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12	(Additional counsel listed on next page)		
13	(Counsel for Defendant on Following Page)		
14	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA		
15	FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO		
16			
17	DAVID IAIMES on behalf of himself and all	Case No.: CIV DS 1933423	
18	DAVID JAIMES, on behalf of himself, and all others similarly situated, and as an "aggrieved	Case No CIV DS 1933423	
19	employee" on behalf of other "aggrieved	STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION AND	
20	employees" under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004,	PAGA SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE	
21	Plaintiff(a)	Judge: David Cohn	
22	Plaintiff(s),	Dept. S26	
23	vs.		
24	BAKER'S BURGERS, INC., a California		
	corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,		
25	Defendant(s)		
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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT

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17	BAKER'S BURGERS, INC., a California corporation
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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement and Release (the "Settlement") is made by and between Plaintiff David Jaimes ("Jaimes") and Defendant Baker's Burgers, Inc., a California corporation (hereafter "Defendant").

NATURE OF THE CASE AND THE PARTIES' SETTLEMENT

- 1. <u>The Parties and Class Counsel</u>. Plaintiff and Defendant are collectively referred to herein as "the Parties." "Class Counsel" refers to David Spivak of The Spivak Law Firm and Walter Haines of the United Employees Law Group.
- 2. <u>Compromise</u>. Because the Parties desire to settle this Action, as defined below, on a class-wide basis pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 382, this Agreement must receive preliminary and final approval by the San Bernardino County Superior Court. Accordingly, the Parties enter into this Agreement on a conditional basis. The Parties expressly acknowledge that this Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising significantly disputed claims and that nothing herein is an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendant.

If for any reason the Court does not give preliminary or final approval of this Agreement or this Agreement is terminated or canceled pursuant to its terms, the Parties to this Agreement shall be deemed to have reverted to their respective positions as of the date and time immediately prior to the execution of this Agreement. In such an event: (a) the Agreement shall be void and have no force or effect; (b) any Court orders preliminarily or finally approving certification of any class contemplated by this Agreement shall be null, void, and vacated, and shall not be used or cited thereafter by any person or entity; and (c) the fact that the Settlement reflected in this Agreement, the fact that Defendant did not oppose the certification of a Class under this Agreement, or that the Court preliminarily approved the certification of the Class, shall not be

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used or cited thereafter by any person or entity, including without limitation, in any contested proceeding relating to the certification of any class. Solely for purposes of this Agreement, the Parties stipulate and agree to class certification. In the event this Agreement is not approved, it is understood and agreed that Defendant is not agreeing for any purpose that this Action is appropriate for class certification and reserves the right to move to compel sole plaintiff arbitration with respect to the underlying wage and hour claims alleged in the Action.

- 3. <u>The Class Action</u>. On December 21, 2018, Jaimes notified the LWDA and Defendant of the facts and theories supporting his claims. Plaintiff filed a putative class action lawsuit in San Bernardino Superior Court on November 7, 2019.
- 4. <u>Plaintiff's Complaint</u>. Plaintiff's complaint presents the following causes of action: (1) Failure to provide meal and rest periods; (2) Failure to pay all wages earned for all hours worked; (3) Wage statement penalties; (4) Waiting time penalties; (5) Unfair competition; and (6) Civil penalties. Plaintiff's lawsuit is referred to as "the Action." In the Action, Plaintiff alleges various wage and hour violations and seeks recovery on behalf of himself and all current and former non-exempt employees Defendant employed in California at any time during the period beginning December 22, 2014 and ending on the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or ninety days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first.
- 5. <u>Case Status</u>. Because of the Court's November 13, 2019 Initial Case Management Conference Order staying the proceedings in their entirety, Defendant has not filed an answer to Plaintiff's complaint. Notwithstanding, Defendant denies all claims as to liability, damages, penalties, interest, fees, restitution, injunctive relief and all other forms of relief as well as the class allegations asserted in the Action. Defendant has agreed to resolve the Action via this Agreement, but to the extent this Settlement is deemed void or the Final Effective Date

does not occur, Defendant does not waive, but rather expressly reserves, all rights to challenge all such claims and allegations in the Action upon all procedural and factual grounds, including, without limitation, the ability to challenge class treatment on any grounds, move to compel sole Plaintiff arbitration, as well as asserting any and all other potential defenses or privileges. Plaintiff as the Class Representative and Class Counsel agree that Defendant retains and reserves these rights, and agree not to argue or present any argument, and hereby waive any argument that, based on this Agreement, Defendant cannot challenge claims and allegations in the Action upon any procedural or factual grounds, including, without limitation, challenging class or representative treatment or certification on any grounds, moving to compel sole plaintiff arbitration, or asserting any and all other potential defenses or privileges.

- 6. <u>Class and PAGA Period</u>. For purposes of this Settlement, the "Class Period" shall mean December 22, 2014 through the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or ninety days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first. For purposes of this Settlement, the "PAGA Period" shall mean December 22, 2017 through the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or ninety days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first
- 7. <u>Class Members.</u> For purposes of this Settlement, Class Members (collectively referred to as the "Class") shall mean all current and former non-exempt employees Defendant employed in California at any time during the Class Period. The Class will consist of approximately 5,314 non-exempt employees.
- 8. <u>Plaintiff and His Claims</u>. As set forth in the Action, Plaintiff alleges Defendant failed to pay for all hours worked at the correct rates of pay; failed to provide lawful meal or rest breaks or pay required premiums; failed to timely pay all wages owed during employment

or upon termination; failed to provide lawful itemized wage statements; failed to maintain proper employment records; and by so doing all of the above, engaged in unfair competition. Plaintiff has claimed, and continues to claim, that his contentions have merit and give rise to Defendant's liability.

- (a) Plaintiff has considered the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to litigate the Action against Defendant through trial and any possible appeals, and the risk and uncertainty of any recovery against Defendant. Plaintiff has also taken into account the uncertainty and risk of the outcome of further litigation, and the difficulties and delays inherent in such litigation, including those involved in seeking class certification. Plaintiff is also aware of the burdens of proof necessary to establish liability for the claims asserted in the Action, Defendant's defenses thereto, and the difficulties in establishing the damages and penalties claimed. Based on the foregoing, the advice of Plaintiff's counsel, a full day of intense negotiations before an experienced and well-regarded mediator, and the substantial benefits to the Class and the State of California, Plaintiff has determined that the terms set forth in this Settlement are fair, adequate, and reasonable and in the best interests of the Class.
- (b) Nothing in this Settlement, the documents referenced in this Settlement, or any action taken to carry out this Settlement is, may be construed as, or may be used as, an admission by or against Plaintiff as to the merits or lack thereof of the claims they asserted.
- 9. <u>Denial of Wrongdoing</u>. Defendant denies all of the claims, contentions, each and every allegation made by Plaintiff in the Action, including any allegation that class certification is warranted or proper or that they are liable on the merits on any of Plaintiff's claims in the Action. In addition, nothing herein shall be deemed to waive any of Defendant's objections or defenses to class certification or any other issue relating to or arising from the allegations set

forth in the Action. Defendant denies that, for any purpose other than settlement, the Action is appropriate for class or representative treatment.

- (a) With respect to Plaintiff's claims, Defendant contends, *inter alia*, that at all times relevant to the Action it met or exceeded their obligations under the California Labor Code, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the California Business and Professions Code, and all other laws, statutes, orders or regulations alleged in the Action. Defendant's counsel performed a thorough analysis of the law and facts relating to the claims asserted by Plaintiff in the Action. Nonetheless, Defendant has taken into account the uncertainty and risks inherent in any litigation and concluded that further litigating the Action would be undesirable. Defendant has entered into this Settlement with the intention to avoid further disputes and the expense and inconvenience of continued litigation.
- (b) Nothing in this Settlement, the documents referenced in this Settlement, or any action taken to carry out this Settlement is, may be construed as, or may be used as, an admission, concession or other indication by or against Defendant of any fault, wrongdoing, or liability whatsoever.
- (c) Defendant will stipulate to the certification of the Class Claims for settlement purposes only. Defendant disputes that certification is proper for the purposes of litigating the Class Claims proposed in or flowing from the Class Action Complaint.
- 10. The Mediation. On October 15, 2019, the Parties attended and participated in good faith, arms' length settlement discussions at a mediation session with Lynn Frank, a highly experienced professional mediator. This Settlement was reached after substantial exchanges of data, information and documents before and during the mediation, and is a result of extensive arms-length negotiations. Defendant agrees not to oppose Plaintiff's representation to the Court

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that that this Settlement is a fair, adequate, and reasonable resolution of the Action, taking into account all relevant factors, present and potential.

- 11. The Settlement Class. The "Settlement Class Members" (collectively referred to as the "Settlement Class") shall mean those Class Members who do not timely and validly exclude themselves from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement in accordance with the requirements set forth herein.
- 12. Investigation. The Parties conducted significant investigation of the facts and law applicable to the Action, including, inter alia, extensive review and analysis of voluminous documents including Defendant's employment policies, and procedures, interviews of potential witnesses, data analysis including records of time worked and work performed by counsel and experts, meetings and conferences between counsel for the Parties before, during and after mediation, and have diligently pursued investigation of claims alleged against Defendant. Counsel for the Parties have further investigated the applicable law as applied to the facts discovered regarding Plaintiff's claims, the defenses thereto, and the damages and penalties claimed by Plaintiff in the Action, and exchanged extensive data, documents and information regarding the claims prior to the mediation and negotiating the Settlement. Based on their own independent investigation and evaluation, Plaintiff and Class Counsel believe that this Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interest of the Class in light of all known facts and circumstances, including the risks of significant delay, denial of a motion for class certification, decertification, defenses asserted by Defendant, and potential appellate issues.

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13. <u>Cooperation</u>. The Parties and their counsel agree to cooperate with each other and to use their best efforts to effect the implementation of this Settlement pursuant to its terms.

II. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

- 14. <u>Purpose of the Parties</u>. The Parties agree that this Action and any claims arising out of the dispute described in this Settlement be settled on the terms described herein as between the Settlement Class and Defendant, subject to the approval of the Court.
- 15. <u>Stipulation for Conditional Certification of the Class</u>. Solely for purposes of consummation and fulfillment of this Settlement, the Parties each agree to the conditional certification of the Class. However, if, for whatever reason, the Settlement does not become final, the Parties' stipulation to conditional class certification shall become null and void *ab initio* and this Settlement shall have no bearing on, and shall not be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether or not certification would be appropriate in the Action or in any non-settlement context. The Parties each agree the terms of the Settlement are conditioned on payment of all amounts required to be paid by Defendant under the terms of this Settlement and to the extent approved by the Court.
- 16. Application for Preliminary Approval. Counsel for Plaintiff shall request a hearing before the Court to seek preliminary approval of the Settlement on the earliest practical date. In conjunction with such hearing, Plaintiff will provide the Court with this Settlement, and any other documents necessary to implement the Settlement. Simultaneously with the filing of this Settlement, and solely for purposes of this Settlement, Counsel for Plaintiff will request that the Court enter a preliminary approval order, preliminarily approving the proposed Settlement, conditionally certifying the Class and approving the Class Period for settlement purposes only, approving appointment of the Settlement Administrator, and setting a date for a final approval

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hearing. Defendant will not oppose these requests. The preliminary approval order shall also provide for notice of the Settlement and related matters to be disseminated to Class Members as specified herein or as may otherwise by ordered by the Court, provided that such order is also acceptable to the Parties and consistent with the terms of this Settlement.

- 17. Settlement Effective Date. The "Effective Date" of the Settlement shall be the latest of the following dates: (i) sixty-five calendar days after entry of the order granting final approval, to provide for the potential appeal by a timely or untimely objector; (ii) if any appeal is taken for any reason, ten (10) calendar days after all appeals are withdrawn or after any and all avenues of appeal have been exhausted and no further appellate review is permitted or possible and the Judgment has not been modified, amended, or reversed in any way (unless the modification is for a reduction of the Fee Award, Expense Award or Enhancement Award). Defendant shall not be required to fund any portion of the Gross Settlement Fund and the Settlement Administrator (terms defined below) shall not distribute or pay any monies, unless and until the Effective Date of the Settlement. It is the intention of the Parties that this Agreement shall not become effective until the Court's order approving this Agreement is completely final as defined herein.
- 18. Gross Settlement Fund. Provided this Settlement is finally approved by the Court, and in consideration for the general release of all claims (as described more fully in Section V, below), Defendant agrees to pay an amount not to exceed One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) (the "Gross Settlement Fund"), as a full and complete settlement of all claims arising from the Action. The Gross Settlement Fund is the total maximum amount Defendant shall be required to pay under this Settlement for all purposes, including, as approved by the Court, the Individual Settlement Awards, Administration Costs, Expense Award, Fee

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Award, Enhancement Award, and PAGA Payment (terms defined below) and any other fees and expenses (other than Defendant's attorneys' fees and expenses) incurred in implementing the terms and conditions of this Agreement and securing the Final Order and Judgment to be entered by the Court. With the exception of "Employer Taxes" (defined below) and Defendant's attorneys' fees and costs which Defendant will pay in addition to the Gross Settlement Fund, the Gross Settlement Fund is all-inclusive and under no circumstances will Defendant be required to pay more than the Gross Settlement Fund.

- 19. <u>Net Settlement Fund</u>. The "Net Settlement Fund" shall mean the funds available for distribution to Settlement Class Members (as defined in paragraph 20) after deducting from the Gross Settlement Fund the following, as approved by the Court: (i) Administration Costs; (ii) Expense Award; (iii) Fee Award; (iv) Enhancement Award; and (v) PAGA Payment (as each of these terms are defined below).
- distribution from the Net Settlement Fund as set forth herein. "Settlement Class Members" shall mean those Class Members who do not exclude themselves from the Settlement by having submitted a valid and timely written request for exclusion from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Notice of Settlement ("Notice") in the form of **Exhibit 1** attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. "Individual Settlement Award" shall mean the total gross amount (subject to applicable payroll taxes and withholdings) each Settlement Class Member is entitled to receive from the Net Settlement Fund calculated pursuant to the formula in Paragraph 22, below. Only Settlement Class Members are eligible to receive Individual Settlement Awards. Any Class Members who do not exclude themselves from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement in accordance with the requirements

set forth in the Notice shall be deemed Settlement Class Members and shall be bound by this Settlement and any order or judgment entered by the Court approving this Settlement. Class Members who submit timely written requests for exclusion pursuant to the Notice are not Settlement Class Members, and therefore are not entitled to any Individual Settlement Award and will not be bound by this Settlement or any order or judgment entered by the Court approving this Settlement except as noted below in Paragraph 50.

- 21. <u>Estimate of Individual Settlement Awards</u>. The estimated payment to each Class Member shall be determined as follows. "Qualifying Pay Period" shall mean each pay period within which a Class Member was considered actively employed by Defendant in California during the Class Period. Any pay period during which a Class Member was employed by Defendant but not actively employed (e.g., while classified as exempt, while on leave of absence, etc.) will not be included as a Qualifying Pay Period.)
- 22. <u>Calculation of Settlement Class Members' Individual Settlement Awards.</u>
 Settlement Class Members shall have their Individual Settlement Awards calculated as follows:

 (a) each Settlement Class Member's total number of Qualifying Pay Periods; (b) divided by the aggregate number of Qualifying Pay Periods of all Class Members; (c) multiplied by the value of the Net Settlement Fund.
- 23. <u>Guaranteed Payout of Net Settlement Fund</u>. The Parties agree that the total amount actually distributed to all Settlement Class Members shall equal 100% of the Net Settlement Fund (the "Guaranteed Minimum Payout").
- 24. <u>Deposit of Gross Settlement Fund</u>. Defendant shall deposit, in an account created by the Settlement Administrator for disbursement as set forth below, the Gross Settlement Fund as follows. Within five (5) business days following the Effective Date, the Settlement

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Administrator shall provide counsel for Defendant routing instructions to wire transfer funds for deposit. Within ten business days following the Effective Date or within five business days after the Settlement Administrator provides Defendant's counsel with routing instructions to wire transfer funds, whichever occurs later, Defendant shall deposit 50% of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes; and on June 15, 2021, Defendant shall deposit the remaining 50% of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes. In the event that the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes are not paid as required by the Settlement within thirty days of the dates required by this paragraph, at Plaintiff's option, the Settlement, Final Approval Order and Judgment will be set aside, terminated, and shall have no force or effect, and no Party to the Settlement shall be bound by any of its terms. Additionally, any order approving or enforcing the Settlement shall be vacated. The Settlement Agreement and all negotiations, statements and proceedings relating thereto shall be without prejudice to the rights of the parties to the Settlement, each of whom shall be restored to their respective positions in the lawsuit before the Settlement. Plaintiff shall notify Defendant of his exercise of this option in writing for it to be effective within ten business days of Defendant's failure to deliver the Gross Settlement Fund as set forth in this paragraph. To effectively exercise this option, Plaintiff will be required to return any Gross Settlement Fund amounts deposited by Defendant.

25. <u>Attorneys' Expenses</u>. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for, and Defendant will not oppose, payment of Class Counsel's expenses from the Gross Settlement Fund, in an amount according to proof, but not to exceed Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) (the "Expense Award"). The Expense Award may include, but is not limited to, any costs and expenses incurred by Plaintiff in the prosecution of this action, including filing fees, travel costs,

and mediation fees, as approved by the Court. If the Court approves less than the amount

requested by Class Counsel, the remainder shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to Settlement Class Members.

- 26. Attorneys' Fees. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for, and Defendant will not oppose, payment of attorneys' fees from the Gross Settlement Fund in an amount up to one-third of the Gross Settlement Fund, not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars (\$533,333.00) (the "Fee Award"). If the Court approves less than the amount requested by Class Counsel, the remainder shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to Settlement Class Members.
- Enhancement Award. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for, and Defendant will not oppose, payment of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to Plaintiff as consideration for his service to the Class as a class representative and the general release of all claims as set forth herein (the "Enhancement Award"). This amount shall be paid in addition to Plaintiff's pro rata share of the Net Settlement Fund as a Settlement Class Member. If the Court approves less than the amount requested by Class Counsel, the remainder shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to Settlement Class Members. The Enhancement Award approved by the Court shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Fund, and shall be distributed to Plaintiff by the Settlement Administrator reported on an IRS Form 1099.
- 28. <u>Settlement Administration Costs</u>. The reasonable costs of settlement administration through and beyond final approval, estimated not to exceed Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) (the "Administration Costs"), shall be paid to the Settlement Administrator from the Gross Settlement Fund. If the Administration Costs approved by the Court are less than the requested amount, the remainder shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to Settlement Class Members. If actual Administration Costs exceed the above estimate, then any

such additional fees and costs may be paid from the Gross Settlement Fund only as approved by the Court.

- 29. PAGA Payment. The total sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) from the Gross Settlement Fund is allocated to settle claims brought pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act, California Labor Code Section 2698 *et seq.*, as approved by the Court, which shall be distributed by the Settlement Administrator to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and Class Members as set forth herein (the "PAGA Payment"). Of this amount, seventy five percent (75%) or Thirty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$37,500.00) shall be distributed to the LWDA. The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) shall be paid *pro rata* to Class Members on a Qualifying Pay Period basis, based on the same allocation method as set forth above in paragraphs 21 and 22 above except that the PAGA Period (defined in Paragraph 6) and not the Class Period shall be used to establish the Qualifying Pay Periods. Because the PAGA Payment is in the nature of a penalty pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(i), these payments shall not be subject to withholding.
- Allocation of Wages, Interest, and Penalties. The Parties agree that twenty percent (20%) of each Individual Settlement Award is allocated to disputed wages, subject to all applicable wage laws, including federal, state and local tax withholding and payroll taxes, reported on Form W-2. The remaining eighty percent (80%) of each Individual Settlement Award shall be allocated to disputed interest, penalties and other non-wage damages sought in the Action. Payments allocated to disputed penalties, non-wage damages and interest shall be subject to all authorized and required withholdings other than tax withholdings customarily made from employees' wages, and will be reported on Form 1099. The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for issuing all payments and calculating and withholding any

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required federal, state and local taxes. The Parties recognize and agree that the precise amounts of compensation claimed in this Action are extremely difficult to determine with any certainty for any given year, if at all, and may be subject to different calculations and formulas. The Parties agree that the formula for allocating the Individual Settlement Awards to Settlement Class Members provided herein is reasonable and that the payments provided herein are designed to provide a fair settlement to such persons, in light of the uncertainties regarding the calculation of alleged compensation to each Settlement Class Member.

31. Taxes. All payroll taxes will be computed by the Settlement Administrator based on the amounts awarded to Settlement Class Members as wages, as set forth herein. "Employer Taxes" shall mean Defendant's share of applicable payroll taxes, such as FICA and FUTA, for that portion of the Individual Settlement Awards attributed to wages. Defendant will pay to the appropriate taxing authorities the Employer Taxes it owes as a result of the Individual Settlement Awards to Settlement Class Members in addition to the Gross Settlement Fund. "Employee Taxes" shall mean Settlement Class Members' share of all applicable payroll taxes and withholdings. The Settlement Administrator shall timely and properly withhold from the Individual Settlement Awards payable to Settlement Class Members all applicable Employee Taxes. Payments to Settlement Class Members and Plaintiff pursuant to this Settlement shall be reported by the Settlement Administrator on IRS Forms W-2 (for payments representing wages) or 1099 (for all other payments), and provided to the respective Settlement Class Members and governmental authorities as required by law. The Settlement Administrator shall issue all reports required by federal, state, and local tax agencies to document all payments made pursuant to this Settlement. Notwithstanding the withholding of Employee Taxes, each Settlement Class

Member shall be responsible for paying all applicable state, local, and federal income taxes,

interest or penalties arising from any payment received pursuant to this Settlement. Should any taxing authority or agency challenge the allocation of Individual Settlement Awards and/or Employee Taxes, Settlement Class Members shall cooperate with Defendant and provide documentation as requested to demonstrate such payment and the appropriateness of any withholding. Settlement Class Members who receive an Individual Settlement Award agree to indemnify and hold Defendant and the Released Parties, as defined below, harmless from any and all liability which may hereafter be asserted against them by any federal, state or local agency for any taxes claimed in connection with any payments received pursuant to this Settlement together with interest and penalties thereon. Neither Plaintiff's counsel nor Defendant's Counsel intend anything contained herein (including the Notice) to constitute legal advice regarding the taxability of any amount paid hereunder, nor shall it be relied upon as such. The tax issues for each Settlement Class Member are unique, and each Settlement Class Member is advised to obtain tax advice from his or her own tax advisor with respect to any payments resulting from the Individual Settlement Awards.

- 32. <u>Tax Liability</u>. Defendant makes no representation as to the tax treatment or legal effect of the payments called for hereunder, and Plaintiff and Settlement Class Members are not relying on any statement, representation, or calculation by Defendant or by the Settlement Administrator in this regard.
- 33. <u>Circular 230 Disclaimer</u>. Each Party to this Agreement acknowledges and agrees that (1) no provision of this Agreement, and no written communication or disclosure between or among the Parties or their attorneys and other advisers, is or was intended to be, nor will any such communication or disclosure constitute or be construed or be relied upon as, tax advice within the meaning of United States Treasury Department circular 230 (31 CFR part 10, as

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amended); and (2) (a) has relied exclusively upon his, her, or its own, independent legal and tax counsel for advice (including tax advice) in connection with this agreement, (b) has not entered into this Agreement based upon the recommendation of any other party or any attorney or advisor to any other party, and (c) is not entitled to rely upon any communication or disclosure by any attorney or adviser to any other party to avoid any tax penalty that may be imposed.

34. No Effect on Employee Benefits. The Individual Settlement Awards available to Class Members and the Enhancement Award paid to Plaintiff shall not be deemed to be "pensionable" earnings and shall not have any effect on the eligibility for, or calculation of, any employee benefits (e.g., vacations, holiday pay, leave or illness policies, retirement plans, etc.) of Plaintiff or Class Members. The Parties agree that any Individual Settlement Awards or Enhancement Award paid under the terms of this Settlement do not represent any modification of Settlement Class Members' previously credited hours of service or other eligibility criteria under any employee pension benefit plan or employee welfare benefit plan sponsored by Defendant. Further, any Individual Settlement Award or the Enhancement Award paid hereunder shall not be considered "compensation" in any year for purposes of determining eligibility for, or benefit accrual within, an employee pension benefit plan, employee welfare benefit plan, employee bonuses, or employee past, current, or future compensation levels. The Parties further agree that Plaintiff and all Settlement Class Members will be deemed to have waived any claims or benefits under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. § 1001, et seq.) premised upon any and all amounts they receive under this Settlement as part of their Released Claims under this Settlement.

35. <u>Distribution of Gross Settlement Fund</u>. Following the deposit of the Gross Settlement Fund, the Settlement Administrator shall distribute the payments provided by this

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27 28 Settlement as follows: Within five (5) calendar days of each Deposit of Settlement Funds (as set forth in Paragraph 24), the Settlement Administrator shall distribute to the appropriate persons, as approved by the Court, one-half of: the PAGA Payment, the Individual Settlement Awards, the Enhancement Award, the Expense Award, the Fee Award, and the Administration Costs.

36. Uncashed Checks. Settlement Class Members and Class Members shall have one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of the check's issuance to cash their Individual Settlement Payment checks or PAGA Payment. After the expiration of the 180-day period, on Defendant's behalf, the Settlement Administrator shall remit any amounts from settlement checks that remain uncashed and otherwise unclaimed (the "Residue"), to the California Unclaimed Property Fund, with an identification of the Settlement Class Member or Class Member to whom the funds belong. The Settlement, including its release, will be binding on any Settlement Class Member and Class Member who does not cash his or her check within the one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of the check's issuance and does not contact Settlement Administrator concerning the check.

The Settlement Administrator shall provide weekly reports to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel regarding the number of checks cashed and the total value of Settlement Payments remaining uncashed.

37. Waiver of Liability. No person shall have any claim against the Parties or the Settlement Administrator based on mailings, distributions, and payments made in accordance with this Settlement or any order of the Court. The Settlement Administrator is not and shall not be deemed to be an employee or agent of any Party.

III. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION

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- 38. Appointment of Third Party Administrator. The Parties have agreed to petition the Court for appointment of CPT Group, Inc. to administer the Settlement of the Action under the terms of this Settlement (the "Settlement Administrator"). The Parties each represent that they do not have any financial interest in the Settlement Administrator or otherwise have a relationship with the Settlement Administrator that could create a conflict of interest. The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for:
- (a) Mailing the Notice Packet in English and Spanish to the Class Members as directed by the Court;
- (b) Consulting with counsel for the Parties concerning any relevant issue, including (without limitation) the estimated amounts of approximate Individual Settlement Awards, and the acceptance of any late or deficient Notices;
 - (c) Keeping track of timely and proper requests for exclusion;
- (d) Notifying counsel for the Parties in writing of the number of valid Claims, deficient Claims, and late Claims on a regularly weekly basis;
- (e) Calculation and distribution of Individual Settlement Awards and PAGA

 Payments to each Settlement Class Member and the California Labor and Workforce

 Development Agency;
- (f) Providing weekly status reports to counsel for the Parties, including: (i) the number of Notice Packets mailed; (ii) the number of Notice Packets remailed (with updated address information provided only to Defendant's Counsel), (iii) the number of valid Notices received; (iv) the number of objections received; (v) the number of requests for exclusion received; (vi) the aggregate amount of Individual Settlement Awards claimed by Settlement

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Class Members; and (vii) weekly reports to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel regarding the number of checks cashed and the total value of Settlement Payments remaining uncashed.

- (g) No later than ten (10) business days before the final approval hearing preparing and serving on counsel for the Parties, for filing with the Court in support of Plaintiff's motion for final approval, a declaration of due diligence setting forth its compliance with its obligations under this Settlement;
- (h) Notifying Counsel for Defendant in a timely manner of the wiring instructions for the Deposit of the Gross Settlement Funds, as approved by the Court, which shall be paid by Defendant to the Settlement Administrator pursuant to the terms of Paragraph 24;
- (i) Distributing and reporting the Individual Settlement Awards, PAGA Payment, Enhancement Award, Fee Award, Expense Award, Administration Costs, and Employer Taxes, as may be ordered by the Court or as otherwise necessary;
- (j) Issuing a W-2 Form to each Settlement Class Member for the wage portion of each Individual Settlement Award, a 1099 Form to each Settlement Class Member for the interest, penalties, and non-wage portion of each Individual Settlement Award, including PAGA Payments, a 1099 Form to Plaintiff for the Enhancement Award, a 1099 Form to Class Counsel for the Fee Award and Expense Award, and a 1099 Form to the Settlement Administrator for the Administration Costs;
- (k) Within ten business days of completion of administration of the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will provide a written declaration under oath to certify such completion to the Court and counsel for all Parties. The Settlement Administrator will be

solely responsible for that filing, and the Settlement Administrator's failure to comply with this requirement will not affect the settlement's validity; and

- (l) Such other tasks as the Parties mutually agree or the Court orders the Settlement Administrator to perform, including responding to questions from Class Members
- 39. <u>Resolution of Disputes</u>. All disputes relating to the Settlement Administrator's duties may be referred to the Court, if necessary, which will have continuing jurisdiction over this Settlement until all obligations contemplated by this Settlement have been fully carried out.

IV. NOTICE TO THE CLASS

40. Class List. Within ten (10) business days following the date of preliminary approval, Defendant will provide the Settlement Administrator with the names, most recent known mailing address, telephone number, and social security number of each Class Member, dates of employment and the total number of Qualifying Pay Periods of each Class Member during the Class Period and PAGA Period (collectively the "Class List"). Each Class Member's total Qualifying Pay Periods will be derived from Defendant's records. Based on the information provided by Defendant, the Settlement Administrator shall estimate/calculate: (a) the Net Settlement Fund, (b) the Individual Settlement Payment for each Settlement Class Member based on the formula set forth in Paragraph 22, (c) the amount of the Individual Settlement Payment to be allocated to wages and interest and penalties based on the formula specified in Paragraph 30, (d) the PAGA Payment amount for each Class Member; (e) the employer share of the payroll taxes applicable to the Net Settlement Fund allocated to wages; and (f) the employee tax withholding amount based on the allocation of each Individual Settlement Payment to wages.

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The Class List will be treated as confidential by the Settlement Administrator and will not be disclosed by the Settlement Administrator to anyone, except as may be required to applicable tax authorities, pursuant to the express written consent of Defendant, by order of the Court, or as may be necessary to carry out the reasonable steps described in this Settlement to locate missing Class Members. In no event will the Settlement Administrator provide the Class List to Class Counsel unless specifically authorized in writing by Defense Counsel.

41. Notice of Settlement: Within thirty (30) calendar days after preliminary approval, the Settlement Administrator shall mail a copy of the Notice Packet in English and Spanish, in the form approved by the Court in its preliminary approval order, to all persons shown by Defendant's records to be Class Members, via first class U.S. mail, using the most current mailing address available. The Notice Packet shall state the total approximate amount each Class Member is estimated to be entitled to receive as his or her Individual Settlement Award under the Settlement as set forth above in Paragraph 22. Any Notice Packets returned to the Settlement Administrator as undelivered and bearing a forwarding address shall be re-mailed by the Settlement Administrator within three days following receipt of the returned mail. For any Notice Packets returned to the Settlement Administrator without a forwarding address, the Settlement Administrator shall first conduct a National Change of Address search as required for undeliverable notices, followed by a computer/SSN and "skip trace" search to obtain an updated address, and shall promptly re-mail the Notice Packets to any newly-found address or addresses. The re-mailed Notice Packet shall be identical to the original Notice Packet. The time period to request exclusion or object shall not be extended on account of a returned or undeliverable Notice Packet. The Settlement Administrator and counsel for the Parties shall undertake all reasonable efforts to locate and verify the addresses of Class Members and send a

copy of the Notice Packet to all Class Members. It is the intent of the Parties that reasonable means be used to locate Class Members and that the Claim Administrator be given discretion to take steps in order to facilitate notice of the Settlement to the Class and delivery of the Individual Settlement Payments to Settlement Class Members and the PAGA payment to Class Members. If after any re-mailing, the Notice of Settlement is again returned undeliverable, the process will end and such Class Member will be deemed to have elected to participate in the Settlement without any objection to the Settlement. Any costs incurred by having the Settlement Administrator handle these administrative tasks shall be included in the Administration Costs approved by the Court. In the event that the Court does not grant final approval of the Settlement, the Parties agree to split 50% of all costs incurred by the Settlement Administrator.

- Administrator indicating the Pay Periods the Class Member contends were actually worked during the Class Period. All challenges must be postmarked no later than the last day of the Objection/Exclusion Period. The Settlement Administrator may reject any challenge not supported by such evidence. If a dispute arises over the number of Qualifying Pay Periods listed in the Notice based on evidence produced by a Class Member, Defendant will be asked to manually review their payroll and personnel records to verify the correct number of Qualifying Pay Periods. The records of Defendant shall have a rebuttable presumption of correctness and will be presumed determinative. The Settlement Administrator's determination shall be final and binding. The Court will not review any such disputes.
- 43. <u>Deficiency Notice</u>. The Settlement Administrator shall send a Deficiency Notice to Class Members for any irregularities in their completed Notices, which will provide the Class

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Members with no more than fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of mailing the Deficiency Notice to cure the deficiency, even if after the Objection/Exclusion Period. This 15-day period shall not be extended or waived by the Settlement Administrator unless mutually agreed to in writing by the Parties or as ordered by the Court.

- 44. Procedure for Objecting or Requesting Exclusion. The Parties agree that Plaintiff may not opt out of the Settlement Class or file an objection to the Settlement, but that any other Class Member or person purporting to act on behalf of a Class Member who wishes to object to the Settlement, or to be excluded from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement must submit a timely written objection or request for exclusion using the following procedures:
- (a) The Notice shall provide that any Class Member or person purporting to act on behalf of any Class Member, who does not timely submit a request for exclusion, and wishes to object to the Settlement must serve the Settlement Administrator a written statement objecting to the Settlement postmarked no later than sixty (60) calendar days from the date the Notice Packet is mailed by the Settlement Administrator (the Objection/Exclusion Period). If a Class Member's notice is re-mailed, the Class Member shall have sixty (60) days from the date of the initial mailing, in which to postmark a request for exclusion, a challenge, or objection. Class Members shall not be required to submit claim forms in order to receive a proportional share of the Net Settlement Fund.
- (b) The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for sending copies of any written comments or objections to Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel within three (3) days of receipt and Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel shall be responsible for ensuring copies of all written comments or objections received by them from the Settlement Administrator are filed with the Court. In order for a Class Member to object to this Agreement,

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or any term of it, he or she must not submit a request for exclusion (i.e., must not opt-out). Anyone who objects to this Agreement or Settlement or any portion thereof shall be bound by the order of the Court. Counsel for the Parties shall file any response to the objections submitted by objecting Class Members at least five (5) court days before the date of the Final Fairness and Approval Hearing. The Court retains final authority with respect to the consideration and admissibility of any objections.

(c) A Class Member who fails to serve a written objection in the manner specified above may be deemed to have waived any objections and may be foreclosed from making any objection to the Settlement, whether by appeal or otherwise. Regardless of a Class Member's failure to comply with these objection procedures, the Court may permit a Class Member to comment on the Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing. Further, as recent government quarantine orders may make it difficult or impossible for Class Members to attend the final fairness hearing in person, Class Members may attend by telephone, as set forth in the Notice.

themselves from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement must serve the Settlement Administrator with a timely written statement requesting exclusion from the Settlement Class. Such written request for exclusion should contain the name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting exclusion, the signature of the person, and state, in effect, the following:

I WISH TO BE EXCLUDED (OPT OUT) FROM THE NON-PAGA PORTION OF THE SETTLEMENT IN THE CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT AGAINST DEFENDANT. I UNDERSTAND BY REQUESTING EXCLUSION (OPTING OUT) FROM THE

SETTLEMENT, I WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

PROCEEDS. The written request to be excluded must be sent to the Settlement Administrator via U.S. Mail and postmarked no later than sixty (60) calendar days from the date the Notice Packet is mailed by the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall provide Defendant's Counsel the names of individuals who make timely requests for exclusion. No request for exclusion will be accepted by the Settlement Administrator if postmarked after the last day of the Objection/Exclusion Period.

(e) Class Members who properly and timely submit a request for exclusion to the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement will not be bound by the Settlement except as set forth in Paragraph 50 and subsection (f) of this Paragraph will not receive a *pro rata* distribution from the Net Settlement Fund but will receive their *pro rata* share of the PAGA portion of the Settlement as set forth in Paragraph 29, above, and will not have standing to object to and/or appeal: (i) the Settlement, (ii) the Class Representative's motion for preliminary and final approval of the Settlement, and (iii) Defendant will retain all of its rights to defend against such Class Members' claims.

- (f) Class Members who timely submit a request for exclusion to the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement will be bound by the order of the Court, to the extent it addresses and releases all PAGA claims.
- (g) Class Members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion in the manner described herein shall automatically become Settlement Class Members and be bound by all terms of the Settlement and final approval order regardless of whether they have otherwise requested exclusion from the Settlement.
- (h) No later than fourteen (14) days before the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator shall file a declaration under penalty of perjury advising the Court

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with a complete list of all members of the Class who have timely and validly requested exclusion from Settlement.

- (i) If any Class Member who timely submits an objection, as determined by the Court, files a notice of appeal of the final approval order within the time period permitted by law, Defendant shall not be required to fund any portion of the Gross Settlement Fund, and the Settlement Administrator shall not distribute or pay any monies, until any such appeal(s) affirm the Settlement without modification (unless the modification only relates to a reduction of the Fee Award, Expense Award or Enhancement Award) or are dismissed with prejudice.
- 45. <u>Reminder Notice</u>. Fifteen (15) calendar days following the initial mailing of the Notice Packet to the Class, the Settlement Administrator will mail to each Class Member who has not requested exclusion from the settlement a postcard in English and Spanish reminding them of the deadline to request exclusion from the Settlement.
- 46. No Solicitation of Class Members. The Parties agree to use their best efforts to carry out the terms of this Settlement. Neither the Parties nor their counsel or agents will contact Class Members for the purpose of attempting to influence them to participate or not to participate in this Settlement. However, if contacted by a Class Member, counsel for the Parties and representatives of Defendant may provide information or assistance regarding any aspect of the Settlement requested by the Class Member. At no time shall any of the Parties or their counsel, agents, or representatives solicit or otherwise encourage Class Members or any other persons (including but not limited to the LWDA) to submit written objections to the Settlement or requests for exclusion from the Settlement, or encourage Class Members or any other person to appeal from the final approval order.

V. <u>RELEASES</u>

47. Release by Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members. As of the Effective Date, Plaintiff and all Settlement Class Members (on behalf of themselves and their respective agents, representatives, attorneys, heirs, executors, administrators, successors in interest, and assigns) irrevocably and unconditionally fully release and forever discharge Defendant and all of their respective former, present, and future owners, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, related entities including but not limited to Neal T. Baker Enterprises, Inc., joint venturers, partners, corporations in common control, co-employers, service providers, predecessors, successors, and assigns, and past, present, and future officers, directors, employees, partners, shareholders, agents, associates, representatives, attorneys, insurers, and any other successors, assigns, or legal representatives of any of them (collectively the "Released Parties"), from claims alleged in the Action and any and all other claims, causes of action, demands, injuries, grievances, obligations, losses, damages penalties, interest, fines, debts, liens, liabilities, attorneys' fees, costs, and any other form of relief or remedy in law or equity, of any type whatsoever, whether known, should have been known or unknown, foreseen, should have been foreseen or unforeseen, anticipated, should have been anticipated or unanticipated, suspected, should have been suspected or unsuspected or latent, that occurred on or before the Effective Date of the Settlement that could reasonably have been brought based on, related to, or arising out of facts alleged in the Action or any theory that could have been brought based on facts in the Action, including without limitation, any claims under any California statute, regulation, rule or common law, or any other legal or equitable theory alleging any failure to comply with any wage and hour requirements, pay wages, overtime, travel time, and/or minimum wages for all hours worked, provide meal and rest breaks, pay premium pay for missed meal and rest breaks, pay all wages within the required time period upon discharge/termination, timely pay all wages during employment, pay all wages during employment, provide complete and accurate wage statements, keep complete and accurate payroll records, as well as any and all claims for liquidated or punitive damages, statutory and civil penalties, attorneys' fees or costs and expenses associated therewith, whether at common law, pursuant to statute, ordinance or regulation, in equity or otherwise, and whether

arising under federal, state or other applicable law; including, but not limited to, California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and 2698, et seq., and Business and Professions Code section 17200, et seq., and any applicable IWC Wage Orders ("Released Claims"). Released Claims also include any claim against Defendant for attorneys' fees or costs/expenses associated with Class Counsel's representation of the Plaintiff and Class. The Parties will meet and confer in good faith if the Court requires changes to the scope of the Released Claims.

- 48. <u>No Assignment</u>. Plaintiff and Settlement Class Members acknowledge that they have not heretofore assigned or transferred to or purported to assign or transfer to any person or entity the Released Claims or any part or portion thereof. Plaintiff and Settlement Class Members agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any claim, demand, controversy, damage, debt, liability, account, reckoning, obligation, cost, expense, lien, action or cause of action (including the payment of attorneys' fees and costs actually incurred whether or not litigation commenced) based on, in connection with, or arising out of any assignment or transfer or claimed assignment or transfer thereof.
- 49. <u>Labor Code Section 206.5.</u> Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Settlement Class Members, acknowledge and agree that the claims for unpaid wages in the Action, and untimely payment of wages in the Action, are disputed, and that the payments set forth herein constitute payment of all sums allegedly due to them. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Settlement Class Members, acknowledges and agrees that California Labor Code Section 206.5 is not applicable to the Parties hereto. That section provides in pertinent part as follows:

An employer shall not require the execution of any release of any claim or right on account of wages due, or to become due, or made as an advance on wages to be earned, unless payment of those wages has been made.

50. Release of PAGA Claims. As of the Effective Date, Class Members who timely and validly exclude themselves from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement, on behalf of each

of them and each of their respective agents, representatives, attorneys, heirs, executors, administrators, successors in interest, and assigns) irrevocably and unconditionally fully release and forever discharge the Released Parties from the PAGA claims (Labor Code section 2698, et seq., alleged in the Action whether known, should have been known or unknown, foreseen, should have been foreseen or unforeseen, anticipated, should have been anticipated or unanticipated, suspected, should have been suspected or unsuspected or latent, that occurred on or before the Effective Date of the Settlement that could reasonably have been brought based on, related to or arising out of facts alleged in the Action ("PAGA Released Claims").

51. Additional General Release of All Claims by Plaintiff. As of the Effective Date, Plaintiff (on his own behalf and on behalf of his agents, representatives, attorneys, heirs, executors, administrators, successors in interest, and assigns) knowingly and voluntarily releases and forever discharges the Released Parties from any and all claims, obligations, demands, causes of action, and liabilities of whatever kind and nature, character, and description, whether in law or equity, whether sounding in tort, contract, federal, state and/or local law, statute, ordinance, regulation, common law, or other source of law, whether known or unknown, and whether anticipated or unanticipated, including unknown claims covered by Civil Code § 1542, by Plaintiff, arising during the period from the beginning of Plaintiff's dates of employment with Defendant to the Effective Date, for any type of relief, including, without limitation, claims for wages, damages, unpaid costs, penalties (including civil and waiting time penalties), liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, attorneys' fees, litigation costs, restitution, or equitable relief with the sole exception of any claims which cannot be released as a matter of law ("Plaintiff's Released Claims"). Plaintiff's Released Claims include, but are not limited to, the Released Claims (as defined above in Paragraph 47), breaches of contract,

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whether written, oral or implied; violations of any public policy; tort claims, including but not limited to intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligent infliction of emotional distress, defamation, misrepresentation, and fraud; retaliation claims; common law claims; any other claims for damages, costs, fees, or other expenses, including attorneys' fees; and any violations of the following statutes, laws, and regulations: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; The Civil Rights Act of 1991; Sections 1981 through 1988 of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended; the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended; the Occupational Safety and Health Act, as amended; the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002; the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended; the Fair Labor Standards Act; the California Fair Employment and Housing Act – Cal. Gov't Code § 12900, et seq.; the California Family Rights Act – Cal. Govt. Code §12945.2 et seg.; the California Unruh Civil Rights Act – Civ. Code § 51, et seg.; the California Whistleblower Protection Law – Cal. Lab. Code §1102-5(a) to (c); the California Occupational Safety and Health Act, as amended, California Labor Code § 6300, et seq., and any applicable regulations thereunder; the California Labor Code; the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 – Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2698, et seq.; California Labor Code § 132a; and any other federal, state, or local civil employment law, statute, regulation, or ordinance capable of being released by Plaintiff, excluding any claims that cannot be released as a matter of law.

52. <u>California Civil Code section 1542</u>. To effect a full and complete general release as described above, Plaintiff expressly waives and relinquishes all rights and benefits of California Civil Code section 1542, and does so understanding and acknowledging the

significance and consequence of specifically waiving rights under Civil Code section 1542, which states as follows:

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A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

Thus, notwithstanding the provisions of Civil Code section 1542, and to implement a

full and complete release and discharge, Plaintiff expressly acknowledges this Settlement is intended to include in its effect, without limitation, all known and unknown claims, including any claims that he does not know or suspect to exist in his favor against the Released Parties at the time of signing this Settlement, and that this Settlement contemplates the extinguishment of any such claim or claims. Plaintiff acknowledges he may later discover facts different from or in addition to those he now knows or believes to be true regarding the matters released or described in this Settlement, and nonetheless agrees that the releases and agreements contained in this Settlement shall remain fully effective in all respects notwithstanding any later discovery of any different or additional facts. Plaintiff assumes any and all risks of any mistake in connection with the true facts involved in the matters, disputes, or controversies described in this Settlement or with regard to any facts now unknown to Plaintiff relating to those matters.

Plaintiff acknowledges that he has not heretofore assigned or transferred to or purported to assign or transfer to any person or entity Plaintiff's Released Claims or any part or portion thereof. Plaintiff agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any claim, demand, controversy, damage, debt, liability, account, reckoning, obligation, cost,

expense, lien, action or cause of action (including the payment of attorneys' fees and costs

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actually incurred whether or not litigation commenced) based on, in connection with, or arising out of any assignment or transfer or claimed assignment or transfer thereof.

The Parties will meet and confer in good faith if the Court requires changes to the scope of the release.

VI. JUDICIAL APPROVALS

- 53. <u>Duties of Parties Prior to Preliminary Approval</u>. Plaintiff shall request a hearing before the Court to seek preliminary approval of the Settlement on the earliest practical date following execution of this Settlement. In conjunction with such hearing, Plaintiff will provide the Court with this Settlement, and any other documents necessary to implement the Settlement. Simultaneously with the filing of this Settlement, and solely for purposes of this Settlement, Plaintiff will request that the Court enter a Preliminary Approval Order (substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**) for the purpose of:
 - (a) Preliminarily approving the proposed Settlement;
- (b) Provisionally certifying the Class and approving the Class Period for settlement purposes only;
- (c) Approving The Spivak Law Firm and United Employees Law Group to serve as Class Counsel and Plaintiff David Jaimes as Class Representative;
- (d) Providing Notice of the Settlement and related matters, including the Notice, to be disseminated to Class Members as specified herein or as may otherwise by ordered by the Court, provided that such order is also acceptable to the Parties and consistent with the terms of this Settlement; and
 - (e) Scheduling a final approval hearing.

Defendant will not oppose these requests so long as they are consistent with this Settlement Agreement.

- 54. <u>Duties of Parties Following Preliminary Approval</u>. Following preliminary approval, notice to the Class and an opportunity for objection, a final approval hearing shall be held on a date set by the Court. In connection with the final approval hearing, the Parties shall file such papers with the Court as either their counsel or the Court may determine to be necessary. Plaintiff's counsel shall file proof of notice to the Class before the final approval hearing and will submit a proposed final approval order and judgment for review by the Court (substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**) for the purpose of:
- (a) Approving the settlement, adjudging the terms to be fair, reasonable and adequate, and directing consummation of its terms and provisions;
- (b) Approving Class Counsel's application for the Expense Award, the Fee Award, the Enhancement Award, the PAGA Payment, and Administration Costs as set forth herein; and
- (c) Entering a final approval order and judgment as final disposition of the Action in its entirety, intended to be immediately appealable. Upon entry of the final approval order and judgment, each and every Settlement Class Member shall be deemed to have conclusively released and forever discharged the Released Parties for any and all Released Claims, and shall be permanently barred and enjoined from the institution or prosecution of any and all Released Claims against the Released Parties, except as to such rights or claims as may be created by the Settlement. It is expressly agreed by the Parties that the Court will retain jurisdiction over the Action only: (i) to enforce the terms of this Settlement; (ii) address any

settlement administration matters that may arise; and (iii) address such post-Judgment matters as may be appropriate under the Court's rules or applicable law.

- 55. <u>Right to Void Settlement</u>. A Party will have the right but not the obligation to reject the Settlement as follows:
- (a) If the Court declines to approve any material term or condition of this Settlement, including without limitation the provision that any amounts not awarded for the Fee Award and Expense Award or Enhancement Award shall be and remain in the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to Settlement Class Members, then this entire Settlement shall be void and unenforceable as to all Parties herein, at the option of any Party, within thirty (30) calendar days of mailing notice of the Court's action;
- (b) If five percent (5%) or more of the total number of all Class Members timely complete and serve valid requests for exclusion from the settlement (opt out), then Defendant will have the right to void the Settlement within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving notice of the number of exclusions and Defendant will have no further obligations under the Settlement, including any obligation to pay the Gross Settlement Amount, or any amounts that otherwise would have been owed under the Settlement, except that Defendant will pay the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses incurred as of the date that Defendant exercises its right to void the Settlement;
- (c) If the Court does not grant final approval of the Settlement or grants final approval conditioned on any material change to the terms of the Settlement with respect to increasing the payments to be made to Qualified Claimants, and/or decreasing the scope of the release of claims, then Defendant will have the right to void this Settlement and the Parties will have no further obligations under the Settlement, including any obligation by Defendant to pay

the Gross Settlement Amount or any amounts that otherwise would have been owed under the Settlement. In this event, Defendant and Class Counsel will each pay one-half of the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses incurred as of the void date. An award by the Court of a lesser amount than that sought by Plaintiffs and Class Counsel for the Enhancement Payment, Class Counsel Attorneys' Fees or Litigation Costs, will not constitute a material modification to the Settlement; or

(d) If after a notice of appeal, a petition for review, or a petition for certiorari, or any other motion, petition, or application, the reviewing court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment such that there is a material modification to the Settlement, and that court's decision is not completely reversed and the Judgment is not fully affirmed on review by a higher court, then either Party will have the right to void the Settlement and neither Party will have any further obligations under the Settlement/Agreement, including any obligation by Defendant to pay the Gross Settlement Amount or any amounts that otherwise would have been owed under the Settlement. In such event, Defendant and Class Counsel will each pay one-half of the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses incurred as of the void date. A vacation, reversal, or modification of the Court's award of the Enhancement Payment or Class Counsel Attorneys' Fees or Litigation Costs will not constitute a vacation, reversal, or material modification of the Judgment.

If either Plaintiff or Defendant decide to exercise their rights under (a) - (d), such Party must notify the other Party's Counsel and the Court no later than fourteen (14) court days after the triggering event.

The Parties agree that before either Party elects to exercise its right to void the agreement, the Party must meet and confer in good faith with the other Party to determine if an agreement can be reached modifying the Settlement to the mutual satisfaction of the Parties.

56. If the Settlement does not become final for any reason, this Settlement shall be null and void *ab initio*, no Party shall be bound by the terms thereof, and this Settlement shall not be admissible or offered into evidence in the litigation or any other action for any purpose whatsoever, and any order or judgment entered by the Court in furtherance of this Settlement shall be treated as withdrawn or vacated by stipulation of the Parties. In such case, the Parties shall be returned to their respective positions as of the date immediately prior to the execution of this Settlement, and the Parties shall proceed in all respects as if this Settlement had not been executed, and Defendant shall have no obligation to make any payments to Plaintiff, Counsel for Plaintiff, the LWDA, the Settlement Administrator or any Class Member. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an appeal of, a modification of, a reversal on appeal, or the reduction of any Fee Award and Expense Award or Enhancement Award shall not constitute grounds for cancellation and termination of this Settlement.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

57. <u>Voluntary Nature</u>. The Parties acknowledge they have entered into this Settlement voluntarily, on the basis of their own judgment and without coercion, duress, or undue influence of any Party, and not in reliance on any promises, representations, or statements made by the other Parties other than those contained in this Settlement. Each of the Parties hereto expressly waives any right he/it might ever have to claim that this Settlement was in any way induced by fraud.

58. <u>Informed Consent</u>. Prior to execution of this Settlement, each Party has read this entire Settlement and been given the opportunity to consult with independent counsel of their choosing and to have such independent counsel advise as to the meaning of this Settlement and its legal effect.

- 59. <u>Authority</u>. The signatories hereby represent that they are fully authorized to enter into this Settlement and to bind the Parties hereto to the terms and conditions hereof.
- 60. <u>Cooperation</u>. The Parties agree to fully cooperate with each other to accomplish the terms of this Settlement, including but not limited to, execution of such documents and to take such other action as may reasonably be necessary to implement the terms of this Settlement. The Parties shall use their reasonably best efforts, including all efforts contemplated by this Settlement and any other efforts that may become necessary by order of the Court, or otherwise, to effectuate this Settlement and the terms set forth herein.
- 61. No Admissions. Nothing contained herein is to be construed or deemed an admission of liability on the part of Defendant. Defendant denies any liability or wrongdoing of any kind associated with the claims alleged by Plaintiff, and further contend that, for any purpose other than settlement, this Action is not appropriate for class treatment. Defendant contends, among other things, that it complied at all times with all applicable state and federal laws, rules, regulations and orders. Plaintiff believes he filed a meritorious action, and that the requisites for class certification can be satisfied in this case. Each Party hereto has entered into this Settlement with the intention to avoid further disputes and the expense and inconvenience of continued litigation.
- 62. <u>Publicity</u>. The Parties and their counsel agree that they will not, unless required by law, issue any press releases or have any communications with the press concerning this

litigation, one another, and/or Defendant's business practices. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel will not publicize the Settlement and will not communicate the terms of the Settlement to any other person outside the Action, including members of the press, news media, etc. (including organizations that publicize verdicts and settlements). Plaintiff and Class Counsel further agree that they shall not promote, or publicize the Settlement with anyone other than the Court, and in particular agree that they will not issue any press releases, engage in any communications, or take any other action that would provide the press or media or any litigation reporting service with information about this Action or the Settlement, or otherwise enable or allow the press or other media or any litigation reporting service to learn or obtain such information. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel further agree that if contacted regarding this case, they will state only that the matter is resolved. Nothing herein shall be interpreted as preventing any good-faith communications by any Counsel for the Parties and/or any Parties with the Court, Class Members, or the Settlement Administrator for the sole purpose of facilitating the Settlement of the Action.

- 63. <u>Construction</u>. The Parties agree that this Settlement is the result of lengthy, intensive arms-length negotiations between the Parties and that this Settlement shall not be construed in favor of or against any Party by reason of the extent to which that Party has participated in the drafting of this Settlement.
- 64. <u>Captions and Interpretations</u>. Paragraph titles or captions contained herein appear as a matter of convenience and for reference, and in no way define the scope of this Settlement or any provision hereof.
- 65. <u>Modifications</u>. This Settlement may not be changed, altered, or modified, except in writing and signed by the Parties hereto as approved by the Court. This Settlement may not

be discharged except by performance in accordance with its terms or by a writing signed by the Parties hereto as approved by the Court.

- 66. <u>Waiver</u>. No waiver of any of the terms of this Settlement shall be valid unless in writing and signed by the Party to this Settlement against whom such waiver is sought to be enforced. The waiver by any Party to any provision of this Settlement shall not operate or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach by any Party, nor shall any waiver operate or be construed as a rescission of this Settlement.
- 67. <u>Integration</u>. This Settlement and its Exhibits constitute the entire Settlement of the Parties with respect to the matters discussed herein, and no oral or written representations, warranties, or inducements have been made to any Party concerning this Settlement or its Exhibits other than the representations, warranties, and covenants contained and memorialized in such documents. All prior or contemporaneous negotiations, agreements, understandings, and representations, whether written or oral, are expressly superseded hereby and are of no further force and effect. Each of the Parties acknowledges that it has not relied on any promise, representation, or warranty, express or implied, not contained in this Settlement.
- 68. <u>No Prior Assignments</u>. This Settlement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective heirs, trustees, executors, administrators and successors. The Parties hereto represent, covenant, and warrant they have not directly or indirectly, assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity any portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action or rights herein released and discharged except as set forth herein.
- 69. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Settlement is made and entered into under the laws of the State of California, and shall be interpreted, applied and enforced under those laws (including

California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6), and any litigation concerning this Settlement shall be in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Bernardino.

- 70. <u>Execution</u>. This Settlement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be an original, provided that counsel for the Parties shall exchange among themselves original signed counterparts.
- 71. <u>Meet and Confer Regarding Disputes</u>. Should any dispute arise among the Parties or their respective counsel regarding the implementation or interpretation of this Agreement, a representative of Class Counsel and a representative of Defendant's Counsel shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve such disputes prior to submitting such disputes to the Court.
- 72. <u>Agreement Binding on Successors</u>. This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors in interest of each of the Parties.
- 73. <u>Cooperation in Drafting</u>. The Parties have cooperated in the negotiation and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party, or the Party's counsel, was the drafter or participated in the drafting of this Agreement.
- 74. <u>Fair Settlement</u>. Plaintiff, Defendant, Class Counsel, and Defendant's Counsel believe that this Agreement reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Action and have arrived at this Agreement through arm's-length negotiation, taking into account all relevant factors, current and potential, and is consistent with public policy, and fully complies with applicable provisions of law.

1	75. <u>Headings</u> . The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this
2	Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this
3	Agreement and shall not be considered in interpreting this Agreement.
4	76. <u>Notice</u> . All notices, demands, or other communications given under this
5	Agreement must be in writing and addressed as follows:
6	
7	To Plaintiff and the Class:
8	David Spivak Carl Kaplan
9	THE SPIVAK LAW FIRM
10	16530 Ventura Blvd., Ste 203 Encino, CA 91436
11	Telephone (818) 582-3086
12	Facsimile (818) 582-2561
13	And
14	
15	To Defendant:
16	Veronica M. Gray Allison Callaghan
17	NOSSAMAN LLP
18	18101 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1800 Irvine, CA 92612
19	Telephone: (949) 833-7800 Facsimile: (949) 833-7878
20	1 acsimile. (747) 655-7676
21	And
22	Tyler Woods FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP
23	2050 Main Street, Suite 1000
24	Irvine, CA 92614 Telephone (949) 798-2117
25	Facsimile (949) 851-0152
26	77. <u>Authorization to Act</u> . Class Counsel warrants and represents that they are

authorized by Class Representatives/Plaintiffs, and Defense Counsel warrants that they are

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authorized by Defendant, to take all appropriate action required to effectuate the terms of this Agreement, except for signing the documents, including but not limited to this Agreement, that are required to be signed by the Parties.

- No Reliance on Representations. The Parties have made such investigation of the facts and the law pertaining to the matters described herein and to this Agreement as they deem necessary, and have not relied, and do not rely, on any statement, promise, or representation of fact or law, made by any of the other Parties, or any of their agents, employees, attorneys, or representatives, with regard to any of their rights or asserted rights, or with regard to the advisability of making and executing this Agreement, or with respect to any other matters. No representations, warranties, or inducements have been made to any Party concerning this Agreement.
- 79. Injunction Against Duplicative Claims. Upon Preliminary Approval of the Settlement Agreement, all Class Members who do not opt out of the Settlement Class shall be enjoined from filing, joining, or becoming a party, member or representative in any actions, claims, complaints, or proceedings in any state or federal court on an individual, representative, collective or class action basis, or with the California Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Labor Standards Enforcement ("DLSE") or the United States Department of Labor ("DOL"), or from initiating any other proceedings, regarding any of the Released Claims defined hereinabove. Further, any related pending actions, claims, complaints, or proceedings in any state or federal court or with the DLSE or DOL, shall be stayed until the Class Members have had an opportunity to decide to participate, object or file a request for exclusion from this Settlement. In addition, upon Preliminary Approval of the Settlement Agreement, all Class Members (regardless of whether they opt-out) shall be enjoined from filing, joining, or

becoming a party, member or representative in any actions, claims, complaints, or proceedings 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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in any state or federal court on an individual, representative, collective or class action basis, or with the DLSE or the DOL, or from initiating any other proceedings, regarding any of the Released Claims defined hereinabove to the extent the such actions, claims, complaints, or proceedings are based on the PAGA claims released via this Settlement. This Agreement is conditioned upon the full release by all Settlement Class Members, other than those who submit a valid request for exclusion, as described hereinabove; and a full release of all PAGA claims covered by this Settlement regardless of whether a Class Member validly excludes himself or herself from the non-PAGA portion of this Settlement.

- 80. Collateral Attack and Res Judicata. This Agreement shall not be subject to collateral attack by any Settlement Class and PAGA Member or any recipient of the Notice of Settlement under this Agreement after the Judgment is entered. Such prohibited collateral attacks shall include but are not limited to claims that the procedures for claims administration were incorrect, or the Settlement Class Member failed for any reason to receive timely notice of the procedure to dispute the calculation of Qualifying Pay Periods.
- 81. Non-Evidentiary Use. Whether or not the Final Effective Date occurs, neither this Agreement nor any of its terms nor the Settlement itself will be: (a) construed as, offered, or admitted in evidence as, received as, or deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to Defendant or any other of the Defendant's Released Parties, including but not limited to, evidence of a presumption, concession, indication, or admission by any of the Defendant's Released Parties of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, or damage, or (b) disclosed, referred to, or offered in evidence against any of the Defendant's Released Parties in any further proceeding in the Action, except for the purposes of effectuating the Settlement

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1	pursuant to this Agreement or for Defendant to establish that a Settlement Class Member has			
2	resolved any of his/her claims released through this Agreement.			
3	82. <u>Signatories</u> . The Parties agree that, because the Class Members are so numerous			
4	it is impossible or impractical to have each Settlement Class Member execute this Settlement.			
5	Therefore, the Notice Packet will infor	rm all Class Members of the binding nature of the releases		
6 7	contained in this Settlement and shall	have the same force and effect as if this Settlement were		
8	executed by each Settlement Class Me	ember.		
9				
10	IN WITNESS WHEREOF: the	e undersigned have duly executed this Settlement as of the		
11	date set forth below:			
12				
13	Dated: 08 / 25 / 2020	Dai		
14		David Jaimes Plaintiff and Class Representative		
15				
16		Baker's Burgers, Inc., a California corporation		
17 18				
19	Dated:	By: Jason Talley, Chief Executive Officer,		
20		for Baker's Burgers, Inc., Defendant		
21				
22		THE SPIVAK LAW FIRM		
23	08 / 26 / 2020	$\bigotimes \cdot \setminus \circ \cdot I$		
24	Dated:, 2019	By:		
25		Attorneys for Plaintiff,		
26		DAVID JAIMES		
27		THE UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP		
28		THE CIVILED EARL DO LEED EARLY GROOT		

1	pursuant to this Agreement or for Defendant to establish that a Settlement Class Member has			
2	resolved any of his/her claims released through this Agreement.			
3	82. <u>Signatories</u> . The Parties agree that, because the Class Members are so numerous,			
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5	Therefore, the Notice Packet will inform all	Class M	lembers of the binding nature of the releases	
6 7	contained in this Settlement and shall have	the same	e force and effect as if this Settlement were	
8	executed by each Settlement Class Member			
9				
0	IN WITNESS WHEREOF: the unde	rsigned	have duly executed this Settlement as of the	
1	date set forth below:			
12				
13	Dated:			
14			David Jaimes Plaintiff and Class Representative	
16			Baker's Burgers, Inc., a California	
17			corporation	
18	Dated: August 25, 2020	By:	Au Can	
19		,	Jason Talley, Chief Executive Officer, for Baker's Burgers, Inc., Defendant	
20			ter zumer e zungerp, men, zeremum.	
21 22		тие с	PIVAK LAW FIRM	
23		THES	FIVAR LAW FIRM	
24	Dated:, 2019	By:	DAME CONTACT	
25			DAVID SPIVAK Attorneys for Plaintiff,	
26			DAVID JAIMES	
27		THE U	UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP	
28				

1 2 3 4 5	Dated: August 25, 2020	By: Across WALTER HAINES Attorneys for Plaintiff, DAVID JAIMES NOSSAMAN LLP
6		
7	Dated:, 2020	By: VERONICA M. GRAY
8		VERONICA M. GRAY Attorneys for Defendant,
9		BAKER'S BURGERS, INC.
10		
11		FISHER & PHILLPS LLP
12		
13	Dated:, 2020	By:
14		By: TYLER J. WOODS Attorneys for Defendant,
15		BAKER'S BURGERS, INC.
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1	Dated:	_, 2020	By:
2			WALTER HAINES Attorneys for Plaintiff,
3			DAVID JAIMES
5			NOSSAMAN LLP
6			Sponea A May
7			
8	Dated: August 25	_, 2020	By: VERONICA M. GRAY
9			Attorneys for Defendant, BAKER'S BURGERS, INC.
10			DAKER S BORGERS, INC.
11			FISHER & PHILLPS LLP
12			
13	Dated:	2020	By:
14	Buteu.	_, 2020	TYLER J. WOODS
15			Attorneys for Defendant, BAKER'S BURGERS, INC.
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1	Dated:	, 2020	By:
2		·	By:WALTER HAINES
3			Attorneys for Plaintiff, DAVID JAIMES
4			
5			NOSSAMAN LLP
6			
7	Dated:	2020	By:
8	Dated.	, 2020	VERONICA M. GRAY
9			Attorneys for Defendant, BAKER'S BURGERS, INC.
10			,
11			FISHER & PHILLPS LLP
12			
13	Dated: August 25	2020	By: /ylen/woods
14	Dated. August 23	, 2020	TYLER J. WOODS
15			Attorneys for Defendant, BAKER'S BURGERS, INC.
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EXHIBIT 1: NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT



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Employee Rights Attorneys 16530 Ventura Bl. Ste 203 Encino CA 91436 (818) 582-3086 Tel (818) 582-2561 Fax SpivakLaw.com

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NOTICE TO CLASS AND PAGA MEMBERS OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT

AND NOTICE OF FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

JAIMES V. BAKER'S BURGERS, INC. and NEAL T. BAKER ENTERPRISES, INC. SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO (CASE NO. CIV DS 1933423)

IF YOU WORKED FOR BAKER'S BURGERS, INC. ("DEFENDANT") IN CALIFORNIA AS A NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEE DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME FROM DECEMBER 22, 2014 TO <<THE DATE THE COURT GRANTS PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT OR 90 DAYS FROM OCTOBER 15, 2020, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST>> ("CLASS PERIOD"), YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE-IN A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY THIS MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

The purpose of this Notice ("Notice") is to inform you of the proposed settlement ("Settlement") in the above-entitled action ("Action") and your rights under it. You have received this Notice because Defendant's records indicate that you are a Class Member and eligible to participate in the Settlement described in this Notice. "Class Member" is defined in the Settlement as all non-exempt employees of Defendant who worked in California during the Class Period, except for any former employees who previously released the Class Claims. "Class Claims" are defined below in Section 2.

Your estimated Qualifying Pay Periods: <<xxx>>
The Class's estimated Qualifying Pay Periods: <<xxx>>
Your estimated Individual Settlement Share: \$<<xxx>>
Your estimated PAGA Payment: \$<<xxx>>

This is a court-authorized notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- If finally approved by the Court, a proposed Settlement will resolve the above-referenced class action and PAGA representative lawsuit filed against Defendant involving claims under California's labor laws for alleged failure to provide lawful meal periods and rest breaks, alleged failure to pay wages (including claims for time allegedly worked but not compensated, off-the-clock time, unpaid minimum or overtime), alleged failure to timely pay all wages due and owing at the time of termination, alleged failure to provide or maintain accurate wage statements and records, among other allegations, on behalf of all individuals employed by Defendant as, non-exempt employees (including comparable positions) in the State of California from December 22, 2014 to << the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or 90 days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first>> (the "Class Period").
- The proposed Settlement, as conditionally approved by the Court, is a compromise reached by the Parties and the two sides disagree on how much money, if any, might have been awarded if the case proceeded to trial. There has been no finding that Defendant violated the law, or that any of the allegations made in the lawsuit are true. Defendant

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Employee Rights Attorneys 16530 Ventura Bl. Ste 203 Encino CA 91436 (818) 582-3086 Tel (818) 582-2561 Fax SpivakLaw.com denies that it did anything wrong and maintains it complied at all times with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

There is no money available now, and no guarantee there will be. However, your legal rights are affected whether you act or do not act. Read this notice carefully. NO RETALIATION: Defendant will not fire, punish, retaliate, or otherwise discriminate against any person because you choose to participate in this Settlement, choose not to participate, or object to the Settlement.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS LAWSUIT

DO NOTHING	You will be paid your Individual Settlement Payment and you will	
	give up any rights to bring the same claims against Defendant.	
	California law protects employees from retaliation based on their	
	decision to participate in a class action settlement.	
DISPUTE/CHALLENGE	Challenge/Dispute the number of pay periods listed in this Notice.	
THE NUMBER OF	The Settlement Administrator may accept or reject your dispute.	
QUALIFYING PAY	Receive your Individual Settlement Payment and give up any rights	
PERIODS	to sue for the same claims.	
EXCLUDE YOURSELF If you do not want to participate in the non-PAGA portion of the		
	Settlement and receive an Individual Settlement Payment, you may	
	opt-out of any connection with this Action and retain any rights you	
	may have against Defendant, except with respect to PAGA, as	
	explained below.	
Овјест	If you do not exclude yourself you may object to the settlement by	
	submitting an objection explaining why you do not agree with the	
	Settlement. The Court may or may not agree with your objection.	

- Your options and the deadlines to exercise them are explained in this Notice.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to grant final approval of the Settlement. Payments will be made if the Court approves the Settlement and after any appeals are resolved.

 Please be patient.
- Any questions? Read on or call the Court-approved Settlement Administrator, at (000) 000-0000

WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS

BASIC INFORMATION......Page 3

- . Why did I get this notice package?
- 2. What is this lawsuit about?
- 3. What is a class action and who is involved?
- 4. Why is there a settlement?

WHO IS IN THE CLASS SETTLEMENT Page 4

- 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?
- 6. Are there exceptions to being included?
- 7. I'm still not sure if I am included.

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2	8.	What does the settlement provide?	S
2	9.	What am I giving up to get a payment or stay in the Class?	
3	10.	How do I get a payment?	
	11. 12.	When would I get my payment? How much will my payment be?	
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5	EXCLUDING	G YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT	Page 6
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6	14. 15.	If I do not exclude myself, can I sue Defendant for the same thing later? If I exclude myself, can I get money from this lawsuit?	
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8	16.	How do I tell the Court that I do not like the settlement?	
0	17.	What's the difference between objecting and excluding?	
9	 IF VOU DO !	NOTHING	Раде 7
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11		ERS REPRESENTING YOU	Page 7
	19.	Do I have a lawyer in this case?	
12	20. 21.	Should I get my own lawyer? How will the lawyers be paid?	
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BASIC INFORMATION

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Why did I get this notice package?

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Defendant's records show that you currently work, or previously worked, for Defendant as a nonexempt employee in California during the Class Period of December 22, 2014 to << preliminary approval date or 90 days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first>>.

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The San Bernardino County Superior Court (the "Court") preliminarily approved the Settlement on behalf of the Class. The Court has not entered judgment and has not determined that there is any merit to Plaintiff's claims or that Defendant engaged in any wrongdoing in this Action. The Court still has to decide whether to grant final approval of the Settlement. If the Court grants final approval of the Settlement, and after any objections and appeals are resolved, a Settlement Administrator appointed by the Court will make the payments that the Settlement allows.

Plaintiff and Defendant, and their respective counsel, have concluded that the Settlement is fair and in the best interests of the Class Members considering the risks and uncertainties to each side of continued litigation. Because the Settlement will affect your legal rights, the Court ordered that this Notice be sent to you. This Notice will provide you with a brief description of the Action; inform you of the terms of the Settlement; and advise you of your legal rights.

On << preliminary approval order date>>, the Court approved the Plaintiff's motion for an order that does the following:

- 1.) conditionally certifies the Class for settlement purposes only;
- grants preliminary approval of the proposed Settlement; 2.)
- approves this Notice, which includes setting a schedule and procedure for filing 3.) objections and exclusion requests; and
- schedules a final fairness determination hearing for consideration of final Court approval _____, 2020, ______.m. in Dept. S26 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, located at 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 (the "Final Approval Hearing").

The Court file contains the Settlement documents with more information about the lawsuit. The Court does not provide case information via the Internet. On-site public access information terminals are available for researching cases at the Court.

What is this lawsuit about?

The lawsuit is entitled JAIMES V. BAKER'S BURGERS, INC., et al., Civil No. CIV DS 1933423 (the "Action"). The lawsuit alleges Defendant failed to provide lawful meal periods and rest breaks, failed to pay wages (including claims for time allegedly worked but not compensated, off-the-clock work, and unpaid minimum or overtime wages), failed to timely pay all wages due and owing at the time of termination, failed to provide or maintain accurate wage statements and records, and other violations of California law. There has been no finding that Defendant violated the law, or that any of the allegations made in the lawsuit are true. Defendant denies that it did

anything wrong and maintains it complied at all times with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

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3. What Is Defendant's Position?

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Defendant denies Plaintiff's claims and believes that it does not have any liability to the Class under the claims asserted in the Action, or that, but for the Settlement, the Class should be certified in the Action. In particular, Defendant asserts that if not for its voluntary agreement to this Settlement, no Class could be certified because all or virtually all Class Members signed arbitration agreements as part of their employment and arbitration does not allow for class actions. Nonetheless, this Settlement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising highly-disputed claims. Nothing in this Settlement is intended or will be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendant or an admission by Plaintiff that any of the claims were non-meritorious or any defense asserted by Defendant was meritorious.

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4. What is a class action and who is involved?

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In a class action lawsuit, a person called a "Class Representative" (in this case Plaintiff David Jaimes) sues on behalf of other people alleged to have similar claims. The people together are a "Class" or "Class Members." The individual who sued is called the Plaintiff. The company sued (in this case Baker's Burgers, Inc.) is called the Defendant. One court resolves the issues for everyone in the Class—except for those people who choose to exclude themselves from the Settlement (also called "opting-out"), as described in Question 13 below.

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5. Why is there a settlement?

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The Court has not decided whether Plaintiff or Defendant is correct. By conditionally certifying this class action for settlement purposes only, granting preliminary approval of the proposed Settlement, and issuing this Notice, the Court is not suggesting that Plaintiff would win or lose this case if it proceeded to trial.

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There has been no finding that Defendant violated the law, or that any of the allegations made in the lawsuit are true. Defendant denies that it did anything wrong and maintains it complied at all times with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

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However, the parties have agreed to settle this lawsuit. By agreeing to resolve the lawsuit, all parties avoid the risks and cost of a trial and affected employees can receive compensation.

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The Plaintiff as the Class Representative and his attorneys believe the Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate and in the best interests of all Class Members.

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WHO IS IN THE CLASS SETTLEMENT?

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6. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

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The Court decided that all current and former non-exempt employees employed by Defendant in California from December 22, 2014 to <<th>date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or 90 days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first>> are Class Members. The Court also decided that all current and former non-exempt employees employed by Defendant in California from December 22, 2017 to <<th>date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or 90 days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first>> are PAGA Members. It was determined that you fit within one or both of these descriptions through Defendant's business records.

7. I'm still not sure if I am included.

If you are still not sure whether you are included, you can get free help by calling or writing to the Settlement Administrator using the contact information provided in Questions 16 and 25.

THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS - WHAT YOU GET

8. What does the Settlement provide?

Provided the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, Defendant agrees to establish a "Gross Settlement Fund" of up to One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) to resolve the claims of all Settlement Class Members. The Gross Settlement Fund includes (a) expenses and fees of the Settlement Administrator up to \$40,000; (b) an Enhancement Award up to \$20,000 to the Class Representative; (c) attorneys' fees up to \$533,333 and litigation expenses up to \$15,000 to Class Counsel; (d) \$50,000 allocated to settle claims brought pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act, California Labor Code Section 2698, et seq. ("PAGA"). The Settlement Administrator will allocate and distribute 75% of the \$50,000 (\$37,500) to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and the remaining 25% (\$12,500) to the Class. The Settlement Administrator will distribute the \$12,500 to Class Members regardless of whether they choose to participate in the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement) on a pro-rata basis as described below. The Settlement Administrator will also pay any other fees and/or expenses (other than attorneys' fees and expenses) incurred in implementing the terms and conditions of the Settlement and securing a judgment.

Defendant also agrees to pay their employer-side payroll taxes ("Employer Taxes") in addition to the Gross Settlement Fund. The Court must approve these payments at the Final Approval Hearing.

The net sum remaining after deducting these Court-approved payments (called the "Net Settlement Fund") will be available for distribution to Class Members ("Settlement Class Members"), as described in Question 10 below. The total amount actually distributed to all Settlement Class Members shall equal 100% of the Net Settlement Fund (the "Guaranteed Minimum Payout"). The Settlement Administrator shall remit any unclaimed amounts to the California Unclaimed Property Fund, with an identification of the Settlement Class Member to whom the funds belong.

Provided the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, Defendant will deposit fifty percent



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Employee Rights Attorneys 16530 Ventura Bl. Ste 203 Encino CA 91436 (818) 582-3086 Tel (818) 582-2561 Fax SpivakLaw.com (50%) of the Gross Settlement fund and its Employer Taxes with the Settlement administrator within ten business days following the Effective Date. Defendant will deposit the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes on June 15, 2021. The actual amount distributed to all Participating Settlement Class Members shall be based on the value of valid claims timely received from Settlement Class Members.

Please Note: Twenty percent (20%) of your Individual Settlement Award will be allocated to disputed wages, subject to all applicable wage laws, including federal, state and local tax withholding and payroll taxes, reported on Form W-2. The remaining eighty percent (80%) of your Individual Settlement Award shall be allocated to disputed interest, penalties and other non-wage damages sought in the Action and may be subject to local, state, or federal tax withholdings and will be reported to the IRS and state tax authorities. You should rely on your own tax advisors as to the tax consequences of your Individual Settlement Award. Neither Plaintiff nor Defendant have made any representations or warranties regarding the taxation of your Individual Settlement Award. Nothing within this notice or any other communication shall constitute or be construed or relied upon as tax advice within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 C.F.R.. Part 10, as amended). Enclosed are the appropriate tax forms pertaining to your payment.

9. What am I giving up to get a payment or stay in the Class?

Unless you exclude yourself, you are staying in the Class, and that means that you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit asserting the legal issues that were or could have been brought in this case through the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement, or 90 days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first. It also means that all of the Court's orders will apply to you and legally bind you. See Question 13 if you want to find out how to exclude yourself from participation in the Class. All Class Members who do not exclude themselves are "Settlement Class Members." Unless you exclude yourself, you will release Defendant and all of its respective former, present, and future owners, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, related entities including but not limited to Neal T. Baker Enterprises, Inc., joint venturers, partners, corporations in common control, co-employers, service providers, predecessors, successors, and assigns, and past, present, and future officers, directors, employees, partners, shareholders, agents, associates, representatives, attorneys, insurers, and any other successors, assigns, or legal representatives of any of them (the "Released Parties") for all claims alleged in the Action and any and all other claims, causes of action, demands, injuries, grievances, obligations, losses, damages penalties, interest, fines, debts, liens, liabilities, attorneys' fees, costs, and any other form of relief or remedy in law or equity, of any type whatsoever, whether known, should have been known or unknown, foreseen, should have been foreseen or unforeseen, anticipated, should have been anticipated or unanticipated, suspected, should have been suspected or unsuspected or latent, that occurred on or before the Effective Date of the Settlement that could reasonably have been brought based on, related to or arising out of facts alleged in the Action, or any theory that could have been brought based on the facts alleged in the Action, including without limitation, any claims under any California statute, regulation, rule or common law, or any other legal or equitable theory alleging any failure to comply with any wage and hour requirements, pay wages, overtime, travel time, and/or

minimum wages for all hours worked, provide meal and rest breaks, pay premium pay for missed meal and rest breaks, pay all wages within the required time period upon discharge/termination, timely pay all wages during employment, pay all wages during employment, provide complete and accurate wage statements, keep complete and accurate payroll records, as well as any and all claims for liquidated or punitive damages, statutory and civil penalties, attorneys' fees or costs and expenses associated therewith, whether at common law, pursuant to statute, ordinance or regulation, in equity or otherwise, and whether arising under federal, state or other applicable law; including, but not limited to, California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and 2698, *et seq.*, and Business and Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*, and any applicable IWC Wage Orders. Released Claims also includes any claim against Defendant for attorneys' fees or costs/expenses associated with Class Counsel's representation of the Plaintiff and Class.

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Even if you exclude yourself from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement, you will still be releasing Defendant and all of its respective former, present, and future owners, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, related entities, including but not limited to Neal T. Baker Enterprises, Inc., joint venturers, partners, corporations in common control, co-employers, service providers, predecessors, successors, and assigns, and past, present, and future officers, directors, employees, partners, shareholders, agents, associates, representatives, attorneys, insurers, and any other successors, assigns, or legal representatives of any of them (the "Released Parties") for all PAGA claims alleged in the Action whether known, should have been known or unknown, foreseen, should have been foreseen or unforeseen, anticipated, should have been anticipated or unanticipated, suspected, should have been suspected or unsuspected or latent, that occurred on or before the Effective Date of the Settlement that could reasonably have been brought based on the or related to or arising out of facts alleged in the Action.

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The Court file contains the complete Settlement documents with more information about the lawsuit. The Court does not provide case information via the Internet. On-site public access information terminals are available for researching cases at the Court. Information about the case may also be obtained by contacting the attorneys or Settlement Administrator using the contact information provided in Question 25.

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10. How do I get a payment?

22 23 If you choose to participate in the Settlement, you don't need to do anything. The Settlement Administrator is in charge of mailing payments to Settlement Class Members. It is your responsibility to keep a current address on file with the Settlement Administrator to ensure that you receive your settlement payment should the Court order final approval of the Settlement. If you move and the Settlement Administrator cannot locate a current address for you, you will not receive a payment.

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11. When would I get my payment?



The Settlement Administrator will distribute Individual Settlement Awards only after the Court enters an order granting final approval of the Settlement following the Final Approval Hearing. If there is an appeal of an order granting final approval of the Settlement, payments will be

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delayed until all appeals are resolved in favor of the Settlement. Within ten (10) days following the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendant will pay 50% of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes, as approved by the Court. On June 15, 2021, Defendant will pay the remaining 50% of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes, as approved by the Court. The first distribution of one-half of the Individual Settlement Awards to Settlement Class Members may not occur until after <(anticipated first distribution date>), and the second distribution of the remaining one-half of the Individual Settlement Awards may not occur until after <<a href="maining-anticipated-second-distribution-half-employer-second-distribution-half-employer-second-h

12. How much will my payment be?

The distribution formula set forth in the Settlement, as conditionally approved by the Court, is based on a ratio of pay periods you received from Defendant in eligible positions during the Class Period and PAGA Period ("Qualifying Pay Periods") to the Qualifying Pay Periods of other Class Members for the same period. You are therefore eligible to receive a share of the Net Settlement Fund calculated in proportion to the time you worked for Defendant. Your Qualifying Pay Periods were determined from Defendant's records. If you disagree with the number of Qualifying Pay Periods set forth in the attached Notice, you may complete Section B of the Notice and submit any records to the Settlement Administrator to support the number of pay periods you contend you worked for Defendant.

The Settlement Administrator calculated the estimated amount of your Individual Settlement Award and PAGA Payment, as shown on the first page of this Notice. However, the final amount will not be known until after time has expired for all Class Members to return their requests exclusion from the Settlement. Class Members who request exclusion will have their share of the Settlement reapportioned as available for distribution to Settlement Class Members (subject to the Guaranteed Minimum Payout described in Question 8), possibly resulting in adjustments to the Individual Settlement Awards prior to distribution by the Settlement Administrator.

Any settlement checks distributed by the Settlement Administrator shall remain valid and negotiable for 180 calendar days from the date of its issuance, but if not cashed within that time will be deemed null and void and of no further force and effect, and the amount of any uncashed checks shall be paid to the California Unclaimed Property Fund. However, if you fail to timely cash a settlement check, you nevertheless remain a member of the Settlement Class and shall be bound by all terms of the Settlement and the Court's final approval order.

EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you do not want a payment from this Settlement, but you want to keep the right to sue Defendant, at your own expense, about the legal issues in this case, then you must take steps to get out. This is called excluding yourself – or is sometimes referred to as "opting out" of the Settlement.



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13. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the Settlement, you must send a letter setting forth your name, address, telephone number, and your signature. In the letter, you must state that you wish to exclude yourself from the Jaimes v. Baker's Burgers Class Action settlement and that you understand that by doing so you will not receive any payment from the Settlement. You must mail your exclusion request postmarked no later than << date>> to:

Jaimes v. Baker's Burgers Class Action Claims Administration

[ADDRESS] [TELEPHONE NUMBER]

If I do not exclude myself, can I sue Defendant for the same thing later? 14.

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue Defendant for the claims this Settlement resolves. If you have a pending lawsuit against Defendant, speak to your lawyer in that case immediately. You may need to exclude yourself from this Class to continue your own lawsuit. Remember, the exclusion deadline is <<date>>.

If you start your own lawsuit against Defendant after you exclude yourself, you'll have to hire and pay your own lawyer for that lawsuit, and you'll have to prove your claims.

If you exclude yourself, you may not object to the Settlement.

If I exclude myself, can I get money from this Settlement? 15.

No. If you exclude yourself, you will not receive any money from this Settlement and will not release the "Released Claims" as defined in Section X of this Notice.

OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

16. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the Settlement?

As a Class Member, provided that you have not submitted a request to be excluded, you may object to the Settlement if you do not like any part of it. You can give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it. The Court will consider your views. To object, you should send your objection or an intent to appear and object to the settlement to the Settlement Administrator no later than << last date of the Objection/Exclusion Period>>, stating why you object to the Settlement in Jaimes v. Baker's Burgers, Case No. CIV DS 1933423. Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, your signature, and the reasons you object to the Settlement.

The names and address of the Settlement Administrator are:

<<name and address of Settlement Administrator>>

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17. What is the difference between objecting and excluding?

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Objecting is simply telling the Court that you do not like something about the Settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Class. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

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IF YOU DO NOTHING

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18. What happens if I do nothing at all?

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By doing nothing you are choosing to stay in the Class and received an Individual Settlement Payment provided the Court grants final approval of the Settlement. Keep in mind that if you do nothing now, you will release the "Released Claims" as described in Section X of this Notice. You will also be legally bound by all orders and judgments of the Court in this class action.

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THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

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19. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

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The Court decided that The Spivak Law Firm, 16530 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 203 Encino, California 91436, is qualified to represent you and all Class Members. The law firm is referred to as "Class Counsel." It is experienced in handling similar cases against other employers. You will not be charged for these lawyers.

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20. Should I get my own lawyer?

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You do not need to hire your own lawyer because Class Counsel is working on your behalf. But, if you want your own lawyer, you will have to pay that lawyer. For example, you can ask him or her to appear in Court for you if you want someone other than Class Counsel to speak for you.

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21. How will the lawyers be paid?

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Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve payment of attorneys' fees up to \$533,333, and litigation expenses estimated to be up to \$15,000.

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THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

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The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing to decide whether to approve the Settlement. You may attend and you may ask to speak, although you do not have to.

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22. When and where will the court decide whether to approve the settlement?

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The Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to occur on , 2020, Dept. S26 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, located at 247 West Third Street San Bernardino, CA 92415. The Court may continue or adjourn the Final Approval 2 Hearing without further notice to the Class. At this hearing the Court will consider whether the 3 Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will listen to people who ask to speak at the hearing. The Court may also decide how much to pay Class Counsel. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long these decisions will take. 5 6 23. Do I have to come to the Final Approval Hearing? 7 No. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. But, you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you file an objection, you are not required to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you timely filed and mailed your written objection or notice of intent to appear, the Court will consider your objection or may allow you to speak at the hearing regardless. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary. 10 11

Notwithstanding the above-described objection procedure, you may also appear and the Court may permit you to discuss your objections with the Court and the Parties at the Final Approval Hearing set for at in Department of the San Bernardino Superior Court, located at 247 West Third Street San Bernardino, CA 92415.

Recent government quarantine orders may make it difficult or impossible for you to attend the final fairness hearing in person. If you are unable to appear for the final fairness hearing in person, you may attend by telephone by calling (xxx) xxx-xxxx five minutes before <<th>hearing's scheduled start time>>. An operator will ensure that you are able to communicate with the Court and counsel for the Parties during the hearing. At such time you should identify yourself to the operator as a class member in the matter of <<case title>> identified above.

24. May I speak at the Final Approval Hearing?

You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing. The Parties recommend that you send a letter saying that it is your "Notice of Intention to Appear in JAIMES V. BAKER'S BURGERS, INC., Case No. CIV DS 1933423." Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature. Your Notice of Intention to Appear should be postmarked no later than << Objection/Exclusion Period deadline>>, and sent to the Settlement Administrator at the addresses provided in Question 16. You cannot speak at the hearing if you excluded yourself.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

25. Are more details available?

The Court-appointed Settlement Administrator for this Settlement is as follows:

28 SPIVAK LAW Employee Rights Attorneys 16530 Ventura Bl. Ste 203 Encino CA 91436 (818) 582-3086 Tel (818) 582-2561 Fax SpivakLaw.com

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Jaimes v. Baker's Burgers Class Action Claims Administration c/o [ADDRESS] 2 [TELEPHONE NUMBER] 3 If you have questions, you may call the Settlement Administrator toll free at [TELEPHONE 4 NUMBER]. Ask about the Jaimes v. Baker's Burgers Class Action. 5 You may also contact counsel for the Parties 6 Counsel for Plaintiff 7 David Spivak The Spivak Law Firm 8 16530 Ventura Blvd., Ste 203 9 Encino, CA 91436 (877) 203-9010 10 (877) 233-1676 for Spanish david@MyWorkMyWages.com 11 12 Counsel for Defendant Veronica M. Gray 13 Allison C. Callaghan Nossaman, LLP 14 18101 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1800 15 Irvine, CA 92612 (949) 833-7800 16 17 And 18 Tyler J. Woods Fisher & Phillips LLP 19 2050 Main Street, Suite 1000 20 Irvine, CA 92614 (949) 798-2117 21 22 26. Important Deadlines 23 The deadline to submit any of the following is << DATE, 2020>>: 24 Challenge (along with documentation) of number of pay periods 25 Request for Exclusion from Participating in Settlement; or 26 Notice of Objection to Settlement.



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PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT.

You can also view and obtain copies of the documents filed in this case by going to the Clerk's

Court. Information about the case may also be obtained by contacting the attorneys or Settlement

Administrator using the contact information provided in Question 25.

office located at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street San Bernardino, CA 92415. The Court file contains the complete Settlement documents with more information about the lawsuit. The Court does not provide case information via the Internet. On-site public access information terminals are available for researching cases at the

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EXHIBIT 2: PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER



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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9	FOR THE COUNTY C	OF SAN BERNARDINO
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12	DAVID JAIMES, on behalf of himself, all	Case No. CIV DS 1933423
13	others similarly situated, and the general	[Hon. David Cohn, Dept. S26]
14	public, and as an "aggrieved employee" on behalf of other "aggrieved employees" under	
15	the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004,	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT
16 17	Plaintiff(s),	Date:
18	Vs.	Time:m. Dept: 26
19		Action Filed: November 7, 2019
20	BAKER'S BURGERS, INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 50,	Trial Date: None Set
21	inclusive,	
22	Defendant(s).	
23	Plaintiff DAVID IAIMES'S ("Jaimes" of	or "Plaintiff") unopposed Motion for Preliminary
24		nent was scheduled for hearing before the Court
25		he Honorable David Cohn, Judge presiding. The
26		support of the motion, HEREBY ORDERS THE
27	FOLLOWING:	
28	1. The Court grants preliminary app	proval of the Settlement and the Class based upon
	the terms set forth in the Stipulation of Class	Action Settlement and Release (the Settlement)

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filed herewith. All capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement. The Court finds that the terms of the Settlement are fair, adequate, and reasonable to the Class. The Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only to any objections that may be raised at the final hearing and final approval by this Court.

- 2. For purposes of this Order, the Class is defined as follows: All current and former non-exempt employees Defendant employed in California at any time during the Class Period. The Class is preliminarily certified for settlement purposes only.
- 3. The Court hereby preliminarily finds that the Settlement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arm's length by the Parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims set forth in the pleadings, the amounts and kinds of benefits which shall be paid pursuant to the Settlement, the allocation of Settlement proceeds to the Class, and the fact that the Settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual Class member. Accordingly, the Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement was entered into in good faith.
- 4. The Court finds that the dates set forth in the Settlement Agreement for mailing and distribution of the Notice and Notice meet the requirements of due process and provide the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto, and directs the mailing of the Notice Packet by first class mail to the Class as set forth in the Settlement. Accordingly, the Court orders the following implementation schedule for further proceedings:
- a. Within ten (10) business days following the date of this Preliminary Approval Order, Defendant shall provide CPT Group, Inc., the appointed Settlement Administrator, the Class List consisting of the names, most recent known mailing addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, dates of employment and the total number of



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Qualifying Pay Periods for all Class Members during the Class Period (the "Class List");

b. Within thirty (30) calendar days following the date of this Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator shall mail the Notice and Notice (collectively, the Notice Packet) along with a pre-printed postage paid return envelope, to all Class members pursuant to the terms of the Settlement, by First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid using the most current mailing address information available. The Notice Packet shall be in English and Spanish. Any Notice Packets returned to the Settlement Administrator as undelivered and bearing a forwarding address shall be re-mailed by the Settlement Administrator within three days following receipt of the returned mail. For any Notice Packets returned to the Settlement Administrator without a forwarding address, the Settlement Administrator shall first conduct a National Change of Address search as required for undeliverable notices, followed by a computer/SSN and "skip trace" search to obtain an updated address, and shall promptly re-mail the Notice Packets to any newly-found address or addresses.

- c. Within sixty (60) calendar days following the initial mailing of the Notice Packet, all requests to be excluded from the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement must be returned to the Settlement Administrator postmarked by U.S. Mail, as set forth in the Settlement.
- d. Within fifteen (15) calendar days following the mailing of the Notice Packet, the Settlement Administrator shall mail to each Class Member who has not requested exclusion from the non-PAGA potion of the Settlement a postcard in English and Spanish reminding them of the deadline to request exclusion from the Settlement.
- e. The Court will consider any written and may consider any oral objections or comments from Class Members at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, as set forth in the Notice. Written objections to the proposed settlement should state the basis for the objection and be mailed together with copies of all papers and briefs in support thereof to the Settlement Administrator within sixty (60) calendar days following the mailing of the Notice.
- 5. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice (in substantially the form attached as Exhibit 1 to the Settlement). The Court also approves the procedure for members of

the Class to object to the Settlement set forth in the Notice.

- 6. The Court approves, for settlement purposes only, David Spivak of The Spivak Law Firm and Walter Haines of the United Employees Law Group as Class Counsel.
- 7. The Court approves, for settlement purposes only, David Jaimes as the Class Representative.
 - 8. The Court approves CPT Group, Inc. as the Settlement Administrator.
- 9. Final Approval Hearing shall be held 2020 in Department 26 of the Superior Court for the State of California, West County of San Bernardino, located 247 Third Street San Bernardino, CA 92415, to consider the fairness, adequacy and reasonableness of the proposed Settlement preliminarily approved by this Order, and to consider the application of Class Counsel for an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred and the Enhancement Award. All briefs and materials in support of the Motion for an Order of Final Approval and Judgment and Application for Attorneys' Fees and Costs shall be filed with this Court on or before
- 10. If for any reason the Court does not execute and file an Order of Final Approval and Judgment, or if the Effective Date, as defined in the Settlement, does not occur for any reason, the proposed Settlement that is the subject of this Order, and all evidence and proceedings had in connection therewith, shall be without prejudice to the status quo ante rights of the Parties to the litigation, as more specifically set forth in the Settlement.
- 11. Pending further Order of this Court, all proceedings in this matter except those contemplated herein and in the Settlement are hereby stayed.
- 12. The Court further ORDERS that to facilitate administration of this Settlement, all Class members, including Plaintiff, are hereby enjoined from filing or prosecuting any claims, cases, suits or administrative proceedings (including filing or pursuing claims with the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement) regarding claims released by the Settlement, unless and until such Class members have filed valid and timely written requests for exclusion with the



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1	Settler	ment Administrator.
2		13. The Court expressly reserves the right to adjourn or continue the Final Approval
3	Hearin	g from time to time without further notice to members of the Class.
4		IT IS SO ORDERED.
5		
6	Date:	Honorable David Cohn
7		Judge of the San Bernardino Superior Court
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EXHIBIT 3: FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT



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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO (UNLIMITED JURISDICTION)

DAVID JAIMES, on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated, and the general public, and as an "aggrieved employee" on behalf of other "aggrieved employees" under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

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BAKER'S BURGERS, INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendant(s).

Case No.: CIV DS 1933423 [Assigned For All Purposes To Hon. David Cohn, Dept. S26]

[PROPOSED] FINAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT

Hearing Date:		
Hearing Time:		.m
Hearing Dept.:	26	



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Employee Rights Attorneys 16530 Ventura Bl. Ste 203 Encino CA 91436 (818) 582-3086 Tel (818) 582-2561 Fax SpivakLaw.com This matter came on for hearing on _____ at ____ a.m. in Department 26 of the above-captioned court on Plaintiff's unopposed Motion for Final Approval of a Class Action and PAGA Settlement pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 3.769, as set forth in the Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement and Release (the Settlement) filed herewith. All capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement.

In accordance with the Court's prior Preliminary Approval Order, Class Members have been given notice of the terms of the Settlement and the opportunity to request exclusion, comment upon or object to it or to any of its terms. Having received and considered the Settlement, the supporting papers filed by the Parties, and the evidence and argument received by the Court in conjunction with the motions for preliminary and final approval of the Settlement, and having conducted a Final Approval and Fairness Hearing ("Fairness Hearing"), the Court grants final approval of the Settlement and HEREBY ORDERS, ADJUDGES, DECREES AND MAKES THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATIONS:

- 1. The Court has and retains jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action and over all Parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class Members. Pursuant to this Court's Preliminary Approval Order of << preliminary approval order date>>>, the Notice and Notice were sent to each Class Member by First Class U.S. mail with a pre-printed, postage paid return envelope. The Notice informed Class Members of the terms of the Settlement, their right to receive their proportional share of the Settlement, their right to request exclusion, their right to comment upon or object to the Settlement, and their right to appear in person or by counsel at the final approval hearing and be heard regarding final approval of the Settlement. Adequate periods of time were provided by each of these procedures. No member of the Class presented written objections to the proposed Settlement as part of this notice process, stated an intention to appear, or actually appeared at the final approval hearing.
- 2. For purposes of this Order and Judgment, the "Class Period" shall mean December 22, 2014 through <<th>Che date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or ninety days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first and the Class is defined as all current and former non-exempt employees Defendant employed in California at any time during the Class Period. For purposes of this Order and Judment, the "PAGA Period" shall mean that December 22, 2017 through <<th>Action of the Court grants preliminary approval of this Settlement or 90 days from October 15, 2020, whichever occurs first .



3. In accordance with California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382, California Rule of Court 3.769 and the requirements of due process, all Class Members have been given proper and adequate Notice of the Settlement. Based upon the evidence submitted by the parties, the Settlement Agreement, the arguments of counsel, and all the files, records and proceedings in this case, the Court finds that the Notice Packet and Notice methodology implemented pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and the Court's Preliminary Approval Order: (a) constituted the best practicable notice under the circumstances; (b) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Class Members of the pendency of the litigation, their right to object to the Settlement, and their right to appear at the Fairness Hearing; (c) was reasonable and constituted due, adequate and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to notice; and (d) met all applicable requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382, California Rule of Court 3.769, and any other applicable law.

- 4. The Court further finds and determines that the terms of the Settlement are fair, reasonable and adequate, to those it affects, and resulted from vigorously contested litigation, substantial discovery, motion practice, and extensive good-faith arm's length negotiations between the parties, and is in the public interest considering the following factors:
 - (a) the strength of the Plaintiff's case;
 - (b) the risk, expense, complexity and likely duration of further litigation;
 - (c) the risk of maintaining class action status throughout the trial;
 - (d) the amount offered in settlement;
 - (e) the extent of discovery completed, and the stage of the proceedings;
 - (f) the experience and views of counsel; and
 - (g) the reaction of the class members to the proposed settlement.

Accordingly the Settlement is ordered finally approved, and that all terms and provisions of the Settlement, including the release of claims contained therein, should be and hereby are ordered to be consummated, and directs the Parties to effectuate the Settlement according to its terms. As of the Effective Date, all Settlement Class Members are hereby deemed to have waived and released all Released Claims and are forever barred and enjoined from prosecuting the Released Claims against the Released Parties as fully set forth in the Settlement. As of the Effective

1	Date, all Class Members are hereby deemed to have waived and released all PAGA Released Claims and		
2	are forever barred and enjoined from prosecuting the PAGA Released Claims against the Released Parties		
	as fully set forth in the Settlement. No objections were received by the Parties or the Court through		
3	the date of this Final Order and Judgment. The Court finds that Class Members		
4	(names to be inserted) timely submitted a valid request for exclusion from		
5	the non-PAGA portion of the Settlement as determined by the Settlement Administrator and		
6	therefore they are not Settlement Class Members.		
7	5. The Court finds and determines that (a) the Individual Settlement Awards to be		
8	paid to Settlement Class Members and (b) the PAGA Payment as civil penalties under the		
9	California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, as amended, California Labor		
10	Code sections 2699 et seq., as provided for by the Settlement are fair and reasonable. The Court		
11	hereby grants final approval to, and orders the payment of, those amounts be made to the		
12	Settlement Class Members, Class Members, and to the California Labor & Workforce		
	Development Agency, in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.		
13	6. The Court further grants final approval to and orders that the following payments		
14	be made in accordance with the terms of the Settlement:		
15	a. \$533,333.00 Fee Award and \$ Expense Award to Class		
16	Counsel;		
17	b. \$20,000 as an Enhancement Award payable to Plaintiff, David Jaimes, for		
18	his services as Class Representative; and		
19	c. \$ in Administration Costs payable to CPT Group, Inc.		
20	for its services as the Settlement Administrator.		
21	7. The Settlement shall proceed as directed in the implementation schedule in the		
22	Preliminary Approval Orders consistent with the Settlement, and no payments pursuant to the		
23	Settlement shall be distributed until after the Effective Date or Without affecting the		
	finality of this Order and Judgment in any way, the Court retains jurisdiction of all matters		
24	relating to the interpretation, administration, implementation, effectuation and enforcement of		
25	this Order and the Settlement pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769(h).		
26	8. Defendant shall deposit the Gross Settlement Fund as follows. Within ten (10)		
27	business days following the Effective date or within five (5) days of receiving wire instructions		



(818) 582-2561 Fax SpivakLaw.com from the Settlement Administrator, which ever occurs last, Defendant shall deposit, as outlined

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in the Settlement, fifty percent (50%) of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer Taxes. On June 15, 2021, Defendant shall deposit the remaining 50% of the Gross Settlement Fund and Employer taxes to effectuate the terms of this Settlement.

- 9. Nothing in this Final Approval Order and Judgment shall preclude any action to enforce the Parties' obligations under the Settlement or hereunder, including the requirement that Defendant deposit funds for distribution by the Settlement Administrator to Settlement Class Members in accordance with the Settlement.
- 10. The Court hereby enters final Judgment in this case in accordance with the terms of the Settlement, Order Granting Preliminary Approval, and this Final Approval Order and Judgment.
 - 11. The Parties are hereby ordered to comply with the terms of the Settlement.
- 12. The Parties shall bear their own costs and attorneys' fees except as otherwise provided by the Settlement and this Final Approval Order and Judgment.
- 13. The Settlement is not an admission by Defendant nor is this Order and Final Judgment a finding of the validity of any claims in the Action or of any wrongdoing by Defendant. Furthermore, the Settlement is not a concession by Defendant and shall not be used as an admission of any fault, omission, or wrongdoing by Defendant. Neither this Order and Final Judgment, Settlement, any document referred to herein, any exhibit to any document referred to herein, any action taken to carry out the Settlement, nor any negotiations or proceedings related to the Settlement are to be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, or an admission or concession with regard to, the denials or defenses of Defendant, and shall not be offered in evidence in any proceeding against the Parties hereto in any Court, administrative agency, or other tribunal for any purpose whatsoever other than to enforce the provisions of this Order and Final Judgment. This Order and Final Judgment, the Settlement and exhibits thereto, and any other papers and records on file in the Action may be filed in this Court or in any other litigation as evidence of the settlement by Defendant to support a defense of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, or other theory of claim or issue preclusion or similar defense as to the Released Claims.
- 14. This document shall constitute a Judgment for purposes of California Rule of Court 3.769(h).

1		15.	Per California Rules of Court, Rule 3.771(b), Simpluris is directed to post the
2	final judgment, once entered, on its website.		
3		16.	This Court finds that there is no just reason for delay and expressly directs entry
4	by the	Clerk o	of the Court of Final Judgment.
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6		IT IS	SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.
7	D .		
8	Date:		Honorable David Cohn
9			Judge of the San Bernardino Superior Court
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