

## **CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

This Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is made by and between Plaintiffs Telesia Guttenbeil and Yessenia De Jesus-Solis (collectively, “Plaintiffs”) and Defendant Kamla Hotels, Inc. (“Defendant”). The Agreement refers to Plaintiffs and Defendant collectively as “Parties,” or individually as “Party.”

### **1. DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings specified below. To the extent terms or phrases used in this Agreement are not specifically defined below, but are defined elsewhere in this Agreement, they are incorporated by reference into this definition section.

1.1 “Action” means the consolidated operative Complaint of the civil actions initially filed and separately maintained by Plaintiffs against Defendant but which will be consolidated into one single class and PAGA representative action entitled *Telesia Guttenbeil, et al. v. Kamla Hotels, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 23STCV31249, pending in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles.

1.2 “Administrator” means Apex Class Action LLC (“Apex”), the neutral entity the Parties have agreed to appoint to administer the Settlement.

1.3 “Administration Expenses Payment” means the amount the Administrator will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to reimburse its reasonable fees and expenses, which are anticipated to not exceed \$17,000.00.

1.4 “Aggrieved Employees” means all current and former non-exempt hourly employees of Defendant in California during the PAGA Period.

1.5 “Class” means all current and former non-exempt hourly employees of Defendant in California during the Class Period.

1.6 “Class Counsel” means Emil Davtyan, David Yeremian, Natalie Haritounian, Matthew J. Carraher, and Enoch J. Kim of D.Law, Inc. and John Yslas, Samantha A. Smith, Diego Aviles, Harry Erganyan, and Mariam Nazaretyan of Wilshire Law Firm, PLC.

1.7 “Class Counsel Fees Payment” and “Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment” means the amounts allocated to Class Counsel for reimbursement of reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses, respectively, incurred to prosecute the Action.

1.8 “Class Data” means Class Member identifying information in Defendant’s possession including the Class Member’s name, last-known mailing address, Social Security number, and number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (or sufficient information to calculate the number of such workweeks).

1.9 “Class Member” or “Settlement Class Member” means a member of the Class, as either a Participating Class Member or Non-Participating Class Member (including a Non-Participating Class Member who qualifies as an Aggrieved Employee).

1.10 “Class Member Address Search” means the Administrator’s investigation and search for current Class Member mailing addresses using all reasonably available sources, methods and means including, but not limited to, the National Change of Address database, skip traces, and direct contact by the Administrator with Class Members.

1.11 “Class Notice” means the COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL, to be mailed to Class Members in English with a Spanish translation, without material variation, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

1.12 “Class Period” means the period from December 20, 2019 through December 31, 2024.

1.13 “Class Representatives” means Telesia Guttenbeil and Yessenia De Jesus-Solis, the named Plaintiffs in the operative complaint in the Action seeking Court approval to serve as Class Representatives.

1.14 “Class Representative Service Payments” mean the payments to the Class Representatives for initiating the Action and providing services in support of the Action.

1.15 “Court” means the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.

1.16 “Defendant” means named Defendant Kamla Hotels, Inc.

1.17 “Defense Counsel” means Diba Rastegar, Leslie Joyner, Emilie MacLean of Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP.

1.18 “Effective Date” means the date by when both of the following have occurred: (a) the Court enters a Judgment on its Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement; and (b) the Judgment is final. The Judgment is final as of the latest of the following occurrences: (a) if no Participating Class Member objects to the Settlement, the day the Court enters Judgment; (b) if one or more Participating Class Members objects to the Settlement, the day after the deadline for filing a notice of appeal from the Judgment; or if a timely appeal from the Judgment is filed, the day after the appellate court affirms the Judgment and issues a remittitur.

1.19 “Final Approval” means the Court’s order granting final approval of the Settlement.

1.20 “Final Approval Hearing” means the Court’s hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.21 “Final Judgment” means the Judgment Entered by the Court upon Granting Final Approval of the Settlement.

1.22 “Gross Settlement Amount” means Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00) which is the total amount Defendant agrees to pay under the Settlement except as provided in Paragraph 8, below. The Gross Settlement Amount will be used to pay Individual Class Payments, Employee’s Taxes and Required Withholdings, Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Counsel Fees, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payments, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The Gross Settlement Amount does not include employer’s share of payroll taxes which will be paid by Defendant in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount.

1.23 “Individual Class Payment” means the Participating Class Member’s pro rata share of the Net Settlement Amount calculated according to the number of Workweeks worked during the Class Period, less Employee’s Taxes and Required Withholding.

1.24 “Individual PAGA Payment” means the Aggrieved Employee’s pro rata share of 25% of the PAGA Penalties calculated according to the number of Pay Periods worked during the PAGA Period.

1.25 “Judgment” means the judgment entered by the Court based upon the Final Approval.

1.26 “LWDA” means the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the agency entitled, under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

1.27 “LWDA PAGA Payment” means the 75% of the PAGA Penalties paid to the LWDA under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (i).

1.28 “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount, less the following payments in the amounts approved by the Court: Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payments, and the Administration Expenses Payment. The remainder is to be paid to Participating Class Members as Individual Class Payments.

1.29 “Non-Participating Class Member” means any Class Member who opts out of the Settlement by sending the Administrator a valid and timely Request for Exclusion.

1.30 “PAGA” means the Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698. et seq.).

1.31 “PAGA Notices” means Plaintiff Guttenbeil’s December 20, 2023 letter and Plaintiff De Jesus-Solis’s January 31, 2024 letter to Defendant and the LWDA providing notice pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a).

1.32 “PAGA Penalties” means the total amount of PAGA civil penalties to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, allocated 25% to the Aggrieved Employees (\$10,000.00) and 75% to the LWDA (\$30,000.00) in settlement of PAGA claims.

1.33 “PAGA Period” means the period from December 20, 2022 to December 31, 2024.

1.34 “Participating Class Member” means a Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.

1.35 “Pay Period” means any pay period during which an Aggrieved Employee worked for Defendant for at least one day during the PAGA Period.

1.36 “Plaintiffs” means Telesia Guttenbeil and Yessenia De Jesus-Solis, the named Plaintiffs in the Action.

1.37 “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.

1.38 “Preliminary Approval Order” means the proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement.

1.39 “Released Class Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.2 below.

1.40 “Released PAGA Claims” means the claims being released as described in Paragraph 5.3 below.

1.41 “Released Parties” means: Defendant and each of their former and present directors, officers, shareholders, owners, members, attorneys, insurers, predecessors, successors, and assigns.

1.42 “Request for Exclusion” means a Class Member’s submission of a written request to be excluded from the Class Settlement signed by the Class Member.

1.43 “Response Deadline” means 45 days after the Administrator mails Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees and shall be the last date on which Class Members may: (a) fax, email, or mail Requests for Exclusion from the Settlement, or (b) fax, email, or mail his or her Objection to the Settlement. Class Members to whom Notice Packets are resent after having been returned undeliverable to the Administrator shall have an additional fourteen (14) calendar days beyond the Response Deadline has expired.

1.44 “Settlement” means the disposition of the Action effected by this Agreement and the Judgment.

1.45 “Workweek” means any week during which a Class Member worked for Defendant for at least one day, during the Class Period.

## **2. RECITALS.**

2.1 On December 20, 2023, Plaintiff Guttenbeil filed a putative Class Action Complaint in Los Angeles County Superior Court (Case No. 23STCV31249) alleging ten causes of action against Defendant: (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime under Labor Code § 510; (3) Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (4) Rest Break Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (5) Violation of Labor Code § 226(a);(6)



Violation of Labor Code § 203; (7) Violation of Labor Code § 204; (8) Failure to Keep Required Payroll Records Under Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5; (9) Failure to Reimburse Necessary Business Expenses § 2802; (10) Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* On February 23, 2024, Plaintiff Guttenbeil filed a First Amended Complaint adding a cause of action under PAGA.

2.2 On January 31, 2024, Plaintiff De Jesus-Solis filed a putative Class Action Complaint in San Diego County Superior Court (Case No. 37-2024-00004576-CU-OE-CTL) alleging nine causes of action against Defendant: (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime under Labor Code § 510; (3) Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (4) Rest Break Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (5) Violation of Labor Code § 226(a); (6) Violation of Labor Code § 203; (7) Violation of Labor Code § 204; (8) Failure to Reimburse Necessary Business Expenses § 2802; (9) Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* On June 24, 2024, Plaintiff De Jesus-Solis filed a separate representative action Complaint under PAGA in San Diego County Superior Court (Case No. 37-2024-00029456-CU-OE-CTL).

2.3 Plaintiffs will file a Consolidated Second Amended Complaint in the Action pending in Los Angeles County Superior Court (the “Operative Complaint”).

2.4 Pursuant to Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a), Plaintiff Guttenbeil and Plaintiff De Jesus-Solis gave timely written notice to Defendant and the LWDA by sending their PAGA Notices on December 20, 2023, and January 31, 2024, respectively.

2.5 Prior to mediation, Plaintiffs obtained, through informal discovery, documents, and information obtained pertaining to their wage and hour claims, including, but not limited to, wage and hour policy and procedure documents, an adequate sampling of employee time and payroll records, and the exchanges of relevant data points pertaining to the Class and PAGA claims. Plaintiffs’ investigation was sufficient to satisfy the criteria for court approval set forth in *Dunk v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (1996) 48 Cal.App.4th 1794, 1801 and *Kullar v. Foot Locker Retail, Inc.* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 116, 129-130 (“*Dunk/Kullar*”).

2.6 On October 29, 2024, the Parties participated in a full-day mediation, which was presided over by Gig Kyriacou, Esq. and led to this Agreement to settle the Action.

2.7 The Court has not granted class certification.

2.8 The Parties, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel represent that they are not aware of any other pending matter or action asserting claims that will be extinguished or affected by the Settlement.

### 3. **MONETARY TERMS.**

3.1 **Gross Settlement Amount.** Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph 8 below, Defendant promises to pay Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00) and no more as the Gross Settlement Amount and to separately pay any and all Employer Taxes owed on the Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments. Defendant has no obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount (or any payroll taxes) prior to the deadline stated in Paragraph 4.3 of this

Agreement. The Administrator will disburse the entire Gross Settlement Amount without asking or requiring Participating Class Members or Aggrieved Employees to submit any claim as a condition of payment. None of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendant.

3.2 Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Administrator will make and deduct the following payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, in the amounts specified by the Court in the Final Approval:

3.2.1 To Plaintiffs: Class Representative Service Payments to the Class Representatives of not more than \$7,500.00 each, totaling \$15,000.00 (in addition to any Individual Class Payment and any Individual PAGA Payment the Class Representative is entitled to receive as a Participating Class Member). Defendant will not oppose Plaintiffs' request for Class Representative Service Payments that does not exceed this amount. As part of the Final Approval motion, Plaintiffs will seek Court approval for any Class Representative Service Payments no later than sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Representative Service Payments less than the amount requested, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will pay the Class Representative Service Payments using IRS Form 1099. Plaintiffs assume full responsibility and liability for employee taxes owed on the Class Representative Service Payments.

3.2.2 To Class Counsel: A Class Counsel Fees Payment of not more than 1/3, which is currently estimated to be \$266,666.67 and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment of not more than \$40,000.00. Defendant will not oppose requests for these payments provided that the requests do not exceed these amounts. Plaintiffs and/or Class Counsel will file a motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment no later than sixteen (16) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. If the Court approves a Class Counsel Fees Payment and/or a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment less than the amounts requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. Released Parties shall have no liability to Class Counsel or any other Plaintiffs' Counsel arising from any claim to any portion of any Class Counsel Fee Payment and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment. The Administrator will pay the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Expenses Payment using one or more IRS 1099 Forms. Class Counsel assumes full responsibility and liability for taxes owed on the Class Counsel Fees Payment and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and holds Defendant harmless, and indemnifies Defendant, from any dispute or controversy regarding any division or sharing of any of these Payments.

3.2.3 To the Administrator: An Administrator Expenses Payment not to exceed \$17,000.00 except for a showing of good cause and as approved by the Court. To the extent the Administration Expenses are less or the Court approves payment less than \$17,000.00, the Administrator will retain the remainder in the Net Settlement Amount.

3.2.4 To Each Participating Class Member: An Individual Class Payment calculated by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members during the Class Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Participating Class Member's Workweeks.

3.2.4.1. Tax Allocation of Individual Class Payments. Twenty percent (20%) of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of wage claims (the "Wage Portion"). The Wage Portions are subject to tax withholding and will be reported on an IRS W-2 Form. The Parties agree that the Employee's Taxes and Required Withholdings with respect to the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payment will be withheld from the Individual Class Payment. Eighty percent (80%) of each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment will be allocated to settlement of claims for interest and penalties (the "Non-Wage Portion"). The Non-Wage Portions are not subject to wage withholdings and will be reported on IRS 1099 Forms. Participating Class Members assume full responsibility and liability for any employee taxes owed on their Individual Class Payment.

3.2.4.2. Effect of Non-Participating Class Members on Calculation of Individual Class Payments. Non-Participating Class Members will not receive any Individual Class Payments. The Administrator will retain amounts equal to their Individual Class Payments in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Participating Class Members on a pro rata basis.

3.2.5 To the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees. PAGA Penalties in the amount of \$40,000.00 to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, with 75% (\$30,000.00) allocated to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% (\$10,000.00) allocated to the Individual PAGA Payments.

3.2.5.1. Calculation of Individual PAGA Payment. The Administrator will calculate each Individual PAGA Payment by (a) dividing the amount of the Aggrieved Employees' 25% share of PAGA Penalties (\$10,000.00) by the total number of Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period and (b) multiplying the result by each Aggrieved Employee's Pay Periods. Aggrieved Employees assume full responsibility and liability for any taxes owed on their Individual PAGA Payment.

3.2.5.2. If the Court approves PAGA Penalties of less than the amount requested, the Administrator will allocate the remainder to the Net Settlement Amount. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

#### **4. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND PAYMENTS.**

4.1 Class Workweeks and Aggrieved Employee Pay Periods. The Parties negotiated the Settlement based on Defendant's estimate that there were 1,498 Class Members who collectively worked a total of 72,059 Workweeks as of October 29, 2024, and approximately 851 Aggrieved Employees who worked a total of 18,936 Pay Periods as of October 29, 2024.

4.2 Class Data. Not later than fourteen (14) days after the Court grants Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant will deliver the Class Data to the Administrator, in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect Class Members' privacy rights, the Administrator must maintain the Class Data in confidence, use the Class Data only for purposes of this Settlement and for no other purpose, and restrict access to the Class Data to Administrator employees who need access to the Class Data to effect and perform under this Agreement. Class Counsel shall not receive a copy of the Class Data or any content thereof. Defendant has a continuing duty to immediately notify Class Counsel if it discovers that the Class Data omitted

class member identifying information and to provide corrected or updated Class Data as soon as reasonably feasible. Without any extension of the deadline by which Defendant must send the Class Data to the Administrator, the Parties and their counsel will expeditiously use best efforts, in good faith, to reconstruct or otherwise resolve any issues related to missing or omitted Class Data.

4.3 Funding of Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall fully fund the Gross Settlement Amount, and also fund the amounts necessary to fully pay Defendant's share of payroll taxes by transmitting the funds to the Administrator by the later of sixty-five (65) days after the Effective Date or November 1, 2025. At least five (5) business days prior to Defendant's deadline for funding of the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator shall calculate the total Employer Taxes due on the wage portion of the Individual Class Payments and issue Defendant instructions and the amount of the Employer Taxes.

4.4 Payments from the Gross Settlement Amount. Within fourteen (14) days after Defendant funds the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will mail checks and/or wire payment for all Individual Class Payments, all Individual PAGA Payments, the LWDA PAGA Payment, the Administration Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payments, the Class Counsel Fees Payment, and the Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment.

4.4.1 The Administrator will issue checks for the Individual Class Payments and/or Individual PAGA Payments and send them to the Class Members via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. The face of each check shall prominently state the date (not less than 180 days after the date of mailing) when the check will be voided. The Administrator will cancel all checks not cashed by the void date. The Administrator will send checks for Individual Settlement Payments to all Participating Class Members (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator will send checks for Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees including Non-Participating Class Members who qualify as Aggrieved Employees (including those for whom Class Notice was returned undelivered). The Administrator may send Participating Class Members a single check combining the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. Before mailing any checks, the Settlement Administrator must update the recipients' mailing addresses using the National Change of Address Database.

4.4.2 The Administrator must conduct a Class Member Address Search for all other Class Members whose checks are returned undelivered without USPS forwarding address. Within seven (7) days of receiving a returned check the Administrator must re-mail checks to the USPS forwarding address provided or to an address ascertained through the Class Member Address Search. The Administrator need not take further steps to deliver checks to Class Members whose re-mailed checks are returned as undelivered. The Administrator shall promptly send a replacement check to any Class Member whose original check was lost or misplaced, requested by the Class Member prior to the void date.

4.4.3 For any Class Member whose Individual Class Payment check or Individual PAGA Payment check is uncashed and cancelled after the void date, within ten (10) calendar days of the check void date, the Administrator shall transmit the funds represented by

such checks to the State of California State Controller's Office, in the Class Member's name to be held as unclaimed property for the Class Member.

4.4.4 The payment of Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments shall not obligate Defendant to confer any additional benefits or make any additional payments to Class Members (such as 401(k) contributions or bonuses) beyond those specified in this Agreement.

**5. RELEASES OF CLAIMS.** Effective on the date when Defendant fully funds the entire Gross Settlement Amount and funds all the employer's share of payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments, Class Members (including the Class Representatives) and Aggrieved Employees will release claims against all Released Parties as follows:

5.1 Plaintiffs' Release. Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs' representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge Released Parties from all claims, transactions, or occurrences that occurred during the Class Period, including, but not limited to: (a) all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged, based on the facts contained, in the Operative Complaint of the Action and (b) all PAGA claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on facts contained in the Operative Complaint and Plaintiffs' PAGA Notices. ("Plaintiffs' Release.") Plaintiffs' Release does not extend to any claims or actions to enforce this Agreement, or to any claims for vested benefits, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, social security benefits, workers' compensation benefits that arose at any time, or based on occurrences outside the Class Period. Plaintiffs acknowledge that Plaintiffs may discover facts or law different from, or in addition to, the facts or law that Plaintiffs now know or believe to be true but agree, nonetheless, that Plaintiffs' Release shall be and remain effective in all respects, notwithstanding such different or additional facts or Plaintiffs' discovery of them.

5.1.1 **Plaintiffs' Waiver of Rights Under California Civil Code Section 1542.** For purposes of Plaintiffs' Release, Plaintiffs expressly waive and relinquish the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

**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.**

5.2 Release by Participating Class Members: All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, release the Released Parties from all claims, rights, demands, liabilities, and causes of action alleged or which could have reasonably been alleged based on the Class Period facts alleged in the operative Complaint of the Action that accrued during the Class Period, including 1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime under Labor Code § 510; (3) Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (4)

Rest Break Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (5) Violation of Labor Code § 226(a); (6) Violation of Labor Code § 203; (7) Violation of Labor Code § 204; (8) Failure to Keep Required Payroll Records Under Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5; (9) Failure to Reimburse Necessary Business Expenses § 2802; and (10) Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* (collectively “Released Class Claims”). Except as set forth in section 5.3 below, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.

5.3 Release of Claims for PAGA Penalties: Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and as agent and proxy of the State of California (including the LWDA), and the State of California (including the LWDA and all individuals who seek to serve as agent and proxy of the State of California in bringing PAGA claims) shall be deemed to release all claims for statutory PAGA civil penalties that could have been sought by the Labor Commissioner for the violations alleged in Plaintiffs’ pre-filing letter to the LWDA, including all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged or which reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint and the PAGA Notices to the LWDA that accrued during the PAGA Period including (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime under Labor Code § 510; (3) Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (4) Rest Break Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (5) Violation of Labor Code § 226(a); (6) Violation of Labor Code § 203; (7) Violation of Labor Code § 204; (8) Failure to Keep Required Payroll Records Under Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5; (9) Failure to Reimburse Necessary Business Expenses § 2802 (collectively “Released PAGA Claims”).

**6. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL.** Plaintiffs will prepare and file a motion for preliminary approval (“Motion for Preliminary Approval”).

6.1 Plaintiffs’ Responsibilities. Plaintiffs will prepare all documents necessary for obtaining Preliminary Approval, including: (i) a draft of the notice, and memorandum in support, of the Motion for Preliminary Approval that includes an analysis of the Settlement under *Dunk/Kullar* and a request for approval of the PAGA Settlement under Labor Code Section 2699, subd. (f)(2)); (ii) a draft proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval and Approval of PAGA Settlement; (iii) a draft proposed Class Notice; (iv) a signed declaration from each Class Counsel firm attesting to its competency to represent the Class Members; its timely transmission to the LWDA of all necessary PAGA documents (initial notice of violations (Labor Code section 2699.3, subd. (a)), Operative Complaint (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(1)), this Agreement (Labor Code section 2699, subd. (l)(2)).

6.2 Responsibilities of Counsel. Class Counsel is responsible for appearing in Court to advocate in favor of the Motion for Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel is responsible for delivering the Court’s Preliminary Approval Order to the Administrator.

6.3 Duty to Cooperate. If the Parties disagree on any aspect of the proposed Motion for Preliminary Approval and/or the supporting declarations and documents, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve the disagreement. If the Court does not grant

Preliminary Approval or conditions Preliminary Approval on any material change to this Agreement, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously work together on behalf of the Parties by meeting in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to modify the Agreement and otherwise satisfy the Court's concerns.

## **7. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

7.1 Selection of Administrator. The Parties have jointly selected Apex to serve as the Administrator and verified that, as a condition of appointment, Apex agrees to perform, as a fiduciary, all duties specified in this Agreement in exchange for payment of Administration Expenses. The Parties and their Counsel represent that they have no interest or relationship, financial or otherwise, with the Administrator other than a professional relationship arising out of prior experiences administering settlements.

7.2 Employer Identification Number. The Administrator shall have and use its own Employer Identification Number for purposes of calculating payroll tax withholdings and providing reports to state and federal tax authorities.

7.3 Qualified Settlement Fund. The Administrator shall establish a settlement fund that meets the requirements of a Qualified Settlement Fund ("QSF") under US Treasury Regulation section 468B-1.

### **7.4 Notice to Class Members.**

7.4.1 No later than three (3) business days after receipt of the Class Data, the Administrator shall notify Class Counsel that the list has been received and state the number of Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, Workweeks, and Pay Periods in the Class Data.

7.4.2 Using best efforts to perform as soon as possible, and in no event later than fourteen (14) days after receiving the Class Data, the Administrator will send to all Class Members identified in the Class Data, via first-class United States Postal Service ("USPS") mail, the Class Notice, with a Spanish translation, substantially in the form attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A. Concurrently with the mailing of the Class Notice, the Administrator will also post a copy of the Class Notice on its website at least until the date of the Final Approval Hearing. The first page of the Class Notice shall prominently estimate the dollar amounts of any Individual Class Payment and/or Individual PAGA Payment payable to the Class Member, and the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if applicable) used to calculate these amounts. Before mailing Class Notices, the Administrator shall update Class Member addresses using the National Change of Address database.

7.4.3 Not later than three (3) business days after the Administrator's receipt of any Class Notice returned by the USPS as undelivered, the Administrator shall re-mail the Class Notice using any forwarding address provided by the USPS. If the USPS does not provide a forwarding address, the Administrator shall conduct a Class Member Address Search, and re-mail the Class Notice to the most current address obtained. Other than verifying that Defendant does not have any additional information to locate or send the Class Notice, the Administrator has no obligation to make further attempts to locate or send Class Notice to Class Members whose Class Notice is returned by the USPS a second time.

7.4.4 The deadlines for Class Members' written objections, Challenges to Workweeks, and Requests for Exclusion will be extended an additional fourteen (14) days beyond the 45 days otherwise provided in the Class Notice for all Class Members whose notice is re-mailed. The Administrator will inform the Class Member of the extended deadline with the re-mailed Class Notice.

7.4.5 If the Administrator, Defendant, or Class Counsel are contacted by or otherwise discovers any persons who believe they should have been included in the Class Data and should have received Class Notice, the Parties will expeditiously meet and confer in good faith in an effort to agree on whether to include them as Class Members. If the Parties agree, such persons will be Class Members entitled to the same rights as other Class Members, and the Administrator will send, via email or overnight delivery, a Class Notice requiring them to exercise options under this Agreement not later than fourteen (14) after receipt of Class Notice, or the deadline dates in the Class Notice, whichever are later.

#### 7.5 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-Outs).

7.5.1 Class Members who wish to exclude themselves (opt-out of) the Class Settlement must send the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, a signed written Request for Exclusion not later than 45 days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed). A Request for Exclusion is a letter from a Class Member or his/her representative that reasonably communicates the Class Member's election to be excluded from the Settlement and includes the Class Member's name, address and email address or telephone number. To be valid, a Request for Exclusion must be timely faxed, emailed, or postmarked by the Response Deadline.

7.5.2 The Administrator may not reject a Request for Exclusion as invalid because it fails to contain all the information specified in the Class Notice. The Administrator shall accept any Request for Exclusion as valid if the Administrator can reasonably ascertain the identity of the person as a Class Member and the Class Member's desire to be excluded. The Administrator's determination shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge, though the Court may make a final determination of any dispute. If the Administrator has reason to question the authenticity of a Request for Exclusion, the Administrator may demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. The Administrator's determination of authenticity shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge, except by the Court.

7.5.3 Every Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Request for Exclusion is deemed to be a Participating Class Member under this Agreement, entitled to all benefits and bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the Participating Class Members' Releases of Released Class Claims, under Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of this Agreement, regardless of whether the Participating Class Member actually receives the Class Notice or objects to the Settlement.

7.5.4 Every Class Member who submits a valid and timely Request for Exclusion is a Non-Participating Class Member and shall not receive an Individual Class Payment or have the right to object to the class action components of the Settlement. Because



future PAGA claims are subject to claim preclusion upon entry of the Judgment, Non-Participating Class Members who are Aggrieved Employees are deemed to release the Released PAGA Claims, identified in Paragraph 5.3 of this Agreement, and are eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment.

7.6 Challenges to Calculation of Workweeks. Each Class Member shall have 45 days after the Administrator mails the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice is re-mailed) to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods (if any) allocated to the Class Member in the Class Notice. The Class Member may challenge the allocation by communicating with the Administrator via fax, email or mail. The Administrator must encourage the challenging Class Member to submit supporting documentation. In the absence of any contrary documentation, the Administrator is entitled to presume that the Workweeks contained in the Class Notice are correct so long as they are consistent with the Class Data. The Administrator's determination of each Class Member's allocation of Workweeks shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge. The Administrator shall promptly provide copies of all challenges to calculation of Workweeks to Defense Counsel and the Administrator's determination of the challenges. The Administrator will provide similar copies of challenges to Class Counsel after redacting Class Member identifying information, including but not limited to name, address, social security number, email address, and phone number.

7.7 Objections to Settlement.

7.7.1 Only Participating Class Members may object to the class action components of the Settlement and/or this Agreement, including contesting the fairness of the Settlement, and/or amounts requested for the Class Representative Service Payments, Class Counsel Fees Payment, and/or Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment.

7.7.2 Participating Class Members may send written objections to the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail. In the alternative, Participating Class Members may appear in Court (or hire an attorney to appear in Court) to present verbal objections at the Final Approval Hearing. A Participating Class Member who elects to send a written objection to the Administrator must do so not later than 45 days after the Administrator's mailing of the Class Notice (plus an additional fourteen (14) days for Class Members whose Class Notice was re-mailed).

7.7.3 Non-Participating Class Members have no right to object to any of the class action components of the Settlement

7.8 Administrator Duties. The Administrator has a duty to perform or observe all tasks to be performed or observed by the Administrator contained in this Agreement or otherwise.

7.8.1 Website, Email Address and Toll-Free Number. The Administrator will establish and maintain and use an internet website to post information of interest to Class Members including the date, time and location for the Final Approval Hearing and copies of the Settlement Agreement, Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval, the Class

Notice, the Motion for Final Approval, the Motion for Class Counsel Fees Payment, and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, the Final Approval and the Judgment. The Administrator will also maintain and monitor an email address and a toll-free telephone number to receive Class Member calls, faxes and emails. If Final Approval is granted, the Administrator will post the above-listed information of interest for at least 180 days after the date of mailing Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments.

7.8.2 Requests for Exclusion (Opt-outs) and Exclusion List. The Administrator will promptly review on a rolling basis Requests for Exclusion to ascertain their validity. Not later than five (5) days after the expiration of the deadline for submitting Requests for Exclusion, the Administrator shall email a list to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel containing (a) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have timely submitted valid Requests for Exclusion (“Exclusion List”), along with copies of all valid and timely Requests for Exclusion; (b) the names and other identifying information of Class Members who have submitted invalid Requests for Exclusion, along with copies of all invalid or untimely Requests for Exclusion from Settlement submitted.

7.8.3 Weekly Reports. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide written reports to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that, among other things, tally the number of: Class Notices mailed or re-mailed, Class Notices returned undelivered, Requests for Exclusion (whether valid or invalid) received, objections received, challenges to Workweeks received and/or resolved, and checks mailed for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments (“Weekly Report”). The Weekly Reports must provide the Administrator’s assessment of the validity of Requests for Exclusion and attach copies of all Requests for Exclusion and objections received. The Administrator must, on a weekly basis, provide Defense Counsel the names and identifying information of Class Members whose Class Notices have been returned as undeliverable for the purpose of determining if Defendant can provide any additional information to successfully mail the Class Notice.

7.8.4 Workweek and/or Pay Period Challenges. The Administrator has the authority to address and make final decisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement on all Class Member challenges over the calculation of Workweeks and/or Pay Periods. The Administrator’s decision shall be final and not appealable or otherwise susceptible to challenge.

7.8.5 Employer’s Share of Payroll Taxes. The Administrator shall handle all tax document preparation and reporting, including W-2 and/or 1099 Forms, and any other state and federal tax forms. The Administrator shall calculate the amount of the Employer’s Taxes and shall remit and report the applicable portions of the payroll tax payment to the appropriate taxing authorities in a timely manner.

7.8.6 Administrator’s Declaration. Not later than fourteen (14) days before the date by which Plaintiffs are required to file the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, the Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its due diligence and compliance with all of its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, its mailing of Class Notice, the Class Notices returned as undelivered, the re-mailing of Class Notices, attempts to locate Class Members, the total number of Requests for Exclusion from Settlement it received (both valid or invalid), the

number of written objections and attach the Exclusion List. The Administrator will supplement its declaration as needed or requested by the Parties and/or the Court. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration(s) in Court.

**7.8.7 Posting of Final Judgment.** Within ten (10) days after the Court has held a Final Approval Hearing and entered the Judgment certifying the Class for settlement purposes only and approving the Settlement, the Administrator will give notice of judgment to Class Members pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 3.771(b) by posting a copy of said Judgment on its website at a web address to be included in the Class Notice.

**7.8.8 Final Report by Settlement Administrator.** Within ten (10) days after the Administrator disburses all funds in the Gross Settlement Amount, the Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defense Counsel with a final report detailing its disbursements by employee identification number only of all payments made under this Agreement. At least fifteen (15) days before any deadline set by the Court, the Administrator will prepare, and submit to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, a signed declaration suitable for filing in Court attesting to its disbursement of all payments required under this Agreement. Class Counsel is responsible for filing the Administrator's declaration in Court.

**8. CLASS SIZE ESTIMATES AND ESCALATOR CLAUSE.** The Parties negotiated the Settlement based on Defendant's representation that approximately 1,498 Class Members had collectively worked 72,059 Workweeks through October 29, 2024. The Parties further agree that if the final Workweeks during the Class Period, which formed the basis of the Settlement, increases by more than ten (10) percent above 72,059 Workweeks (e.g., to greater than 79,265 Workweeks), Defendant shall increase the Gross Settlement Amount proportionally by the Workweeks worked in excess of 79,265 workweeks by multiplying the current estimated workweek amount of \$11.10 per workweek ( $[\text{Gross Settlement} / 72,059 \text{ workweeks}] \times \text{number of workweeks in excess of 79,265}$ ). For example, if the total Workweeks increases by 15%, then the Gross Settlement Amount will increase by 5%. However, Defendant may, in its sole discretion, adjust the length of the Class Period by moving the end date of the Class Period to the date on which the total workweeks amounted to 79,265, so as to avoid triggering the Escalator Clause.

**9. DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW.** If the number of valid Requests for Exclusion identified in the Exclusion List equals or exceeds 10% of the total of all Class Members, Defendant may, but is not obligated to, elect to withdraw from the Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendant withdraws, the Settlement shall be void ab initio, have no force or effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however, Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Settlement Administration Expenses incurred to that point, including any administrator notices to the class that are required to inform Class Members of Defendant's withdrawal. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court of its election to withdraw not later than seven days after the Administrator sends the final Exclusion List to Defense Counsel; late elections will have no effect.

**10. MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL.** Not later than sixteen (16) court days before the calendared Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiffs will file in Court, a motion for final approval of

the Settlement that includes a request for approval of the PAGA settlement under Labor Code section 2699, subd. (1), a Proposed Final Approval Order and a proposed Judgment (collectively “Motion for Final Approval”). Plaintiffs shall provide drafts of these documents to Defense Counsel not later than two (2) calendar days prior to filing the Motion for Final Approval. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel will expeditiously meet and confer in person or by telephone, and in good faith, to resolve any disagreements concerning the Motion for Final Approval.

10.1 Response to Objections. Each Party retains the right to respond to any objection raised by a Participating Class Member, including the right to file responsive documents in Court no later than five court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered or accepted by the Court.

10.2 Duty to Cooperate. If the Court does not grant Final Approval or conditions Final Approval on any material change to the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), the Parties will expeditiously work together in good faith to address the Court’s concerns by revising the Agreement as necessary to obtain Final Approval. The Court’s decision to award less than the amounts requested for the Class Representative Service Payments, Class Counsel Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment and/or Administrator Expenses Payment shall not constitute a material modification to the Agreement within the meaning of this paragraph.

10.3 Continuing Jurisdiction of the Court. The Parties agree that, after entry of Judgment, the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Parties, Action, and the Settlement solely for purposes of (i) enforcing this Agreement and/or Judgment, (ii) addressing settlement administration matters, and (iii) addressing such post-Judgment matters as are permitted by law.

10.4 Waiver of Right to Appeal. Provided the Judgment is consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, specifically including the Class Counsel Fees Payment and Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment reflected as set forth in this Settlement, the Parties, their respective counsel, and all Participating Class Members who did not object to the Settlement as provided in this Agreement, waive all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to post-judgment and appellate proceedings, the right to file motions to vacate judgment, motions for new trial, extraordinary writs, and appeals. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose such motions, writs or appeals. If an objector appeals the Judgment, the Parties’ obligations to perform under this Agreement will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes final, except as to matters that do not affect the amount of the Net Settlement Amount.

10.5 Appellate Court Orders to Vacate, Reverse, or Materially Modify Judgment. If the reviewing Court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment in a manner that requires a material modification of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, the scope of release to be granted by Class Members), this Agreement shall be null and void. The Parties shall nevertheless expeditiously work together in good faith to address the appellate court’s concerns and to obtain Final Approval and entry of Judgment, sharing, on a 50-50 basis, any additional Administration Expenses reasonably incurred after remittitur. An appellate decision to vacate, reverse, or modify the Court’s award of the Class Representative Service Payments or any

payments to Class Counsel shall not constitute a material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph, as long as the Gross Settlement Amount remains unchanged.

**11. AMENDED JUDGMENT.** If any amended judgment is required under Code of Civil Procedure section 384, the Parties will work together in good faith to jointly submit a proposed amended judgment.

**12. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

**12.1 No Effect on Employee Benefit Plans.** Neither this Agreement nor any amounts paid under the Settlement will modify any previously credited hours, days, or weeks of service under any employee benefit plan, policy or bonus program sponsored by Defendant. Such amounts will not form the basis for additional contributions to, benefits under, or any other monetary entitlement under Defendant's sponsored benefit plans, policies or bonus programs. The payments made under the terms of this Settlement shall not be applied retroactively, currently, or on a going forward basis, as salary, earnings, wages, or any other form of compensation for the purposes of any of Defendant's benefit plan, policy or bonus program. Defendant retains the right to modify the language of its benefits plans, policies and bonus programs to effect this intent and to make clear that any amounts paid pursuant to this Settlement are not for "weeks worked," "weeks paid," "weeks of service," or any similar measuring term as defined by applicable plans, policies and bonus programs for purpose of eligibility, vesting, benefit accrual, or any other purpose, and that additional contributions or benefits are not required by this Settlement. Defendant does not consider the Individual Class Payments "compensation" for purposes of determining eligibility for, or benefit accrual within, any benefit plans, policies, or bonus programs, or any other plan sponsored by Defendant.

**12.2 No Admission of Liability, Class Certification or Representative Manageability for Other Purposes.** This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or should be construed as an admission by Defendant that any of the allegations in the Operative Complaint have merit or that Defendant has any liability for any claims asserted; nor should it be intended or construed as an admission by Plaintiffs that Defendant's defenses in the Action have merit. The Parties agree that class certification and representative treatment is for purposes of this Settlement only. If, for any reason the Court does not grant Preliminary Approval, Final Approval or enter Judgment, Defendant reserves the right to contest certification of any class for any reasons, and Defendant reserves all available defenses to the claims in the Action, and Plaintiffs reserve the right to move for class certification on any grounds available and to contest Defendant's defenses. The Settlement, this Agreement and Parties' willingness to settle the Action will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (except for proceedings to enforce or effectuate the Settlement and this Agreement).

**12.3 Confidentiality Prior to Preliminary Approval.** Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendant and Defense Counsel separately agree that, until the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement is filed, they and each of them will not disclose, disseminate or publicize, or cause or permit another person to disclose, disseminate or publicize, any of the terms of the Agreement directly or indirectly, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association, government agency, or other entity except: (1) to the Administrator and the Parties' attorneys,

accountants, or spouses, all of whom will be instructed to keep this Agreement confidential; (2) counsel in a related matter; (3) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (4) in response to a court order or subpoena; or (5) in response to an inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal government agency. Each Party agrees to immediately notify each other Party of any judicial or agency order, inquiry, or subpoena seeking such information. Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendant and Defense Counsel separately agree not to, directly or indirectly, initiate any conversation or other communication, before the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, with any third party regarding this Agreement or the matters giving rise to this Agreement except to respond only that “the matter was resolved,” or words to that effect. This paragraph does not restrict Class Counsel’s communications with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

12.4 No Solicitation. The Parties separately agree that they and their respective counsel and employees will not solicit any Class Member to opt out of or object to the Settlement, or appeal from the Judgment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict Class Counsel’s ability to communicate with Class Members in accordance with Class Counsel’s ethical obligations owed to Class Members.

12.5 Integrated Agreement. Upon execution by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement together with its attached exhibits shall constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, superseding any and all oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements made to or by any Party.

12.6 Neutral Reference. If a person or entity inquires about Plaintiffs’ employment with Defendant, Defendant agrees to only provide a neutral reference that provides only Plaintiffs’ dates of employment and last held position with Defendant.

12.7 Attorney Authorization. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel separately warrant and represent that they are authorized by Plaintiffs and Defendant, respectively, to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents reasonably required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement including any amendments to this Agreement.

12.8 Cooperation. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts, in good faith, to implement the Settlement by, among other things, modifying the Settlement Agreement, submitting supplemental evidence and supplementing points and authorities as requested by the Court. In the event the Parties are unable to agree upon the form or content of any document necessary to implement the Settlement, or on any modification of the Agreement that may become necessary to implement the Settlement, the Parties will seek the assistance of a mediator and/or the Court for resolution.

12.9 No Prior Assignments. The Parties separately represent and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity and portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged by the Party in this Agreement.

12.10 No Tax Advice. Neither Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, Defendant nor Defense Counsel are providing any advice regarding taxes or taxability, nor shall anything in this Agreement be relied upon as such within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended) or otherwise.

12.11 Modification of Agreement. This Agreement, and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their representatives, and approved by the Court.

12.12 Authority of Signatories. The respective signatories to the Agreement represent that they are fully authorized to enter into this Agreement and bind the respective Parties to its terms and conditions.

12.13 Agreement Binding on Successors. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.

12.14 Applicable Law. All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the internal laws of the state of California, without regard to conflict of law principles.

12.15 Attorneys' Fees and Costs. Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, each party shall bear their own attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses, taxable or otherwise, incurred by them or arising out of the Action and shall not seek reimbursement thereof from any other party in this Agreement. In any suit or court action to enforce the terms of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover their reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

12.16 Cooperation in Drafting. The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

12.17 Confidentiality. To the extent permitted by law, all agreements made, and orders entered during Action and in this Agreement relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive the execution of this Agreement.

12.18 Use and Return of Class Data. Information provided to Class Counsel pursuant to Cal. Evid. Code §1152, and all copies and summaries of the Class Data provided to Class Counsel by Defendant in connection with the mediation, other settlement negotiations, or in connection with the Settlement, may be used only with respect to this Settlement, and no other purpose, and may not be used in any way that violates any existing contractual agreement, statute, or rule of court. Not later than 90 days after the date when the Court discharges the Administrator's obligation to provide a Declaration confirming the final pay out of all Settlement funds, Plaintiffs shall destroy, all paper and electronic versions of Class Data received from Defendant unless, prior to the Court's discharge of the Administrator's obligation, Defendant makes a written request to Class Counsel for the return, rather than the destruction, of Class Data.

12.19 Headings. The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.

12.20 Calendar Days. Unless otherwise noted, all reference to “days” in this Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.

12.21 Notice. All notices, demands or other communications between the Parties in connection with this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, or the day sent by email or messenger, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiffs:

D.LAW, INC.  
Emil Davtyan  
[emil@d.law](mailto:emil@d.law)  
David Yeremian  
[d.yeremian@d.law](mailto:d.yeremian@d.law)  
Natalie Haritounian  
[n.haritounian@d.law](mailto:n.haritounian@d.law)  
Matthew J. Carraher  
[m.carraher@d.law](mailto:m.carraher@d.law)  
Enoch J. Kim  
[e.kim@d.law](mailto:e.kim@d.law)  
450 N. Brand Blvd., Ste. 840  
Glendale, CA 91203  
Telephone: (818) 962-6465  
Facsimile: (818) 962-6469

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM  
John G. Yslas, Esq.  
[John.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com](mailto:John.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com)  
Diego Aviles, Esq.  
[Diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com](mailto:Diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com)  
Samantha Smith, Esq.  
[Samantha.smith@wilshirelawfirm.com](mailto:Samantha.smith@wilshirelawfirm.com)  
Harry Erganyan, Esq.  
[Harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com](mailto:Harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com)  
Mariam Nazaretyan, Esq.  
[Mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com](mailto:Mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com)  
3055 Wilshire Blvd., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
Telephone: (213) 381-9988  
Facsimile: (213) 381-9989

To Defendant:

DEBRA ELLWOOD MEPPEN



[dmeppen@grsm.com](mailto:dmeppen@grsm.com)  
DIBA RASTEGAR  
[drastegar@grsm.com](mailto:drastegar@grsm.com)  
LESLIE H. JOYNER  
[ljoyner@grsm.com](mailto:ljoyner@grsm.com)  
EMILIE MACLEAN  
[emaclean@grsm.com](mailto:emaclean@grsm.com)  
GORDON REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI, LLP  
633 West Fifth Street, 52nd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90071  
Telephone: (213) 576-5000  
Facsimile: (213) 680-4470

12.22 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts by facsimile, electronically (i.e. DocuSign), or email which for purposes of this Agreement shall be accepted as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument if counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves signed counterparts. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

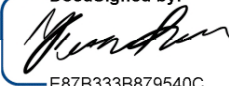
12.23 Stay of Litigation. The Parties agree that upon the execution of this Agreement the litigation shall be stayed, except to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that upon the signing of this Agreement that pursuant to CCP section 583.330 to extend the date to bring a case to trial under CCP section 583.310 for the entire period of this settlement process.

**ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS**

Dated: 02/14/\_\_\_\_\_, 2025

Signed by:  
  
E75C7B3D0928429  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telesia Guttenbeil

Dated: 02/14\_\_\_\_\_, 2025

DocuSigned by:  
  
F87B333B879540C  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Yessenia De Jesus-Solis

**ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT**

Dated: February 19, 2025 | 9:37 AM PST  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2025

Kamla Hotels, Inc.  
Signed by:  
  
C4487449285F479  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: KABIR BHAGAT  
Title: PRESIDENT/COO

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

**D.LAW, INC.**

Dated: February 14, 2025



Emil Davtyan  
David Yeremian  
Natalie Haritounian  
Matthew J. Carraher  
Enoch J. Kim  
Attorneys for Plaintiff Telesia Guttenbeil

**WILSHIRE LAW FIRM, PLC**

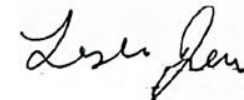
Dated: February 14, 2025



John Yslas  
Diego Aviles  
Samantha Smith  
Harry Erganyan  
Mariam Nazaretyan  
Attorneys for Plaintiff Yessenia De Jesus-Solis

**GORDON REES SCULLY  
MANSUKHANI, LLP**

Dated: February 18, 2025



Debra Ellwood Meppen  
Diba Rastegar  
Leslie H. Joyner  
Emilie MacLean  
Attorneys for Defendant Kamla Hotels, Inc.

# EXHIBIT A

## **COURT APPROVED NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT** **AND HEARING DATE FOR FINAL COURT APPROVAL**

*Telesia Guttenbeil, et al. v. Kamla Hotels, Inc., et al., Case No. 23STCV31249*

***The Superior Court for the State of California authorized this Notice. Read it carefully!***

***It's not junk mail, spam, an advertisement, or solicitation by a lawyer. You are not being sued.***

**You may be eligible to receive money** from an employee class action lawsuit (“Action”) against Kamla Hotels, Inc. (“Kamla”) for alleged wage and hour violations. The Action is filed by former Kamla employees Telesia Guttenbeil and Yessenia De Jesus-Solis (“Plaintiffs”) who allege Kamla violated various provision of the California Labor Code and seeks (1) unpaid minimum and overtime wages, (2) meal and rest break premiums, (3) business expense reimbursements; and (4) statutory penalties and other relief for a class of non-exempt or hourly employees (“Class Members”) who worked for Kamla during the Class Period (December 20, 2019 through December 31, 2024); and (2) civil penalties under the California Private Attorney General Act (“PAGA”) for all non-exempt or hourly employees who worked for Kamla during the PAGA Period (December 20, 2022 to December 31, 2024) (“Aggrieved Employees”).

The proposed Settlement has two main parts: (1) a Class Settlement requiring Kamla to fund Individual Class Payments, and (2) a PAGA Settlement requiring Kamla to fund Individual PAGA Payments and pay penalties to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”).

Based on Kamla’s records, and the Parties’ current estimates, your **Individual Class Payment is estimated to be \$ [REDACTED] (less withholding) and your Individual PAGA Payment is estimated to be \$ [REDACTED]**. The actual amount you may receive likely will be different and will depend on a number of factors. (If no amount is stated for your Individual PAGA Payment, then according to Kamla’s records you are not eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment under the Settlement because you didn’t work during the PAGA Period.)

The above estimates are based on Kamla’s records showing that **you worked [REDACTED] workweeks** during the Class Period and **you worked [REDACTED] pay periods** during the PAGA Period. If you believe that you worked more workweeks or pay periods during either period, you can submit a challenge by the deadline date. See Section 4 of this Notice.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement and approved this Notice. The Court has not yet decided whether to grant final approval of the Settlement. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or not act. Read this Notice carefully. You will be deemed to have carefully read and understood it. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the Settlement and how much of the Settlement will be paid to Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs’ attorneys (“Class Counsel”). The Court will also decide whether to enter a judgment that requires Kamla to make payments under the Settlement and requires Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to give up their rights to assert certain claims against Kamla.

If you worked for Kamla during the Class Period and/or the PAGA Period, you have two basic options under the Settlement:

1. **Do Nothing.** You don't have to do anything to participate in the proposed Settlement and be eligible for an Individual Class Payment and/or an Individual PAGA Payment. As a Participating Class Member, though, you will give up your right to assert Class Period wage claims and PAGA Period penalty claims against Kamla.
2. **Opt-Out of the Class Settlement.** You can exclude yourself from the Class Settlement (opt-out) by submitting the written Request for Exclusion or otherwise notifying the Administrator in writing. If you opt-out of the Settlement, you will not receive an Individual Class Payment. You will, however, preserve your right to personally pursue Class Period wage claims against Kamla, and, if you are an Aggrieved Employee, remain eligible for an Individual PAGA Payment. You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the proposed Settlement.

**Kamla will not retaliate against you for any actions you take with respect to the proposed Settlement.**

#### **SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT**

**You Don't Have to Do Anything to Participate in the Settlement.** If you do nothing, you will be a Participating Class Member, eligible for an Individual Class Payment and an Individual PAGA Payment (if any). In exchange, you will give up your right to assert the wage claims against Kamla that are covered by this Settlement (Released Claims).

**You Can Opt-Out of the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement.** The Opt-out Deadline is **DATE**. If you don't want to fully participate in the proposed Settlement, you can opt-out of the Class Settlement by sending the Administrator a written Request for Exclusion. Once excluded, you will be a Non-Participating Class Member and no longer eligible for an Individual Class Payment. Non-Participating Class Members cannot object to any portion of the proposed Settlement. See Section 6 of this Notice.

**You Cannot Opt-out of the PAGA Portion of the Proposed Settlement.** Kamla must pay Individual PAGA Payments to all Aggrieved Employees and the Aggrieved Employees must give up their rights to pursue Released Claims (defined below).

**Participating Class Members Can Object to the Class Settlement but not the PAGA Settlement.** Written objections must be submitted by **DATE**. All Class Members who do not opt-out ("Participating Class Members") can object to any aspect of the proposed Settlement. The Court's decision whether to finally approve the Settlement will include a determination of how much will be paid to Class Counsel and Plaintiffs who pursued the Action on behalf of the Class. You are not personally responsible for any payments to Class Counsel or Plaintiffs. Other than the PAGA portion of this Settlement, you can object to any aspect of this Settlement. See Section 7 of this Notice.

**You Can Participate in the Final Approval Hearing.** The Court's Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to take place on **DATE**. You don't have to attend but you do have the right to appear

(or hire an attorney to appear on your behalf at your own cost), in person, by telephone or by using the Court’s virtual appearance platform. Participating Class Members can verbally object to the Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing. See Section 8 of this Notice.

**You Can Challenge the Calculation of Your Workweeks.** Written Challenges Must be Submitted by **DATE**. The amount of your Individual Class Payment and PAGA Payment (if any) depend on how many workweeks you worked at least one day during the Class Period and how many pay periods you worked at least one day during the PAGA Period, respectively. The number of Workweeks and Pay Periods you worked according to Kamla’s records is stated on the first page of this Notice. If you disagree with either of these numbers, you must challenge it by **DATE**. See Section 4 of this Notice.

### **1. WHAT IS THE ACTION ABOUT?**

Plaintiffs are former Kamla employees. The Action accuses Kamla of violating California labor laws by failing to pay overtime wages, minimum wages, meal and rest break premium wages; failing to provide meal and rest breaks; issuing inaccurate wage statements; failing to timely pay wages due during and upon termination of employment; and failing to reimburse necessary business expenses. Based on the same claims, Plaintiffs have also asserted a claim for civil penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act (Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.) (“PAGA”). Plaintiffs are represented by D.Law., Inc. and Wilshire Law Firm, PLC (“Class Counsel”) in the Action.

Kamla strongly denies violating any laws or failing to pay any wages and contends it complied with all applicable laws.

### **2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE ACTION HAS SETTLED?**

So far, the Court has made no determination whether Kamla violated any laws. In the meantime, Plaintiffs and Kamla hired an experienced, neutral mediator in an effort to resolve the Action by negotiating an end to the case by agreement (settle the case) rather than continuing the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation. The negotiations were successful. By signing a lengthy written settlement agreement (“Agreement”) and agreeing to jointly ask the Court to enter a judgment ending the Action and enforcing the Agreement, Plaintiffs and Kamla have negotiated a proposed Settlement that is subject to the Court’s Final Approval. Both sides agree the proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims. By agreeing to settle, Kamla does not admit any violations or concede the merit of any claims.

Plaintiffs and Class Counsel strongly believe the Settlement is a good deal for you because they believe that: (1) Kamla has agreed to pay a fair, reasonable, and adequate amount considering the strength of the claims and the risks and uncertainties of continued litigation; and (2) Settlement is in the best interests of the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees. The Court preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate, authorized this Notice, and scheduled a hearing to determine whether to finally approve the Settlement.

### **3. WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TERMS OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT?**

**Kamla Will Pay \$800,000.00 as the Gross Settlement Amount (Gross Settlement).** Kamla has agreed to deposit the Gross Settlement into an account controlled by the Administrator of the Settlement. The Administrator will use the Gross Settlement to pay the Individual Class Payments, Individual PAGA Payments, Class Representative Service Payments, Class Counsel’s attorney’s fees and expenses, the Administrator’s expenses, and penalties to be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (“LWDA”). Assuming the Court grants Final Approval, Kamla will fund the Gross Settlement by 65 days after the Judgment entered by the Court becomes final or November 1, 2025, whichever is later. The Judgment will be final on the date the Court enters Judgment, or a later date if Participating Class Members object to the proposed Settlement or the Judgment is appealed.

**Court Approved Deductions from Gross Settlement.** At the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiffs and/or Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve the following deductions from the Gross Settlement, the amounts of which will be decided by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing:

- Up to \$266,666.67 (1/3 of the Gross Settlement) to Class Counsel for attorneys’ fees and up to \$40,000.00 for their litigation expenses. To date, Class Counsel have worked and incurred expenses on the Action without payment.
- Up to \$7,500.00 as a Class Representative Service Payment to each Plaintiff (\$15,000.00 total) for filing the Action, working with Class Counsel and representing the Class. Class Representative Service Payments will be the only monies Plaintiffs will receive other than Plaintiffs’ Individual Class Payments and any Individual PAGA Payments.
- Up to \$17,000.00 to the Administrator for services administering the Settlement.
- Up to \$40,000.00 for PAGA Penalties, allocated 75% to the LWDA PAGA Payment and 25% in Individual PAGA Payments to the Aggrieved Employees based on their PAGA Pay Periods.

Participating Class Members have the right to object to any of these deductions. The Court will consider all objections.

**Net Settlement Distributed to Class Members.** After making the above deductions in amounts approved by the Court, the Administrator will distribute the rest of the Gross Settlement (the “Net Settlement”) by making Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members based on their Class Period Workweeks.

**Taxes Owed on Payments to Class Members.** Plaintiffs and Kamla are asking the Court to approve an allocation of 20% of each Individual Class Payment to taxable wages (“Wage Portion”) and 80% to penalties and interest (“Non-Wage Portion.”). The Wage Portion is subject to withholdings and will be reported on IRS W-2 Forms. Kamla will separately pay employer payroll taxes it owes on the Wage Portion. The Individual PAGA Payments are counted as penalties rather than wages for tax purposes. The Administrator will report the Individual PAGA Payments and the Non-Wage Portions of the Individual Class Payments on IRS 1099 Forms.

Although Plaintiffs and Kamla have agreed to these allocations, neither side is giving you any advice on whether your Payments are taxable or how much you might owe in taxes. You are responsible for paying all taxes (including penalties and interest on back taxes) on any payments

received from the proposed Settlement. You should consult a tax advisor if you have any questions about the tax consequences of the proposed Settlement.

**Need to Promptly Cash Payment Checks.** The front of every check issued for Individual Class Payments and Individual PAGA Payments will show the date when the check expires (the void date). If you don't cash it by the void date, your check will be automatically cancelled, and the monies will be deposited with the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund in your name. If the payment represented by your check is sent to the Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund, you should consult the rules of the Fund for instructions on how to retrieve your money.

**Requests for Exclusion from the Class Settlement (Opt-Outs).** You will be treated as a Participating Class Member, participating fully in the Settlement, unless you notify the Administrator in writing, not later than **DATE**, that you wish to opt-out. The easiest way to notify the Administrator is to send a written and signed Request for Exclusion by the Response Deadline. The Request for Exclusion should be a letter from you or your representative setting forth your name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement electing to be excluded from the Settlement. Excluded Class Members (i.e., Non-Participating Class Members) will not receive Individual Class Payments, but will preserve their rights to personally pursue wage and hour claims against Kamla.

**You cannot opt-out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement.** Class Members who exclude themselves from the Class Settlement (Non-Participating Class Members) remain eligible for Individual PAGA Payments and are required to give up their right to assert PAGA claims against Kamla based on the PAGA Period facts alleged in the Action.

**The Proposed Settlement Will be Void if the Court Denies Final Approval.** It is possible the Court will decline to grant Final Approval of the Settlement or decline to enter a judgment. It is also possible the Court will enter a judgment that is reversed on appeal. Plaintiffs and Kamla have agreed that, in either case, the Settlement will be void: Kamla will not pay any money and Class Members will not release any claims against Kamla.

**Administrator.** The Court has appointed a neutral company, **INSERT** (the "Administrator") to send this Notice, calculate and make payments, and process Class Members' Requests for Exclusion. The Administrator will also decide Class Member Challenges over Workweeks, mail and re-mail settlement checks and tax forms, and perform other tasks necessary to administer the Settlement. The Administrator's contact information is contained in Section 9 of this Notice.

**Participating Class Members' Release.** After the Judgment is final and Kamla has fully funded the Gross Settlement and separately paid all employer payroll taxes, Participating Class Members will be legally barred from asserting any of the claims released under the Settlement. This means that unless you opted out by validly excluding yourself from the Class Settlement, you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Kamla or related entities for wages based on the Class Period facts and PAGA penalties based on the facts, as alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The Participating Class Members' Release states: "All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs,



administrators, successors, and assigns, release the Released Parties from all claims, rights, demands, liabilities, and causes of action alleged or which could have reasonably been alleged based on the Class Period facts alleged in the operative Complaint of the Action that accrued during the Class Period, including (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime under Labor Code § 510; (3) Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (4) Rest Break Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (5) Violation of Labor Code § 226(a); (6) Violation of Labor Code § 203; (7) Violation of Labor Code § 204; (8) Failure to Keep Required Payroll Records Under Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5; (9) Failure to Reimburse Necessary Business Expenses § 2802; and (10) Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 *et seq.* (collectively “Released Class Claims”). Except as set forth in section 5.3 below, Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers’ compensation, or claims based on facts occurring outside the Class Period.”

**PAGA Release.** After the Court’s judgment is final, and Kamla has paid the Gross Settlement and separately paid the employer-side payroll taxes, all Aggrieved Employees will be barred from asserting PAGA claims against Kamla, whether or not they exclude themselves from the Settlement. This means that all Aggrieved Employees, including those who are Participating Class Members and those who opt-out of the Class Settlement, cannot sue, continue to sue, or participate in any other PAGA claim against Kamla or its related entities based on the facts alleged in the Action and resolved by this Settlement.

The PAGA Release states: “Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and as agent and proxy of the State of California (including the LWDA), and the State of California (including the LWDA and all individuals who seek to serve as agent and proxy of the State of California in bringing PAGA claims) shall be deemed to release all claims for statutory PAGA civil penalties that could have been sought by the Labor Commissioner for the violations alleged in Plaintiffs’ pre-filing letter to the LWDA, including all claims for PAGA penalties that were alleged or which reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the Operative Complaint and the PAGA Notices to the LWDA that accrued during the PAGA Period including (1) Failure to Pay Minimum Wages; (2) Failure to Pay Wages and Overtime under Labor Code § 510; (3) Meal Period Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (4) Rest Break Liability Under Labor Code § 226.7; (5) Violation of Labor Code § 226(a); (6) Violation of Labor Code § 203; (7) Violation of Labor Code § 204; (8) Failure to Keep Required Payroll Records Under Labor Code §§ 1174 and 1174.5; (9) Failure to Reimburse Necessary Business Expenses § 2802 (collectively “Released PAGA Claims”).

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#### **4. HOW WILL THE ADMINISTRATOR CALCULATE MY PAYMENT?**

**Individual Class Payments.** The Administrator will calculate Individual Class Payments by (a) dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members, and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Workweeks worked by each individual Participating Class Member.



**Individual PAGA Payments.** The Administrator will calculate Individual PAGA Payments by (a) dividing \$10,000.00 by the total number of Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees and (b) multiplying the result by the number of Pay Periods worked by each individual Aggrieved Employee.

**Workweek/Pay Period Challenges.** The number of Workweeks you worked during the Class Period and the number of Pay Periods you worked during the PAGA Period, as recorded in Kamla's records, are stated in the first page of this Notice. You have until **DATE** to challenge the number of Class Workweeks and PAGA Pay Periods credited to you. You can submit your challenge by signing and sending a letter to the Administrator via mail, email or fax. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

You need to support your challenge by sending copies of pay stubs or other records. The Administrator will accept Kamla's calculation of Workweeks and Pay Periods based on Kamla's records as accurate unless you send copies of records containing contrary information. You should send copies rather than originals because the documents will not be returned to you. The Administrator will resolve Workweek and Pay Period challenges based on your submission and on input from Class Counsel (who will advocate on behalf of Participating Class Members) and Kamla's Counsel. The Administrator's decision is final. You can't appeal or otherwise challenge its final decision.

## **5. HOW WILL I GET PAID?**

**Participating Class Members.** The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single check to every Participating Class Member (i.e., every Class Member who doesn't opt-out) including those who also qualify as Aggrieved Employees. The single check will combine the Individual Class Payment and the Individual PAGA Payment. The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts out of the Settlement (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

**Non-Participating Class Members.** The Administrator will send, by U.S. mail, a single Individual PAGA Payment check to every Aggrieved Employee who opts out of the Class Settlement (i.e., every Non-Participating Class Member).

**Your check will be sent to the same address as this Notice. If you change your address, be sure to notify the Administrator as soon as possible. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.**

## **6. HOW DO I OPT-OUT OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?**

Submit a written and signed letter with your name, present address, telephone number, and a simple statement that you do not want to participate in the Settlement. The Administrator will exclude you based on any writing communicating your request be excluded. Be sure to personally sign your request, identify the Action as *Guttenbeil v. Kamla Hotels, Inc.*, and include your identifying information (full name, address, telephone number, approximate dates of employment, and social security number for verification purposes). You must make the request yourself. If someone else makes the request for you, it will not be valid. The Administrator must be sent your request to be

excluded by **DATE**, or it will be invalid. Section 9 of the Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

## **7. HOW DO I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT?**

Only Participating Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. Before deciding whether to object, you may wish to see what Plaintiffs and Kamla are asking the Court to approve. At least 16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel and/or Plaintiffs will file in Court (1) a Motion for Final Approval that includes, among other things, the reasons why the proposed Settlement is fair, and stating (i) the amount Class Counsel is requesting for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses; and (ii) the amount Plaintiffs are requesting as Class Representative Service Payments. Upon reasonable request, Class Counsel (whose contact information is in Section 9 of this Notice) will send you copies of these documents at no cost to you. You can also view them on the Administrator's Website **DATE**.

A Participating Class Member who disagrees with any aspect of the Agreement or the Motion for Final Approval may wish to object, for example, that the proposed Settlement is unfair, or that the amounts requested by Class Counsel or Plaintiffs are too high or too low. The deadline for sending written objections to the Administrator is **DATE**. Be sure to tell the Administrator what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. Make sure you identify the Action *Guttenbeil v. Kamla Hotels, Inc.*, and include your name, current address, telephone number, and approximate dates of employment with Kamla and sign the objection. Section 9 of this Notice has the Administrator's contact information.

Alternatively, a Participating Class Member can object (or personally retain a lawyer to object at your own cost) by attending the Final Approval Hearing. You (or your attorney) should be ready to tell the Court what you object to, why you object, and any facts that support your objection. See Section 8 of this Notice (immediately below) for specifics regarding the Final Approval Hearing.

## **8. CAN I ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING?**

You can, but don't have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing on **DATE** at **TIME** in Department 12 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. At the Hearing, the Court will decide whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement and how much of the Gross Settlement Amount will be paid to Class Counsel, Plaintiffs, and the Administrator. The Court will invite comment from objectors, Class Counsel and Defense Counsel before making a decision. You can attend (or hire a lawyer to attend) either personally or virtually via <https://my.lacourt.org/laccwelcome>. Check the Court's website () for the most current information.

It's possible the Court will reschedule the Final Approval Hearing. You should check the Court's website beforehand or contact Class Counsel to verify the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing.

## **9. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?**

The Agreement sets forth everything Kamla and Plaintiffs have promised to do under the proposed Settlement. If you have questions or would like additional information, you can telephone or send

an email to Class Counsel or the Administrator using the contact information listed below, or consult the Superior Court website by going to (<https://www.lacourt.org/CivilCalendar/ui/mainpanel.aspx?CaseType=general>) and entering the Case Number for the Action, *Guttenbeil v. Kamla Hotels, Inc.*, Case No. 23STCV31249.

**DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SUPERIOR COURT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.**

Class Counsel:

<p>D.LAW, INC.  Emil Davtyan  <a href="mailto:emil@d.law">emil@d.law</a>  David Yeremian  <a href="mailto:d.yeremian@d.law">d.yeremian@d.law</a>  Natalie Haritoonian  <a href="mailto:n.haritoonian@d.law">n.haritoonian@d.law</a>  Matthew J. Carraher  <a href="mailto:m.carraher@d.law">m.carraher@d.law</a>  Enoch J. Kim  <a href="mailto:e.kim@d.law">e.kim@d.law</a>  450 N. Brand Blvd., Ste. 840  Glendale, CA 91203  Telephone: (818) 962-6465  Facsimile: (818) 962-6469</p>	<p>WILSHIRE LAW FIRM  John G. Yslas, Esq.  <a href="mailto:John.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com">John.yslas@wilshirelawfirm.com</a>  Diego Aviles, Esq.  <a href="mailto:Diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com">Diego.aviles@wilshirelawfirm.com</a>  Samantha Smith, Esq.  <a href="mailto:Samantha.smith@wilshirelawfirm.com">Samantha.smith@wilshirelawfirm.com</a>  Harry Erganyan, Esq.  <a href="mailto:Harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com">Harry.erganyan@wilshirelawfirm.com</a>  Mariam Nazaretyan, Esq.  <a href="mailto:Mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com">Mariam.nazaretyan@wilshirelawfirm.com</a>  3055 Wilshire Blvd., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  Los Angeles, CA 90010  Telephone: (213) 381-9988  Facsimile: (213) 381-9989</p>
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Settlement Administrator: **Apex Class Action LLC**

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Fax Number:

**10. WHAT IF I LOSE MY SETTLEMENT CHECK?**

If you lose or misplace your settlement check before cashing it, the Administrator will replace it as long as you request a replacement before the void date on the face of the original check. If your check is already void you should consult the Unclaimed Property Fund for instructions on how to retrieve the funds.

**11. WHAT IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS?**

To receive your check, you should immediately notify the Administrator if you move or otherwise change your mailing address.