed null and void, shall be of no force or effect whatsoever, and shall not be referred to or used for any purpose whatsoever. Defendants expressly reserve the right to challenge the propriety of class certification in the Actions for any purpose, if the Date of Finality does not occur.

The Parties and their respective counsel shall take all steps that may be requested by the Court relating to the approval and implementation of this Agreement and shall otherwise use their respective best efforts to obtain Court approval and implement this Agreement. If the Court does not grant the Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the Motion for Final Approval, the Parties agree to meet and confer to address the Court's concerns. If the Parties are unable to agree upon a resolution, the Parties agree to seek the assistance of mediator Steve Rottman to resolve the dispute.

ARTICLE III

PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT

The procedure for obtaining Court approval of and implementing this Agreement shall be as 8 of 27

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Section 3.01: Motion for Conditional Class Certification and Preliminary Approval

Named Plaintiffs will bring a motion before the Court for an order conditionally certifying the Class to include all claims pled in the Actions based on the preliminary approval of this Agreement. The date that the Court grants preliminary approval of this Agreement will be the "Preliminary Approval Date."

Section 3.02: The Settlement Administrator

The Parties have chosen ILYM Group, Inc. to administer this Settlement and to act as the Settlement Administrator, including but not limited to distributing and responding to inquiries about the Notice Packet, determining the validity of exclusions/opt-outs, calculating the Net Settlement Amount and the Individual Settlement Payments, issuing the Individual Settlement Payment checks and distributing them to Participating Class Members, establishing and maintaining the QSF, and issuing the payment to Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and costs, the Incentive Award checks to Named Plaintiffs, and the employer payroll taxes to the appropriate taxing authorities. The Settlement Administrator shall expressly agree to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

All costs of administering the Settlement shall be paid to the Settlement Administrator from the Gross Settlement Amount. Those include, but are not limited to all costs and fees associated with:

- preparing, issuing and mailing any and all notices to Class Members and/or Participating Class Members;
- computing, processing, reviewing, and mailing the Individual Settlement Payments;
- preparing any tax returns and any other filings required by any governmental taxing authority or agency;
- preparing any other checks, notices, reports, or filings to be prepared in the course of administering disbursements from the Net Settlement Amount;
- and any other costs and fees incurred and/or charged by the Settlement Administrator in connection with the execution of its duties under this Agreement ("Settlement Administration Costs")...

Section 3.03: Notice to Class Members

No later than ten (10) business days after the Preliminary Approval Date, Defendants will provide the Settlement Administrator with a "Class List" in electronic format based on its business records, identifying the names of the Class Members, their last known home addresses, Social Security numbers or, as applicable, other taxpayer identification number, their dates of employment and weeks worked during the Class Period.

Within ten (10) business days of receiving a Class List from Defendants, the Settlement Administrator will send Class Members, by first-class mail, at their last known address, the Court approved Notice Packet, including notice of this Settlement and of the opportunity to opt out of the Settlement Class. The Notice Packet will include a calculation of the Class Member's approximate share of the Net Settlement Amount. Class Members will have sixty (60) days from the date of mailing in which to postmark objections or requests for exclusion. Prior to the initial mailing, the Settlement Administrator will check all Class Member addresses against the National Change of Address database and shall update any addresses before mailing. The Settlement Administrator will skip trace and re-mail all returned, undelivered mail within five (5) days of receiving notice that a Notice Packet was undeliverable. If a Class Member's notice is re-mailed, the Class Member shall have fifteen (15) calendar days from the re-mailing, or sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the initial mailing, whichever is later, in which to postmark objections or requests for exclusion. Class Members shall not be required to submit claim forms in order to receive a proportional share of the Net Settlement Amount.

If the Notice Packet is returned with a forwarding address, the Settlement Administrator shall re-mail the Notice Packet to the forwarding address. With respect to those Class Members whose Notice Packet is returned to the Settlement Administrator as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator shall promptly attempt to obtain a valid mailing address by performing a skip trace or mass search on LexisNexis or comparable databases based on set criteria and, if another address is identified, shall mail the Notice Packet to the newly identified address. It is the intent of the parties that reasonable means be used to locate Class Members and that the Settlement Administrator be

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given discretion to take steps in order to facilitate notice of the Settlement and delivery of the Individual Settlement Payments to all Participating Class Members.

If the Notice Packet is re-mailed, the Settlement Administrator will note for its own records and notify Class Counsel and Defense Counsel of the date of each such re-mailing as part of a weekly status report provided to the Parties.

In the event a Class Member's Notice Packet remains undeliverable sixty (60) calendar days after the Notice Packet was initially mailed, the Settlement Administrator will not mail the Class Member's Individual Settlement Payment. The Settlement Administrator will hold the Class Member's Individual Settlement Payment during the check cashing period on behalf of the Class Member. If at the conclusion of the check cashing period the Class Member's Notice Packet and Individual Settlement Payment remain undeliverable and/or unclaimed and uncashed, the Settlement Administrator will distribute the funds from unclaimed/uncashed checks in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 3.07(g) below.

No later than twenty (20) court days prior to the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator shall provide Defense Counsel and Class Counsel with a declaration attesting to completion of the notice process, including any attempts to obtain valid mailing addresses for and re-sending of any returned Notice Packets, as well as the number of valid requests for exclusion and objections that the Settlement Administrator received.

Section 3.04: Responses to Notice

a. **Class Member Disputes**

If any Class Member disagrees with Defendants' records as to the number of their Qualifying Workweeks during the Class Period or pay periods worked during the PAGA Period as reflected in the Notice Packet, the Class Member shall set forth in writing the number of Qualifying Workweeks and/or pay periods he/she claims to have worked during the Class Period and/or PAGA Period and submit such writing to the Settlement Administrator by the Response Deadline, along with any supporting documentation. The Notice Packet shall contain a Dispute Form substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. The Notice of Class Action Settlement will also provide a method for the Class Member to challenge the employment data on which their Individual Settlement Payment is based. The Settlement Administrator shall contact the Parties regarding the dispute and the Parties will work in good faith to resolve it. If the Parties are unable to resolve the dispute, the Settlement Administrator will be the final arbiter of the Qualifying Workweeks and/or pay periods worked for each Class Member during the Class Period and/or PAGA Period based on the information provided to it.

b. Requests for Exclusion from Class

In order for any Class Member to validly exclude himself or herself from the Class and this Settlement (*i.e.*, to validly opt out), a written request for exclusion must be signed by the Class Member or their authorized representative, and must be sent to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than the Response Deadline (or fifteen (15) days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Notice to the Class Member, whichever is later) ("Exclusion Request"). The Notice Packet shall contain instructions on how to validly exclude himself or herself from the Class and this Settlement (*i.e.*, opt out), including the language to be used in a request for exclusion. The date of the initial mailing of the Notice Packet, and the date the signed request for exclusion was postmarked, shall be conclusively determined according to the records of the Settlement Administrator. Any Class Member who timely and validly requests exclusion from the Class and this Settlement will not be entitled to any Individual Settlement Payment, will not be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and will not have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon.

Any Class Member who fails to timely submit a valid request for exclusion shall automatically be deemed a Class Member whose rights and claims with respect to the issues raised in the Actions are determined by the Court's Final Order Approving Settlement of Class Actions, and by the other rulings in the Actions. Thus, said Class Member's rights to pursue any claims covered by the Actions and/or released in this Agreement will be extinguished.

c. Objections to Settlement

For any Class Member to object to this Agreement, or any term of it, the person making the objection must not submit a request for exclusion (*i.e.*, must not opt out), and should send to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked or faxed no later than the Response Deadline (or fifteen (15) days after the Settlement Administrator re-mails the Notice to the Class Member, whichever is later),

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a written statement of the grounds of objection, signed by the objecting Class Member or their attorney, along with all supporting papers. The Notice Packet shall contain an Objection Form substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit C**. The date of the initial mailing of the Notice Packet, and the date the signed objection was postmarked, shall be conclusively determined according to the records of the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall send any objections it receives to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel within three (3) business days of receipt. Class Members may also appear at the final approval hearing to object. The Court retains final authority with respect to the consideration and admissibility of any Class Member objections.

d. Encouragement of Class Members

The Parties to this Agreement and the counsel representing such Parties shall not, directly or indirectly, through any person, encourage or solicit any Class Member to exclude him or herself from this Settlement (opt out), or to object to it. However, Class Counsel may respond to inquiries from Class Members.

e. Right of Plaintiff to Adjust Gross Settlement Amount

Defendants have estimated that there were 241,725.47 Qualifying Workweeks from January 27, 2016 through December 31, 2021. If the number of Qualifying Workweeks increases by 10% or more, as of the end of the Class Period (May 31, 2022), there will be a pro rata adjustment to the Net Settlement Amount by the same proportion as the increase (e.g., if the number of workweeks increases by 11%, the Net Settlement Amount shall increase 1%). In the event this clause is triggered on or before May 31, 2022, Defendants shall have the ability to shorten the Class Period, at their sole discretion, at any point prior to preliminary approval to limit the number of workweeks to 241,725.47.

f. Termination for Lack of Sufficient Participation

If five percent (5%) or more of the Class Members makes a valid request to be excluded from the Class, Defendants will have the right, but not the obligation, to void the Agreement within fourteen (14) days of the Response Deadline. If Defendants exercise that right to void the Agreement, then the Parties will have no further obligations under the Agreement, including any obligation by Defendants to pay the Gross Settlement Amount, or any amounts that otherwise would have been

owed under this Agreement, except that Defendants will be responsible for paying the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses incurred as of the date that Defendants exercise the right to void the Agreement. Defendants will notify Class Counsel, in writing via email, if they decide to exercise this right to void the Agreement.

Section 3.05: Final Fairness and Approval Hearing

On the date set forth in the Order for Preliminary Approval and Notice Packet, a Final Fairness and Approval Hearing shall be held before the Court in order to (1) review this Agreement and determine whether the Court should give it final approval, and (2) consider any objections made and all responses by the Parties to such objections. At the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing, the Parties shall ask the Court to grant final approval to this Agreement and shall submit to the Court a Proposed Final Order Approving Settlement of Class Actions.

Section 3.06: Settlement Payment Procedures

a. Settlement Amount

In exchange for the Released Claims set forth in this Agreement, Defendants agree to pay the Gross Settlement Amount in the amount of Two Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000), subject to a pro rata increase under the condition set forth in Section 3.04(e). The Gross Settlement Amount includes all Individual Settlement Amounts to Participating Class Members, all administration costs, Class Counsel's attorney's fees and costs, PAGA Settlement Amount, and the Enhancement Payments.

If the settlement achieves final approval, Defendants shall not be obligated to fund the settlement earlier than the later of (a) January 2, 2023 or (b) thirty (30) days after the Court signs the Final Order. Defendants shall transfer the Gross Settlement Amount plus Defendants' share of employer-side payroll taxes, as set forth herein, into a QSF established by the Settlement Administrator either directly or by sending the funds to the Settlement Administer to be deposited and distributed. The Settlement Administrator will use these funds to fund payment of the Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs, the Enhancement Awards, the LWDA Payment, and the Settlement Administration Costs.

Within ten (10) court days after receiving Defendants' final payment, funding the Gross Settlement Amount in full, the Settlement Administrator will pay the Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs, PAGA Settlement Amount, the Incentive Awards, and employer and employee tax withholdings applicable to the Net Settlement Amount allocated to wages. Prior to this distribution, the Settlement Administrator will perform a search based on the National Change of Address Database to update and correct for any known or identifiable address changes.

b. Payment of Attorneys' Fees and Costs

Class Counsel shall submit an application for an award of attorneys' fees of up to one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount, which, based on the current Gross Settlement Amount, is Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00). In the same application for an fees, Class Counsel shall submit an application for actual not to exceed Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00). Such application for attorneys' fees and costs shall be heard by the Court at the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing. Defendants shall not object to or oppose any such application in these amounts. Class Counsel shall serve Defendants with copies of all documents submitted in support of their application for an award of attorneys' fees and costs.

Any attorneys' fees and costs awarded to Class Counsel by the Court shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount and shall not constitute payment to any Class Member(s). The attorneys' fees and costs for Class Counsel approved by the Court shall encompass all work performed, costs, and expenses related to the investigation, prosecution, and settlement of the Actions incurred through the Date of Finality. To the extent that the Court approves less than the amount of attorney's fees and/or costs that Class Counsel requests, the difference between the requested and awarded amounts will be reallocated to the Net Settlement Amount.

c. Payment of Settlement Administration Costs

The Settlement Administration Costs shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount and shall not constitute payment to any Participating Class Member(s). The amount shall not exceed Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00).

d. Payment of Enhancement Award to Named Plaintiffs

Subject to Court approval, the Named Plaintiffs shall each receive an Enhancement Award of up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for Plaintiff Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Five Thousand (\$5,000) for Plaintiff Evanina Alaniz, (\$15,000 total) the request for which Defendants will not object to or oppose. The Enhancement Awards shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount and shall not constitute payment to any Participating Class Member(s) other than Named Plaintiffs. To the extent that the Court approves less than the amount of incentive award that Class Counsel request, the difference between the requested and awarded amounts will be reallocated to the Net Settlement Amount.

Because it is the intent of the Parties that the Enhancement Awards represent payment to Named Plaintiffs for their service to the Class Members, and not wages, the Settlement Administrator will not withhold any taxes from the Enhancement Awards. The Enhancement Awards will be reported on a Form 1099, which the Settlement Administrator will provide to Named Plaintiffs and to the pertinent taxing authorities as required by law.

e. Payment to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency

In consideration of claims made under PAGA, Class Counsel will request that the Court approve allocation of Twenty-Four Dollars (\$24,000) of the Gross Settlement Amount to these claims. Seventy-five percent (75%) of this payment will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA Payment"), and twenty-five percent (25%) will be paid to the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to PAGA Group Members. Defendants will not oppose this request. The entire PAGA Settlement Amount will be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount. The Court's adjustment, if any, of the amount allocated to Named Plaintiffs' PAGA claim in the Actions, will not invalidate this Agreement.

f. Payment of Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members

The Parties agree that the Net Settlement Amount shall be used to fund Individual Settlement Payments. The Parties agree that the Net Settlement Amount shall be divided between all Participating Class Members in proportion to the number of individual Qualifying Workweeks for each Class Member. To calculate the amount each Class Member will receive based on their

individual Qualifying Workweeks, the Net Settlement Amount will be divided by the total number of Qualifying Workweeks by all Class Members during the Class Period and then allocated on a pro rata basis. Qualifying Workweeks will be rounded up to the next whole integer. Each Class Member's approximate Individual Settlement Payment amount will be included in their Notice Packet. After final approval by the Court, the Net Settlement Amount will be dispersed to Participating Class Members (those who did not exclude themselves) on a pro rata basis based on the individual Qualifying Workweeks worked during the Class Period by each Participating Class Member.

The PAGA Settlement Amount to be distributed to PAGA Group Members shall be divided between all PAGA Group Members in proportion to the number of pay periods that each PAGA Group Member worked during the PAGA Period. To calculate the minimum amount each PAGA Group Member will receive based on their individual pay periods, 25% of the PAGA Settlement Amount (or \$6,000) will be divided by the total number of pay periods worked by all PAGA Group Members during the PAGA Period and then allocated on a pro rata basis. Pay periods will be rounded up to the next whole integer. Each PAGA Group Member's approximate Individual PAGA Settlement Payment Amount will be included in his or her Notice Packet. After final approval by the Court, the PAGA Settlement Amount will be dispersed to all PAGA Group Members on a pro rata basis based on the number of pay periods worked during the PAGA Period by each PAGA Group Member.

Each Individual Settlement Payment will represent wages and penalties allocated using the following formula: 50% allocated to wages and 50% allocated to penalties and interest. The PAGA Settlement Amount to be distributed to PAGA Group Members are to be considered 100% penalties. The amounts paid as wages shall be subject to all tax withholdings customarily made from an employee's wages and all other authorized and required withholdings and shall be reported by W-2 forms. The employer-side taxes will be paid separate from and in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount. The amounts paid as penalties and interest shall be subject to all authorized and required withholdings other than the tax withholdings customarily made from employees' wages and shall be reported by IRS 1099 forms.

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No later than ten (10) business days after receiving the Gross Settlement Amount from Defendants, the Settlement Administrator shall prepare and mail the checks for the Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members. Individual Settlement Payments paid from the Net Settlement Amount allocated to wages will be reduced by applicable employer and employee tax withholdings, and the Settlement Administrator will issue a Form W-2 for the wage portion of the Individual Settlement Payments. The Settlement Administrator will issue a Form 1099 to the extent required by law for the interest and penalty portions of the Individual Settlement Payments. Participating Class Members shall have 180 days from the date their Individual Settlement Payment checks are dated to cash their Settlement checks. Any checks that are not cashed upon the expiration of that 180-day time period will be void, and the uncashed funds shall be paid to the State Controller Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member for whom the funds are designated.

If a check is returned to the Settlement Administrator as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator shall promptly attempt to obtain a valid mailing address by performing a skip trace or a mass search on LexisNexis or a comparable databases based on set criteria and, if another address is identified, the Settlement Administrator shall mail the check to the newly identified address. If the Settlement Administrator is unable to obtain a valid mailing address through this process, the Settlement Administrator will tender the funds from the undeliverable checks to the State Controller Unclaimed Property Fund in the name of the Class Member for whom the funds are designated.

g. No Credit Toward Benefit Plans.

The Individual Settlement Payments made to Participating Class Members under this Agreement, as well as any other payments made pursuant to this Agreement, will not be utilized to calculate any additional benefits under any benefit plans to which any Class Members may be eligible, including, but not limited to: profit-sharing plans, bonus plans, 401(k) plans, stock purchase plans, vacation plans, sick leave plans, PTO plans, and any other benefit plan. Rather, it is the Parties intention that this Agreement will not affect any rights, contributions, or amounts to which any Class Members may be entitled under any benefit plans.

ARTICLE IV

<u>LIMITATIONS ON USE OF THIS SETTLEMENT</u>

Section 4.01: No Admission

Defendants dispute the allegations in the Actions and disputes that, but for this Settlement, a Class should not have been certified in the Actions. This Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of settling highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended nor will be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendants.

Section 4.02: Non-Evidentiary Use

Whether or not the Date of Finality occurs, neither this Agreement, nor any of its terms, nor the Settlement itself, will be: (a) construed as, offered, or admitted in evidence as, received as, or deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to Defendants or any other of the Released Parties, including but not limited to, evidence of a presumption, concession, indication, or admission by any of the Released Parties of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, or damage, or (b) disclosed, referred to, or offered in evidence against any of the Released Parties in any further proceeding in the Actions, except for the purposes of effectuating the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement or for Defendants to establish that a Class Member has resolved any of their claims released through this Agreement.

Section 4.03: Nullification

The Parties have agreed to the certification of the Class encompassing all claims alleged in the Actions for the sole purpose of effectuating this Agreement. If the Court should for any reason (a) fail to certify this Class for settlement, (b) fail to approve this Settlement, (c) fail to enter the Final Order, (d) the Final Order is reversed, or declared or rendered void, or (e) fail to dispose of the Actions in their entirety, then (i) this Agreement shall be considered null and void; (ii) neither this Agreement nor any of the related negotiations or proceedings shall be of any force or effect; (iii) all Parties to this Agreement shall stand in the same position, without prejudice, as if the Agreement had been neither entered into nor filed with the Court; and (iv) the fact that the Parties were willing to stipulate to class certification of all causes of action pled in the Actions as part of the Settlement will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether the Class

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should be certified by the Court in a non-settlement context in this Actions or any other action, and in any of those events, Defendants expressly reserve the right to oppose certification of the Class.

In the event of a timely appeal from the Final Order, the Final Order shall be stayed and the Gross Settlement Amount shall not be distributed pending the completion of the appeal.

ARTICLE V

RELEASES

Section 5.01: Released Claims by Plaintiff and Settlement Class Members

Other than the rights created by this Settlement Agreement upon the Effective Date, Plaintiffs and each Settlement Class Member who has not provided a timely and valid Exclusion Request, shall fully release and discharge the Released Parties from any and all claims, causes of action, disputes, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, guarantees, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, penalties, and damages (including but not limited to liquidated, exemplary, punitive, and statutory damages), whether suspected or unsuspected, contingent or accrued, known or unknown, that have been pled or could have been pled based upon the factual allegations and issues set forth in the Actions, for any acts occurring during the Class Period, including, claims for failure to pay minimum wages; failure to pay overtime, double time or other premium pay; failure to provide meal periods; failure to provide paid rest periods; failure to provide compliant pay stubs and itemized wage statements; failure to timely pay wages to terminated and resigning employees; failure to maintain accurate records; failure to properly pay all wages owed at the correct time; failure to include compliant notice of the employer entity; claims for alleged violations of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 218.5, 218.6, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802, and their subparts, and applicable IWC Wage Orders; derivative claims for civil penalties under the Labor Code Attorneys General Act of 2004, Labor Code sections 2698, et seq.; derivative claims for unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business practices under the California Business and Professions Code sections 17200, et seq., and/or any other unfair competition law; any other state or federal statute, rule, or regulation that could have been pled based upon the factual allegations and issues set forth in the Actions; and all related remedies of any nature whatsoever, including claims for restitution and other equitable relief, injunctive relief, statutory damages, liquidated damages, exemplary damages,

punitive damages, waiting-time penalties, statutory penalties, civil penalties, attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses ("Released Claims").

Section 5.02: Released Claims by PAGA Group Members

Upon entry of final judgment, all Aggrieved Employees release all PAGA claims based on any and all Labor Code violations released in section 5.01 which occurred during the PAGA Period, regardless of whether PAGA Group Members opt out of the Class Settlement.

Section 5.03: Named Plaintiffs' Release of Unknown Claims

Upon the date of funding the GSA, Named Plaintiffs (on behalf of themselves, and any heirs, successors or assignes) waive, release, acquit, and forever discharge Defendants, the Released Parties and their parent corporations, direct and indirect owners, affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, predecessors, insurers, reinsurers, successors, and assigns, and their current and former employees, attorneys, officers, directors, and agents thereof, both individually and in their business capacities, and their employee benefit plans and programs and the trustees, administrators, fiduciaries, and insurers of such plans and programs, both individually and in their business capacities from any and all claims, actions, charges, complaints, grievances, and causes of action, of any nature arising from Named Plaintiffs' employment with Defendants, whether known or unknown, which exist or may exist as of the Parties' execution of this Agreement.

Section 1542 of the California Civil Code provides as follows:

"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."

Thus, notwithstanding the provisions of section 1542, and to implement a full and complete release and discharge of the Released Parties, Plaintiffs expressly acknowledge this Settlement Agreement is intended to include in its effect, without limitation, all claims Plaintiffs do not know or suspect to exist in their favor at the time of signing this Settlement Agreement and that this Settlement Agreement contemplates the extinguishment of any such claims.

ARTICLE VI MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS **Section 6.01: Amendments or Modification** The terms and provisions of this Agreement may be amended or modified only by an express written agreement that is signed by all the Parties (or their successors-in-interest) and their counsel, and approved by the Court. Section 6.02: Assignment None of the rights, commitments, or obligations recognized under this Agreement may be assigned by any Party, Class Member, Class Counsel, or Defense Counsel without the express written consent of each other Party and their respective counsel. The representations, warranties, covenants, and agreements contained in this Agreement are for the sole benefit of the Parties under this Agreement and shall not be construed to confer any right or to avail any remedy to any other person. **Section 6.03:** Governing Law This Agreement shall be governed, construed, and interpreted, and the rights of the Parties shall be determined, in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without regard to conflicts of laws.

Section 6.04: No Publicity

The Parties, Defense Counsel, and Class Counsel shall not issue any press release, contact the press, respond to any press inquiry or have any communication with the press about the fact, amount or terms of this Settlement. The Parties, Defense Counsel, and Class Counsel shall not engage in any advertising or marketing relating to the settlement of these Actions in any manner that identifies or that is suggestive of Defendants or the Released Parties (i.e., a manager of retirement communities), including but not limited to any postings on any websites maintained by Class Counsel. However, Class Counsel may identify this Settlement in court filings in other matters to demonstrate their adequacy as counsel in connection with the prosecution or settlement of other class actions. Nothing in this Section is intended to interfere with Class Counsel's duties and obligations to faithfully discharge their duties as Class Counsel, including but not limited to, communicating with Class Members regarding the Settlement.

Section 6.05: Entire Agreement

This Agreement, including the Exhibits referred to herein, which form an integral part hereof, contains the entire understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter contained herein. In case of any conflict between text contained in Articles I through VI of this Agreement and text contained in the Exhibits to this Agreement, the former (*i.e.*, Articles I through VI) shall be controlling, unless the Exhibits are changed by or in response to a Court order. There are no restrictions, promises, representations, warranties, covenants, or undertakings governing the subject matter of this Agreement other than those expressly set forth or referred to herein. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements and understandings among the Parties with respect to the settlement of the Actions, including correspondence between Class Counsel and Defense Counsel and drafts of prior agreements or proposals.

Section 6.06: Waiver of Compliance

Any failure of any Party, Defense Counsel, or Class Counsel hereto to comply with any obligation, covenant, agreement, or condition set forth in this Agreement may be expressly waived in writing, to the extent permitted under applicable law, by the Party or Parties and their respective counsel entitled to the benefit of such obligation, covenant, agreement, or condition. A waiver or

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failure to insist upon strict compliance with any representation, warranty, covenant, agreement, or condition shall not operate as a waiver of, or estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure.

Section 6.07: Counterparts and Fax/PDF Signatures

This Agreement, and any amendments hereto, may be executed in any number of counterparts and any Party and/or their respective counsel may execute any such counterpart, each of which when executed and delivered shall be deemed to be an original. All counterparts taken together shall constitute one instrument. A fax or PDF signature on this Agreement shall be as valid as an original signature.

Section 6.08: Meet and Confer Regarding Disputes

Should any dispute arise among the Parties or their respective counsel regarding the implementation or interpretation of this Agreement, a representative of Class Counsel and a representative of Defense Counsel shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve such disputes prior to submitting such disputes to the Court.

Section 6.09: <u>Agreement Binding on Successors</u>

This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors in interest of each of the Parties.

Section 6.10: Cooperation in Drafting

The Parties have cooperated in the negotiation and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party, or the Party's counsel, was the drafter or participated in the drafting of this Agreement.

Section 6.11: Fair and Reasonable Settlement

The Parties believe that this Agreement reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Actions and have arrived at this Agreement through arm's-length negotiation and in the context of adversarial litigation, taking into account all relevant factors, current and potential. The Parties further believe that the Settlement is and is consistent with public policy, and fully complies with applicable law.

1	Section 6.12: <u>Headings</u>
2	The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for
3	convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement and shall not be
4	considered in interpreting this Agreement.
5	Section 6.13: Notice
6	Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Agreement, all notices, demands, and other
7	communications under this Agreement must be in writing and addressed as follows:
8	
9	To Named Plaintiffs and the Class:
10	Armond M. Jackson JACKSON LAW, APC
11	2 Venture Plaza, Ste. 240
	Irvine, CA 92618 Phone: (949) 281-6857
12	Fax: (949) 777-6218
13	Kashif Haque
14	Samuel A. Wong
15	Jessica L. Campbell Kristy Connolly
16	AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC
17	9811 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 100 Irvine, California 92618
18	Telephone: (949) 379-6250 Facsimile: (949) 379-6251
	Walter Haines
19	UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP 5500 Bolsa Avenue, Suite 201
20	Huntington Beach, California 92649
21	Telephone: (562) 256-1047 Facsimile: (562) 256-1006
22	And
23	To Defendants:
24	Michael A. Hood
25	Kelli M. Dreger
26	JACKSON LEWIS P.C. 200 Spectrum Center Drive, Suite 500
27	Irvine, California 92618
28	Telephone: (949) 885-1360 Facsimile: (949) 885-1380
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Section 6.17: No Reliance on Representations

The Parties have made such investigation of the facts and the law pertaining to the matters described herein and to this Agreement as they deem necessary, and have not relied, and do not rely,

To the extent consistent with class action procedure, this Agreement shall be enforceable by the Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6 and California Rule of Court 3.769(h). The Final Order entered by the Court will not adjudicate the merits of the Actions or the liability of the Parties resulting from the allegations of the Actions. Its sole purpose is to adopt the terms of the Settlement and to retain jurisdiction over its enforcement. To that end, the Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over this Actions and over all Parties and Class Members, to the fullest extent to enforce and effectuate the terms and intent of this Agreement.

Section 6.15: Mutual Full Cooperation

The Parties agree fully to cooperate with each other to accomplish the terms of this Agreement, including but not limited to the execution of such documents, and the taking of such other action, as may reasonably be necessary to implement the terms of this Agreement. The Parties to this Agreement shall use their best efforts, to effectuate and implement this Agreement and its terms. In the event the Parties are unable to reach agreement on the form or content of any document needed to implement the Settlement, or on any supplemental provisions that may become necessary to effectuate the terms of the Settlement, the Parties agree to seek the assistance of mediator Steve Rottman or the Court.

Section 6.16: Authorization to Act

Class Counsel warrants and represents that they are authorized by Named Plaintiffs, and Defense Counsel warrants that they are authorized by Defendants, to take all appropriate action required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement, except for signing documents, including but not limited to this Agreement, that are required to be signed by the Parties themselves. Defendants represent and warrant that the individual executing this Agreement on its behalf has the full right, power, and authority to enter into this Agreement and to carry out the transactions contemplated herein.

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1	on any statement, promise, or representation of fact or law, made by any of the other parties, or any
2	of their agents, employees, attorneys, or representatives, with regard to any of their rights or asserted
3	rights, or with regard to the advisability of entering into and executing this Agreement, or with respect
4	to any other matters. No representations, warranties, or inducements, except as expressly set forth
5	herein, have been made to any party concerning this Agreement.
6	EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL
7	The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.
8	
9	
10	Dated: 1/29 9855 DANIEL CARILLO-SALAZAR
11	By: Dud Comillo Salozor
12	Named Plaintiff
13	
14	
15	Dated: EVANINA ALANIZ
16	Ву:
17	Named Plaintiff
18	
19	Dated: WATERMARK RETIREMENT
20	COMMUNITIES, LLC; WATERMARK RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES, INC.;
21	February 28, 2023 WATERMARK SERVICES IV, LLC
22	By: (Signature)
23	David Barnes
24	(Printed Name)
25	Authorized Signatory (Title)
26	()
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1	APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:	
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3	Datada	AECICI AWEIDM DC
4	Dated:	AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC
5		D
6		By: Kashif Haque
7		Jessica L. Campbell Kristy Connolly
8		Attorneys for Named Plaintiffs Evanina Alaniz
9		·
10		
11	Dated: February 28, 2023	JACKSON LAW, APC
12	1 ebidary 20, 2023	- 4.11BC
13		By: Armond M. Jackson
14		Attorneys for Plaintiff Daniel Carillo-Salazar
15		·
16		
17	Dated:	JACKSON LEWIS PC
18	<u>February 28, 2023</u>	
19		By: Michael Alfrol
20		Michael A. Hood Kelli M. Dreger
21		Attorneys for Defendants Watermark
22		Retirement Communities, Inc.; Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC and Watermark
23		Services IV, LLC
24		
25	4853-6869-1244, v. 1	
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1	on any statement, promise, or representati	on of fact or law, made by any of the other parties, or any
2	of their agents, employees, attorneys, or re	epresentatives, with regard to any of their rights or asserted
3	rights, or with regard to the advisability of	entering into and executing this Agreement, or with respect
4	to any other matters. No representations,	warranties, or inducements, except as expressly set forth
5	herein, have been made to any party conce	erning this Agreement.
6	EXECUTION F	BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL
7	The Parties and their counsel herel	by execute this Agreement.
8		
9		
10	Dated:	DANIEL CARILLO-SALAZAR
11		By:
12		Named Plaintiff
13		
14	Dated: 2/28/2023 9:48 PM PST	EVANINA ALANIZ
15	Dated.	DocuSigned by:
16		By: Named Plaintiff
17		Named Plainuili
18		
19	Dated:	WATERMARK RETIREMENT
20		COMMUNITIES, LLC; WATERMARK RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES, INC.; WATERMARK SERVICES IV, LLC
21		
22		By:(Signature)
23		(D: (-1))
24		(Printed Name)
25		(Title)
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1	ADDROVED AS TO FORM ONLY	
1	APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:	
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3	Dated: 3/1/2023	AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC
4		Ju In Coulle
5		Dy
6 7		Kashif Haque Jessica L. Campbell
8		Kristy Connolly
9		Attorneys for Named Plaintiffs Evanina Alaniz
10		
11	Dated:	JACKSON LAW, APC
12		
13		By:
14		Armond M. Jackson
15		Attorneys for Plaintiff Daniel Carillo-Salazar
16		
17		
18	Dated:	JACKSON LEWIS PC
19		D
20		By: Michael A. Hood
21		Kelli M. Dreger
22		Attorneys for Defendants Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc.; Watermark
23		Retirement Communities, LLC and Watermark Services IV, LLC
24		SCIVICES IV, LLC
25		
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EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

CARILLO-SALAZAR V. WATERMARK SERVICES IV, LLC ET AL WAGE AND HOUR CASES, CASE NO. JCCP 5176

A court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

ATTENTION: IF YOU HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED BY WATERMARK SERVICES IV, LLC. AS A NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEE IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 27, 2016 AND ENDING ON MAY 31, 2022, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A SHARE OF A PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT.

TO UNDERSTAND YOUR RIGHTS, PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.

A proposed class action settlement ("the Settlement") has been reached between Plaintiffs Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Evanina Alaniz ("Plaintiffs"), on behalf of themselves and the below-defined Class Members, and Defendants Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC; Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc.; Watermark Services IV, LLC. ("Defendants").

The Settlement resolves the above class action lawsuit (the "Action") about claims related to allegations that Defendants (1) failed to pay all minimum wages; (2) failed to pay overtime wages, (3) failed to provide required rest breaks; (4) failed to provide required meal breaks; (5) failed to furnish accurate itemized wage statements; (6) failed to pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees; (7) failed to timely pay wages during employment; (8) engaged in unfair business practices. Plaintiffs also assert a claim for civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") based on the foregoing alleged violations by Defendants. Defendants deny and continue to deny all of Plaintiffs' claims, and maintain that they have complied with all applicable laws and regulations. Defendants have entered into the Settlement solely for purposes of resolving this dispute.

The Settlement provides for Individual Settlement Payments based on the number of workweeks you performed work for Defendants in California as a non-exempt employee during the period from January 27, 2016 to May 31, 2022 as well as PAGA Payments based on the pay periods you performed work for Defendants in California as a non-exempt employee during the period from January 17, 2019 to May 31, 2022.

OVERVIEW OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS UNDER THE SETTLEMENT	
DO NOTHING	You will automatically receive an Individual Settlement Payment in exchange for which, whether or not you cash or deposit the payment, you will be bound by all terms of the Settlement and any Final Judgment entered in the Action if the Settlement receives final approval by the Court, and you will give up your rights to be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant and/or the Released Parties involving the same or similar legal

	claims as the ones in the Action for the period beginning on January 27, 2016 to May 31, 2022 If you are a PAGA Group Member, you will also receive a PAGA Payment. You will be mailed a settlement check at the address where this Notice was mailed (unless you timely provide a forwarding address to the Settlement Administrator).
EXCLUDE YOURSELF	The only way for you to be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants and/or the Released Parties involving the same or similar legal claims as the ones in the Action for the period beginning on January 27, 2016 to May 31, 2022 is to submit a valid Exclusion Form to the Settlement Administrator postmarked no later than [+60 days from date of mailing]. If you submit an Exclusion Form, you will not receive an Individual Settlement Payment, but you will receive a PAGA Payment if you are a PAGA Group Member.
OBJECT	If you wish to object to the Settlement, you must submit a written Objection, and supporting papers, to the Settlement Administrator that is postmarked or fax stamped no later than [+60 days from date of mailing]. This option is available only if you do not exclude yourself. Class members may also appear at the final approval hearing to object, this hearing will take place on [Final Approval Hearing Date and location].

These rights and options, and how to exercise them, are explained in more detail in this notice.

The Court handling this case has determined only that there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the proposed Settlement might be fair, adequate, and reasonable, and the Court still has to make a final determination of those issues at the Final Approval Hearing. Settlement payments will only be issued if the Court grants final approval of the Settlement.

Additional information regarding the Settlement is available through the Settlement Administrator or Class Counsel, whose contact information is provided in this notice.

BASIC INFORMATION

1. Why did I get this notice?

On [insert preliminary approval date], the Superior Court of California, County of Orange ("the Court") preliminarily approved a class action settlement of the Action on behalf of all persons who were employed by Defendants in California as non-exempt employees ("Class Members") during the period beginning on January 27, 2016 to May 31, 2022 (the "Class Period"). According to Defendants' records, you are a Class Member. This notice explains the Action, the Settlement, and your legal rights.

The Action is pending as coordinated cases captioned *Watermark Wage and Hour Cases*, Case No. JCCP 5176 and is pending in the Superior Court of California for the County of Orange (the "Action"). Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Evanina Alaniz are Plaintiffs, and the companies they

sued, Defendants Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC; Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc.; Watermark Services IV, LLC., are the Defendants.

2. What is the Action about?

The Action generally involves claims under California's wage and hour laws. Plaintiffs are former non-exempt employees of Defendants. They allege that Defendants did not provide proper meal or rest breaks, failed to pay minimum wages and overtime wages, failed to timely pay wages, failed to pay all wages at termination, failed to provide compliant wage statements, and unlawfully received wages, and violated California's Business and Professions Code. As a result, Plaintiffs alleges that they and the Class Members are entitled to recover unpaid straight time and overtime wages, meal and rest period premiums, interest, and statutory and civil penalties. Defendants deny that they engaged in any wrongful conduct or violated the law in any way, and believe Plaintiffs and the Class Members were properly and timely compensated and provided proper meal and rest breaks. However, both Plaintiffs and Defendants believe the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable, and that it is in the best interest of the Class Members.

3. Why is this lawsuit a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called "Plaintiff(s)" (in this case, Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Evanina Alaniz) sue on behalf of people who have similar alleged claims. All of these people are a "class" or "class members." The Court resolves the issues for all class members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class. On [insert date], the Honorable William Claster issued an order conditionally certifying the Settlement Class for purposes of settlement only.

4. Who is in the Settlement Class?

"Class Members" or "Class" means all persons employed by Defendant in the State of California at any time during the period from on January 27 2016 to May 31, 2022 as a non-exempt employee. "PAGA Group Members" means all persons employed by Defendant in the State of California at any time during the period from January 17, 2019 to May 31, 2022 as a non-exempt employee.

5. Why is there a settlement?

After conducting substantial investigation, including review of Defendants' policies, timekeeping records, and payroll records, both sides agreed to the Settlement to avoid the cost and risk of further litigation. The Settlement does not mean that any laws were broken. Defendants deny all of the claims asserted in the Action and deny that they have violated any laws. Plaintiffs and their lawyers think the Settlement is in the best interests of all Class Members.

THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT YOU GET

6. What does the settlement provide?

Under the terms of the Settlement, Defendant agrees to pay a Maximum Settlement Amount of Two Million, Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000.00). Deducted from this Maximum Settlement Amount will be sums approved by the Court for attorneys' fees (not to exceed \$800,000.00), or 33.33% of the Maximum Settlement Amount, attorneys' litigation costs (not to exceed \$30,000.00), a Class Representative Service Award to Plaintiff Daniel Carillo-Salazar in the amount of (\$10,000) and to Plaintiff Evanina Alaniz in the amount of (\$5,000) for their services, the PAGA Settlement Amount (i.e., a payment of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) to the State of California Labor and Workforce Development Agency for alleged penalties and a Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) *pro rata* distribution to PAGA Group Members as their PAGA Payment), and the fees and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, ILYM Group, Inc. (estimated not to exceed \$25,000.00), which will result in a maximum amount payable by Defendants for distribution to Class Members who do not opt out (the "Net Settlement Amount"). Defendants' share of payroll taxes will be paid separately from and in addition to the Maximum Settlement Amount. No portion of the Maximum Settlement Amount shall revert to Defendants.

The Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Class Members who do not opt out of the Settlement ("Participating Class Members") on a *pro rata* basis, based on the number of workweeks that each Participating Class Member performed work for Defendants as a non-exempt employee in California during the Class Period ("Qualified Workweeks"). To determine a Participating Class Member's estimated settlement payment ("Individual Settlement Payment"), the Net Settlement Amount will be divided by the total number of Qualified Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period, multiplied by the number of Qualified Workweeks worked by that Participating Class Member, according to the following formula:

[Net Settlement Amount ÷ Total Qualified Pay Periods for all Participating Class Members] x Participating Class Member's Individual Qualified Pay Periods = estimated Individual Settlement Payment

Class Members' Individual Settlement Payments will be reduced by any required legal deductions. No benefit, including but not limited to pension benefits and/or 401(k), shall increase or accrue as a result of any payment made as a result of this Settlement.

The Parties recognize that the Class Members' Individual Settlement Payments are for wages, interest, and penalties. The Parties agree that 50% of the Individual Settlement Payments shall be reported as wages subject to all applicable tax withholdings on IRS Form W-2 and its state and local equivalents and 50% shall be reported as non-wage interest and penalties not subject to payroll tax withholdings on IRS Form 1099 and its state and local equivalents.

The Parties are neither providing tax nor legal advice, nor making representations regarding tax obligations or consequences, if any, related to any settlement amounts to be paid to the

Participating Class Members. Each Participating Class Member will assume any tax obligations or consequences that may arise from any settlement amount paid to him or her and should consult with a tax expert if he or she has any questions. Each Participating Class Member's pro rata distribution amount prior to legal deductions will be reduced by the amount of any required payroll-related deductions.

Class Members who were employed by Defendants in the State of California at any time during the PAGA Period as a non-exempt employee ("PAGA Group Members") will also receive a PAGA Payment. "PAGA Payment" means the amount payable from the PAGA Settlement Amount to each PAGA Group Member. "PAGA Settlement Amount" means the portion of the Maximum Settlement Amount allocated to the resolution of PAGA claims in the Action. The PAGA Settlement Amount is Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000.00). Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) shall be paid by the Settlement Administrator directly to the LWDA. The remaining Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) shall be distributed to PAGA Group Members as their PAGA Payment. The "PAGA Period" is the period of time from January 17, 2019 through May 31, 2022. PAGA Payments shall be paid by the Settlement Administrator from the Maximum Settlement Amount. PAGA Payments shall be allocated as non-wage penalties not subject to payroll tax withholdings. The Settlement Administrator shall issue an IRS Form 1099 to each PAGA Group Member for their PAGA Payment. Each PAGA Group Member's PAGA Payment shall be calculated solely by the Settlement Administrator according to the following formula: Defendants shall provide the Settlement Administrator with the Total Qualified PAGA Pay Periods; the Settlement Administrator shall then (1) divide Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) by the Total Qualified PAGA Pay Periods and then (2) multiply each PAGA Group Member's number of Qualified PAGA Pay Periods by the result in (1) to obtain the amount of each PAGA Group Member's PAGA Payment. "Qualified PAGA Pay Periods" means the total number of pay periods during the PAGA Period that PAGA Group Members performed work for Defendants as a non-exempt employee.

7. What is my approximate Individual Settlement Payment?

According to payroll records maintained by Defendants, the total number of weeks you worked
in California for Defendants as a non-exempt employee during the Class Period is
The total number of pay periods you worked in California for Defendants as a non-exempt
employee during the PAGA Period is
Based on information provided above, anticipated court-approved deductions, and preliminary
calculations Qualified Workweeks, it is estimated your share of the settlement will be
\$, less applicable taxes and withholdings. This amount includes your share of the
PAGA Group Payment, which is estimated to be \$

You do not need to do anything further to receive your Individual Settlement Payment, other than to ensure that the Settlement Administrator has an accurate mailing address for you. It is important that you contact and inform the Settlement Administrator listed in Section 11, below, of any changes to your mailing address for timely payment.

Disputing Your Payment Amount

To the extent any Participating Class Member or PAGA Group Member disputes any aspect of his or her payment, number of Qualified Workweeks, or number of Qualified PAGA Pay Periods, that Participating Class Member or PAGA Group Member may complete the enclosed Dispute Form and mail it to the Settlement Administrator along with any documents or other information that supports your belief that the information set forth is incorrect. Defendants' records will be presumed determinative.

8. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

In exchange for the consideration provided, and upon the Settlement Administrator's receipt of the total Maximum Settlement Amount from Defendants, Plaintiffs and each Participating Class Member who does not submit a valid Exclusion Form (defined in response to Question 11 below) will release all claims for civil penalties that could have been sought by the Labor Commissioner and all claims alleged in the Complaint, including but not limited to (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 provide accurate itemized wage statements (6) failure to pay all wages due upon separation of employment (7) violation of California Business and Professions Code §§17200, et seq., based on the preceding claims against Defendants, including their parent corporation(s), direct or indirect owners, affiliates (including, without limitation, Watermark Retirement Communities Carmel, LLC), subsidiaries, divisions, predecessors, insurers, reinsurers, successors, and assigns, and their current and former employees, attorneys, officers, directors, and agents thereof, both individually and in their business capacities, and their employee benefit plans and programs and the trustees, administrators, fiduciaries, and insurers of such plans and programs, both individually and in their business capacities at any time during the Class Period (the "Released Parties"). The PAGA Group Member will release PAGA claims regardless of whether they opt-out.

HOW TO GET A SETTLEMENT PAYMENT

9. How do I get a settlement payment?

You will automatically receive an Individual Settlement Payment in exchange for which, whether or not you cash or deposit the payment, you will be bound by all terms of the Settlement and any Final Judgment entered in the Action if the Settlement receives final approval by the Court, and you will give up your rights to be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants and/or the Released Parties involving the same or similar legal claims as the ones in the Action arising during the Class Period. You will be mailed a settlement check at the address where this notice was mailed (unless you timely provide a forwarding address to the Settlement Administrator).

Additionally, if you are a PAGA Group Member, you will also receive a PAGA Payment, regardless of whether you submit an Exclusion Form. Your Individual Settlement Payment and PAGA Payment will be issued in one check.

10. When will I get my check?

Checks will be mailed to Participating Class Members and PAGA Group Members eligible to receive benefits under the Settlement after the Court grants "final approval" of the Settlement. If the judge approves the settlement after a hearing on <code>[insert date]</code> (see "The Court's Final Approval Hearing" below), there may be appeals. If there are any appeals, resolving them could take some time, so please be patient.

If the Court approves the settlement and if you do not opt out, your individual payment is expected to be distributed after Defendants make payment to the Settlement Administrator. Defendants shall fund the settlement no earlier than the later of (a) January 2, 2023 or (b) thirty (30) days after the Court signs the Final Order.to make the full payment to the Settlement Administrator.

Please also be advised that you will only have 180 days from the date that the check is issued to cash it. If you do not cash your check within 180 days of the date of its mailing, your check shall be voided, and your share of the settlement proceeds will be distributed by the Settlement Administrator to the California State Controller's Office Unclaimed Property Fund in your name.

EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

11. How do I ask the Court to exclude me from the Settlement Class?

If you do not wish to participate in the Settlement, you must complete and send a timely Exclusion Form. The Exclusion Form must be completed, signed, dated and mailed by First Class U.S. Mail, or the equivalent, postmarked no later than [+60 days from date of mailing] to:

INSERT SETTLEMENT ADMIN INFO

Exclusion Forms that do not include all required information and/or that are not timely submitted will be deemed null, void, and ineffective, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. If you do not submit a valid and timely Exclusion Form on or before [+60 days from date of mailing], you will be bound by all terms of the Settlement and any Final Judgment entered in the Action if the Settlement is approved by the Court.

12. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the settlement?

Not unless you are also a PAGA Group Member. If you exclude yourself now you will not get anything from the Settlement unless you are a PAGA Group Member. If you ask to be excluded, you will not get an Individual Settlement Payment and you will not be bound by the Settlement, but you will still receive a PAGA Payment if you are a PAGA Group Member.

13. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up the right to sue Defendants for the Released Claims arising during the Class Period. You must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class to start or continue your own lawsuit.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

14. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

The Court has appointed the following lawyers to serve as Class Counsel for the Class Members:

JACKSON LAW, APC Armond M. Jackson 2 Venture Plaza, Suite 240 Irvine, CA 92618 Phone: (949) 281-6857 Fax: (949) 777-6218

Samuel A. Wong Kashif Haque Jessica L. Campbell Kristy R. Connolly AEGIS LAW FIRM, PC 9811 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 100 Irvine, CA 92618 Tel: 949-379-6250

kconnolly@aegislawfirm.com
UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP

Walter Haines 5500 Bolsa Avenue, Suite 201 Huntington Beach, California 92649

Telephone: (562) 256-1047 Facsimile: (562) 256-1006

15. How will the costs of the lawsuit and the settlement be paid?

Subject to court approval, Class Counsel has requested one-third (33 1/3%) of the sum of the Maximum Settlement Amount in attorneys' fees (currently equal to \$800,000) plus actual litigation costs and expenses (not to exceed \$30,000.00). The Court may award less than these amounts. If lesser amounts are awarded, the difference will be returned to the Net Settlement Amount.

In addition, and subject to Court approval, Defendants also agree to pay, as part of the Maximum Settlement Amount, up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to Plaintiff Daniel Carillo-Salazar and Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to Plaintiff Evanina Alaniz as Enhancement Awards for their participation in the Action and for taking on the risk of litigation. Subject to Court approval, Defendant also agrees to pay Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) to the State of California Labor and Workforce Development Agency for alleged civil penalties. Defendant also agrees to pay, as part of the Maximum Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator's costs and fees associated with administering the Settlement, estimated not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00). The Court may award less than these amounts. If lesser amounts are awarded, the difference will be included in the Net Settlement Amount and will be

available for distribution to Participating Class Members.

OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

16. How do I object to the Settlement?

If you do not submit an Exclusion Form, you may object to the proposed Settlement, or any portion thereof, by completing a written objection ("Objection Form"). The Objection Form must be signed and mailed by regular U.S. Mail, postmarked no later than [+60 days from date of mailing], to the Settlement Administrator at the following address:

[Settlement Administrator] [insert info]

The Objection Form must (1) state your full name; (2) be signed by you; (3) state the grounds for the objection; and (4) must be postmarked by [+60 days from date of mailing] and returned to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address above. If you wish to appear at the Court's Final Approval Hearing (see response to Question 17 below) and orally present your objection to the Court, you may do so whether or not you submitted an Objection Form to the Settlement Administrator. Any Class Member who submits an Objection Form or appears at the Final Approval Hearing to submit a verbal objection remains eligible to receive monetary compensation from the Settlement. A Class Member who submits an Exclusion Form may not object to the proposed Settlement.

17. What's the difference between objecting and asking to be excluded?

Objecting is simply telling the Court you do not like something about the Settlement. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class.

THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the Settlement. You may attend the hearing and you may ask to speak, but you don't have to.

18. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on [insert time/date] in Department CX104 of the Orange County Superior Court, located at 751 W. Santa Ana., Blvd, Santa Ana, California 92701. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will also decide how much to pay Class Counsel. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long these decisions will take.

19. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions the judge may have. But you are welcome to come. If you submit an Objection Form to the Settlement Administrator, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. You may also pay another lawyer to attend, but it is not required.

Class Counsel will not represent you in connection with any objection. You may appear by audio or video at the final approval hearing. Please visit the Court's website for further instructions: https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

20. May I speak at the hearing?

If you wish to appear at the Final Approval Hearing and orally present your objection to the Court, you may do so regardless of whether or not you submitted an Objection Form. Please adhere to the latest COVID-19 courthouse protocol.

IF YOU DO NOTHING

21. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing, you will automatically receive an Individual Settlement Payment and PAGA Payment, if applicable, as described above and you will be bound by the release of Released Claims against the Released Parties.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

22. How do I get more information?

This notice summarizes the Settlement. More details are in the Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, which is attached as Exhibit X to the Declaration of Armond M. Jackson in Support of Plaintiffs Danial Carillo-Salazar and Evanina Alaniz's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, filed on [INSERT DATE]. The case is assigned to Department CX104 of the Orange County Superior Court, located at 751 W. Santa Ana., Blvd, Santa Ana, California 92701. The case file may be viewed online at https://www.occourts.org/online-services/case-access/ and select "Civil Case & Document Access."

You may also contact Class Counsel or the Settlement Administrator for more information.

[Settlement Administrator] [insert info]

The Settlement Administrator has set up a settlement website where you may also obtain up-to-date information on the matter including any change of the date or location of any hearings in connection with this Settlement. The settlement website URL is XXXXXX

Please do not contact the Court for more information about the Settlement.

4874-5935-4924, v. 2

EXHIBIT B

CARILLO-SALAZAR V. WATERMARK SERVICES IV, LLC ET AL., WATERMARK WAGE AND HOUR CASES, CASE NO. JCCP 5176

DISPUTE FORM

The records from Defendants Watermark Retirement Communities, LLC; Watermark Retirement Communities, Inc.; Watermark Services IV, LLC, indicate that you were employed as a non-exempt employee for INSERT workweeks during the Class Period of January 27, 2016 through May 31, 2022. Based on your total number of workweeks, your estimated Individual Settlement Payment is \$INSERT. Defendants' records also indicate that you were employed as a non-exempt employee for INSERT pay period during the PAGA Period of January 17, 2019 through May 31, 2022. Based on your total number of pay periods worked, your estimated PAGA Settlement Amount payment is \$INSERT.

If you believe your total number of workweeks and/or pay periods is **incorrect**, please mail this Dispute Form to the address below along with any supporting documentation evidencing the correct number of workweeks and/or pay periods worked by you for Defendants. The Settlement Administrator will make its determination after considering the records and any documentation you provide.

(Signature)	(Date)
(Print Name)	(Address)
(Telephone Number)	(City / State / Zip Code)

[Settlement Administrator]

Re: Daniel Carillo-Salazar et al. v. Watermark Services IV, LLC et al.

[Address]

[City, State, Zip]

[Telephone Number; Fax Number]

EXHIBIT C

CARILLO-SALAZAR V. WATERMARK SERVICES IV, LLC ET AL., WATERMARK WAGE AND HOUR CASES, CASE NO. JCCP 5176

OBJECTION FORM

IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT, BUT YOU <u>OBJECT</u> TO THE TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT, YOU MUST SIGN AND COMPLETE THIS FORM ACCURATELY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND YOU MUST SUBMIT THIS FORM BY FIRST CLASS U.S. MAIL OR FAX TO THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR AT THE ADDRESS OR FAX NUMBER BELOW SO THAT IT IS POSTMARKED OR FAX STAMPED ON OR BEFORE	
valid written statement of objection. All or provide all of the information below, your submit an objection, you will be bound b	the Final Approval Hearing if you submit a timely and f the information on this form is required. If you do not r objection will be deemed null and void. Even if you by the terms of the Settlement, including the release of not approve the Settlement . You cannot object to the e Settlement.
☐ I OBJECT to the <i>Daniel Carillo</i> -Settlement on the following grounds:	-Salazar et al. v. Watermark Services IV, LLC et al.,
(Attach additional pages if need.)	
(Signature)	(Date)
(Print Name)	(Address)
(Telephone Number)	(City / State / Zip Code)
All Objection Forms must be postmarked or fax your fully completed and signed Objection	d or fax stamped no later than Mail ection Form to:

[Settlement Administrator]

Re: Daniel Carillo-Salazar et al. v. Watermark Services IV, LLC et al.

[Address]

[City, State, Zip] [Telephone Number; Fax Number]

4888-9210-3212, v. 1