7 8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

24

23

25 26

27

28

SEP 0 5 2024

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

### COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

#### **DEPARTMENT 304**

GIOVONNIE SMITH, as an individual and on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PETRA LIVING, INC., a Delaware Corporation d/b/a Oliver Space, and DOES 1 through 80, Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: CGC-22-599900

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS **ACTION SETTLEMENT** 

Plaintiff Giovonnie Smith ("Plaintiff") and Defendant Petra Living, Inc. ("Defendant") (collectively, the "Parties") have reached terms of settlement for a putative class and representative action. The Court, having considered Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, the memorandum of points and authorities in support thereof and

supporting evidence, and Plaintiff's supplemental briefing, hereby ORDERS, ADJUDGES AND DECREES as follows:

- 1. The Motion for Preliminary Approval is GRANTED and the Parties' Second Amended Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and Release Between Plaintiff, on Behalf of Himself and All Others Similarly Situated, and Defendant (the "Settlement Agreement"), attached as Exhibit G to the Third Supplemental Declaration of Jennifer Kramer filed on August 27, 2024, is preliminarily approved.
- 2. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement and all terms defined therein shall have the same meaning in this Order.
- 3. The settlement contemplated by the Settlement Agreement is preliminarily approved based upon the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement appears to be fair, adequate, and reasonable to the Class. The Settlement Agreement falls within the range of final approval and appears to be presumptively valid, subject to any objections that may be raised at the final approval hearing before this Court.
- 4. The following Settlement Class is preliminarily certified for settlement purposes only: all current and former non-exempt drivers and drivers' assistants employed by Defendant in the State of California who worked for Defendant during the Class Period, but excluding those individuals who provided Defendant a release of claims.
- 5. Should the settlement not become final, the fact that the Parties were willing to stipulate to class certification as part of the settlement shall have no bearing on, nor be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether a class should be certified in a non-settlement context.
- 6. Jennifer Kramer of Hennig Kramer Ruiz & Singh, LLP, and Angel Horacek of Law Offices of Angel J. Horacek are conditionally approved as Class Counsel. The Court preliminarily finds that Class Counsel will represent the interests of the Settlement Class fairly and adequately in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure section 382. Class Counsel is authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts or consents required by or which may be given pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and such other acts reasonably necessary to consummate the settlement.

- 7. Plaintiff Giovonnie Smith is hereby conditionally appointed to serve as the class representative. The Court preliminarily finds that Plaintiff will adequately represent the Settlement Class in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure section 382 for settlement purposes.
- 8. The Court hereby confirms APEX Settlement Administrators as the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator is authorized to perform such acts as set forth in this Order and the Settlement Agreement.
- 9. The Court hereby approves as to form and content the "Notice of Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval" ("Notice"). A true and correct copy of the Notice is attached as Exhibit F to the Second Supplemental Declaration of Jennifer Kramer filed on June 26, 2024.
- 10. The Court also hereby approves the procedure for Settlement Class Members to participate in, opt out of, and object to the Settlement Agreement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and Notice.
- 11. The Court directs the dissemination of Notice by first-class mail and by email, where email addresses are available, to the Settlement Class in accordance with the schedule set forth below. The Court finds the notice process as set forth in the Settlement Agreement meets the requirements of due process, provides the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.
  - 12. The Court orders the following schedule for further proceedings:
    - a. Deadline for Defendant to Provide the Class List to APEX: within 21 calendar days of this Order;
    - b. Deadline for APEX to Mail the Notice: within 15 calendar days of receiving the
       Class data from Defendant;
    - c. Deadline for Settlement Class Members to Postmark Opt-Out Request or File Objection: no later than 45 calendar days after Notice is mailed;
    - d. Deadline for Settlement Class Counsel to File a Motion for Final Approval and Attorney Fees: no later than 16 court days prior to the Final Approval hearing;
    - e. Final Settlement Approval Hearing: January 29, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

į		·	
1	·		
2	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
3		FID DMA	
4	Dated: September 2, 2024	Than John	
5	,	Ethan P. Schulman Judge of The Superior Court	
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15		,	
16			
17			
18			
19 20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25	,		
26			
27			
28			
	Curish or Date of Living Lea		
	Smith v. Petra Living, Inc., et al. CGC-22-599900 Order Granting Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement		

# CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC SERVICE (CCP 1010.6(6) & CRC 2.260(g))

I, Felicia Green, a Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of San Francisco, certify that I am not a party to the within action.

On September 5, 2024, I electronically served ORDER CONTINUING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR (1) CERTIFICATION OF A SETTLEMENT CLASS; (2) PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT; (3) APPROVAL OF NOTICE AND NOTICE DISSEMINATION PLAN; AND (4) APPROVAL OF A SCHEDULE FOR THE FINAL APPROVAL PROCESS via File & ServeXpress on the recipients designated on the Transaction Receipt located on the File & ServeXpress website.

Dated:

SEP 0 5 2024

Brandon E. Riley, Court Executive Officer

Felicia Green, Deputy Clerk