SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT John G. Yslas (SBN 187324) 1 john.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com Diego Aviles (SBN 315533) 2 diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com OCT 14 2024 Harry Erganyan (SBN 333091) 3 harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com Mariam M. Nazaretyan (SBN 334154) 4 mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com Samantha A. Smith (SBN 233331) 5 Samantha.smith@wilshirelawfirm.com WILSHIRE LAW FIRM 6 3055 Wilshire Blvd., 12th Floor Los Angeles, California 90010 7 Telephone: (213) 381-9988 Facsimile: (213) 381-9989 8 9 Attorneys for Plaintiff 10 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 12 13 JACQUELINE GARCIA, individually, and on Case No.: CIVSB2226900 behalf of all others similarly situated, 14 **CLASS ACTION** Plaintiff. 15 [Assigned for all purposes to: Joseph T. Ortiz, Dept. S17 V. 16 1st COMMERCIAL REALTY GROUP, INC., a [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING 17 PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR California corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive. PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS 18 **ACTION SETTLEMENT** Defendants. 19 [Filed with Notice of Motion and Motion, Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the 20 Declaration of John G. Yslas, and the Declaration of Plaintiff Garcia] 21 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL HEARING 22 Date: October 14, 2024 Time: 1:30 p.m. 23 Dept: S17 24 Complaint filed: November 30, 2022 Trial date: Not set 25 26 27

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[PROPOSED] ORDER

Having reviewed Plaintiff Jacqueline Garcia's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement ("Motion"), the Declaration of John G. Yslas, Plaintiff's declaration, and the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Class Notice ("Settlement Agreement"), and good cause appearing, the Court finds and orders as follows:

- 1. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that the Settlement Agreement appears to be fair, adequate, and reasonable and therefore meets the requirements for preliminary approval. The Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement and the Settlement Class based on the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement between Plaintiff and Defendant 1st Commercial Realty Group, Inc. ("Defendant"), attached to the Declaration of John G. Yslas in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement as **Exhibit 1**.
- 2. The Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness of a settlement which could ultimately be given final approval by this Court, and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised at the Final Approval Hearing and final approval by this Court. The Court notes that Defendant has agreed to create a common fund of \$135,000.00 to cover (a) settlement payments to Class Members who do not validly opt out; (b) a \$10,000.00 allocation toward civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act, 75% of which (\$7,500.00) will be paid to the State of California, Labor & Workforce Development Agency and 25% of which (\$2,500.00) will be paid to eligible Aggrieved Employees; (c) Class Representative service payment of up to \$7,500.00 to Plaintiff; (d) Class Counsel's attorneys' fees, not to exceed 33 and 1/3% of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$44,995.50), and up to \$15,000.00 in costs for actual litigation expenses incurred by Class Counsel; and (e) Settlement Administration Costs of up to \$6,950.00.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement appear to be within the range of possible approval, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 and applicable law. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that: (1) the Settlement amount is fair and reasonable to the Class Members when balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to class certification, liability and damages issues, and potential appeals; (2)

significant informal discovery, investigation, research, and litigation have been conducted such that counsel for the Parties at this time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions; (3) settlement at this time will avoid substantial costs, delay, and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the litigation; and (4) the proposed Settlement has been reached as the result of intensive, serious, and non-collusive negotiations between the Parties with the assistance of a well-respected class action mediator. Accordingly, the Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was entered into in good faith.

- 4. A final fairness hearing on the question of whether the proposed Settlement, attorneys' fees and costs to Class Counsel, payment to the State of California, Labor & Workforce Development Agency for its share of the settlement of claims for penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act, and the class representatives' enhancement awards should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate as to the members of the Class is hereby set in accordance with the Implementation Schedule set forth below.
- 5. The Court provisionally certifies for settlement purposes only the following class (the "Class"): "all current or former hourly-paid or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in California during the Class Period who do not timely opt out of the settlement."
 - 6. "Class Period" means the period from November 30, 2018 to April 15, 2024.
- 7. The Court finds, for settlement purposes only, that the Settlement Class meets the requirements for certification under California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 in that: (1) the Settlement Class Members are so numerous that joinder is impractical; (2) there are questions of law and fact that are common, or of general interest, to all Settlement Class Members, which predominate over individual issues; (3) Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class Members; (4) Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Settlement Class Members; and (5) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.
- 8. The Court appoints as Class Representatives, for settlement purposes only, Plaintiff. The Court further preliminarily approves Plaintiffs' ability to request an incentive award up to \$7,500.00.

- 9. The Court appoints, for settlement purposes only, John G. Yslas, Diego Aviles, Harry Erganyan, Mariam Nazaretyan and John Brown of Wilshire Law Firm, PLC as Class Counsel. The Court further preliminarily approves Class Counsel's ability to request attorneys' fees of up to 33 1/3% of the Total Settlement Amount (i.e., \$44,995.50), and costs not to exceed \$15,000.00.
- 10. The Court appoints ILYM Group, Inc. as the Settlement Administrator with reasonable administration costs estimated not to exceed \$6,950.00.
- 11. The Court approves, as to form and content the Class Notice, attached to the Settlement Agreement. The Court finds on a preliminary basis that plan for distribution of the Notice to Settlement Class Members satisfies due process, provides the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.
- 12. The Parties are ordered to carry out the Settlement according to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.
- 13. Any Class Member who does not timely and validly request exclusion from the Settlement may object to the Settlement Agreement.

14. The Court orders the following Implementation Schedule:

Defendant to provide Class List to the	November 4, 2024 – 21 days after
Settlement Administrator	preliminary approval hearing
Settlement Administrator to mail the Notice	November 7, 2024 – 3 court days after
Packets	receipt of Class Data
Class Member Response Deadline	December 23, 2024 – 45 days after sending
	Notice to Class
	December 23, 2024 – 45 days after sending
Class Member Deadline to Object	Notice to Class
	January 20, 2025 – 14 days before deadline
Deadline for Administrator to Submit Report	to file Motion for Final Approval

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1 2 3	Deadline to file Motion for Final Approval, Request for Attorney's Fees and Costs, and Service Awards to Plaintiff	January 9, 2025 – 16 court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing]	
4 5	Proposed Final Approval Hearing	February 3, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. [or 1:30Pm]	
6	15. The Court further ORDERS that, pending further order of this Court, all		
7	proceedings in this lawsuit, except those contemplated herein and in the settlement, are stayed.		
8	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
9	DATE: 0CT 1 4 2024	JOSEPH T. ÖRTIZ	
10		Hon. Joseph T. Ortiz	
11		San Bernardino County Superior Court	
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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of San Bernardino San Bernardino District – Civil Division 247 West Third Street San Bernardino, CA 92415-0210

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Wilshire Law Firm 3055 Wilshire Blvd. 12th Floor LOS Angeles, CA 90010



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