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FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles
01/15/2026

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court
By: E. Martinez Deputy

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

QUENTECE BOONE, as an individual and
on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CEC EMPLOYEE GROUP, LLC, a
Delaware Limited Liability Company; and
DOES 1 through 100,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 23STCV10680

*[Case assigned for all purposes to the Hon.
~~Kenneth R. Freeman~~, Dept. ~~14~~]*

Timothy Patrick Dillon 15

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Date: ~~April 29, 2025~~ 01/15/2026

Time: ~~11:00 a.m.~~ 10:00 AM

Dept.: ~~14~~ 15

Action Filed: May 11, 2023

Trial Date: None Set

1 Plaintiff Quentece Boone’s (“Plaintiff”) Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action
2 Settlement came regularly for hearing before this Court on April 29, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. The
3 Court, having considered the proposed Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement (the
4 “Settlement Agreement”), attached as Exhibit 1 to the Declaration of Andrew J. Rowbotham filed
5 concurrently herewith; having considered Plaintiff’s Motion, Memorandum of Points and
6 Authorities in support thereof, and supporting declarations filed therewith; and good cause
7 appearing, HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

8 1. The Court GRANTS preliminary approval of the Settlement and finds that its
9 terms fall within the range of possible final approval. For settlement purposes only, the Court
10 conditionally certifies the following Settlement Classes under California Code of Civil Procedure
11 § 382:

12 **CEC Class**: all individuals who are or previously were employed by Defendant
13 CEC Employee Group, LLC who worked in California as non-exempt employees
14 during the time period of March 2, 2020, to June 3, 2024.

15 **Coding Dojo Class**: all non-exempt individuals who are or previously were
16 working for Coding Dojo in California as non-exempt employees during the time
17 period of May 11, 2019, to June 3, 2024.

18 2. The Court appoints Plaintiff Quentece Boone as Class Representative, and
19 appoints Fletcher W. Schmidt, Paul K. Haines, and Andrew J. Rowbotham of Haines Law Group,
20 APC as Class Counsel.

21 3. The Court appoints Apex Class Action LLC as the Settlement Administrator.

22 4. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Proposed Class Action
23 Settlement (“Class Notice”), attached as Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement.

24 5. The Court finds that the proposed method of notice to the Settlement Class
25 constitutes the best practicable notice under the circumstances and satisfies the requirements of
26 California Code of Civil Procedure § 382, Civil Code § 1781, Rules of Court 3.766 and 3.769,
27 and due process.

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

1 7. The Court finds that the procedures for submitting objections are fair, reasonable,
2 and designed to protect the due process rights of all Class Members.

3 8. The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to distribute the Class Notice in
4 accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement and to carry out all duties required under
5 the Settlement.

6 9. The Class Notice shall provide Settlement Class Members with at least 60 calendar
7 days from the mailing date to opt out of or object to the Settlement. Requests for Exclusion and
8 Objections shall be submitted directly to the Settlement Administrator and not filed with the
9 Court. The Settlement Administrator shall forward all such submissions to counsel for the Parties
10 and shall file a declaration with the Court concurrently with Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval
11 authenticating all Requests for Exclusion and Objections received. The Settlement Administrator
12 shall notify any objecting Class Member of any continuance of the Final Approval Hearing.

13 10. The Final Approval Hearing is set for 05/06/2026, ~~2025~~, at 10:00 a.m./p.m.
14 in Department ¹⁵~~14~~ of this Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, to
15 determine: (a) whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and
16 adequate; (b) whether judgment should be entered pursuant to the Settlement; and (c) whether to
17 approve Plaintiff's requests for attorneys' fees, costs, service award, settlement administration
18 costs, and payment to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") pursuant to
19 PAGA.

20 11. Plaintiff shall file her motion and supporting papers for final approval of the
21 Settlement, attorneys' fees and costs, the service award, settlement administration expenses, and
22 the PAGA payment in accordance with applicable statutes and rules.
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1 12. The implementation schedule is set as follows ~~(assuming the Court signs this~~
2 ~~Order on April 29, 2025)~~.

Event	Date
Defendant to provide Class Member data to Settlement Administrator (14 business days after preliminary approval)	May 19, 2025 02/05/2026
Class Notice mailed to Class Members (10 business days after receiving data)	June 3, 2025 02/23/2026
Deadline to request exclusion, object, or dispute workweek count (60 calendar days after mailing)	August 2, 2025 04/24/2026
Deadline to file Motion for Final Approval	At least 30 days before Final Approval Hearing
Final Approval Hearing	05/06/2026, 2025 at 10:00 a.m./p.m.

14 13. All proceedings in this action, other than those necessary to carry out the terms of
15 the Settlement or this Order, are stayed pending the Final Approval Hearing.

16 14. The Parties are authorized to implement the Settlement in accordance with its
17 terms and this Order.

18 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

19 Dated: 01/15/2026, 2025



20 
21 Honorable Kenneth R. Freeman
22 Judge of the Superior Court

23 Timothy Patrick Dillon / Judge

24 Service award shall be at most \$7500.
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