

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles
06/24/2026

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court
By: M. Elder Deputy

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Attorneys for Plaintiff FRANKIE D. GOMEZ
and the Proposed Class

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

FRANKIE D. GOMEZ, individually, and on
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SIGNAL HILL PETROLEUM, INC., a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through
10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 24STCV19331

[Assigned for All Purposes to:
Hon. William F. Highberger, Dept. 10]

~~REVISED~~ ~~PROPOSED~~ **ORDER**
GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Hearing Information:

Date: May 21, 2026 & 6/24/26
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Dept.: 10

& 6/24/26

1 **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT** on May 21, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.✓ the Motion for Preliminary
2 Approval of Class Action Settlement filed by Plaintiff Frankie D. Gomez (“Plaintiff”), on behalf of
3 himself and a Settlement Class, and not opposed by Defendant Signal Hill Petroleum, Inc.
4 (“Defendant”), came on for hearing in Department 10 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court,
5 located at 312 N Spring St, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

6 After full consideration of the evidence, the pleadings and papers filed by the parties in
7 connection therewith, arguments of counsel and all other matters presented to the Court, and good
8 cause having been shown, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary
9 Approval of Class Action Settlement is GRANTED based on the conditions below.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

11 1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement
12 (“Agreement” or “Settlement Agreement”), and all terms defined therein shall have the same
13 meaning in this Order as set forth in the Settlement Agreement attached as **Exhibit 1** to the
14 Declaration of Tiffany Hyun filed concurrently herewith.

15 2. The Court recognizes that the parties stipulate and agree to certification of a class
16 for settlement purposes only. For settlement purposes only, the Court conditionally certifies the
17 following settlement class (the “Class Members” or “Settlement Class”): “all current and former
18 hourly employees employed by Defendant in California who were classified as non-exempt
19 during the Class Period.” The “Class Period” means August 1, 2020, through December 20, 2025,
20 or as modified pursuant to Paragraph 8 of the Agreement.

21 3. The Class also includes “Aggrieved Employees,” which is defined as “all current
22 and former hourly employees employed by Defendant in California who were classified as non-
23 exempt during the PAGA Period.” “PAGA Period” means August 1, 2023, to December 20, 2025,
24 or as modified pursuant to Paragraph 8 of the Agreement, whichever is earliest.

25 4. The Court finds, for settlement purposes only, the requirements of California Code
26 of Civil Procedure section 382 are satisfied. The term “Participating Class Member” means a
27 Class Member who has not requested exclusion from the Settlement.

28 5. Plaintiff is hereby appointed and designated, for all purposes, as the representative

1 of the class, and the following attorneys are hereby appointed and designated as counsel for
2 Plaintiff and the Class (“Class Counsel”):

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4
5 Seung Yang
seung.yang@thesentinel-firm.com
6 Tiffany Hyun
tiffany.hyun@thesentinel-firm.com
7 Jeffrey Jackson
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8 Christine Noh
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10 707 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 4700
11 Los Angeles, CA 90017
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14 Class Counsel is authorized to act on behalf of Class Members with respect to all acts or consents
15 required by, or which may be given pursuant to, the Settlement, and such other acts reasonably
16 necessary to consummate the Settlement. Any Class Member may enter an appearance through
17 counsel of such Class Member’s own choosing and at such Class Member’s own expense. Any Class
18 Member who does not enter an appearance or appear on his or her own will be represented by Class
19 Counsel.

20 6. The Court hereby approves on a preliminary basis the Settlement Agreement as
21 appearing on its face to be fair, reasonable, and adequate and to have been the product of serious,
22 informed, and extensive negotiations among Plaintiff, Defendant, and their respective counsel.

23 7. A final approval hearing shall be held before this Court on [12/2/26],
24 at [10] a.m. in Department 10 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, located at 312 N.
25 Spring St, Los Angeles, CA 90012, to determine all necessary matters concerning the Settlement,
26 including: whether the proposed settlement of the Action on the terms and conditions provided for
27 in the Settlement Agreement is fair, adequate and reasonable and should be finally approved by
28 the Court; whether a Judgment, as provided in the Settlement, should be entered herein; whether

1 the plan of allocation contained in the Settlement Agreement should be approved as fair, adequate
2 and reasonable to the Class Members; and to finally approve Class Counsels' Fees and Costs
3 Award, the Class Representative Enhancement Payment, the PAGA payment to the LWDA and
4 the settlement administration expenses. The Final Approval hearing may be continued without
5 further notice.

6 8. The Parties shall file a Motion for Final Approval on or before sixteen (16) court
7 days prior to the hearing.

8 9. The Court hereby appoints Apex Class Action Administration as Settlement
9 Administrator and hereby directs the Settlement Administrator to mail or cause to be mailed to
10 Class Members (including the Aggrieved Employees) the Notice by first class mail within fourteen
11 (14) calendar days after the receipt of ^{this Order} ~~the Class Data from Defendant~~ using the procedures set forth
12 in the Settlement Agreement. Class Members who do not opt out of the non-PAGA portion of the
13 settlement will become Participating Class Members and will automatically receive their
14 Individual Settlement Payment.

15 10. The Court hereby approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Class Action
16 Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval attached to the Settlement Agreement and
17 ^{Exh.A to} ~~as~~ Exhibit 5 to the Declaration of Tiffany Hyun. The Court finds that the distribution of the Notice
18 of Class Action Settlement substantially in the manner and form set forth in the Settlement
19 Agreement and this Order meets the requirements of due process, is the best notice practicable
20 under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled
21 thereto.

22 11. Prior to mailing the Notice of Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final
23 Court Approval, the Settlement Administrator is directed to verify the total number of workweeks
24 and pay periods in accordance with terms of the Settlement Agreement and to determine whether
25 the number of Workweeks worked by Class Members has increased from 14,000 by more than
26 10% (i.e., exceeds 15,400) prior to December 20, 2025. If it has, the Class Period and PAGA
27 Period will terminate as of the date the total number of Workweeks exceeded 15,400 Workweeks
28 and the Notice of Class Action Settlement and Class List shall be modified to ensure the accuracy

1 of the Notice and that the Notice is only sent to persons who are Class Members. If it has not, the
2 Class Period and PAGA Period will end on December 20, 2025.

3 12. The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the date of the final approval
4 and all dates provided for in the Settlement Agreement without further notice and retains
5 jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with the proposed
6 Settlement.

7
8 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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10 Dated: 06/24/2026



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. P. Highberger".

11 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
12 William P. Highberger, Judge
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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the State of California, County of Los Angeles. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within suit. The name and address of my residence or business is The Sentinel Firm, APC, 707 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 4700, Los Angeles, California 90071

On the date indicated below, I served the document described as: **[REVISED] [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT** on the interested parties in this action by sending [] the original [or] [✓] a true copy thereof [✓] to interested parties as follows [or] [] as stated on the attached service list:

☒ **BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE:** Based on a court order or an agreement of the parties to accept electronic service, I caused the documents to be sent to the persons at the electronic service addresses listed above via third-party cloud service **CASEANYWHERE**. I did not receive an error message.

SCHILLING LAW GROUP, PC
Attorneys for Defendant Signal Hill Petroleum, Inc.
Linda Schilling, Esq. (linda.schilling@schillinglawgroup.com)
Nicole R. Vanderlaan Smith, Esq. (Nicole.v.smith@schillinglawgroup.com)
1100 Newport Center Drive, Suite 250
Newport Beach, CA 92660

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this **May 8, 2026** at Los Angeles, California.

Mellinda Hensley
Type or Print Name


Signature