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JOINT STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE

This Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement and Release ("Settlement" or

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"Settlement Agreement") is made and entered into by and between Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla ("Plaintiffs" or "Class Representatives"), as individuals and on behalf of all others similarly situated, and Defendant Kohl's, Inc., fka Kohl's Department Stores, Inc., ("Defendant") (collectively with Plaintiffs, the "Parties"). **DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions are applicable to this Settlement Agreement. Definitions contained elsewhere in this Settlement Agreement will also be effective:

- 1. "Actions" means Lopes v. Kohl's Department Stores, Inc., No. RG08380189 (Alameda County Superior Court) and Bobadilla v. Kohl's Department Stores, Inc., No. RG11597341 (Alameda County Superior Court).
- 2. "Attorneys' Fees and Costs" means attorneys' fees agreed upon by the Parties and approved by the Court for Class Counsel's litigation and settlement of the Claims, and all out-of-pocket costs incurred and to be incurred by Class Counsel to litigate and settle the Claims, including but not limited to expert/consultant fees, investigation costs, and costs associated with documenting the Settlement, providing any notices required as part of the Settlement or Court order, securing the Court's approval of the Settlement, administering the Settlement, and obtaining entry of an order granting final approval of the Settlement. Class Counsel will request attorneys' fees and costs/expenses in a combined amount not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000). Based on the extensive amount of work observed by Defendant that was done by Class Counsel over the course of the Actions, Defendant has agreed not to oppose Class Counsel's request for fees and reimbursement of costs as set forth above.
- 3. "Claims" means, collectively, Class-A Released Claims, Class-B Released Claims, and PAGA Released Claims.
- 4. "Class Counsel" means Capstone Law APC, Law Offices of Mark Yablonovich, and Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho.
- 5. "Class Member(s)" or "Settlement Class" means all non-exempt, hourly employees of Defendant who worked at one or more of Defendant's retail stores and/or Distribution Centers and/or E-

Fulfillment Center in the State of California at any time from April 4, 2004 through May 16, 2014, and who did not previously opt out of the class certified by the Court in *Lopes v. Kohl's Department Stores*, *Inc.*, No. RG08380189 (Alameda County Superior Court).

- 6. "Class-A Fund" means the fund equal to exactly sixty percent (60%) of the Net Settlement Fund that will be paid to all Class-A Members.
- 7. "Class-A Members" means all Class Members, regardless whether they submit timely and valid Requests for Exclusion.
- 8. "Class-A Released Claims" means the class claims that were certified by the Court in the Actions on May 16, 2014, and for which Class Members were provided notice and an opportunity to opt out; namely: (a) all claims for the failure to pay overtime and meal and rest period premiums at the regular rate of pay; (b) all claims for the failure to provide rest periods by requiring Class Members to remain on premises during their rest periods; (c) all claims for the failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements; and (d) the failure to pay all wages due upon termination of employment.
- 9. "Class-B Fund" means the fund equal to exactly forty percent (40%) of the Net Settlement Fund that will be paid to all Class-B Members.
- 10. "Class-B Members" means all Class Members who do not submit timely and valid Requests for Exclusion.
- 11. "Class-B Released Claims" means all class claims that were alleged in the Actions but not certified by the Court; namely: (1) all claims for the failure to provide meal periods; (2) all claims for the failure to pay meal and rest period premiums based on any theory other than the failure to pay premiums at the regular rate of pay; (3) all claims for the failure to pay wages for time spent undergoing security bag checks; (4) all claims for the failure to pay reporting time pay; (5) all claims for the failure to pay all vacation wages due at termination; (6) all claims for the failure to pay all wages timely during employment; and (7) all claims for the failure to pay overtime based on any theory other than the underlying failure to correctly calculate the regular rate of pay.
- 12. "Class List" means a complete list of all Class Members that Defendant will diligently and in good faith compile from its records and provide to the Settlement Administrator and Class Counsel within twenty (20) calendar days after Preliminary Approval of this Settlement. The Class List

will be formatted in Microsoft Office Excel and will include each Class Member's full name; most recent mailing address and telephone number; Social Security Number; dates of employment, including termination dates during the Class Period and PAGA Period; the number of Workweeks each Class Members worked during the Class Period; the number of Workweeks each PAGA Member worked during the PAGA Period; and any other relevant information needed to calculate settlement payments.

- 13. "Class Notice" means the Notice of Class Action Settlement, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit A.
 - 14. "Class Period" means the period from April 4, 2004 to May 16, 2014.
- 15. "Class Representative Enhancement Payments" means the amounts to be paid to Plaintiffs in recognition of their effort and work in litigating and settling the Claims on behalf of Class Members and the LWDA, and for their general release of claims. Subject to the Court granting final approval of this Settlement and subject to the exhaustion of any and all appeals, Plaintiffs will request Court approval of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to Nicole Lopes and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000), each, to Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla.
 - 16. "Court" means the Alameda County Superior Court.
 - 17. "Defendant" means Defendant Kohl's, Inc., fka Kohl's Department Stores, Inc.
- 18. "Effective Date" means the later of: (a) the sixty-first (61st) calendar day after the date of Final Approval, provided no appeal is initiated by an objector; or (b) if a timely appeal is initiated by an objector, then the Effective Date will be the date of final resolution of that appeal (including any requests for rehearing and/or petitions for certiorari), resulting in final judicial approval of the Settlement.
- 19. "Final Approval" means the date on which the Court enters an order granting final approval of the Settlement Agreement.
- 20. "Gross Settlement Amount" means the Gross Settlement Amount of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000), to be paid by Defendant in full satisfaction of all Claims, which includes all Individual Settlement Payments, Attorneys' Fees and Costs, the Class Representative Enhancement Payments, the PAGA Settlement Amount, and Settlement Administration Costs. This Gross Settlement Amount has been agreed to by Plaintiffs and Defendant based on the aggregation of the agreed-upon settlement value of the Claims. In no event will Defendant be liable for more than the Gross Settlement

Amount for the settlement of the Claims, except as otherwise explicitly set forth herein. There will be no
reversion of the Gross Settlement Amount to Defendant. Defendant will be separately responsible for
any employer payroll taxes required by law, including the employer FICA, FUTA, and SDI
contributions, which shall not be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.

- "Individual Settlement Payment" means each Class Member's and PAGA Member's
- "Net Settlement Fund" means the portion of the Gross Settlement Amount remaining after deducting the Attorneys' Fees and Costs, the Class Representative Enhancement Payments, the PAGA Settlement Amount, and Settlement Administration Costs. There will be no reversion of the Net
- "Notice of Objection" means a Class Member's valid and timely written objection to the Settlement Agreement. For the Notice of Objection to be valid, it must include: (a) the objector's full name, signature, address, and telephone number, (b) a written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (c) copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based; and (d) a statement whether the objector intends to appear
- "PAGA Released Claims" means all claims for civil penalties under California Labor Code §§ 2698, et seq.et seq., that were brought or could reasonably have been brought based on the same facts alleged in Plaintiffs' LWDA letters during the PAGA Period except as provided for in this Agreement. Specifically excluded from the definition of PAGA Released Claims are claims for violation
- "PAGA Members" means all non-exempt, hourly employees of Defendant who worked at one or more of Defendant's retail stores and/or Distribution Centers and/or E-Fulfillment Center in the State of California at any time from February 25, 2007 through March 30, 2018.
 - "PAGA Period" means the period from February 25, 2007 through March 30, 2018.
- "PAGA Settlement Amount" means the amount that the Parties have agreed to pay to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") and PAGA Members in connection with Plaintiffs' claim under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2698,

et seq.et seq., "PAGA") ("PAGA Settlement"). The Parties have agreed that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) of the Gross Settlement Amount will be allocated to the PAGA Settlement. Pursuant to PAGA, Seventy-Five Percent (75%), or One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000), of the PAGA Settlement Amount will be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("Labor and Workforce Development Agency Payment"), and Twenty-Five Percent (25%), or Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) ("PAGA Fund"), of the PAGA Settlement will be disbursed to PAGA Members, and regardless of whether they request to be excluded from the Settlement Class.

- 28. "Parties" means Plaintiffs and Defendant collectively.
- 29. "Plaintiffs" means Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla.
- 30. "Preliminary Approval" means the date on which the Court enters an order granting preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement.
- 31. "Released Parties" means Defendant, its past or present officers, directors, shareholders, agents, principals, heirs, representatives, accountants, auditors, consultants, insurers and reinsurers, and its respective successors and predecessors in interest, subsidiaries, affiliates, parents and attorneys, if any.
- 32. "Request for Exclusion" means a timely letter submitted by a Class Member indicating a request to be excluded from the release of the Class-B Released Claims. The Request for Exclusion must: (a) set forth the name, address, telephone number and last four digits of the Social Security Number of the Class Member requesting exclusion; (b) be signed by the Class Member; (c) be returned to the Settlement Administrator; (d) clearly state that the Class Member wishes to opt out of the release of the Class-B Released Claims; and (e) be faxed or postmarked on or before the Response Deadline.
- 33. "Response Deadline" means the deadline by which Class Members must postmark or fax to the Settlement Administrator Requests for Exclusion, postmark or fax disputes concerning the calculation of Individual Settlement Payments, or postmark Notices of Objection to the Settlement Administrator. The Response Deadline will be forty-five (45) calendar days from the initial mailing of the Class Notice by the Settlement Administrator, unless the forty-fifth (45th) calendar day falls on a postal holiday, in which case the Response Deadline will be extended to the next day on which the U.S. Postal Service is open.
 - 34. "Settlement Administration Costs" means the costs payable from the Gross Settlement

Amount to the Settlement Administrator for administering this Settlement, including, but not limited to, printing, distributing, and tracking documents for this Settlement, tax reporting, distributing the Gross Settlement Amount, and providing necessary reports and declarations, as requested by the Parties. The Settlement Administration Costs will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, including, if necessary, any such costs in excess of the amount represented by the Settlement Administrator as being the maximum costs necessary to administer the Settlement. Settlement Administration Costs are currently estimated to be Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$270,000).

- 35. "Settlement Administrator" means CPT Group, Inc., or any other third-party class action settlement administrator agreed to by the Parties and approved by the Court for the purposes of administering this Settlement. 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.
- 36. "Workweeks" means any week in which a check for regular hours during the Class Period was issued. All Class Members will be credited with at least one Workweek during the Class Period, and all PAGA Members will be credited with at least one Workweek during the PAGA Period. All Class Members who were terminated during the Class Period will receive two extra Workweeks during the Class Period to compensate them for their claim for waiting time penalties under Labor Code section 203. All PAGA Members who were terminated during the PAGA Period will receive two extra Workweeks during the PAGA Period to compensate them for their claim for waiting time penalties under Labor Code section 203.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

The Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Settlement Class, and Defendant agree as follows:

37. <u>Funding of the Gross Settlement Amount</u>. Defendant will make a one-time deposit of the Gross Settlement Amount of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) into a Qualified Settlement Fund to be established by the Settlement Administrator. Defendant will pay the employer's share of payroll taxes separately. After the Effective Date, the Gross Settlement Amount will be used for: (a) Individual Settlement Payments; (b) the Labor and Workforce Development Agency Payment; (c) the Class

Representative Enhancement Payments; (d) Attorneys' Fees and Costs; and (e) Settlement Administration Costs. Defendant will deposit the Gross Settlement Amount and the employer's share of payroll taxes within ten (10) calendar days of the Effective Date ("Funding Date").

- 38. <u>Attorneys' Fees and Costs</u>. In connection with the litigation and settlement of the Claims, and based on the extensive amount of work observed by Defendant that was done by Class Counsel over the course of the Actions, Defendant agrees not to oppose or impede any application or motion for attorneys' fees and costs by Class Counsel for not more than Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000), which will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 39. <u>Class Representative Enhancement Payments</u>. In exchange for a general release, and in recognition of their effort and work in prosecuting and settling the Claims on behalf of Class Members and the LWDA, Defendant agrees not to oppose or impede any application or motion by Plaintiffs for Class Representative Enhancement Payments of up to Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to Nicole Lopes and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000), each, to Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla. The Class Representative Enhancement Payments will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount and will be in addition to Plaintiffs' Individual Settlement Payment paid pursuant to the Settlement. Plaintiffs will be solely and legally responsible to pay any and all applicable taxes on the Class Representative Enhancement Payments. Plaintiffs understand and agree that this Settlement Agreement shall remain in full force and effect even if the full amount of Class Representative Enhancement Payments sought by Plaintiffs is not ultimately awarded by the Court.
- 40. <u>Settlement Administration Costs.</u> The Settlement Administrator will be paid for the reasonable costs of administration of the Settlement and distribution of payments from the Gross Settlement Amount, which is currently estimated to be Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$270,000). These costs of administration, which will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, will include, *inter alia*, the required tax reporting on the Individual Settlement Payments, the issuing of 1099 and W-2 IRS Forms, distributing Class Notices, calculating and distributing the Gross Settlement Amount, and providing necessary reports and declarations.
- 41. <u>PAGA Settlement Amount</u>. Subject to Court approval, the Parties agree that the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) from the Gross Settlement Amount will be designated for

satisfaction of Plaintiffs' PAGA claim. Pursuant to PAGA, Seventy-Five Percent (75%), or One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000), of this sum will be paid to the LWDA and Twenty-Five Percent (25%), or Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000), will be paid to PAGA Members in proportion to the number of Workweeks worked during the PAGA Period.

- 42. No Right to Exclusion from the Release of the Class-A Released Claims. Because Class Members were previously afforded an opportunity to opt out of the class certified by the Court on May 16, 2014, the Parties agree that no Class Member has the right to exclude himself or herself from the release of the Class-A Released Claims, and all Class Members will receive their shares of the Class-A Fund.
- 43. No Right to Exclusion or Objections to the PAGA Settlement. Because this Settlement resolves claims brought pursuant to PAGA by Plaintiffs acting as proxies and as Private Attorneys General of, and for, the State of California and the LWDA, the Parties agree that no PAGA Member has the right to exclude himself or herself from the PAGA settlement, and all PAGA Members will receive their shares of the PAGA Fund. The Parties also agree that no PAGA Member has the right to object to the PAGA Settlement Amount.
- 44. <u>Net Settlement Fund</u>. The entire Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to Class-A Members and Class-B Members. No portion of the Net Settlement Fund will revert to or be retained by Defendant.
- 45. <u>PAGA Fund</u>. The entire PAGA Fund will be distributed to all PAGA Members. No portion of the PAGA Fund will revert to or be retained by Defendant.
- 46. <u>Individual Settlement Payment Calculations</u>. Individual Settlement Payments will be calculated and apportioned from the Class-A Fund, Class-B Fund, and PAGA Fund based on the number of Workweeks a Class Member worked during the Class Period and PAGA Period. Specific calculations of Individual Settlement Payments will be made as follows:
 - 46(a) Payments from the Class-A Fund. Defendant will calculate the total number of Workweeks worked by each Class Member during the Class Period and the aggregate total number of Workweeks worked by all Class Members during the Class Period. To determine each Class Member's estimated

46(b)

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"Individual Settlement Payment" from the Class-A Fund, the Settlement Administrator will use the following formula: The Class-A Fund will be divided by the aggregate total number of Workweeks in the Class Period, resulting in the "Workweek Value." Each Class Member's "Individual Settlement Payment" will be calculated by multiplying each individual Class Member's total number of Workweeks by the Workweek Value. The Individual Settlement Payment will be reduced by any required deductions for each Class Member as specifically set forth herein, including employeeside tax withholdings or deductions. The entire Class-A Fund will be disbursed to all Class-A Members.

Payments from the Class-B Fund. Defendant will calculate the total number of Workweeks worked by each Class Member during the Class Period and the aggregate total number of Workweeks worked by all Class Members during the Class Period. To determine each Class Member's estimated "Individual Settlement Payment" from the Class-B Fund, the Settlement Administrator will use the following formula: The Class-B Fund will be divided by the aggregate total number of Workweeks in the Class Period, resulting in the "Workweek Value." Each Class Member's "Individual Settlement Payment" will be calculated by multiplying each individual Class Member's total number of Workweeks by the Workweek Value. The Individual Settlement Payment will be reduced by any required deductions for each Class-B Member as specifically set forth herein, including employee-side tax withholdings or deductions. The entire Class-B Fund will be disbursed to all Class-B Members. If there are any valid and timely Requests for Exclusion, the Settlement Administrator shall proportionately increase the Individual Settlement Payment for each Class-B Member according to the number of Workweeks worked, so that the amount actually distributed to Class-B Members equals 100% of the Class-B Fund.

46(c)

- Payments from the PAGA Fund. Defendant will calculate the total number of Workweeks worked by each PAGA Member during the PAGA Period and the aggregate total number of Workweeks worked by all PAGA Members during the PAGA Period. To determine each PAGA Member's estimated "Individual Settlement Payment," the Settlement Administrator will use the following formula: The PAGA Fund will be divided by the aggregate total number of Workweeks in the PAGA Period, resulting in the "PAGA Workweek Value." Each PAGA Member's "Individual Settlement Payment" will be calculated by multiplying each individual PAGA Member's total number of Workweeks by the PAGA Workweek Value. The entire PAGA Fund will be disbursed to all PAGA Members.
- 47. No Credit Toward Benefit Plans. The Individual Settlement Payments made to Class Members under this Settlement, as well as any other payments made pursuant to this Settlement, will not be utilized to calculate any additional benefits under any benefit plans to which any Class Members may be eligible, including, but not limited to profit-sharing plans, bonus plans, 401(k) plans, stock purchase plans, vacation plans, sick leave plans, PTO plans, and any other benefit plan. Rather, it is the Parties' intention that this Settlement Agreement will not affect any rights, contributions, or amounts to which any Class Members may be entitled under any benefit plans.
- 48. <u>Administration Process</u>. The Parties agree to cooperate in the administration of the settlement and to make all reasonable efforts to control and minimize the costs and expenses incurred in administration of the Settlement.
- 49. <u>Delivery of the Class List</u>. Within twenty (20) calendar days of Preliminary Approval, Defendant will provide the Class List to the Settlement Administrator.
- 50. <u>Notice by First-Class U.S. Mail</u>. Within fourteen (14) calendar days after receiving the Class List from Defendant, the Settlement Administrator will mail a Class Notice to all Class Members via regular First-Class U.S. Mail, using the most current, known mailing addresses identified in the Class List.
 - 51. <u>Confirmation of Updated Contact Information in the Class Lists</u>. Prior to mailing, the

Settlement Administrator will perform a search based on the National Change of Address Database for information to update and correct for any known or identifiable address changes. Any Class Notices returned to the Settlement Administrator as non-deliverable on or before the Response Deadline will be sent promptly via regular First-Class U.S. Mail to the forwarding address affixed thereto and the Settlement Administrator will indicate the date of such re-mailing on the Class Notice. If no forwarding address is provided, the Settlement Administrator will promptly attempt to determine the correct address using a skip-trace, or other search using the name, address and/or Social Security Number of the Class Member involved, and will then perform a single re-mailing. Those Class Members who receive a remailed Class Notice, whether by skip-trace or by request, will have either (a) an additional fifteen (15) calendar days or (b) until the Response Deadline, whichever is later, to submit a Request for Exclusion or an objection to the Settlement.

- 52. <u>Class Notices</u>. All Class Members will be mailed a Class Notice. Each Class Notice will provide: (a) information regarding the nature of the Actions; (b) a summary of the Settlement's principal terms; (c) the Settlement Class and PAGA Member definitions; (d) the total number of Workweeks each respective Class Member and PAGA Member worked for Defendant during the Class Period and PAGA Period; (e) each Class Member's and PAGA Member's estimated Individual Settlement Payment and the formula for calculating Individual Settlement Payments; (f) the dates which comprise the Class Period and PAGA Period; (g) instructions on how to submit Requests for Exclusion or Notices of Objection; (h) the deadlines by which the Class Member must postmark or fax Requests for Exclusion, or postmark Notices of Objection to the Settlement; and (i) the claims to be released.
- 53. <u>Disputed Information on Class Notices.</u> Class Members will have an opportunity to dispute the information provided in their Class Notices. To the extent Class Members dispute their employment dates or the number of Workweeks on record, Class Members may produce evidence to the Settlement Administrator showing that such information is inaccurate. Defendant's records will be presumed correct, but the Settlement Administrator shall contact the Parties regarding the dispute and the Parties will work in good faith to resolve it. All disputes must be submitted by the Response Deadline, and will be decided within thirty (30) business days after the Response Deadline.
 - 54. Request for Exclusion Procedures. Any Class Member wishing to opt-out of the release

of the Class-B Released Claims must sign and fax or postmark a written Request for Exclusion to the Settlement Administrator within the Response Deadline. In the case of Requests for Exclusion that are mailed to the Settlement Administrator, the postmark date will be the exclusive means to determine whether a Request for Exclusion has been timely submitted.

- 55. Releases by Class-A Members. Upon the Funding Date, and except as to such rights or claims as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, each Class-A Member, together and individually, on their behalf and on behalf of their respective heirs, executors, administrators, agents, and attorneys, shall fully and forever release and discharge all of the Released Parties, or any of them, from each of the Class-A Released Claims arising during the Class Period.
- 56. Releases by Class-B Members. Upon the Funding Date, and except as to such rights or claims as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, each Class-B Member, together and individually, on their behalf and on behalf of their respective heirs, executors, administrators, agents, and attorneys, shall fully and forever release and discharge all of the Released Parties, or any of them, from each of the Class-B Released Claims arising during the Class Period.
- 57. Releases by Plaintiffs and LWDA. Upon the Funding Date, and except as to such rights or claims as may be created by this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiffs, the State of California, and the LWDA shall fully and forever release and discharge all of the Released Parties, or any of them, from each of the PAGA Released Claims during the PAGA Period.
- objection Procedures. To object to the Settlement Agreement, a Class Member may either postmark a valid Notice of Objection to the Settlement Administrator on or before the Response Deadline, or in lieu of submitting a written Notice of Objection, appear in person at the Final Approval Hearing to object. Class Members who fail to object either by submitting a valid Notice of Objection or appearing in person at the Final Approval Hearing will be deemed to have waived all objections to the Settlement and will be foreclosed from making any objections, whether by appeal or otherwise, to the Settlement Agreement. At no time will any of the Parties or their counsel seek to solicit or otherwise encourage Class Members to submit written objections to the Settlement Agreement or appeal from the final approval order and judgment. Class Counsel will not represent any Class Members with respect to any such objections to this Settlement. If a Class Member timely submits both a Notice of Objection and

a Request for Exclusion, the Request for Exclusion will be given effect and considered valid, the Notice of Objection shall be rejected, and the Class Member shall not participate in or be bound by the Settlement.

- 59. Certification Reports Regarding Individual Settlement Payment Calculations. The Settlement Administrator will provide Defendant's counsel and Class Counsel a weekly report that certifies the number of Class Members who have submitted valid Requests for Exclusion or objections to the Settlement, and whether any Class Member has submitted a challenge to any information contained in their Class Notice, including those received after the Response Deadline. Additionally, the Settlement Administrator will provide to counsel for both Parties any updated reports regarding the administration of the Settlement Agreement as needed or requested.
- 60. <u>Distribution Timing of Individual Settlement Payments</u>. Within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Funding Date, the Settlement Administrator will issue payments to: (a) Class Members and PAGA Members; (b) the Labor and Workforce Development Agency; (c) Plaintiffs; and (d) Class Counsel. The Settlement Administrator will also issue a payment to itself for Court-approved services performed in connection with the Settlement.
- 61. <u>Uncashed Settlement Checks</u>. Proceeds represented by Individual Settlement Payment checks returned as undeliverable and Individual Settlement Payment checks remaining uncashed for more than one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days after issuance will be tendered pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 384 to the Justice Gap Fund maintained by The State Bar of California.
- 62. <u>Certification of Completion</u>. Upon 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.
- 63. <u>Treatment of Individual Settlement Payments</u>. All Individual Settlement Payments will be allocated as follows: (a) Twenty Percent (20%) of each Individual Settlement Payment will be allocated as wages for which IRS Forms W-2 will be issued; and (b) Eighty Percent (80%) will be allocated as non-wages for which IRS Forms 1099-MISC will be issued.
- 64. <u>Administration of Taxes by the Settlement Administrator</u>. The Settlement Administrator will be responsible for issuing to Plaintiffs, Class Members, PAGA Members, and Class Counsel any

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W-2, 1099, or other tax forms as may be required by law for all amounts paid pursuant to this Settlement. The Settlement Administrator will also be responsible for forwarding all payroll taxes and penalties to the appropriate government authorities.

- 65. <u>Tax Liability</u>. Defendant makes no representation as to the tax treatment or legal effect of the payments called for hereunder, and Plaintiffs and Class Members are not relying on any statement, representation, or calculation by Defendant or by the Settlement Administrator in this regard.
- 66. Circular 230 Disclaimer. EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT (FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE "ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY" AND EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT OTHER THAN THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY, AN "OTHER PARTY") 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 AMENDED); (2) THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY (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 ON THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY; AND (3) NO ATTORNEY OR ADVISER TO ANY OTHER PARTY HAS IMPOSED ANY LIMITATION THAT PROTECTS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY SUCH ATTORNEY'S OR ADVISER'S TAX STRATEGIES (REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH LIMITATION IS LEGALLY BINDING) UPON DISCLOSURE BY THE ACKNOWLEDGING PARTY OF THE TAX TREATMENT OR TAX STRUCTURE OF ANY TRANSACTION, INCLUDING ANY TRANSACTION CONTEMPLATED BY THIS

AGREEMENT.

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- 67. No Prior Assignments. The Parties and their counsel represent, covenant, and warrant that 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 right herein released and discharged.
- 68. Nullification of Settlement Agreement. In the event that: (a) the Court does not finally approve the Settlement as provided herein; or (b) the Settlement does not become final for any other reason, then this Settlement Agreement, and any documents generated to bring it into effect, will be null and void. Any order or judgment entered by the Court in furtherance of this Settlement Agreement will likewise be treated as void from the beginning.
- 69. Preliminary Approval Hearing. Plaintiffs will obtain a hearing before the Court to request the Preliminary Approval of the Settlement Agreement, and the entry of a Preliminary Approval Order for preliminary approval of the proposed Settlement Agreement, and setting a date for a final fairness hearing. The Preliminary Approval Order will provide for the Class Notice to be sent to all Class Members as specified herein. In conjunction with the Preliminary Approval hearing, Plaintiffs will submit this Settlement Agreement, which sets forth the terms of this Settlement, and will include the proposed Notice of Class Action Settlement, attached as Exhibit A. Class Counsel will be responsible for drafting all documents necessary to obtain preliminary approval. Class Counsel will provide to the LWDA in each of the Actions a copy of the Settlement Agreement at the same time that it is submitted to the Court pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(l)(2).
- 70. Final Settlement Approval Hearing and Entry of Judgment. Upon expiration of the deadlines to postmark Requests for Exclusion or objections to the Settlement Agreement, and with the Court's permission, a final fairness hearing will be conducted to determine the Final Approval of the Settlement Agreement along with the amounts properly payable for: (a) Attorneys' Fees and Costs; (b) the Class Representative Enhancement Payments; (c) Individual Settlement Payments; (d) the Labor and Workforce Development Agency Payment; (e) all Settlement Administration Costs. The final fairness hearing will not be held earlier than thirty (30) calendar days after the Response Deadline. Class Counsel will be responsible for drafting all documents necessary to obtain final approval. Class Counsel will also

be responsible for drafting the attorneys' fees and costs application to be heard at the final approval hearing.

- 71. <u>Judgment and Continued Jurisdiction</u>. Upon final approval of the Settlement by the Court or after the final fairness hearing, the Parties will present the Judgment to the Court for its approval. After entry of the Judgment, the Court will have continuing jurisdiction solely for purposes of addressing: (a) the interpretation and enforcement of the terms of the Settlement, (b) Settlement administration matters, and (c) such post-Judgment matters as may be appropriate under court rules or as set forth in this Settlement Agreement. In addition to the Settlement Agreement and Class Notice, a copy of the Judgment will be posted to the Settlement Administrator's website. Class Counsel will provide a copy of the Judgment to the LWDA pursuant to Labor Code section 2699(*l*)(3).
- Release by Plaintiffs. Upon the Funding Date, in addition to the claims being released by all Class Members, Plaintiffs will release and forever discharge the Released Parties, to the fullest extent permitted by law, of and from any and all claims, known and unknown, asserted and not asserted, which Plaintiffs have or may have against the Released Parties as of the date of execution of this Settlement Agreement. To the extent the foregoing release is a release to which Section 1542 of the California Civil Code or similar provisions of other applicable law may apply, Plaintiffs expressly waive any and all rights and benefits conferred upon them by the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code or similar provisions of applicable law which are as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

- 73. <u>Exhibits Incorporated by Reference</u>. The terms of this Settlement Agreement include the terms set forth in any attached Exhibits, which are incorporated by this reference as though fully set forth herein. Any Exhibits to this Settlement Agreement are an integral part of the Settlement.
 - 74. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Settlement Agreement and any attached Exhibits constitute the

entirety of the Parties' settlement of the Claims. No other prior or contemporaneous written or oral agreements may be deemed binding on the Parties as to the Claims. The Parties expressly recognize California Civil Code Section 1625 and California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1856(a), which provide that a written agreement is to be construed according to its terms and may not be varied or contradicted by extrinsic evidence, and the Parties agree that no such extrinsic oral or written representations or terms will modify, vary or contradict the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

- 75. <u>Amendment or Modification</u>. No amendment, change, or modification to this Settlement Agreement will be valid unless in writing and signed, either by the Parties or their counsel, and approved by the Court.
- Authorization to Enter Into Settlement Agreement. Counsel for all Parties warrant and represent they are expressly authorized by the Parties whom they represent to negotiate this Settlement Agreement and to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties pursuant to this Settlement Agreement to effectuate its terms and to execute any other documents required to effectuate the terms of this Settlement Agreement. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other and use their best efforts to effect the implementation of the Settlement. If the Parties are unable to reach agreement on the form or content of any document needed to implement the Settlement, or on any supplemental provisions that may become necessary to effectuate the terms of this Settlement, the Parties may seek the assistance of the Court to resolve such disagreement.
- 77. <u>Binding on Successors and Assigns</u>. This Settlement Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors or assigns of the Parties hereto, as previously defined.
- 78. <u>California Law Governs</u>. All terms of this Settlement Agreement and Exhibits hereto will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California.
- 79. <u>Execution and Counterparts</u>. This Settlement Agreement is subject only to the execution of all Parties. However, the Settlement Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them, including electronic (e.g., DocuSign), facsimile, and scanned copies of the signature page, will be deemed to be one and the same instrument.
- 80. <u>Acknowledgment that the Settlement is Fair and Reasonable</u>. The Parties believe this Settlement Agreement is a fair, adequate and reasonable settlement of the Actions and have arrived at

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this Settlement after arm's-length negotiations and in the context of adversarial litigation, taking into account all relevant factors, present and potential. The Parties further acknowledge that they are each represented by competent counsel and that they have had an opportunity to consult with their counsel regarding the fairness and reasonableness of this Settlement.

- 81. Invalidity of Any Provision. Before declaring any provision of this Settlement Agreement invalid, the Court will first attempt to construe the provision as valid to the fullest extent possible consistent with applicable precedents so as to define all provisions of this Settlement Agreement valid and enforceable.
- 82. Waiver of Certain Appeals. The Parties agree to waive appeals and to stipulate to class certification for purposes of this Settlement only; except, however, that Plaintiffs or Class Counsel may appeal any reduction to the Attorneys' Fees and Costs below the amount they request from the Court, and either party may appeal any court order regarding this settlement that materially alters the Settlement Agreement's terms.
- 83. Non-Admission of Liability. The Parties enter into this Settlement to resolve the dispute that has arisen between them and to avoid the burden, expense and risk of continued litigation. In entering into this Settlement, Defendant does not admit, and specifically denies, that it violated any federal, state, or local law; violated any regulations or guidelines promulgated pursuant to any statute or any other applicable laws, regulations or legal requirements; breached any contract; violated or breached any duty; engaged in any misrepresentation or deception; or engaged in any other unlawful conduct with respect to its employees. Neither this Settlement Agreement, nor any of its terms or provisions, nor any of the negotiations connected with it, will be construed as an admission or concession by Defendant of any such violations or failures to comply with any applicable law. Except as necessary in a proceeding to enforce the terms of this Settlement, this Settlement Agreement and its terms and provisions will not be offered or received as evidence in any action or proceeding to establish any liability or admission on the part of Defendant or to establish the existence of any condition constituting a violation of, or a noncompliance with, federal, state, local or other applicable law.
- 84. No Public Comment: Prior to Preliminary Approval, the Parties and their counsel agree that they will not issue any press releases, initiate any contact with the press, respond to any press

inquiry, or have any communication with the press about the fact, amount or terms of the Settlement.

- 85. <u>Waiver</u>. No waiver of any condition or covenant contained in this Settlement Agreement or failure to exercise a right or remedy by any of the Parties hereto will be considered to imply or constitute a further waiver by such party of the same or any other condition, covenant, right or remedy.
- 86. <u>Enforcement Actions</u>. In the event that one or more of the Parties institutes any legal action or other proceeding against any other Party or Parties to enforce the provisions of this Settlement or to declare rights and/or obligations under this Settlement, the successful Party or Parties will be entitled to recover from the unsuccessful Party or Parties reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, including expert witness fees incurred in connection with any enforcement actions.
- Mutual Preparation. The Parties have had a full opportunity to negotiate the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, this Settlement Agreement will not be construed more strictly against one party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it may have been prepared by counsel for one of the Parties, it being recognized that, because of the arms'-length negotiations between the Parties, all Parties have contributed to the preparation of this Settlement Agreement.
- 88. <u>Representation By Counsel</u>. The Parties acknowledge that they have been represented by counsel throughout all negotiations that preceded the execution of this Settlement Agreement, and that this Settlement Agreement has been executed with the consent and advice of counsel. Further, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel warrant and represent that there are no liens on the Settlement Agreement.
- 89. <u>All Terms Subject to Final Court Approval</u>. All amounts and procedures described in this Settlement Agreement herein will be subject to final Court approval.
- 90. <u>Cooperation and Execution of Necessary Documents</u>. All Parties will cooperate in good faith and execute all documents to the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate the terms of this Settlement Agreement.
- 91. <u>Binding Agreement</u>. The Parties warrant that they understand and have full authority to enter into this Settlement Agreement, and further intend that this Settlement Agreement will be fully enforceable and binding on all parties, and agree that it will be admissible and subject to disclosure in any proceeding to enforce its terms, notwithstanding any mediation confidentiality provisions that otherwise might apply under federal or state law.

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16		PLAINTIFF
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20		DEFENDANT
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22	Dated:	[Name of Authorized Signatory]
23		KOHL'S, INC., fka Kohl's Department Stores, Inc.
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1 2	THE PARTIES HAVE READ THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. THEY HAVE CONSULTED WITH LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND KNOW THE CONTENTS OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND SIGN THE SAME AS THEIR FREE, KNOWING, AND VOLUNTARY ACT AND
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11/9/2023 Dated:	CAPST ONE LAW APC By:
	Raul Perez
	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla
	LAW OFFICES OF MARK YABLONOVICH
Dated: <u>11/9/2023</u>	By: Mark Vablonovich
	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla
	GOLDSTEIN, BORGEN, DARDARIAN & HO
Dated:	By:
	Laura L. Ho
	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla
	A VETTY FID A CENTRE! CONV. D. C.
	LITTLER MENDELSON, P.C.
Dated:	By: Keith A. Jacoby
	Attorneys for Defendant Kohl's, Inc.
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Dated:	By: Tracie Childs
	Attorneys for Defendant Kohl's, Inc.
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2 3 4 5 6 7	11/9/2023 Dated:	CAPST ONE LAW APC
8 9 10 11 12	Dated:	By: Mark Yablonovich Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla
13 14 15 16 17	Dated:	By: Laura L. Ho Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla
18 19 20 21	Dated:	By: Keith A. Jacoby Attorneys for Defendant Kohl's, Inc.
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Dated:	OGLETREE, DEAKINS, NASH, SMOAK & STEWART, P.C. By: Tracie Childs Attorneys for Defendant Kohl's, Inc.

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4		Raul Perez
5		Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis,
6		and Isaac Bobadilla
7		LAW OFFICES OF MARK YABLONOVICH
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9	Dated: 11/9/2023	By: Mark ablonovich
10		Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis,
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13		GOLDSTEIN, BORGEN, DARDARIAN & HO
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16		Attorneys for Plaintiffs Nicole Lopes, Brian Paradis, and Isaac Bobadilla
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18		LITTLER MENDELSON, P.C.
19	Dated: 11/28/23	By:
20		Keith A. Jacoby
21		Attorneys for Defendant Kohl's, Inc.
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23	Dated: November 28, 2023	OGLETREE, DEAKINS, NASH, SMOAK & STEWART, P.C.
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