

**HAINES LAW GROUP, APC**

Paul K. Haines (SBN 248226)  
phaines@haineslawgroup.com  
Sean M. Blakely (SBN 264384)  
sblakely@haineslawgroup.com  
Joel M. Gordon (SBN 280721)  
jgordon@haineslawgroup.com  
2155 Campus Drive, Suite 180  
El Segundo, California 90245  
Tel: (424) 292-2350  
Fax: (424) 292-2355

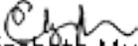
Attorneys for Plaintiff

VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT

**FILED**

08/25/2025

K. Bieker  
Executive Officer and Clerk

  
Elizabeth Muller

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF VENTURA**

JUAN FLORES-PAULET, as an individual and on  
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WESTERN PRECOOLING SYSTEMS, a  
California Corporation; and DOES 1 through 100,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2024CUOE025787

*[Case assigned for all purposes to the Hon.  
~~Dana K. Caudill, Dept. 21]~~*

Charmaine H Euehner

**~~[PROPOSED]~~ ORDER GRANTING  
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF  
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: August 15, 2025  
Time: 8:30 a.m.  
Dept.: ~~21~~ R

Complaint Filed: June 11, 2024  
Trial Date: None Set

1 The Motion of Plaintiff Juan Flores-Paulet (“Plaintiff”) for Preliminary Approval of Class  
2 Action Settlement came on regularly for hearing before this Court on August 15, 2025 at 8:30  
3 a.m. This Court, having considered the proposed Class Action and PAGA Settlement and Release  
4 Agreement (the “Settlement”) attached to the Declaration of Sean M. Blakely filed concurrently  
5 herein; having considered Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action  
6 Settlement, Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support thereof, and supporting  
7 declarations filed therewith; and good cause appearing, HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

8 1. The Court GRANTS preliminary approval of the class action settlement as set  
9 forth in the Settlement and finds its terms to be within the range of reasonableness of a settlement  
10 that ultimately could be granted approval by the Court at a Final Approval Hearing. For purposes  
11 of the Settlement, the Court finds that the proposed Settlement Class is ascertainable and that  
12 there is a sufficiently well-defined community of interest among the members of the Settlement  
13 Class in questions of law and fact. Therefore, for settlement purposes only, the Court grants  
14 conditional certification of the following Settlement Class:

15 All current and former non-exempt, hourly employees of Defendant Western  
16 Precooling Systems who worked in California during the period from June 11,  
17 2020 through the date of preliminary approval (the “Class Period”).

18 2. For purposes of the Settlement, the Court designates named Plaintiff Juan Flores-  
19 Paulet as Class Representative, and designates Paul K. Haines, Sean M. Blakely, and Joel M.  
20 Gordon of Haines Law Group, APC as Class Counsel.

21 3. The Court designates Apex Class Action LLC as the third-party Settlement  
22 Administrator for mailing notices.

23 4. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Court Approved Notice of Class  
24 Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval (“Class Notice”) attached as  
25 Exhibit A to the Settlement.

26 5. The Court finds that the form of notice to the Settlement Class regarding the  
27 pendency of the action and of the Settlement, and the methods of giving notice to Class Members,  
28 constitute the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constitute valid, due, and  
sufficient notice to all Class Members. The form and method of giving notice complies fully with

1 the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382, California Civil Code section  
2 1781, California Rules of Court 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions,  
3 and other applicable law.

4 6. The Court further approves the procedures for the Class Members to opt out of or  
5 object to the Settlement, as set forth in the Class Notice.

6 7. The procedures and requirements for filing objections in connection with the Final  
7 Approval Hearing are intended to ensure the efficient administration of justice and the orderly  
8 presentation of any Class Member's objection to the Settlement in accordance with the due  
9 process rights of all Class Members.

10 8. The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to mail the Class Notice to the  
11 Class Members in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.

12 9. The Class Notice shall provide at least forty-five (45) calendar days' notice for  
13 Class Members to opt out of, or object to, the Settlement.

14 10. The Final Approval Hearing on the question of whether the Settlement should be  
15 finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate is scheduled in Department 21 of this Court,  
16 located at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California 93009 on February 14, 2022 at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

17  
18 11. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will consider: (a) whether the Settlement  
19 should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate for the Settlement Class; (b) whether  
20 a judgment granting final approval of the Settlement should be entered; and (c) whether Plaintiff's  
21 application for reasonable attorneys' fees, reimbursement of litigation expenses, service payment  
22 to Plaintiff, settlement administration costs, and payment to the Labor & Workforce Development  
23 Agency ("LWDA") for penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act should be  
24 granted.

25 12. Counsel for the parties shall file memoranda, declarations, or other statements and  
26 materials in support of their request for final approval of the Settlement, attorneys' fees, litigation  
27 expenses, Plaintiff's service payment, payment to the LWDA, and settlement administration  
28 costs, prior to the Final Approval Hearing according to the time limits set by the Code of Civil

1 Procedure and the California Rules of Court.

2 13. An implementation schedule is below:

Event	Date
Defendant to provide Class Data to the Settlement Administrator no later than [20 calendar days after preliminary approval]:	September 4, 2025
Settlement Administrator to mail the Class Notice to Class Members no later than [14 calendar days after receiving Class Data]:	September 18, 2025
Deadline for Class Members to request exclusion from, or object to, the Settlement [45 calendar days after mailing]:	November 3, 2025
Deadline for Plaintiff to file his Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement:	December 1, 2025
Final Fairness Hearing:	<del>Revised to 11/18/2024</del>

12 14. Pending the Final Approval Hearing, all proceedings in this action, other than  
13 proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of the Settlement and this  
14 Order, are stayed.

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

18  
19 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

20  
21 Dated: 08/21/2025, 2025

 Charmaine H Buehner  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Dana K. Caudill  
Judge of the Superior Court