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

GABRIEL AHMAD, individually, and on behalf of
other members of the general public similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

BELAMI, INC., a California corporation; and
DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 24CV009564

ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO:
JUDGE LAURI A. DAMRELL
DEPARTMENT 22

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

[Reservation ID: A-09564-001]

Hearing Date: February 28, 2025
Hearing Time: 9:00 am
Hearing Place: Department 22

Complaint Filed: May 15, 2024
FAC Filed: November 18, 2024
Trial Date: Not Set

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
02/28/2025
V. Aleman, Deputy

1 Plaintiff Gabriel Ahmad's ("Plaintiff") Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action
2 and PAGA Settlement ("Motion"), came before this Court on February 28, 2025, in Department 22,
3 before the Honorable Lauri A. Damrell, presiding. The Court having considered the papers
4 submitted in support of the Motion and good cause appearing therefor,

5 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

6 1. The Court grants preliminary approval of the Class Action and PAGA Settlement
7 Agreement ("Settlement" or "Agreement") and the Class Members based upon the terms set forth
8 in the Agreement filed with the Motion. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as
9 defined in the Agreement.

10 2. The Settlement appears to be fair, adequate and reasonable to the Class Members.
11 The Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness and appears to be presumptively valid,
12 subject only to any objections that may be raised at the Final Approval Hearing and final approval
13 by this Court.

14 3. A Final Approval Hearing on the question of whether the Settlement, Class Counsel
15 Fees Payment, Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment, Class Representative Service Payment,
16 and Administration Expenses Payment should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate
17 as to Class Members, is scheduled in Department 22 on the date and time set forth in the
18 Implementation Schedule below.

19 4. This Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Class Action Settlement
20 and Hearing Date for Final Court Approval ("Class Notice") (Exhibit A to the Agreement). The
21 Court approves the procedure for Class Members to opt out of and to object to the Settlement as set
22 forth in the Settlement and the Class Notice.

23 5. Consistent with the definitions provided in the Stipulation of Settlement, the terms
24 "Class" and "Class Members" shall mean all current and former hourly-paid or non-exempt
25 employees of Defendant Belami, Inc. ("Defendant") within the State of California at any time during
26 the period from May 15, 2020 through January 27, 2025. The Class will not include any person who
27 previously settled or released any of the claims covered by the settlement, or any person who
28 previously was paid or received awards through civil or administrative actions for the claims covered

1 by the settlement, or any person who submitted a timely and valid Request for Exclusion as provided
2 in the Settlement.

3 6. "Aggrieved Employees" are defined as all current and former hourly-paid or non-
4 exempt employees of Defendant within the State of California at any time during the period from
5 November 1, 2023 through January 27, 2025. Aggrieved Employees will be paid their Individual
6 PAGA Payment and release the Released PAGA Claims regardless of whether they submit a timely
7 and valid Request for Exclusion from the Settlement.

8 7. The Court directs the mailing of the Class Notice by first-class mail to the Class
9 Members in accordance with the Implementation Schedule set forth in below. The Court finds the
10 dates selected for the mailing and distribution of the Class Notice, as set forth in the Implementation
11 Schedule, meet the requirements of due process and provide the best notice practicable under the
12 circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto.

13 8. It is ordered that the Class is preliminarily certified for settlement purposes only.

14 9. The Court confirms Plaintiff as Class Representative and Justice Law Corporation as
15 Class Counsel.

16 10. The Court confirms the appointment of CPT Group Inc. as the Administrator.

17 11. To facilitate administration of the Settlement pending final approval, the Court
18 enjoins Plaintiff and all Class Members from filing or prosecuting any claims, suits or administrative
19 proceedings (including filing claims with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement of the
20 California Department of Industrial Relations) regarding claims released by the Settlement, unless
21 and until such Class Members have filed timely Requests for Exclusion with the Administrator and
22 the time for opting out of the Class has elapsed.

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12. The Court orders the following Implementation Schedule for further proceedings:

a.	Deadline for Defendant to Submit Class Member and Aggrieved Employee Information to Administrator	30 calendar days after Order Granting Preliminary Approval
b.	Deadline for Administrator to Mail Class Notice to Class Members and Aggrieved Employees	45 calendar days after Order Granting Preliminary Approval
c.	Deadline for Class Members to Postmark Requests for Exclusion from Class Settlement	60 calendar days after mailing of Class Notice
d.	Deadline for Defendant to provide written Notice of Rescission of Settlement to Class Counsel (if applicable)	14 calendar days after the Response Deadline
e.	Deadline for Administrator to Receive Objections to Settlement	60 calendar days after mailing of Class Notice
f.	Deadline for Class Counsel to file Motion for Final Approval of Settlement, including Request for Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and Service Payment	16 Court days before Final Approval Hearing
g.	Deadline for Administrator to file Declaration of Due Diligence and Proof of Mailing	16 Court days before Final Approval Hearing
h.	Final Fairness Hearing and Final Approval	Date: <u>CE * ~ • OF</u> , 2025 Time: <u>JKECÁE È</u> Department: 22
i.	Deadline for Defendant to fund Settlement (if Settlement is Effective)	30 calendar days after the Effective Date

j.	Deadline for Administrator to mail Class Member Payments, Aggrieved Employee Payments, Service Payment, and to wire Attorneys' Fees and Costs (if Settlement is Effective)	14 calendar days after Defendant fully funds the Gross Settlement Amount and all employer payroll taxes owed on the Wage Portion of the Individual Class Payments
k.	Deadline for Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to cash checks (if Settlement is Effective)	180 calendar days after Administrator mails checks
l.	Deadline for Administrator to distribute amount of uncashed checks the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund (if Settlement is Effective)	14 calendar days after deadline to cash checks
m.	Administrator to File Proof of Payment with Court (if Settlement is Effective)	21 calendar days after deadline for Administrator to distribute amount of uncashed checks to the California Controller's Unclaimed Property Fund

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED.

Dated: Feb 28



[Signature]

Honorable Lauri A. Damrell
Judge of the Superior Court