This Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Release and Stipulation is entered into between Defendants Jetro Holdings, LLC and Restaurant Depot, LLC ("Defendants") and Plaintiffs Orlando Robles and Juan Estrada ("Named Plaintiffs") in the Action (as defined below).

DEFINITIONS

- 1. <u>Action</u>. The "Action" means the consolidated lawsuits entitled *Orlando Robles* et al. v. Jetro Holdings, LLC et al., Case Numbers Case Nos. 37-2021-00015414-CU-OE-CTL, 37-2021-00040900-CU-OE-CTL, and 37-2021-00050278-CU-OE-CTL pending in the San Diego County Superior Court.
- 2. <u>Agreement</u>. "Agreement" shall refer to the instant Joint Stipulation of Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Release.
- 3. <u>Class Counsel</u>. "Class Counsel" means Graham Hollis and Dawn Berry of Graham Hollis, APC and James Hawkins, Christina Lucio, and Mitchell Murray of James Hawkins APLC. Class Counsel are Co-Lead Counsel.
- 4. <u>Class Members and the Class</u>. "Class Members" and the "Class" mean all current and former non-exempt employees of Defendants in California during the Class Period, other than those who opt-out (see Paragraphs 21 and 60c.)
- Class Notice. "Class Notice" means the document mutually agreed upon by the Parties and approved by the Court to be sent to the Class Members in English and Spanish following preliminary approval that includes the scope of release language for Settled Claims, notifies Class Members of the Settlement, explains the Settlement and Class Members' options, including how Class Members may opt out or object to the Settlement, and explains the facts and methods based on which the Class Member's estimated settlement payments are calculated, substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A".
- 6. <u>Class Period</u>. "Class Period" means from September 24, 2017 through May 8, 2023.
- 7. <u>Complaint</u>. "Complaint" means the Consolidated Class and Representative Action Complaint filed in the Action, filed with the San Diego County Superior Court on March 18,

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2022, as well as prior versions of the complaints filed in the consolidated action, or prior to the three lawsuits (numbers listed on the caption page) being consolidated.

- 8. <u>The Court</u>. The "Court" refers to the San Diego County Superior Court or other court or courts that will approve the Action, whether individually or together.
- 9. <u>Day</u>. "Day" refers to a calendar day(s) unless otherwise stated. If any designated date or deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the designated date or deadline will occur on the next business day.
- 10. <u>Defendants</u>. "Defendants" means Jetro Holdings, LLC and Restaurant Depot, LLC.
- 11. Effective Date. "Effective Date" means the first business day following the last of the following occurrences: (i) if no Class Member and/or PAGA Member timely and properly intervenes, files a timely motion to vacate the Final Judgment under, or objects or otherwise challenges the Settlement, then 31 days after the Court enters an Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement and Final Judgment; (ii) if a Class Member and/or PAGA Member timely intervenes or files a timely motion to vacate the Final Judgment or objects or otherwise challenges the Settlement, then sixty-one (61) days following the date the Court enters an Order Granting Final Approval of Settlement and Final Judgment, assuming no appeal is filed; or (iii) if a Class Member and/or PAGA Member timely intervenes or files a motion to vacate the Final Judgment, or objects or otherwise challenges the Settlement, and files a timely appeal, then the date of final resolution of that appeal (including any requests for rehearing and/or petitions for certiorari), resulting in final and complete judicial approval of the Settlement in its entirety, with no further challenge to the Settlement being possible. Defendants shall deposit all sums necessary to fund the Settlement after the Effective Date based on the schedule explained in Paragraph 65 of this Agreement. In the event an appeal, writ, motion challenging the judgment or other collateral attack is made after the Effective Date, the funds shall not be distributed until all challenges are resolved in a manner that upholds the Settlement in its entirety and shall be returned if the Agreement is not finally and completely approved in all respects.

- 12. <u>Exclusion Period</u>. The "Exclusion Period" means the time period commencing on the date the Class Notice is mailed to Class Members via First Class U.S. and ending sixty (60) days later on the deadline to submit an Opt-Out Request or Objection.
- 13. Final Judgment. "Final Judgment" means the judgment entered and filed by the Court that: (1) finally approves this Agreement and the Settlement and disposes all class issues raised in this Action, bars through collateral estoppel and/or res judicata Settlement Class Members from reasserting Settled Claims against Released Parties; (2) finally approves this Agreement and the Settlement and disposes all PAGA issues and claims raised in this Action, bars through collateral estoppel and/or res judicata PAGA Members from reasserting PAGA Claims against Released Parties; and (3) awards and orders the payment of all required amounts pursuant to the terms of this Agreement (approved Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs, Settlement Payments to Class Members and PAGA Payments to PAGA Members, etc.). The Final Judgment will constitute a binding and final resolution of any and all claims by the Named Plaintiffs and all Settlement Class Members as to all Settled Claims and all PAGA Members as to all Settled PAGA Claims as set forth in this Agreement.
- 14. <u>Final Settlement Approval Hearing</u>. "Final Settlement Approval Hearing" means the hearing at which the Court shall consider the motion for final approval of this Settlement and determine whether to fully and finally approve the fairness and reasonableness of this Settlement and Agreement, and enter an order barring through collateral estoppel and/or res judicata Settlement Class Members from asserting Settled Claims against Released Parties and all PAGA Members from pursuing Settled PAGA Claims against Released Parties.
- Settlement Administrator ("SA") by or on behalf of Defendants following Final Judgment and the Effective Date in full and complete discharge of the entire monetary obligation of Defendants in an amount equal to the GSA, which, as set forth herein, shall satisfy all outstanding and awarded Settlement Payments, PAGA Payments, attorneys' fees and costs awarded to Class Counsel, the Named Plaintiffs' enhancement awards as awarded by the Court, outstanding payments to the SA as approved by the Court for settlement administration costs, the employer's share of payroll taxes and

the payment to the Labor Workforce Development Agency (or "LWDA"), minus any amounts already paid under the Agreement.

- 16. Gross Settlement Amount or GSA. "Gross Settlement Amount" or "GSA" is the maximum potential value of the settlement, which is Four Million and One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,100,000.00). The Gross Settlement Amount is the maximum amount Defendants can be required to pay under this Settlement, including: (1) Payments to the Class Members for their share of the Net Settlement Amount (defined below); (2) Payments to the PAGA Members of their share of the PAGA Employee Fund; (3) Counsel's attorneys' fees ("Attorneys' Fees"); (4) Counsel's Litigation Costs and Expenses ("Litigation Costs"); (5) settlement administration costs ("Settlement Administration Costs"); (6) payment of a Service Award to Plaintiffs; (7) the payment to the LWDA of its share of Net Settlement Amount; and (8) all employment taxes for employee side wages. All employer side taxes will be paid separate and apart from the GSA.
- 17. <u>Last Known Address</u>. "Last Known Address" means the most recently recorded mailing address for a Class Member and/or PAGA Member contained in Defendants' records.
- 18. <u>Named Plaintiffs</u>. "Named Plaintiffs" individually and collectively means Orlando Robles and Juan Estrada.
- 19. <u>Net Settlement Amount or "NSA"</u>. "Net Settlement Amount" or "NSA" means the Gross Settlement Amount less the amounts deducted pursuant to Paragraphs 55a through 55e of this Agreement, including deductions of the amounts awarded to Class Counsel, the enhancement award to the Named Plaintiffs, the payment to the LWDA to resolve claims under the PAGA, and the costs awarded for settlement administration owed pursuant to this Agreement.
- 20. <u>Objection</u>. "Objection" means a written request, which a Class Member may submit no later than the last day of the Exclusion Period and in the form specified in Paragraph 62 in order to object to the Settlement, or a personal appearance, or other appearance permitted by the Court, at the Final Approval Hearing to object.
- 21. Opt-Out Request. "Opt-Out Request" must (1) contain the name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting exclusion; (2) be signed by the Class Member; (3) be

postmarked or fax stamped within the Exclusion Period [60 days after mailing date] and returned to the Settlement Administrator at the specified address or fax number. (See Paragraph 60.c. and **Exhibit** "B")

- 22. Order of Final Approval or Order Granting Final Approval of Settlement. "Order of Final Approval" or "Order Granting Final Approval of Settlement" or "Final Approval" means the order issued in conjunction with the entry of the Final Judgment to be submitted by the Named Plaintiffs together with the Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement for entry and filing by the Court as specified in this Settlement.
- 23. <u>PAGA Period</u>. "PAGA Period" means from February 2, 2020 through the May 8, 2023.
- 24. <u>PAGA Member.</u> "PAGA Members" means all current and former non-exempt employees of Defendants in the state of California during the PAGA Period.
- 25. PAGA Payment and PAGA Employee Fund. Of the Gross Settlement Amount, \$200,000.00 shall be paid in Settlement of the PAGA claims. "PAGA Employee Fund" means the amounts distributed among PAGA Members and is the amount remaining (25% of the PAGA Payment) from the \$200,000.00 after subtracting the \$150,000.00 allocated to the LWDA (75% of the PAGA Payment). Subject to Court approval, the PAGA Employee Fund is \$50,000.00. The PAGA Employee Fund will be divided by the total number of PAGA Pay Periods Worked credited to all PAGA Members. Each PAGA Member's PAGA Payment is equal to the PAGA Pay Period Rate multiplied by his or her individual PAGA Pay Periods Worked pursuant to the records of Defendants.
- 26. <u>PAGA Pay Periods Worked</u>. "PAGA Pay Periods Worked" means the number of Pay Periods credited to a PAGA Member during the PAGA Period (for the Settled PAGA Claims), as determined by Defendants' records and estimates and as only subject to revision pursuant to this Agreement.
- 27. <u>Parties</u>. "Parties" means Named Plaintiffs, individually on behalf of themselves and on behalf of all Class Members, PAGA Members and interests of the Labor Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"), and Defendants.

- 28. <u>Pay Period</u>. A "Pay Period" will be determined by the actual dates a payroll check was issued to each Class Member and PAGA Member based on Defendants' records during the Class Period and PAGA Period.
- 29. <u>Pay Periods Worked</u>. A "Pay Period Worked" means the number Pay Periods worked by a Class Member during the Class Period or PAGA Member during the PAGA Period (for the Settled PAGA Claims), as determined or estimated by Defendants' records and as only subject to revision pursuant to this Agreement.
- 30. Pay Period Rate. "Pay Period Rate" for the Settled Claims means the amount yielded from dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total of all Pay Periods Worked credited to all Settlement Class Members during the Class Period. Each Settlement Class Member's settlement payment is equal to his or her individual Pay Periods Worked during the Class Period and multiplied by the Pay Period Rate. Therefore, the amount of each Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement Payment is tied to the number of Pay Periods Worked that each Settlement Class Member worked for Defendants in the State of California in comparison to all Pay Periods Worked by all Settlement Class Members in the State of California during the Class Period. Similarly, for the Settled PAGA Claims, "Pay Period Rate" means the amount yielded from dividing the PAGA Employee Fund by the total of all Pay Periods Worked credited to all PAGA Members during the PAGA Period.
- 31. <u>Preliminary Approval Order</u>. "Preliminary Approval Order" is the order entered and filed by the Court that preliminarily approves the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including approval of the Parties' Agreement that specifies the content of notice and manner in which notice will be provided to the Class and responded to by the Class, substantially in the form attached hereto as "**Exhibit C**".
- 32. <u>Released Parties</u>. "Released Parties" means Jetro Holdings, LLC, Restaurant Depot, LLC, and, for each, its parents, subsidiaries, Affiliates, related entities, joint venturers and each of its and their predecessors, successors, insurers, owners, stockholders, directors, officers, employees, attorneys, and other agents. For the purposes of this Agreement, "Affiliate" shall mean, with respect to any person or entity, any other person or entity, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, such first mentioned person

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or entity. As used in this definition of Affiliate, the term "control" (including "controlled by," or "under common control with") means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person or entity, whether through ownership of voting securities, as trustee, by contract, or otherwise.

- 33. <u>Settlement Administrator</u>. "Settlement Administrator" or "SA" means CPT Group or such other neutral administrator as chosen by the Parties and approved by the Court.
- 34. "Settled Claims" means all claims for violations of the Settled Claims. following Labor Code sections, as well as civil penalties under PAGA, that were actually alleged or that could have been alleged in the Action by, on behalf of the Class Members and the State of California, themselves and the PAGA Members for the entire Class Period and the entire PAGA Period, as well as any and all wage and hour claims and that were asserted or could have been asserted based on the factual or legal allegations contained in Plaintiffs' PAGA Letters and Plaintiffs' operative Complaint in the Action, arising at any time during the Class Period or PAGA Period, including: (a) failure to pay wages including overtime and minimum wage for all hours worked; (b) failure to provide meal periods; (c) failure to provide rest periods; (d) failure to timely pay wages during employment; (e) failure to timely pay wages at termination; (f) failure to provide accurate wage statements; (g) failure to indemnify for necessary business expenses; (h) failure to maintain accurate employment records (i) unfair business practices (Business and Professions Code section 17200 et seq.) (j) penalties under PAGA for alleged violations of Labor Code sections 200-203, 204, 210, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 246, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2699 et. seq., 2802, 6317, 6342, 6400 et seq., including but not limited to section 6423 (k) claims for violation of the provisions of the applicable Wage Order(s) related to unpaid wages (both minimum wage and overtime), failure to provide an appropriate temperature in the workplace, failure to provide suitable seating, failure to provide meal periods, failure to authorize and permit rest breaks; (1) claims for the attorney's fees and costs incurred in the prosecution of this Action on behalf of the Class Members and PAGA Members; (m) any other claims, remedies, penalties, or interest that could have been plead based on the facts alleged in the operative complaint in the Action; and (n) all claims that Plaintiffs, the Class Members and/or the PAGA Members may have against the Released Parties relating to: (i)

the payment, taxation, and allocation of attorney's fees and costs to Plaintiffs' Counsel pursuant to this Settlement Agreement; and (ii) the payment, taxation, and allocation of Plaintiffs' Payment pursuant to this Settlement Agreement. The release of the Released Claims shall be effective as to the entire PAGA Period and entire Class Period, both defined above; and expressly excludes all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, and California class claims outside of the Class Period, and PAGA claims outside of the PAGA period.

- claims alleged in the Action or which could have been alleged in the Action based on the allegations or facts alleged therein, and shall specifically include without limiting the generality thereof all causes of action listed in the Complaint. The release of the foregoing claims extends to all theories of seeking relief under PAGA for the specified claims regardless of whether the claim is, was or could have been alleged as separate claims, causes of action, lawsuits or based on other theories of relief, including under the California Labor Code, the Wage Orders, applicable regulations. "Settled PAGA Claims" includes all types of relief available for the above-referenced claims, including, without limitation, any claims for penalties, fines, liens, attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, debts, interest, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, or liquidated damages. The Final Judgment shall expressly provide that it covers and bars Plaintiff, LWDA, the State of California, and any other representative, proxy, or agent thereof, including but not limited to any and all PAGA Members from prosecuting "Settled PAGA Claims" that arose during the PAGA Period.
- 36. <u>Settlement Class/Settlement Class Member(s)</u>. "Settlement Class Member" means all Class Members other than those who have timely and validly submitted Opt-Out Requests and thereby excluded themselves from releasing Settled Claims from the Settlement.
- 37. <u>Settlement Payment</u>. "Settlement Payment" means a payment pursuant to a Settlement Class Member's pro rata allocation of the NSA as specified in Paragraph 55.
- 38. <u>Updated Address</u>. "Updated Address" means a mailing address that was updated by a reasonable address verification measure of the SA or by an updated mailing address provided by the United States Postal Service for a Class Member or PAGA Member.

RECITALS

- 39. On or about April 7, 2021, Named Plaintiff Orlando Robles filed a Complaint against Defendant Jetro Holdings, LLC in the San Diego County Superior Court as a PAGA Representative Action.
- 40. Thereafter, on or about September 24, 2021, Named Plaintiff Juan Estrada filed a class action complaint in the San Diego Superior Court against Defendants alleging the following causes of action against Defendants: (1) failure to pay wages, including regular, overtime and double time wages; (2) meal period violations; (3) rest break violations; (4) violations of Labor Code section 1194 and 1197; (5) failure to timely pay wages during employment and at the time employment ended; (6) failure to provide accurate wage statements; (7) failure to reimburse business expenses; and (8) violation of the California Business and Professions Code ("UCL").
- 41. Thereafter on November 30, 2021, Named Plaintiff Juan Estrada filed a PAGA Complaint against Defendants in the San Diego Superior Court raising PAGA claims based on the same claims raised in his class action complaint, as well as claims related to workplace safety, the temperature in the workplace and suitable seating.
- 42. The matters involving each of the Named Plaintiffs were eventually consolidated and the Consolidated Complaint was filed on March 18, 2022.
 - 43. PAGA letters were submitted by the Named Plaintiffs to the LWDA.
- 44. Defendants filed an Answer to the Consolidated Complaint in the Action and denied all allegations and claims asserted therein. Defendants deny that they engaged in any misconduct in connection with its wage-and-hour practices and that they have any liability or engaged in wrongdoing of any kind associated with the claims alleged in the Action, including any Settled PAGA Claims. Defendants further contend that they complied at all times with both federal and state wage-and-hour laws, and all other laws regulating the employer-employee relationship that relate to the employment of Named Plaintiffs and the Class and PAGA Members.
- 45. Defendants and Class Counsel, on behalf of Named Plaintiffs and the Class Members and PAGA Members, attended mediation with Lisa Klerman on January 20, 2023. The Parties hereto agree that the terms and conditions of this Agreement are the result of lengthy, intensive

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arm's-length negotiations between the Parties supervised by an experienced employment law mediator. The Parties agree that the Agreement is entered into in good faith as to each Class Member and PAGA Member and that the Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate as to each Class Member and PAGA Member.

46. Class Counsel is of the opinion that this Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interest of the Class and PAGA Members and other relevant interests in light of all known facts and circumstances, including the benefits conferred by the Settlement, the risk of significant delay, the uncertainty and risk of the outcome of further litigation, the burdens of proof necessary to establish liability, defenses asserted to the merits, including but not limited to the affirmative defenses asserted as to Settlement Class Members, the risks of proceeding on any class claims and PAGA claims, including class certification, the difficulties in establishing damages and penalties, and the numerous potential appellate issues. While Defendants specifically deny any liability or wrongdoing in the Action, Defendants agreed to enter into this Settlement to avoid the cost and business disruption associated with defending the Action. Defendants have claimed and continue to claim that the Settled Claims and Settled PAGA Claims have no merit and do not give rise to liability. This Agreement is a compromise of disputed claims. This Agreement, made and entered into by and between the Named Plaintiffs (on behalf of themselves and on behalf of the Class Members and PAGA Members and interests of the LWDA) and Defendants, each with the assistance of its respective counsel or attorneys of record, is intended to fully, finally, and forever settle, compromise and discharge the Settled Claims and Settled PAGA Claims against the Released Parties, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

47. Because the Action is pled as a class action, this Settlement must receive preliminary and final approval by the Court. Because the Action is pled as a PAGA action, this Settlement is subject to approval by the Court. Accordingly, the Parties enter into this Agreement on a conditional basis.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals listed above and the promises and warranties set forth below, and intending to be legally bound and acknowledging the sufficiency of

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the consideration and undertakings set forth herein, the Named Plaintiffs, individually on behalf of themselves and on behalf of the Class Members and PAGA Members and LWDA interests, on the one hand, and Defendants, on the other hand, agree that the Action shall be, and is finally and fully compromised and settled on the following terms and conditions.

Non-Admission of Liability. The Parties enter into this Agreement to resolve 48. the dispute that has arisen between them and to avoid the burden, expense and risk of continued litigation. In entering into this Agreement, Defendants do not admit, and specifically deny, that they: 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 or any other person or entity. Neither this Agreement, nor any of its terms or provisions, nor any of the negotiations connected with it or proceedings, payouts or other events associated with it, shall be construed as an admission or concession by Defendants of any such violation(s) or failure(s) to comply with any applicable law by Defendants or any Released Parties. Except as necessary in a proceeding to approve, interpret or enforce the terms of this Agreement, this Agreement and its terms and provisions shall not be offered or received as evidence in any action or proceeding to establish any liability or admission on the part of the Released Parties or to establish the existence of any condition constituting a violation of, or noncompliance with, federal, state, local or other applicable law. In addition the Parties intend this Settlement to be contingent upon the preliminary and Final Approval of this Agreement; and in the event Final Approval of this Agreement is not obtained the Parties do not waive, and instead expressly reserve, their respective rights to prosecute and defend this Action as if this Agreement never existed in the event the Settlement is not fully and finally approved as set forth herein. In the event that this Agreement is not approved by the Court, fails to become effective, or is reversed, withdrawn or modified by the Court or any other court with jurisdiction over the Action, the Agreement shall become null and void ab initio and shall have no bearing on, and shall not be admissible in connection with, further proceedings in this Action, except that the Court may award less than the amounts listed in

Paragraph 55a through 55e without impacting the validity and enforceability of this Agreement, and the Parties will be returned to their respective positions prior to entering this Agreement.

- 49. <u>Stipulation for Class Certification</u>. The Parties stipulate to the certification of this Settlement Class for purposes of this Settlement only. If, however, the Settlement does not become final for any reason, the Parties' Agreement shall become null and void *ab initio* and shall have no bearing on, and shall not be admissible in connection with, whether class certification would be appropriate in any other context in this Action.
- Defendants making the Funding Payment as set forth herein, Named Plaintiffs and all Settlement Class Members hereby do and shall be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, settled, compromised, relinquished and discharged any and all Settled Claims against any and all Released Parties. The Settlement includes a release of all Settled Claims during the Class Period by Settlement Class Members employed at any time during the Class Period. The Parties will take action to bar any Fair Labor Standard Act ("FLSA") claims pursuant to *Rangel v. PLS Check Cashers of California*, *Inc.*, 899 F.3d 1106 (9th Cir. 2018).
- a. The Parties agree for settlement purposes only that, because the Class Members are so numerous, it is impossible or impracticable to have each Class Member execute this Agreement. Accordingly, the Class Notice will advise all Class Members of the binding nature of the Agreement and such notice shall have the same force and effect as if the Agreement were executed by each Class Member.
- b. Named Plaintiffs and Class 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 rights herein released and discharged, except as set forth herein.
- c. The Parties agree that this is a settlement of disputed claims not involving undisputed wages, and that Labor Code Section 206.5 is therefore inapplicable.
- 51. <u>Release of Settled PAGA Claims</u>. As of the Effective Date and contingent upon Defendants making the Funding Payment as set forth herein, Named Plaintiffs, LWDA, the State of

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California, and any other representative, proxy, or agent thereof, including but not limited to any and all PAGA Members are barred from prosecuting Settled PAGA Claims that arose during the PAGA Time Period against any and all of the Released Parties Subject to Court approval, the Agreement includes a settlement of all Settled PAGA Claims during the PAGA Period by PAGA Members employed at any time during the PAGA Period to the fullest extent permitted under the PAGA, including settlement contemplated in Labor Code section 2699(1)(2).

52. Individual Releases of Claims. In addition to the releases made by the Settlement Class Members and PAGA Members set forth in this Agreement, the Named Plaintiffs release, as an individual and in addition to the Settled Claims described above, all claims, whether known or unknown, under federal law or state law against the Released Parties. Named Plaintiffs understand that this release includes unknown claims and that Named Plaintiffs are, as a result, waiving all rights and benefits afforded by Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides:

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.

The Parties understand and agree that notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Named Plaintiffs are not, by way of this release, releasing any claims which cannot be released as a matter of law.

53. Settlement Payments. Subject to the Final Approval of the Settlement and the conditions specified in this Agreement, and in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises set forth herein, Defendants agree to make a payment as set forth herein totaling an amount of, but not to exceed, Four Million Dollars One Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$4,100,000.00). The GSA shall fully satisfy Defendants' obligations for any and all payments, fees and costs identified in the Agreement, including, but not limited to, any payments to be made to the Named Plaintiff, Settlement Class Members, PAGA Members, the LWDA, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and out-ofpocket litigation expenses and costs, and settlement administration costs. In no event shall Defendants

be required to pay any amounts above the GSA under this Settlement and this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Defendants shall also pay the employer's portion of payroll taxes.

- Pro Rata Increase: The GSA was calculated with, and is premised on, the Parties' understanding that there are approximately 5,674 Class Members who worked approximately 193,465 pay periods between September 24, 2017 and October 22, 2022 (i.e., the date Defendants provided data in advance of mediation). The Parties agree that if the total number of actual pay periods exceeds 5% of the estimated number as of October 22, 2022, then the GSA will be increased by the same proportion above 5%. This means that if the pay periods as of October 22, 2022 are 203,138, or less, then there is no pro rata increase.
- 55. <u>Apportionment of GSA:</u> The Parties agree, subject to Court approval, that the GSA shall be apportioned as follows:
- a. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees of no more than one-third of the GSA (\$1,366,666.00). The attorneys' fees shall come from and be deducted from the GSA and paid out as set forth herein. Defendants will not oppose such application. The award of Attorneys' Fees shall be allocated as follows: 40% to James Hawkins APLC and 60% to Graham Hollis APC. The settlement is not contingent on Class Counsel receiving the requested amount of fees out of the GSA. If the Court awards less than that then the monies will be added to the Net Settlement Amount. The award of less than the requested amount of the fees is not a basis for appeal.
- b. Attorneys' Costs. Named Plaintiffs and Class Counsel shall request approval of payment of up to but not to exceed Forty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$40,000.00) in attorneys' costs, including any litigation costs, which will be deducted from the GSA and paid out as set forth herein. Defendants will not oppose such application. Attorneys' fees as specified in the preceding Paragraph and costs as specified in this Paragraph shall cover all claimed and unclaimed attorneys' fees, attorneys' costs and other amounts payable or awardable against Defendants for Class Counsel's work, effort or involvement in the Action and in carrying out the Agreement and includes any and all work, effort or involvement to carry out the terms of the Agreement and as may be

potentially or actually necessary or advisable to defend the Agreement and/or Settlement through appeal, or collateral attack or in any other forum or proceeding. These specified Attorneys' Fees and Costs shall be the sole payment for attorneys' fees and costs and, otherwise, the Parties and Class Members and their counsel shall bear their own fees and costs in connection with the Action. The settlement is not contingent on Class Counsel receiving the requested amount of costs out of the GSA. If the Court awards less than that then the monies will be added to the Net Settlement Amount. The award of less than the requested amount of the costs is not a basis for appeal.

- c. <u>Administration Fees and Costs</u>. Class Counsel will also apply to the Court for approval of SA costs in an amount estimated to be up to Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000.00), which will be deducted from the GSA. Defendants will not oppose such application. Class Counsel will specify the amount sought for such costs, up to the foregoing maximum, in Named Plaintiff' motions for preliminary and Final Approval of the Settlement.
- d. Named Plaintiffs' Enhancement and General Release Payment. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for approval of an enhancement award in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$10,000.00) to be paid to each of the Named Plaintiffs, from which fifty percent (50%) shall be deemed consideration for a general release and from which fifty percent (50%) shall be for assuming the risks associated with this litigation (including for assuming the risks in the class and PAGA case). Defendants will not oppose such applications. The enhancement awards are included in, and shall be deducted from, the GSA. The settlement is not contingent on Named Plaintiffs receiving the requested Enhancement. If the Court awards less than that then the monies not awarded will be added to the Net Settlement Amount. The award of less than the requested Enhancement is not a basis for appeal.
- e. <u>PAGA Allocation and Payments</u>. Pursuant to California Labor Code Section 2698, *et seq.*, the Parties designate Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$200,000.00) of the GSA to resolve any PAGA claims (including payment for Named Plaintiffs' claims on their own behalf and on behalf of all PAGA Members for penalties under the PAGA and payment to the LWDA).

calculate Pay Periods Worked, individual Settlement Payments, PAGA Pay Periods Worked, and

PAGA Payments does not imply that all of the elements of damages covered by the release are not being taken into account. The above formulas were devised as practical and logistical tools to simplify the payment process.

- No Credit Toward Benefit Plans. The Settlement Payments made to Settlement Class Members and PAGA Payments made to PAGA Members under this Agreement shall not be utilized to calculate any additional benefits under any benefit plans to which any Settlement Class Members or Class Members or PAGA 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 Agreement will not affect any rights, contributions, or amounts to which any Settlement Class Members, Class Members and PAGA Members may be entitled under any benefit plans.
- 57. <u>Taxation of Settlement Proceeds</u>. All Settlement Payments shall be paid in a net amount after applicable state and federal tax withholdings, including payroll taxes, if any, have been deducted.
- a. The Parties agree that twenty percent (20%) will be allocated to wages and W-2s shall be issued and that the remainder of the amount distributed to each Settlement Class Member will be considered penalties, interest and any other non-wage related amount, if any, and will be reported as such to each Settlement Class Member on an IRS Form 1099. The PAGA Payments to PAGA Members will be designated as payments for alleged penalties and other non-wage amounts.
- b. The SA shall calculate, withhold from the Settlement Payments, and remit to applicable governmental agencies sufficient amounts, if any, as may be owed for applicable taxes. The SA will issue appropriate tax forms, if required, to each such Settlement Class Member consistent with the foregoing breakdown. The SA shall remit to applicable governmental agencies sufficient amounts to cover taxes on the wage portion of the Settlement Payments.
- c. All Parties represent that they have not received, and shall not rely on, advice or representations from other parties or their agents, including Class Members and PAGA Members, regarding the tax treatment of payments under federal, state, or local law. In this regard,

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27 28 Defendants make no representations regarding the taxability of the Settlement Payments and PAGA Payments.

- d. Class Counsel will be issued an IRS Form 1099 for any fees and costs awarded by the Court pursuant to Paragraph 55. Except as provided elsewhere in this Agreement, each Party shall bear his, her or its own attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses incurred in the prosecution, defense, or settlement of the Action. Class Counsel agrees that any allocation of fees between or among each of the Class Counsel or among the Class Counsel and any other attorney that may be representing Named Plaintiffs or the Class, if any, shall be the sole responsibility of Class Counsel. 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 no provision of this Agreement, and no written or oral communication or disclosure or other representation by Defendants and/or Released Parties is or was intended to be, nor shall be construed or be relied upon as, tax advice, and Named Plaintiffs, Class Members and PAGA Members shall not rely on Defendants and/or Released Parties for any tax advice with respect to the Settlement of this Action.
- e. The Named Plaintiffs will be issued IRS Form 1099s for any enhancement awards approved by the Court pursuant to Paragraph 53. The enhancement awards payable to the Named Plaintiffs shall be in addition to the Settlement Payments and PAGA Payments that they, as applicable, will receive.
- 58. Provisional Approval of Settlement. Named Plaintiffs shall file a motion in the Action and take all other action to request that the Court enter the Preliminary Approval Order based on an agreed-upon Settlement schedule, subject to Court approval:
- a. Seeking class certification on the terms set forth in this Agreement solely for purposes of class settlement;
- b. Preliminarily approving the proposed Settlement and this Agreement. including the payments to the Settlement Class Members, Class Counsel, the Named Plaintiffs, PAGA Members, the SA, and the LWDA;

Settlement and the terms of the Agreement, except that the Parties must work in good faith to comply with any changes to the Settlement proposed by the Court to the extent the changes are acceptable by both Parties, and the Court may award less than the amounts listed in Paragraph subparts 55a through 55e without impacting the validity and enforceability of this Agreement.

59. Notice Procedure.

- a. <u>Settlement Administrator</u>. The Parties will select CPT Group or a mutually agreeable third-party SA to distribute the Class Notice and the Settlement Payments and PAGA Payments and handle the tax reporting and field questions with a hotline. The SA (along with any of its agents) shall represent and warrant that it will: (a) provide reasonable and appropriate administrative, physical and technical safeguards for any personally identifiable information ("PII"), which it receives from Defendants; (b) not disclose the PII to Class Counsel, Named Plaintiffs, any party or third parties, including agents or subcontractors, without Defendants' consent; (c) not disclose or otherwise use the PII other than to carry out its duties as set forth herein; (d) promptly provide Defendants with notice if PII is subject to unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction; and (e) continue to protect the PII upon termination of its services.
- b. <u>Class Member Data</u>. Within twenty-one days (21) days of the Court granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendants shall provide to the SA a list of Class Members and PAGA Members that identifies for each Class Member/PAGA Member, his/her Social Security number (if known), last-known address, and the dates of employment and other Class Member data confirm qualifying Pay Periods Worked and PAGA Pay Periods Worked or will forward the start and end date(s) of employment for the SA to calculate the Pay Periods Worked and PAGA Pay Periods Worked. Defendants agree to consult with the SA as required to provide the list in a format reasonably acceptable for the duties of the SA. The SA will keep the list confidential, use it only for the purposes described herein, take adequate safeguards to protect confidential or private information and return or certify the destruction of the information or continued safeguarding of the information upon completion of the Settlement Administration process.
- 60. <u>Class Notice</u>. The SA will send to each Class Member and PAGA Member by First-Class U.S. Mail the Class Notice, which includes information on how Class Members may opt-

out of or object to the Settlement and a procedure by which a Class Member may challenge the number of Pay Periods Worked identified on his/her Class Notice. The Named Plaintiffs will seek approval of language in the Class Notice in the motion for preliminary approval and will seek permission for the Parties in conjunction with the SA to be able to correct immaterial errors on these forms or other mailed materials without approval from the Court, provided the changes do not alter the preliminary approval by the Court.

- a. <u>Settlement Administrator Duties</u>. Prior to mailing the Class Notice, the SA will update the addresses for the Class Members and PAGA Members using the National Change of Address database and other available resources deemed suitable by the SA. To the extent this process yields a different address from the one supplied by Defendants ("Updated Address"), that Updated Address shall replace the address supplied by Defendants ("Last Known Address") and be treated as the new Last Known Address for purposes of this Agreement and for subsequent mailings in particular. The SA shall be permitted to provide notices and communicate to the Class and PAGA Members in a format and statement to be provided to the Court, which Named Plaintiffs will submit in conjunction with the motion for preliminary approval and/or motion for Final Approval.
- b. <u>Class Notice Procedure</u>. Within seven (7) days after receipt of the above information from Defendants, the SA shall send the Class Notice to each Class Member's and PAGA Member's Last Known Address or Updated Address (if applicable) via First-Class U.S. mail.
- c. <u>Exclusion Period.</u> Class Members will have sixty (60) days from the postmark of the initial mailing of the Class Notice by the SA to submit by U.S. mail their Opt-Out Requests, with proof of date of submission to be the postmark date of the completed Opt-Out Request. Opt-Out Requests do not apply to the Settled PAGA Claims and will not exclude PAGA Members from the release of Settled PAGA Claims.
- d. <u>Objection Period</u>. Class Members will also have sixty (60) days to object to the Settlement by submitting a written objection with the SA that sets forth the basis of the objection pursuant to Paragraph 62, which the SA shall submit to the Parties within three (3) business days of receipt, and Class Counsel shall submit to the Court.
 - e. <u>SA Follow-up efforts.</u>

i. The SA shall re-mail by First-Class U.S. mail the Class Notice returned by the Post Office with a forwarding address, and shall re-mail by First-Class U.S. mail the Class Notice to any Class Member/PAGA Member who personally provides an updated address to the SA.

ii. In the event that the first mailing of the Class Notice to any Class Member/PAGA Member is returned without a forwarding address, the SA will immediately perform skip trace(s) if necessary using social security numbers provided by Defendants and National Change of Address searches, as needed, to verify the accuracy of the addresses provided and will conduct a second round of mailings of the Class Notice by First-Class, U.S. mail within an agreed number of days for those forms returned to sender. If no new information is ascertained by means of a skip trace, or if the Class Notice is returned to SA after using an address obtained from a standard skip trace, the SA will immediately perform a manual "in-depth skip trace" to locate a more recent or accurate address. If an Updated Address is identified by this method, the SA will resend the Class Notice to the Updated Address within three (3) days of identifying the Updated Address.

iii. In the SA re-mails the Class Notice, it shall note for its own records the date and the address of each re-mailing. Those Class Members who receive a re-mailed Class Notice, whether by skip-trace or forwarded mail, will have an additional ten (10) days (for a total of seventy (70) days) to postmark an Exclusion Form, or file and serve an objection to the Settlement or dispute the information provided in their Class Notice. The Settlement Administrator shall mark on the envelope whether the Class Notice is a re-mailed notice.

- f. <u>Documenting Communications</u>. The SA shall date stamp documents it receives, including Opt-Out Requests, Objections and any correspondences and documents from Class Members/PAGA Member.
- g. <u>Settlement Administrator Declaration</u>. At least ten (10) days prior to the deadline for the filing of the motion for final approval, the SA shall prepare, subject to Class Counsel's/PAGA Member's and Defendants' input and approval, a declaration setting forth the due diligence and proof of mailing of the Class Notices, the results of the SA's mailings, including tracing

and re-mailing efforts, and the Class Members'/PAGA Member's responses to those mailing and provide additional information deemed necessary to approve the settlement.

- h. <u>SA Written Reports.</u> Each week during the Exclusion Period, the SA shall provide the Parties with a report listing the number of Class Members that submitted Opt-Out Requests and Objections. Within seven (7) days of the close of the Exclusion Period, the SA will provide a final report listing the number of Class Members who submitted Opt-Out Requests or Objections.
- i. SA Calculations of Settlement Payments. Within seven (7) days after resolving all challenges made by Settlement Class Members, and following the Final Approval Order, the SA shall provide to the Parties a report showing its calculation of all Settlement Payments to be made to Settlement Class Members and PAGA Members. After receiving the SA's report, Class Counsel and Defendants' counsel shall review the same to determine if the calculation of payments to Settlement Class Members/PAGA Members is consistent with this Agreement, and shall notify the SA if either counsel does not believe the calculation is consistent with the Agreement. After receipt of comments from counsel, the SA shall finalize its calculation of Settlement Payments and PAGA Payments, at least five (5) days prior to the distribution of such payments, and shall provide Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel with a final report listing the amount of all payments to be made to each Settlement Class Member from the NSA and listing the amount of all payments to be made to each PAGA Member from the amount allocated for PAGA Payments. The SA will also provide information that is requested and approved by both Parties regarding its duties and other aspects of the Settlement and that is necessary to carry out the terms of the Settlement.

61. Requirements for Recovery of Settlement Payments.

a. <u>Class Members.</u> No claim form is necessary to participate in the Settlement. Unless a Class Member submits a valid and timely Opt-Out Request (as described in Paragraphs 21 and 61d and **Exhibit B**), a Class Member who takes no action will be a Settlement Class Member, bound by the Judgment, and will receive a payment from the NSA. All Class Members except for those who timely and validly opt-out of the Settlement shall be bound by the release of

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Settled Claims in this Agreement. All PAGA Members shall barred from seeking any action for civil penalties for Settled PAGA Claims in this Agreement.

b. <u>Late Submissions</u>. The SA shall not accept as valid any Opt-Out Request postmarked after the end of the Exclusion Period, absent agreement from the Parties or order of the Court. It shall be presumed that, if an Opt-Out Request is not postmarked on or before the last day of the Exclusion Period, the Class Member did not return the Opt-Out Request in a timely manner.

c. Challenges. Class Members will have the right to challenge the number of Pay Periods Worked allocated to them. The following challenge procedure will be established for the Class Member to dispute information on which his/her payment amount is based: Challenges to the number of Pay Periods Worked shall be sent directly to the SA at the address indicated on the Class Notice. A Class Member challenging the number of Pay Periods Worked identified may also submit documentary evidence in order to prove the number of Pay Periods Worked during the Class Period. Defendants shall have the right to respond to the challenge by any Settlement Class Member. No challenge to the number of Pay Periods Worked will be accepted unless sent by U.S. mail within sixty (60) days from the initial mailing of the Class Notice by the SA, with proof of date of submission to be the postmark date unless ordered by the Court. Additional time may be provided to a Class Member only upon a showing of good cause and within an amount of time determined by the SA that will not delay the distribution of Settlement Payments to other Class Members/PAGA Members and in no event beyond the date of filing of the motion for final approval. The SA will inform Class Counsel and Defendants' counsel in writing of any timely filed challenges and will determine all such disputes after consulting with the Parties regarding the number of Pay Periods Worked. Challenges will be resolved without hearing by the SA, who will make a decision based on Defendants' records and any documents or other information presented by the Class Member making the challenge, Class Counsel or Defendants. Subject to Court approval, the SA's determination is final and binding without a right of appeal. The SA will inform the Parties of its final dispositions of all such challenges.

d. Opt-Out Procedure. Unless a Class Member timely opts out of the Settlement described in this Agreement (see **Exhibit B**), he/she shall be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and shall also be bound by the Final Judgment. A Class Member will

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not be entitled to opt-out of the Settlement established by this Agreement unless he or she submits to the SA a request or notice of opting out via U.S. mail postmarked on or before the expiration of the Exclusion Period. The request must be in writing on an Opt-Out Request and include the Class Member's name, address, date, signature, to the notice that indicates he or she "opts out" of the Settlement (see Exhibit B). Opt-Out Requests do not apply to the Settled PAGA Claims and will not exclude PAGA Members from the release of Settled PAGA Claims. That is because the Parties agree there is no statutory right for any PAGA Member to object, opt out or otherwise exclude himself or herself from the PAGA part of the Settlement. Except as otherwise stated, Plaintiffs will vigorously defend against any attempt by any PAGA Member or by any entity or agency to intervene in this matter or object to/opt-out of this settlement. The Parties further agree there is no right or opportunity for any PAGA Member to appeal the approval of the Settlement by the Court. The Parties will jointly defend against any appeal filed as it pertains to the PAGA part of the Settlement.

- Upon receipt of any Opt-Out Request within the Exclusion Period, the SA shall review the request to verify the information contained therein, and confirm that the request complies with the requirements of this Agreement.
- ii. Any Class Member who fails to submit via U.S. mail a timely, complete and valid Opt-Out Request shall be barred from opting out of this Agreement or the Settlement. The SA shall not have the authority to extend the deadline for Class Members to file a request to opt out of the Settlement absent agreement by the Parties.
- iii. Class Members shall be permitted to rescind in writing their request to opt-out by submitting a written rescission statement to the SA no later than the Effective Date and provided individual Settlement Payments can be recalculated to reflect the rescission.
- iv. Defendants alone have the option to withdraw from the settlement if the number of opt outs exceeds ten percent (10%) of the Class Members. If Defendants exercise the so called "blow up provision" then the settlement will be null and void. Defendants shall provide written notice of such withdrawal to Class Counsel within ten (10) business days of receiving notice from the SA that this provision has been triggered. In the event that Defendants elect to so withdraw, the withdrawal shall have the same effect as a termination of this Agreement for failure to

satisfy a condition of Settlement. In the event that Defendants exercises this option, it will be solely responsible for any Settlement Administrator's costs. In addition, if the Court grants final approval conditioned on any material change to the Settlement, including but not limited to requiring a larger portion of the Net Settlement Amount to be treated as wages, then Defendants have the unilateral right to void the Settlement in its entirety. If that occurs, the Parties will have no further obligations under the Settlement, except that Defendants will pay the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses incurred as of the date that Defendants exercise the right to void the Settlement.

62. Objections to Settlement. Any Settlement Class Member may object to the Settlement. If a Class Member opts out of the settlement that Class Member cannot object to the Settlement. Any such objection may be submitted to the SA in writing on or before the close of the Exclusion Period or may appear at the Final Approval Hearing object orally. If any Settlement Class Member wishes to object in writing, any such written Objection shall include: (1) the full name of the Settlement Class Member; (2) address of the Settlement Class Member; (3) the basis for the objection; and (4) if the Settlement Class Member intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The Parties shall be permitted to file responses to the Objection in addition to any motion for final approval documents. Settlement Class Members may also appear at the Final Approval Hearing to object. At no time shall any of the Parties or their counsel seek to solicit or otherwise encourage Settlement Class Members to submit written objections to the Settlement or appeal from the Order granting final approval and/or Final Judgment. Class Counsel shall not represent any Settlement Class Members with respect to any such objections.

63. Final Fairness Hearing, Final Approval and Final Judgment.

- a. <u>Entry of Final Judgment.</u> At the Final Approval Hearing, Named Plaintiffs will request, and Defendants will concur in said request, that the Court enter a Final Judgment.
- b. <u>Motion.</u> Named Plaintiffs will draft and file a motion for final approval and for approval of any attorneys' fees and costs and enhancement award in conformity with any requirements from the Court and will take other action to request the entry of Final Judgment in accordance with this Agreement. The motion for final approval and corresponding paperwork will be

subject to input and approval from Defendants and the proposed judgment finally approving the Settlement shall be subject to the input from and approval by Defendants, provided that Defendants shall have five (5) days from receipt to provide such input. Defendants will concur in or not object to said request that the Court enter Final Judgment finally approving this Agreement. In conjunction with the motion for final approval, Class Counsel shall file a declaration from the SA confirming that the Class Notice and related forms were mailed to all Class Members as required by this Agreement, as well as any additional information Class Counsel, with the input and approval of Defendants, deems appropriate to provide to the Court.

- c. <u>Objections.</u> Before and/or at the Final Fairness Hearing, Named Plaintiffs and Defendants, through their counsel of record, may address any written objections from Class Members or any concerns from Class Members who attend the hearing as well as any concerns of the Court.
- d. Order. Named Plaintiffs will also draft and submit a proposed Order of Final Approval and Final Judgment in the form that is consistent with this Agreement and subject to prior review, revision and approval by Defendants. The Parties shall take all reasonable efforts to secure entry of the Order of Final Approval and Final Judgment. If the Court rejects the Agreement, fails to enter the Order of Final Approval, or fails to enter the Final Judgment, even after good faith efforts by the Parties to meet and confer and remedy where agreement can be reached any perceived deficiencies in the Settlement, this Agreement shall be void *ab initio*, and Defendants shall have no obligation to make any payments under the Agreement, except for payments to the SA for services performed up to that time. The Named Plaintiffs will submit a proposed Order of Final Approval subject to the review and approval of Defendants that will contain provisions:
- i. Wherein the Court enters Final Judgment, finding that this Agreement and Settlement is fair, just, equitable, reasonable, adequate and in the best interests of the Class and was reached as a result of intensive, serious, and non-collusive arms-length negotiations and was achieved with the aid of an experienced mediator and in good faith as to each Class Member;
- ii. Affirms that each side will bear its own costs and fees (including attorneys' fees), except as provided by the Agreement, and that Defendants shall not be required to

motion challenging the judgment or other collateral attack is made, the funds shall not be distributed until the challenge or other collateral attack is resolved in a manner that upholds the settlement in its entirety. The remittance of the Funding Payment to the SA shall constitute full and complete discharge of the entire monetary obligation of Defendants under this Agreement. No Released Party shall have any further monetary obligation or liability to Class Counsel, Named Plaintiffs, or Settlement Class Members under this Agreement after receipt by the SA of the Funding Payment.

- a. The Parties agree that the Funding Payment will qualify as a settlement fund pursuant to the requirements of Section 468(B)(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and Section 1.468B-1 *et seq.* of the income tax regulations. Furthermore, the SA is hereby designated as the "Administrator" of the qualified Settlement funds for purposes of Section 1.468B-2(k) of the income tax regulations. As such, taxes imposed on the gross income of that settlement fund and any tax-related expenses arising from any income tax returns or other reporting documents that may be required by the Internal Revenue Service or any state or local taxing body will be paid from the Funding Payment by the SA.
- b. The distribution of Settlement Payments to Settlement Class Members shall occur no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. The SA shall be deemed to have timely distributed Settlement Payments if it places said payment in the mail (First-Class U.S.). When the SA receives notice from Settlement Class Members that they have not received such Settlement Payments due to changes of address or other circumstances, the SA shall be deemed to have timely distributed those Settlement Payments if (after satisfying itself that the amounts have not been received or negotiated) it re-mails the payments to the updated addresses or provides for delivery by other reasonable methods requested by such Settlement Class Members, provided that any and all requests for re-mailing shall be actually received and acknowledged by the SA before the 180-day check cashing deadline or will be deemed ineffective, and have no effect and the original mailed amount shall be deemed timely distribution of the Settlement Payment. If any checks are returned to the SA without a forwarding address the SA shall conduct a skip-trace and re-mail the checks. The SA shall mail all Settlement Payments no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. To comply with California Rule of Court 3.771, settlement checks shall include the following language on the check: "A Court

approved settlement of the class action and PAGA representative actions and entered judgment for the claims asserted in the consolidated lawsuits called *Robles et al v. Jetro Holdings, LLC et al* pending in the San Diego County Superior Court. You are bound by that judgment."

- c. The distribution of attorneys' fees, costs, and the Named Plaintiffs' enhancement/general release awards shall occur no later than 30 days after the Effective Date. Under no circumstances shall the foregoing payments be made prior to the distribution of Settlement Payments to Settlement Class Members.
- 66. Settlement Checks: Class Members who are sent Settlement Payments shall have one hundred twenty (180) days after mailing by the SA to cash their settlement checks. If such Settlement Class Members do not cash their checks within that period, those checks will become void and a stop payment will be placed on the uncashed checks. Settlement checks that are not cashed within one hundred and twenty (180) days of mailing shall, subject to Court approval, be distributed pursuant to the State Controller Unclaimed Property Fund, or as otherwise directed by California Code of Civil Procedure Section 384 and as ordered by the Court. Settlement Class Members who fail to negotiate their check(s) in a timely fashion shall, like all Settlement Class Members who did not validly opt out of the Settlement, remain subject to the terms of the Settlement and the Final Judgment.
- 67. Reports From SA: The SA shall keep Class Counsel and Defendants' counsel apprised of all distributions from the GSA. Upon completion of administration of the Settlement, the SA shall provide written certification of such completion to the Court, Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel.
- Members. Subject to final Court approval, all Settlement Class Members and PAGA Members shall be bound by this Agreement, and Final Judgment shall be entered in the Action. In addition, unless the Class Member opts out of the Settlement described in this Agreement, he/she shall be bound by the Court's Order of Final Approval and Final Judgment. As set forth more fully in Paragraph 71, if the Court does not enter an Order of Final Approval and Final Judgment granting Final Approval of the Settlement, which becomes final, the Settlement shall become null and void, and its terms and all

documents setting out its terms shall be inadmissible in further litigation of this Action or any other case.

- 69. <u>Non-Interference with Opt-Out Procedure</u>. The Parties and their counsel agree that they shall not seek to solicit or otherwise encourage Class Members to submit Opt-Out Requests or objections to the Settlement or to appeal from the Final Judgment.
- 70. <u>Waiver of Appeal</u>. Subject to preliminary and Final Approval of this Settlement, all Class Members, except those Class Members who make timely and valid objections pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, expressly waive the right to appeal.
- Automatic Voiding of Agreement if Settlement Not Finalized. If for any reason the Effective Date does not occur, the Settlement shall be null and void and the orders, judgment, and dismissal to be entered pursuant to this Agreement shall be vacated; and the Parties will be returned to the status quo prior to entering this Agreement with respect to the Action, as if the Parties had never entered into this Agreement. In addition, in such event, the Agreement and all negotiations, court orders and proceedings relating thereto shall be without prejudice to the rights of any and all Parties hereto, and evidence relating to the Agreement and all negotiations shall not be admissible or discoverable in the Action or otherwise in any other proceeding.
- 72. <u>No Injunctive Relief.</u> The Parties agree that the Settlement does not include injunctive relief against Defendants or the Released Parties.

73. Confidentiality.

- a. Parties and their counsel will keep the Settlement confidential, through the Court's order granting the Parties' Motion for Preliminary Approval, but the Parties will be able to disclose to the Court, when and as necessary before preliminary approval, that they have reached an agreement in principle, subject to completion of a final Agreement and Court approval. The Parties recognize that all court filings are a matter of public record.
- b. Named Plaintiffs and Class Counsel agree not to issue a press release or otherwise notify the media about the terms of the Settlement or advertise or market any of the terms of the Settlement through written, recorded or electronic communications. In addition, Class Counsel for Named Plaintiffs' will not disclose the settlement, its terms or the parties on their website or

otherwise. Named Plaintiffs and their counsel further agree that if contacted regarding this case, they will state only that the lawsuit exists and has been resolved. However, this will not prevent Class Counsel from undertaking required submissions and disclosures that are required to obtain approval of the Settlement, including and not limited to, submission of the Settlement to the LWDA in conformity with the PAGA statute.

- c. Defendants shall direct all inquiries by Class Members to the SA, which shall provide general information about the lawsuit, including responding to questions about the lawsuit, by providing neutral information about the agreement consistent with the Agreement.
- Non-Disparagement. As permitted by law, Named Plaintiffs agree that each shall not disparage Defendants, Defendants' performance, its employees, officers, or owners, or conduct to any third person or entity, unless compelled to do so by law or required for purposes of the settlement. In the event that Named Plaintiffs are required to make any such statements pursuant to lawful process or as otherwise may be required by law, Named Plaintiffs agree to advise Defendants and their counsel as soon as reasonably possible in advance of such statements to allow Defendants a reasonable opportunity to seek appropriate relief. If prompted by anyone to discuss any dispute he had with Defendants, Named Plaintiffs may state simply that "the matter has been resolved."
- 75. <u>Notices</u>. All notices, requests, demands and other communications required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing, and shall be delivered by electronic mail to the attorneys listed below:

GRAHAMHOLLIS, APC Graham S.P. Hollis ghollis@grahamhollis.com Dawn Berry dberry@grahamhollis.com

JAMES HAWKINS APLC
James R. Hawkins
Christina M. Lucio
Mitchell J. Murray
James@Jameshawkinsaplc.com
Christina@Jameshawkinsaplc.com
Mitchell@Jameshawkinsaplc.com

LITTLER MENDELSON Jody A. Landry jlandry@littler.com

- Modification in Writing. This Agreement may be altered, amended, modified or waived, in whole or in part, only in a writing signed by counsel for the Parties and approved by the Court, and supersedes any memorandum of understandings or prior agreement(s). This Agreement may not be amended, altered, modified or waived, in whole or in part, orally. Any waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of any other provision of this Agreement unless expressly so indicated.
- Ongoing Cooperation. Named Plaintiffs and Defendants, and each of their respective counsel, shall cooperate in good faith to execute all documents and perform all acts necessary and proper to effectuate and implement the terms of this Agreement, including but not limited to drafting and submitting the motions for Preliminary and Final Approval, and defending the Agreement and Final Judgment against objections and appeals. Named Plaintiffs shall, as necessary, properly and completely take all steps, including but not limited to submitting any required documents to the LWDA and take any other actions necessary to resolve the Released PAGA Claims pursuant to this Agreement. The Parties to this Agreement shall use their best efforts, including all efforts contemplated by this Agreement and any other efforts that may become necessary by order of the Court or otherwise, to effectuate this Agreement and the terms set forth herein.
- No Prior Assignments. The Parties hereto 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 rights herein released and discharged except as set forth herein.
- 79. <u>Binding on Successors</u>. This Agreement shall be binding and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, assigns, executors, administrators, heirs and legal representatives, including the Released Parties.
- 80. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement constitutes the full, complete and entire understanding, agreement and arrangement between Named Plaintiffs and the Class Members/PAGA Members on the one hand, and Defendants and Released Parties on the other hand, with respect to the

 Settlement of the Action and the Settled Claims against the Released Parties, including Defendants. This Agreement supersedes any and all prior oral or written understandings, agreements and arrangements between the Parties with respect to the Settlement of the Action and the Settled Claims against the Released Parties. Except those set forth and included expressly in this Agreement, there are no other agreements, covenants, promises, representations or arrangements between the Parties with respect to the Settlement of the Action and the Settled Claims/Settled PAGA Claims against the Released Parties. The Parties explicitly 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 agree that no such extrinsic oral or written representations or terms shall modify, vary, or contradict the terms of this Agreement.

- 81. <u>Execution in Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts and may be signed electronically through DocuSign. A PDF of the signed Agreement shall be treated as an original signature for all purposes. All executed copies of this Agreement, (including copies of the signature pages), shall have the same force and effect and shall be as legally binding and enforceable as the original.
- 82. <u>Captions</u>. The captions and section numbers in this Agreement are inserted for the reader's convenience, and in no way define, limit, construe, or describe the scope or intent of the provisions of this Agreement.
- 83. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, enforced, and administered in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without regard to conflict of law rules.
- 84. <u>Reservation of Jurisdiction</u>. Notwithstanding the entry and filing of Final Judgment, the Court shall retain jurisdiction under Section 664.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure and California Rule of Court 3.769 for purposes of interpreting and enforcing the terms of this Agreement.
- 85. <u>Mutual Preparation</u>. The Parties have had a full opportunity to negotiate the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Accordingly, this Agreement shall not be construed more strictly against one Party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it may have been prepared by counsel

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1	Dated: Upul 1, 2023	Jetro	Holdings, LLC
2	V .		
3		By: I	Richard G. Kirschner, Chief Executive Officer
4	(A a cc)		•
5	Dated: Upul 19, 2023	Resta	aurant Depot LLC
6	V	(
7		Rich	ard G. Krischner, Chief Executive Officer
8			
9	APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:		
10			
11	Dated:, 2023	GRAI	HAM HOLLIS APC
12			
13		BY:	GRAHAM HOLLIS
14			Attorneys for Orlando Robles, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated and
15 16			aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public.
17	Dated:, 2023	IAME	ES HAWKINS APLC.
18	, 2023	27 7141	SINWRING MEC.
19		BY:	CVD VOMBY A VICEO
20			CHRISTINA LUCIO Attorneys for Juan Estrada, on behalf of
21			themselves and all others similarly situated and aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public
22	Exhibit A – Class Notice		Pariate Lucita
23	Exhibit B – opt Out Form Exhibit C – Proposed Preliminary Approval	Order	
24	4866-3950-7805.1		
25			
26			
27			
28			

1	Dated:	, 2023	Jetro Holdings, LLC.
2			
3			By: Richard G. Kirschner, Chief Executive Officer
5	Dated:	2023	Restaurant Depot, LLC
6	Dated.	, 2023	Restaurant Depot, EDC
7			Richard G. Kirschner, Chief Executive Officer
8			Richard G. Rinsellier, Chief Executive Officer
9	APPROVED AS TO FO	ORM ONLY:	
10			
11	Dated: April 24,	2023	GRAHAM HOLLIS APC
12 13			BY: Greham & Callis
14			GRAHAM HOLLIS Attorneys for Orlando Robles, on behalf of
15			themselves and all others similarly situated and aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public.
16 17			general public.
18	Dated:,	2023	JAMES HAWKINS APLC.
19			BY:
20			CHRISTINA LUCIO Attorneys for Juan Estrada, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated and
21			aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public
22	Exhibit A – Class Notice Exhibit B – opt Out Form Exhibit C – Proposed Pre	ı eliminary Approval	Order
24	4866-3950-7805.1	7 11	
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1	Dated:, 2023	Jetro Holdings, LLC.
2		
3		By: Richard G. Kirschner, Chief Executive Officer
5	Detail: 2022	P · · · · · · P · · · · · · · · · · · ·
6	Dated:, 2023	Restaurant Depot, LLC
7		Dishard C. Vinsalman Chief Francisco Off
8		Richard G. Kirschner, Chief Executive Officer
9	APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:	
10		
11	Dated:, 2023	GRAHAM HOLLIS APC
12		DV.
13 14		BY: GRAHAM HOLLIS
15		Attorneys for Orlando Robles, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated and
16		aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public.
17	Dated:April 18, 2023	JAMES HAWKINS APLC.
18		
19		BY: CHRISTINA LUCIO
20		Attorneys for Juan Estrada, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated and
21		aggrieved employees, and on behalf of the general public
22 23	Exhibit A – Class Notice Exhibit B – opt Out Form Exhibit C – Proposed Preliminary Approval	Order
24	4866-3950-7805.1	Order
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27		
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