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*Attorneys for Plaintiff, on behalf of herself, the putative
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 Employees*

FILED
 Superior Court of California
 County of Sacramento
09/09/2026
 T. Shaddix, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

MARIE AUSTERO, on behalf of herself and
 the putative Class Members,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

THE REUTLINGER COMMUNITY;
 ESKATON, and DOES 1 through 100,
 Inclusive,
 Defendants.

Lead Case No. 24CV016805
 Consolidated with 24CV020405

*Assigned to the Honorable Judge Jill Talley
 for All Purposes in Dept. 8A*

**~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER GRANTING
 PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
 AND PAGA SETTLEMENT**

Date: August 21, 2026
 Time: 9:00 a.m.
 Dept.: 8A
 Reservation # A-16805-001

Complaint Filed: August 23, 2024
 Trial Date: None Set

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HEREBY ORDERS AND MAKES THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATIONS:

2. The Court **GRANTS** preliminary approval of the Settlement and finds its terms to be fair, adequate, and within the range of reasonableness of a settlement that ultimately could be finally approved by the Court at a Final Approval Hearing.

4. For purposes of the Settlement, the Court designates Plaintiff Marie Austero as Class Representative and designates Schneider Wallace Cottrell Kim LLP as Class Counsel.

5. The Court designates Apex Class Action Administration (“Apex”) as the third-party Settlement Administrator for mailing notices, administering the Settlement, and carrying

1 out all of the other responsibilities outlined in the Settlement.

2 6. The Court approves as to form and content the Court Approved Notice of Class
3 Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval (“Notice”) in the form attached to
4 the Settlement as **Exhibit 1**. Minor, non-substantive changes are permitted to the extent required
5 to facilitate notice administration.

6 7. The Court finds that the form of notice to the Class Members regarding the
7 pendency of the action and Settlement and the method of giving notice to Class Members
8 constitute the best notice practicable under the circumstances and constitute valid, due, and
9 sufficient notice to all Class Members. The form and method of giving notice comply fully with
10 the requirements of Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 382, Cal. Rules of Court 3.766 and 3.769, the
11 California and United States Constitutions, and other applicable law.

12 8. The Court further approves the procedures for Class Members to opt out of or
13 object to the Settlement, as set forth in the Notice.

14 9. The procedures and requirements for submitting written objections in connection
15 with the Final Approval Hearing are intended to ensure the efficient administration of justice and
16 the orderly presentation of any Class Member’s objection to the Settlement, in accordance with
17 the due process rights of all Class Members. Class Members are permitted to appear at the Final
18 Approval Hearing and object to the Settlement even if they do not submit written objections.

19 10. The Court **DIRECTS** the Settlement Administrator to send the Notice to the Class
20 Members via U.S. Mail in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.

21 11. The Notice shall provide 45 days from the date of mailing for Class Members to
22 opt out of or object to the Settlement.

23 12. The Final Approval Hearing on the question of whether the Settlement should be
24 finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate is scheduled for February 5, 2027 at 9:00 a.m.
25 in Department 8A.

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

1 for reasonable attorneys' fees, reimbursement of litigation costs, Plaintiff's service award, and
2 Settlement administration costs should be granted.

3 14. Counsel for the parties shall file memoranda, declarations, and other materials in
4 support of their request for final approval of the Settlement; attorneys' fees, litigation expenses,
5 Plaintiff's service award, and Settlement Administration costs prior to the Final Approval Hearing
6 according to the time limits set by the Code of Civil Procedure and California Rules of Court.

7 15. Administration of the Settlement shall proceed according to the implementation
8 schedule set forth in Plaintiff's Notice of Motion and Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class,
9 Collective, and PAGA Settlement.

10 16. Pending the Final Approval Hearing, all proceedings in this action, other than
11 proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of the Settlement and this
12 Order, are hereby stayed, and all deadlines are vacated. The time period for bringing this action
13 to trial pursuant to Cal. Code Civ. Proc. §§ 583.310 *et seq.* is hereby tolled until further order of
14 the Court.

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

18 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

19 Date: 09/09/2026



20 *Jill Talley*
21 Hon. Jill Talley
22 Superior Court Judge
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