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EDITH FLORES

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

EDITH FLORES, individually and on behalf of  
others similarly situated, and as an aggrieved  
employee and Private Attorney General;

Plaintiffs

vs.

COAST PRODUCE COMPANY, a California  
corporation; PARTNERS PERSONNEL –  
MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC, a  
Delaware limited liability company and DOES  
1 through 50, inclusive;

Defendants

Case No.: 24STCV01801

*Assigned for All Purposes to the Hon. Carolyn  
B. Kuhl, Dept. 12*

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING  
MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY  
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND  
PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Date: May 7, 2025  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
Dept.: 12

Complaint Filed: January 23, 2024  
FAC Filed: May 21, 2024  
Trial Date: None Set

**FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of Los Angeles

05/07/2025

David W. Saylor, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court

By: L. McGreené Deputy

**[PROPOSED] ORDER**

The Motion of Plaintiff Edith Flores (“Plaintiff”) for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement (“Motion”) came on regularly for hearing before this Court on May 7, 2025. The Court, having considered the proposed Class Action Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement” or “Settlement”), attached as **Exhibit 1** to the Declaration of Heather M. Davis filed concurrently with the Motion and the declaration itself, having considered Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement, memorandum of points and authorities in support thereof, and having considered the Declaration of Edith Flores; and good cause appearing, HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Court GRANTS preliminary approval of the class action settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and finds its terms to be within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that ultimately could be granted approval by the Court at a Final Fairness hearing. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement Agreement. For purposes of the Settlement only, the Court finds that the proposed Class is ascertainable and that there is a sufficiently well-defined community of interest among the members of the Class in questions of law and fact. Therefore, for settlement purposes only, the Court grants conditional certification of the following settlement Class:

All current and former non-exempt employees of Defendant Coast Produce that worked in the State of California at any time during the Class Period and all current and former non-exempt employees of Defendant Partners Personnel who were placed to work at Coast Produce in the State of California at any time between January 23, 2020 and January 10, 2025.

2. For purposes of the Settlement only, the Court designates Plaintiff as Class Representative, and designates Protection Law Group, LLP as Class Counsel.

3. The Court designates Apex Class Action Settlement Administrators as the third-party Settlement Administrator.

4. The parties are ordered to implement the Settlement according to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

1           5.       The Court approves, as to form and content, the proposed Notice of Proposed Class  
2 Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing (“Notice of Settlement”) attached as **Exhibit A** to  
3 Settlement Agreement.

4           6.       The Court finds that the form of notice to the Class regarding the pendency of the  
5 action and of the Settlement, the dates selected for mailing and distribution, and the methods of  
6 giving notice to members of the Class, satisfy the requirements of due process, constitute the best  
7 notice practicable under the circumstances, and constitute valid, due, and sufficient notice to all  
8 members of the Class. The form and method of giving notice complies fully with the requirements  
9 of California Code of Civil Procedure §382, California Civil Code §1781, California Rules of  
10 Court §§3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and other applicable law.

11           7.       The Court further approves the procedures for Class Members to opt-out of or  
12 object to the Settlement, as set forth in the Notice of Settlement and the Settlement Agreement.  
13 The procedures and requirements for filing objections in connection with the final fairness hearing  
14 are intended to ensure the efficient administration of justice and the orderly presentation of any  
15 Class Member’s objection to the Settlement, in accordance with the due process rights of all Class  
16 Members.

17           8.       The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to mail the Notice of Settlement to  
18 the members of the Class in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.

19           9.       The Notice of Settlement shall provide 60 calendar days’ notice for Class Members  
20 to submit disputes, opt-out of, or object to the Settlement.

21           10.      The hearing on Plaintiff’s Motion for Final Approval of Settlement on the question  
22 of whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate is scheduled  
23 in Department 1 of this Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012,  
24 on U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, 2025 at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m/p.m.

25           11.      At the Final Fairness hearing, the Court will consider: (a) whether the Settlement  
26 should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate for the Class; (b) whether a judgment granting  
27 final approval of the Settlement should be entered; and (c) whether Plaintiff’s application for  
28

service and release awards, settlement administration costs, and Class Counsel's attorney's fees and costs, should be granted.

12. Counsel for Plaintiff shall file memoranda, declarations, or other statements and materials in support of their request for final approval of Plaintiff's application for service and release awards, settlement administration costs, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs, prior to the hearing on Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Settlement according to the time limits set by the Code of Civil Procedure and the California Rules of Court.

13. An implementation schedule is below:

Event	Date
Defendants to provide class contact information to Settlement Administrator no later than:	_____ [20 calendar days following preliminary approval]
Settlement Administrator to mail the Notice of Settlement to the Class no later than:	_____ [7 calendar days following provision of contact information]
Deadline for Class Members to submit disputes, request exclusion from, or object to the Settlement:	_____ [60 calendar days after mailing of the Notice of Settlement]
Deadline for Plaintiff to file Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement:	_____ [16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing]
Hearing on Motion for Final Approval of Settlement (suggested date September 25, 2025)	<del>U.S. District Court for the Central District of California</del>

14. Pending the Final Fairness hearing, all proceedings in this action, other than proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of the Settlement and this Order, are stayed. To facilitate administration of the Settlement pending final approval, the Court hereby enjoins Plaintiff and all members of the Class from filing or prosecuting any claims, or

suits regarding claims released by the Settlement, unless and until such Class Members have filed valid Requests for Exclusion with the Settlement Administrator.

15. The Court has preliminarily approved Settlement Administration Costs not to exceed \$11,000.00, with a final determination to be made at the Final Fairness Hearing.

16. The Court has preliminarily approved Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees not to exceed \$350,000.00, for Plaintiff's firm, with a final determination to be made at the Final Fairness Hearing.

17. The Court has preliminarily approved Class Counsel's Costs not to exceed \$30,000.00, for Plaintiff's firm, with a final determination to be made at the Final Fairness Hearing.

18. The Court has preliminarily approved the Service and Release Award to Representative Plaintiff in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, with a final determination to be made at the Final Fairness Hearing.

19. PAGA Penalties in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 (\$37,500.00 to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and \$12,500.00 to the PAGA Members).

20. Counsel for the parties are hereby authorized to utilize all reasonable procedures in connection with the administration of the Settlement which are not materially inconsistent with either this Order or the terms of the Settlement.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

DATED: 05/07/2025



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn B. Kuhl".

By: Carolyn B. Kuhl / Judge  
Hon. Carolyn B. Kuhl  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT