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8 *Attorneys for Plaintiff ANA VALENZUELA,*  
9 *individually, and on behalf of other similarly*  
10 *situated employees and aggrieved employees*  
*pursuant to the California Private Attorneys General Act*

11 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
12 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

13 ANA VALENZUELA, individually, and on  
14 behalf of other similarly situated employees  
15 and aggrieved employees pursuant to the  
California Private Attorneys General Act,

16 Plaintiff,

17 vs.

18 HANDLERY HOTELS, INC.; and DOES  
19 through 25, inclusive,

20 Defendants.

**FILED**  
Clerk of the Superior Court

JUN 23 2026

By: N. Calantoc, Deputy

Case No.: 24CU006128C

Honorable Euketa Oliver  
Department C-75

~~REVISED PROPOSED~~ **ORDER GRANTING  
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS  
ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Date: April 24, 2026  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Dept.: C-75

Complaint Filed: August 15, 2024  
FAC Filed: November 17, 2025  
Trial Date: Not Set

1 **[PROPOSED] ORDER**

2 The Court, having carefully considered the papers, argument of counsel, and all matters  
3 presented to the Court, and good cause appearing, hereby **GRANTS** Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary  
4 Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement.

5 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

6 1. The Court preliminarily approves the Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA  
7 Settlement ("Settlement" or "Settlement Agreement") attached as Exhibit 3 to the Declaration of  
8 Alexandra Rose in Support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA  
9 Settlement. This is based on the Court's determination that the Settlement falls within the range of  
10 possible approval as fair, adequate, and reasonable.

11 2. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, and  
12 all capitalized terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order as set forth in the  
13 Settlement Agreement.

14 3. It appears to the Court on a preliminary basis that the Settlement is fair, adequate, and  
15 reasonable. It appears to the Court that extensive investigation and research have been conducted such  
16 that counsel for the parties at this time are able to reasonably evaluate their respective positions. It  
17 further appears to the Court that the Settlement, at this time, will avoid substantial additional costs by  
18 all parties, as well as avoid the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of  
19 the case. It further appears that the Settlement has been reached as the result of intensive, serious, and  
20 non-collusive, arms-length negotiations, and was entered into in good faith.

21 4. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement, including the allocations for the  
22 Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment, LWDA Payment, Settlement Administration  
23 Costs, and payments to the Settlement Class Members and PAGA Employees provided for in the  
24 Settlement Agreement, appear to be within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that could  
25 ultimately be given final approval by this Court. Indeed, the Court has reviewed the monetary recovery  
26 that is being granted as part of the Settlement and preliminarily finds that the monetary settlement  
27 awards made available to the Class Members and PAGA Employees are fair, adequate, and reasonable  
28 when balanced against the probable outcome of further litigation relating to certification, liability, and  
damages issues and are consistent with the requirements of California Labor Code § 2699(e)(1).

1           5.       The Court concludes that, for settlement purposes only, the proposed Class meets the  
2 requirements for certification under section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure in that: (a)  
3 the Class is ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable;  
4 (b) common questions of law and fact predominate, and there is a well-defined community of interest  
5 amongst the members of the Class with respect to the subject matter of the litigation; (c) Plaintiff's  
6 claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class; (d) Plaintiff will fairly and adequately  
7 protect the interests of the members of the Class; (e) a class action is superior to other available  
8 methods for the efficient adjudication of the controversy; and (f) Class Counsel is qualified to act as  
9 counsel for Plaintiff in her individual capacity and as the representative of the Class.

10           6.       The Court conditionally certifies, for settlement purposes only, the Class, defined as  
11 follows:

12           All current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for  
13 Defendant in the State of California at any time during the Class Period.

14           (The Class Period is defined as the period from August 15, 2020 through September  
15 14, 2025.)

16           7.       The Court provisionally appoints Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Joana  
17 Fang, Alexandra Rose, and James S. Winn Jr. of Blackstone Law, APC as counsel for the Class ("Class  
18 Counsel").

19           8.       The Court provisionally appoints Plaintiff Ana Valenzuela as the representative of the  
20 Class ("Class Representative").

21           9.       The Court provisionally appoints ILYM Group, Inc. to handle the administration of the  
22 Settlement ("Settlement Administrator").

23           10.       Within twenty-eight (28) calendar days after entry of this Order, Defendant will provide  
24 the Settlement Administrator with the following information about each Class Member: (1) full name;  
25 (2) last known mailing address; (3) Social Security number; (4) dates worked for Defendant during  
26 the Class Period; and (5) such other information as is necessary for the Settlement Administrator to  
27 calculate Workweeks and Pay Periods (collectively referred to as the "Class List") in conformity with  
28 the Settlement Agreement.

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1           11.     The Court approves, both as to form and content, the Notice of Class Action Settlement  
2 (“Class Notice”) attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**. The Class Notice shall be provided to Class Members  
3 in the manner set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Court finds that the Class Notice appears to  
4 fully and accurately inform the Class Members of all material elements of the Settlement, of Class  
5 Members’ right to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion, of  
6 Class Members’ right to dispute the Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to each of them by  
7 submitting a Dispute, and of each Settlement Class Member’s right and opportunity to object to the  
8 Class Settlement by submitting a Notice of Objection to the Settlement Administrator. The Court  
9 further finds that distribution of the Class Notice substantially in the manner and form set forth in the  
10 Settlement Agreement and this Order, and that all other dates set forth in the Settlement Agreement  
11 and this Order, meet the requirements of due process and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to  
12 all persons entitled thereto. The Court further orders the Settlement Administrator to mail the Class  
13 Notice in English and Spanish by First-Class U.S. Mail to all Class Members within seven (7) calendar  
14 days of receipt of the Class List, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

15           12.     The Court hereby preliminarily approves the proposed procedure, set forth in the  
16 Settlement Agreement, for seeking exclusion from the Class Settlement. Any Class Member may  
17 choose to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a Request for Exclusion in conformity  
18 with the requirements set forth in the Class Notice, to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked on or  
19 before the date that is sixty (60) calendar days from the initial mailing of the Class Notice by the  
20 Settlement Administrator to Class Members (“Response Deadline”), or, in the case of a re-mailed  
21 Class Notice, the Response Deadline shall be extended fifteen (15) calendar days from the original  
22 Response Deadline. Any such person who timely and validly chooses to opt out of, and be excluded  
23 from, the Class Settlement will not be entitled to any recovery under the Class Settlement and will not  
24 be bound by the Class Settlement or have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon.  
25 Nevertheless, all PAGA Employees will be bound by the PAGA Settlement and issued their Individual  
26 PAGA Payment, irrespective of whether they submit a Request for Exclusion. Class Members who  
27 do not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion (i.e., Settlement Class Members) shall be  
28 bound by the Settlement Agreement and any final judgment based thereon.

1           13.     A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court on October 30, 2026 at 9:00  
2 a.m. in Department C-75 of the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 West Broadway,  
3 San Diego, California 92101, to determine all necessary matters concerning the Settlement, including:  
4 whether the proposed settlement of the action on the terms and conditions provided for in the  
5 Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable and should be finally approved by the Court; whether a  
6 judgment, as provided in the Settlement, should be entered herein; whether the plan of allocation  
7 contained in the Settlement should be approved as fair, adequate, and reasonable to the Class Members  
8 and PAGA Employees; and determine whether to approve the requests for the Attorneys' Fees and  
9 Costs, Enhancement Payment, Settlement Administration Costs, and allocation for the PAGA  
10 Amount.

11           14.     Class Counsel shall file a motion for final approval of the Settlement and for Attorneys'  
12 Fees and Costs, Enhancement Payment, and Settlement Administration Costs, along with the  
13 appropriate declarations and supporting evidence, including the Settlement Administrator's  
14 declaration, sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing.

15           15.     To object to the Class Settlement, a Settlement Class Member must submit their Notice  
16 of Objection to the Settlement Administrator on or before the Response Deadline. The Notice of  
17 Objection must be signed and must contain the information that is required, as set forth in the Class  
18 Notice, including and not limited to the grounds for the objection. Settlement Class Members,  
19 individually or through counsel, may also present their objection orally at the Final Approval Hearing,  
20 regardless of whether they have submitted a Notice of Objection.

21           16.     In the event the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms of  
22 the Settlement Agreement, or the Settlement is not finally approved, or is terminated, canceled, or fails  
23 to become effective for any reason, this Order shall be rendered null and void, shall be vacated, and  
24 the parties shall revert back to their respective positions as of before entering into the Settlement  
25 Agreement. The fact that the Court certified the Class for settlement purposes shall not be admissible  
26 or have any bearing on the issue of whether any class should be certified in a non-settlement context.

27           17.     The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the date of the Final Approval  
28 Hearing and any dates provided for in the Settlement Agreement without further notice to the Class

1 Members and retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with  
2 the Settlement.

3 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

4 Dated: 6/23/2026

  
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Honorable Euketa Oliver  
Judge of the Superior Court

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# **EXHIBIT 1**

## **NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

*Ana Valenzuela v. Handlery Hotels, Inc.*  
Superior Court of California for the County of San Diego, Case No. 24CU006128C

### **PLEASE READ THIS CLASS NOTICE CAREFULLY.**

**You have received this Class Notice because Defendant's records indicate that you may be eligible to take part in the class action settlement reached in the above-referenced case.**

**You do not need to take any action to receive a settlement payment.**

**This Class Notice is designed to advise you of your rights and options with respect to the settlement, and how you can request to be excluded from the Class Settlement, object to the Class Settlement, and/or dispute the number of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods that you are credited with, if you so choose.**

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT:** A class and representative action settlement has been reached between Plaintiff Ana Valenzuela ("Plaintiff") and Defendant Handlery Hotels, Inc. ("Defendant") (Plaintiff and Defendant are collectively referred to as the "Parties") in the case entitled *Ana Valenzuela v. Handlery Hotels, Inc.*, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 24CU006128C ("Action"), which may affect your legal rights. On [date of Preliminary Approval], the Court granted preliminary approval of the settlement and scheduled a hearing on October 30, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. ("Final Approval Hearing") to determine whether or not the Court should grant final approval of the settlement.

### **I. IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS**

**"Class" or "Class Member(s)"** means all current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in the State of California at any time during the Class Period.

**"Class Period"** means the period from August 15, 2020 through September 14, 2025.

**"Class Settlement"** means the settlement and resolution of all Released Class Claims.

**"PAGA Employee(s)"** means all current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in the State of California at any time during the PAGA Period.

**"PAGA Period"** means the period from August 14, 2023 through September 14, 2025.

**"PAGA Settlement"** means the settlement and resolution of all Released PAGA Claims.

### **II. BACKGROUND OF THE ACTION**

On August 14, 2024, Plaintiff provided written notice to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and Defendant of the specific provisions of the California Labor Code that Plaintiff contends were violated ("PAGA Letter"). On August 15, 2024, Plaintiff commenced a putative class action lawsuit by filing a Class Action Complaint in the Action. On November 11, 2025, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Class and Representative Action Complaint. ("Operative Complaint") in the Action.

Plaintiff contends that Defendant failed to properly pay minimum and overtime wages, provide compliant meal and rest breaks and associated premiums, timely pay wages during employment and upon termination of employment and associated waiting-time penalties, provide accurate wage statements, and reimburse business expenses, and thereby engaged in unfair business practices in violation of the California Business and Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*, and conduct that gives rise to penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 pursuant to California Labor Code Section 2698, *et seq.* ("PAGA"). Plaintiff seeks, among other things, recovery of unpaid wages and meal and rest period premiums, unreimbursed business expenses, restitution, penalties, interest, and attorneys' fees and costs.

Defendant strongly denies all of Plaintiff's claims, asserts that Plaintiff is not entitled to recover any damages or penalties, and contends that Defendant has complied with all employment laws.

The Parties participated in mediation with a respected class action mediator, and as a result, the Parties reached a settlement. The Parties have since entered into a Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement (“Settlement” or “Settlement Agreement”).

On [Date of Preliminary Approval], the Court entered an order preliminarily approving the Settlement. The Court has appointed ILYM Group, Inc. as the administrator of the Settlement (“Settlement Administrator”), Plaintiff Ana Valenzuela as representative of the Class (“Class Representative”), and the following Plaintiff’s attorneys as counsel for the Class (“Class Counsel”):

Jonathan M. Genish  
Miriam L. Schimmel  
Joana Fang  
Alexandra Rose  
James S. Winn Jr.  
**Blackstone Law, APC**  
8383 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 745  
Beverly Hills, California 90211  
Tel: (310) 622-4278 / Fax: (855) 786-6356

If you are a Class Member, you need not take any action to receive an Individual Settlement Payment, but you have the opportunity to request exclusion from the Class Settlement (in which case you will not receive an Individual Settlement Payment), object to the Class Settlement, and/or dispute the Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you, if you so choose, as explained more fully in Sections III and IV below. If you are a PAGA Employee, you do not need to take any action to receive an Individual PAGA Payment; you will not have the opportunity to object or seek exclusion from the PAGA Settlement and all PAGA Employees will be bound to the PAGA Settlement if the Court grants final approval of the Settlement.

The Settlement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in the Settlement is intended or will be construed as an admission by Defendant that the claims in the Action have merit or that Defendant has any liability to Plaintiff, Class Members, or PAGA Employees. Plaintiff and Defendant, and their respective counsel, have concluded and agree that, in light of the risks and uncertainties to each side of continued litigation, the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and is in the best interests of the Class Members, the State of California, and PAGA Employees.

### **III. SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT**

#### **A. Settlement Formula**

The total gross settlement amount is One Million Eighty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,080,000.00) (the “Gross Settlement Amount”). The portion of the Gross Settlement Amount that is available for payment to Class Members is referred to as the “Net Settlement Amount.” The Net Settlement Amount will be the Gross Settlement Amount less the following payments which are subject to approval by the Court: (1) attorneys’ fees, in an amount not to exceed thirty-five percent (35%) of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$378,000.00), and reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses, in an amount not to exceed Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$35,000.00) to Class Counsel; (2) Enhancement Payment in an amount not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$7,500.00) to Plaintiff for her services in the Action; (3) the amount of Fifty-Four Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$54,000.00) allocated toward civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act (“PAGA Amount”), of which the LWDA will be paid 65% (\$35,100.00) (“LWDA Payment”) and the remaining 35% (\$18,900.00) will be distributed to PAGA Employees (“PAGA Employee Amount”); and (4) Settlement Administration Costs in an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$9,000.00) to the Settlement Administrator.

Class Members are eligible to receive payment under the Class Settlement of their *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Amount (“Individual Settlement Share”) based on the number of weeks each Class Member worked for Defendant as an hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employee in California during the Class Period (“Workweeks”). The Settlement Administrator has divided the Net Settlement Amount by the Workweeks of all Class Members to yield the “Estimated Workweek Value,” and multiplied each Class Member’s individual Workweeks by the Estimated Workweek Value to yield an estimated Individual Settlement Share that each Class Member may be entitled to receive under the Class Settlement

(which is listed in Section III.C below). Class Members who do not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion (“Settlement Class Members”) will be issued their final Individual Settlement Payment.

Each Individual Settlement Share will be allocated as twenty percent (20%) as wages, which will be reported on an IRS Form W-2, and eighty percent (80%) as penalties, interest, and non-wage damages, which will be reported on an IRS Form 1099 (if applicable). Each Individual Settlement Share will be subject to reduction for the employee’s share of payroll taxes and withholdings with respect to the wages portion of the Individual Settlement Shares resulting in a net payment to the Settlement Class Member (“Individual Settlement Payment”). The employer’s share of taxes and contributions in connection with the wages portion of Individual Settlement Shares (“Employer Taxes”) will be paid by Defendant separately and in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount.

PAGA Employees are eligible to receive payment under the PAGA Settlement of their *pro rata* share of the PAGA Employee Amount (“Individual PAGA Payment”) based on the number of pay periods each PAGA Employee worked for Defendant as an hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employee in California during the PAGA Period (“Pay Periods”). The Settlement Administrator had divided the PAGA Employee Amount, i.e., 35% of the PAGA Amount, by the Pay Periods of all PAGA Employees to yield the “PAGA Pay Period Value,” and multiplied each PAGA Employee’s individual Pay Periods by the Pay Period Value to yield each PAGA Employee’s Individual PAGA Payment.

Each Individual PAGA Payment will be allocated as one hundred percent (100%) penalties, will not be subject to taxes or withholdings, and will be reported on IRS Form 1099 (if applicable).

If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, Individual Settlement Payments will be mailed to Settlement Class Members and Individual PAGA Payments will be mailed to PAGA Employees at the address that is on file with the Settlement Administrator. **If the address to which this Class Notice was mailed is not correct, or if you move after you receive this Class Notice, you must provide your correct mailing address to the Settlement Administrator as soon as possible to ensure you receive any payment that you may be entitled to under the Settlement.**

**B. Your Workweeks and Pay Periods (if applicable) Based on Defendant’s Records**

According to Defendant’s records:

- **From August 15, 2020 through September 14, 2025 (i.e., the Class Period), you are credited as having worked [ ] Workweeks.**
- **From August 14, 2023 through September 14, 2025 (i.e., the PAGA Period), you are credited as having worked [ ] Pay Periods.**

If you wish to dispute the Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you, you must submit your dispute in writing to the Settlement Administrator (“Dispute”). The Dispute must: (a) contain the case name and number of the Action (*Valenzuela v. Handlery Hotels, Inc.*, Case No. 24CU006128C); (b) contain your full name, signature, address, telephone number, and the last four (4) digits of your Social Security number; (c) clearly state that you dispute the number of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods credited to you and what you contend is the correct number; and (d) be returned by mail to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address listed in Section IV.B below, postmarked **on or before [Response Deadline]**.

**C. Your Estimated Individual Settlement Share and Individual PAGA Payment (if applicable)**

As explained above, your estimated Individual Settlement Share and Individual PAGA Payment (if applicable) is based on the number of Workweeks and Pay Periods (if applicable) credited to you.

**Under the terms of the Settlement, your Individual Settlement Share is estimated to be \$ [ ]. The Individual Settlement Share is subject to reduction for the employee’s share of taxes and withholdings with respect to the wages portion of the Individual Settlement Share and will only be distributed if the Court approves the Settlement and after the Settlement goes into effect.**

**Under the terms of the Settlement, your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ [ ] and will only be distributed if the Court approves the Settlement and after the Settlement goes into effect.**

The settlement approval process may take multiple months. Your Individual Settlement Share and Individual PAGA Payment (if applicable) reflected in this Class Notice is only an estimate. Your actual Individual Settlement Payment and Individual PAGA Payment (if applicable) may be higher or lower.

**D. Release of Claims**

Upon the Effective Date and full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff and all Settlement Class Members will be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, settled, compromised, relinquished, and discharged the Released Parties of all Released Class Claims.

Upon the Effective Date and full funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, Plaintiff, the State of California with respect to all PAGA Employees, and all PAGA Employees will be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, settled, compromised, relinquished, and discharged the Released Parties of all Released PAGA Claims.

“Released Class Claims” means any and all claims which were alleged or which could have been reasonably alleged based on the factual allegations in the Operative Complaint, arising during the Class Period, which shall specifically include claims for Defendant’s alleged failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments, timely pay wages during employment and upon termination, provide accurate wage statements, and reimburse necessary business-related expenses in violation of California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226(a), 226.7, 510, 512(a), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order, and California Business and Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.*, as well as an attorneys’ fees and costs related thereto.

“Released PAGA Claims” means any and all claims arising from any of the factual allegations in the PAGA Letter and the Operative Complaint, arising during the PAGA Period, for civil penalties under the Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, California Labor Code Sections 2698 *et seq.*, which shall specifically include claims for Defendant’s alleged failure to pay overtime and minimum wages, provide compliant meal and rest periods and associated premium payments, timely pay wages during employment and upon termination, provide compliant wage statements, maintain complete and accurate payroll records, and reimburse necessary business-related expenses in violation of California Labor Code Sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 226(a), 226.7, 510, 512(a), 1174(d), 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2800, and 2802, and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order, as well as an attorneys’ fees and costs related thereto.

“Released Parties” means Defendant and its current and former officers, directors, members, insurers, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, predecessors, successors, and assigns.

**E. Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to Class Counsel**

Class Counsel will seek attorneys’ fees in an amount not to exceed thirty-five percent (35%) of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$378,000.00) and reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses in an amount not to exceed Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$35,000.00) (collectively, “Attorneys’ Fees and Costs”), subject to approval by the Court. The Attorneys’ Fees and Costs granted by the Court will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount. Class Counsel has been prosecuting the Action on behalf of Plaintiff, Class Members, and PAGA Employees on a contingency fee basis (that is, without being paid any money to date) and has been paying all litigation costs and expenses.

**F. Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff**

Plaintiff will seek the amount of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$7,500.00) (“Enhancement Payment”), in recognition of her services in connection with the Action. The Enhancement Payment will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, subject to approval by the Court, and if awarded, it will be paid to Plaintiff in addition to her Individual Settlement Payment and Individual PAGA Payment that she is entitled to under the Settlement.

**G. Settlement Administration Costs to Settlement Administrator**

Payment to the Settlement Administrator is estimated not to exceed Nine Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$9,000.00) (“Settlement Administration Costs”) for the costs of the notice and settlement administration process, including and not limited to, the expense of notifying the Class Members of the Settlement, processing Requests for Exclusion, Notices of Objection, and Disputes, calculating Individual Settlement Shares, Individual Settlement Payments, and Individual PAGA Payments, and distributing payments and tax forms under the Settlement, and shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, subject to approval by the Court.

**IV. WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS AS A CLASS MEMBER?**

**A. Participate in the Settlement**

**If you want to participate in the Class Settlement and receive money from the Class Settlement, you do not have to do anything.** You will automatically be included in the Class Settlement and issued your Individual Settlement Payment unless you decide to exclude yourself from the Class Settlement.

Unless you elect to exclude yourself from the Class Settlement and if the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Class Settlement and any judgment that may be entered by the Court based thereon, and you will release the Released Class Claims against the Released Parties as described in Section III.D above.

If you are a PAGA Employee and the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, you will automatically be included in the PAGA Settlement and issued your Individual PAGA Payment. This means you will be bound by the terms of the PAGA Settlement and any judgment that may be entered by the Court based thereon, and you will release the Released PAGA Claims against the Released Parties as described in Section III.D above.

As a Class Member and PAGA Employee (if applicable), you will not be separately responsible for the payment of attorney’s fees or litigation costs and expenses, unless you retain your own counsel, in which event you will be responsible for your own attorney’s fees and expenses.

**B. Request Exclusion from the Class Settlement**

Class Members may request to be excluded from the Class Settlement by submitting a letter (“Request for Exclusion”) to the Settlement Administrator, at the following address:

[Settlement Administrator]  
[Mailing Address]

A Request for Exclusion must: (a) contain the case name and number of the Action (*Valenzuela v. Handlery Hotels, Inc.*, Case No. 24CU006128C); (b) contain your full name, signature, address, telephone number, and last four (4) digits of your Social Security number; (c) clearly state that you do not wish to be included in the Class Settlement; and (d) be returned by mail to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address above, postmarked **on or before [Response Deadline]**.

If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, any Class Member who submits a timely and valid Request for Exclusion will not be issued an Individual Settlement Payment, will not be bound by the Class Settlement (and the release of Released Class Claims described in Section III.D above), and will not have any right to object to, appeal, or comment on the Class Settlement. Class Members who do not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion will be deemed Settlement Class Members and will be bound by all terms of the Class Settlement, including those pertaining to the release of claims described in Section III.D above, as well as any judgment that may be entered by the Court based thereon. PAGA Employees will be bound to the PAGA Settlement (and the release of Released PAGA Claims described in Section III.D above) and will still be issued an Individual PAGA Payment, irrespective of whether they submit a Request for Exclusion.

**C. Object to the Class Settlement**

You can object to the Class Settlement as long as you have not submitted a Request for Exclusion by submitting a written objection (“Notice of Objection”) to the Settlement Administrator.

The Notice of Objection must: (a) contain the case name and number of the Action (*Valenzuela v. Handlery Hotels, Inc.*, Case No. 24CU006128C); (b) contain your full name, signature, address, telephone number, and the last four (4) digits of

your Social Security number; (c) contain a written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (d) contain copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based; and (e) be returned by mail to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address listed in Section IV.B above, postmarked **on or before [Response Deadline]**.

You may also appear at the Final Approval Hearing and present your objection orally, regardless of whether you have submitted a Notice of Objection.

#### **V. FINAL APPROVAL HEARING**

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing in Department C-75 of the San Diego County Superior Court, located at 330 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101, on October 30, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., to determine whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate. The Court also will be asked to approve and grant the Attorneys' Fees and Costs to Class Counsel, Enhancement Payment to Plaintiff, and Settlement Administration Costs to the Settlement Administrator.

The Final Approval Hearing may be continued without further notice to the Class Members and PAGA Employees. It is not necessary for you to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, although you may appear if you wish to.

You can attend the hearing by video or audio conference using the free Microsoft Teams App, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. From your device or computer, refer to the list of virtual hearing links assigned to the departments for your case (<https://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/sdcourt/civil2/civilicvirtualhearings>). Scroll until you see blue text labeled as "C-75 Video Hearings" then click on the blue text. You will then be able to join the hearing from there.

#### **VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The above is a summary of the basic terms of the Settlement. For the precise terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, you should review the detailed Settlement Agreement and other papers, which are on file with the Court.

You may view the Settlement Agreement and other documents filed in the Action for a fee by visiting the Court's website at <https://odyroa.sdcourt.ca.gov/> and entering the Case Number for the Action (24CU006128C).

You may also visit the Settlement Administrator's website at [REDACTED] for key documents in the Action.

**PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT OR THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THIS SETTLEMENT.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU MAY CALL THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR AT THE FOLLOWING TOLL-FREE NUMBER: [INSERT], OR YOU MAY ALSO CONTACT CLASS COUNSEL.**



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
CENTRAL

MINUTE ORDER

DATE: 04/24/2026

TIME: 9:00 AM

DEPT: C-75

JUDICIAL OFFICER: EUKETA OLIVER

CLERK: Natalie Calantoc

REPORTER/ERM: Not Reported

BAILIFF/COURT ATTENDANT: J. Lemke

CASE NO: **24CU006128C** CASE INIT.DATE: 08/15/2024

CASE TITLE: **Valenzuela vs Handlery Hotels Inc**

CASE CATEGORY: Civil CASE TYPE: (U)Other Employment

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**HEARING TYPE:** Motion Hearing

**MOVING PARTY:**

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**APPEARANCES**

James Winn, attorney for ANA VALENZUELA, Plaintiff, present via remote video appearance.  
Jiyun Cameron Lee, attorney for HANDLERY HOTELS, INC., Defendant, present via remote video appearance.

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The Court confirms the tentative ruling as follows:

Plaintiff Ana Valenzuela's unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement is **GRANTED**.

The motion for final approval will be heard on October 30, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 75. Please provide a courtesy copy of the motion papers to Department 75.

A class is conditionally certified for purposes of settlement. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.769(d).) The Settlement Class consists of "all current and former hourly-paid and/or non-exempt employees who worked for Defendant in the State of California at any time during the Class Period." (Settlement Agreement at ¶ 10b.) The Class Period is from August 15, 2020 through September 14, 2025. (Settlement Agreement at ¶ 10f.) Jonathan M. Genish, Miriam L. Schimmel, Joana Fang, Alexandra Rose, and James S. Winn Jr. of Blackstone Law, APC are designated as class counsel. ILYM Group, Inc. is designated as the claims administrator.

The Court reviewed the moving papers, supporting declarations, and settlement, and finds the proposed settlement to be fair, adequate and reasonable for purposes of preliminary approval. (See e.g., *Dunk v. Ford Motor Co.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1800–1801; *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 128.) Notable settlement provisions include that the settlement is non-reversionary and class members do not need to submit a claim to receive their share of the settlement funds. Defendant did not file an opposition to the motion. It is noteworthy a settlement was reached after mediation and after discovery was initiated.

However, the number of days for class members to opt out is lower than what is reasonable and normally done. The Court will increase the number of days to opt out of the settlement to 60 days.

Plaintiff is ordered to provide an updated proposed order consistent with this ruling including a revised notice to the class. If Plaintiff is unable to provide an updated proposed order to the Court before the hearing, they are encouraged to provide the Court with a courtesy copy to ensure timely processing.

For final approval, the Court expects to be informed of the final hours worked and hourly rates billed by Plaintiff's counsel, the total attorney fees and costs sought, as well as the total amount of time expended, and tasks completed by the Class Representatives on the case.

The minute order is the order of the Court.

Plaintiff is ordered to serve written notice of the Court's final ruling on all appearing parties by April 28, 2026.

*Euketa Oliver*

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Judge Euketa Oliver