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7	or ran others similarly situated					
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14	SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY					
15	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
16	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA					
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18	GEORGE VALDEZ, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	Case No: 5:22-cv-01719-SSS-SHK				
19	·	JOINT STIPULATION FOR CLASS				
20	Plaintiff,	ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT				
21	V.	Complaint Filed: August 5, 2022 Trial Date: None Set				
22	SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY, an Arizona Corporation; and DOES					
23	1 through 25, inclusive,					
24	Defendants.					
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FP 48147160.4

TO THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT AND TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR COUNSEL OF RECORD:

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This Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement ("Joint Stipulation of Settlement" or "Settlement" or "Agreement") is made and entered into by and between Plaintiff George Valdez and prospective Plaintiff Raul Romero (hereinafter collectively "Plaintiffs" or "Class Representatives"), individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, and Defendant Shamrock Foods Company ("Shamrock" or "Defendant"). Plaintiffs and Defendant are collectively referred to herein as "the Parties."

THE PARTIES STIPULATE AND AGREE as follows:

DEFINITIONS

- 1. "Action" means the action with Case No. 5:22-cv-01719-SSS-SHK in the United States District Court, Central District of California.
 - 2. "Class Counsel" means Boyamian Law, Inc.
- 3. "Class Members" means all current and former non-exempt employees employed by Shamrock as Delivery Drivers, or any other similarly titled non-exempt, hourly position, in California at any time during the Class Period.
- 4. "Class Period" shall be defined as August 5, 2018, through the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this Agreement.
- 5. "Covered Workweeks" means the number of weeks Class Members worked at Shamrock in California during the Class Period.
 - 6. "Defendant's Counsel" means Fisher & Phillips, LLP.
- 7. "PAGA" means the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (Cal. Lab. Code §§ 2698, et seq.).
- 8. "PAGA Allocation" means the portion of the Gross Settlement Amount that the Parties have agreed to allocate to resolution of the Released PAGA Claims. The Parties have agreed that the PAGA Allocation will be \$40,000 from the Gross Settlement Amount. The Parties further agree that, pursuant to PAGA, (i) Seventy-

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Five Percent (75%), or \$30,000, of the PAGA Allocation will be paid to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("PAGA Penalty Payment"); and (ii) Twenty-Five Percent (25%), or \$10,000, of the PAGA Allocation will be included in the Net Settlement Amount for PAGA Employees ("PAGA Settlement Payment").

- 9. "PAGA Employees" means all current and former non-exempt employees employed by Shamrock as drivers in California at any time during the PAGA Period.
- 10. "PAGA Pay Periods" means the number of pay periods the PAGA Employees worked during the PAGA Period.
- 11. "PAGA Period" means the period from May 24, 2022 through the date the Court grants preliminary approval of this settlement.
 - 12. "PAGA Representative" means Plaintiff Raul Romero.
- 13. "Released Class Claims" means all claims that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on the facts contained in the Operative Complaint, including claims for (1) failure to provide meal and rest periods and pay premiums; (2) waiting time penalties; (3) failure to pay wages or compensation for all hours worked, including minimum wage and overtime violations, which includes failure to pay compensation for time under Defendant's control, work off the clock, and reporting time; (4) failure to provide timely and/or accurate itemized wage statements; (5) unfair business practices and unfair competition in violation of Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq.; (6) failure to reimburse for necessary businessrelated expenses, and (7) failure to maintain complete and accurate time and payroll records, including failure to maintain adequate records of all wages earned, hours worked, breaks taken, deductions made, hourly rates, and numbers of hours worked at each hourly rate. More specifically, these claims include violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 216, 221, 225.5, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 511, 512, 551, 552, 558, 1174, 1194 to 1197.1, 1198, 1199, and 2802, and all claims under the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders.

- 14. "Released PAGA Claims" means all claims for civil penalties, and any other available relief pursuant to PAGA, that were, or reasonably could have been, alleged based on the facts contained in Plaintiff Raul Romero's Labor and Workforce Development Agency Notice and the Operative Complaint, including all PAGA claims premised upon (1) failure to provide meal and rest periods and pay premiums; (2) failure to reimburse for necessary business-related expenses; (3) failure to pay for all hour worked, including minimum wage and overtime violations, which includes failure to pay compensation for time under Defendant's control. work off the clock, and reporting time; (4) failure to provide complete or accurate itemized wage statements; (5) failure to pay on the regular pay day all wages owed; (6) failure to fully compensate employees in timely manner when their employment ended; and (7) waiting time penalties. More specifically, these PAGA claims are premised upon violations of Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 216, 221, 225.5, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 511, 512, 551, 552, 1174, 1194 to 1197.1, 1198, 1199, and 2802, and the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders.
- 15. "Releasees" are Defendant and its former and present parents, subsidiaries and affiliated corporations and entities (including Shamrock Farms Company), and all of their current and former owners, shareholders, members, agents, investors, investment bankers, accountants, insurers, reinsurers, attorneys, officers, directors, employees, managers, partners, trustees, subrogees, executors, administrators, employee benefit plans, predecessors, successors, and assigns, and all spouses, children and family members of the foregoing individuals.
- 16. "Response Deadline" means the date thirty (30) days after the Settlement Administrator initially mails the Notice to Class Members and the last date on which Settlement Class Members may submit a request for exclusion or written objection to the Settlement. In the case of a re-mailed Notice, the Response Deadline will be the later of 30 calendar days after initial mailing or 14 calendar days from re-mailing. The Response Deadline may be extended only as expressly described herein.

- 17. "Settlement Class" and "Settlement Class Members" are those Class Members who do not submit timely exclusion requests to the Settlement Administrator.
- 18. "Settlement Payments" means all of the payments to Settlement Class Members (the "Settlement Class Payments") and all of the payments to PAGA Employees (the "PAGA Settlement Payment").

STIPULATION

- 19. On August 5, 2022, Plaintiff George Valdez filed a class action in Riverside Superior Court alleging the following labeled causes of action: (1) Failure to Pay Meal and Rest Period Compensation (Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, and 512); (2) Waiting Time Penalties (Cal Labor Code §§ 203 and 204); (3) Failure to Pay Compensation for All Hours Worked and Minimum Wage Violation (Cal. Labor Code §§ 216, 510, 1194, 1194.2, and 1197) (4) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements (Cal. Labor Code § 226): and (5) Unfair Competition (Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*). Shamrock timely removed the state court action to the United States District Court Central District of California on September 30, 2022, Case No. 5:22-cv-01719-SSS-SHK.
- 20. On May 24, 2023, Plaintiff Raul Romero filed a Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") Notice alleging violation of the following: (1) failure to provide meal and rest periods (Cal. Labor Code §§ 226.7, and 512); (2) failure to reimburse for necessary business-related expenses (Cal. Labor Code § 2802); (3) failure to pay for all hour worked (Cal. Labor Code §§ 210, 216, 221, 225.5, 510, 511, 551, 552, 558, and 1194 to 1197.1); (4) failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements (Cal. Labor Code §§ 226 and 226.3); (5) failure to pay on the regular pay day all wages owed (Cal. Labor Code §§ 204 and 210); (6) failure to fully compensate former employees in timely manner when their employment ended (Cal. Labor Code §§ 201 and 202); and (7) waiting time penalties (Cal Labor Code § 203).

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- 21. This Settlement is contingent on Plaintiff George Valdez filing a First Amended Complaint in this Action before moving for preliminary approval of the Settlement, adding Plaintiff Raul Romero as a named Plaintiff, alleging a PAGA cause of action for penalties based on the alleged violations in Plaintiff Raul Romero's LWDA notice, as enumerated above, and specifying that, similar to the class claims, the PAGA claims are brought under Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 216, 221, 225.5, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 511, 512, 551, 552, 558, 1174, 1194 to 1197.1, 1198, and 2802, and all claims under the applicable Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of the First Amended Complaint to be filed in the Action.
- 22. Plaintiff George Valdez affirms and agrees that he does not have standing to bring PAGA claims against Defendant based on the dates of his employment with Shamrock.
- 23. Solely for purposes of this settlement, the Parties and their respective counsel stipulate and agree that the requisites for establishing class certification with respect to the Class Members have been met.
- 24. Should, for whatever reason, the Settlement not become effective, the fact that the Parties were willing to stipulate to certification as part of the Settlement shall have no bearing on, and shall not be admissible in connection with, the issue of whether the Class Members and/or the Class Claims should be certified in a non-Settlement context in this Action or in any other lawsuit. Defendant expressly reserves its right to oppose claim or class certification in this Action or any other action should this Settlement not become effective.
- 25. Defendant denies any liability or wrongdoing of any kind whatsoever associated with the claims alleged in the Action, LWDA notice, and complaints, and Defendant further denies that, for any purpose other than settling this lawsuit, the Action is appropriate for class or representative treatment. With respect to Plaintiffs' claims, Defendant contends, among other things, that Plaintiffs, the Class Members,

and the PAGA Employees have been paid proper wages, have been provided meal periods, have been provided rest periods, did not incur any business expenses that were unpaid, have been paid timely wages upon separation of employment, and have been timely provided with complete and accurate itemized wage statements. Defendant contends, among other things, that they have complied at all times with the California Labor Code and the applicable Wage Orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission. Furthermore, with respect to all claims, Defendant contends that it has complied at all times with the California Business and Professions Code.

- 26. It is the desire of the Parties to fully, finally, and forever settle, compromise, and discharge all disputes and claims arising from or related to the Action, LWDA notice, and complaints.
- 27. Class Counsel have conducted a thorough investigation into the facts of the Action, including an extensive review of relevant documents, and have diligently pursued an investigation of the claims of the Class Members and PAGA Employees against Defendant. Class Counsel has been provided time and payroll records for Class Members as well as policy and procedures, operational documents and other relevant documents pertaining to the claims and defenses in the Action. Based on their own independent investigation and evaluation, Class Counsel are of the opinion that the Settlement with Defendant for the consideration and on the terms set forth in this Joint Stipulation of Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interest of the Class Members and PAGA Employees in light of all facts and circumstances, including the risk of significant delay, the risk a class will not be certified by the Court, defenses asserted by Defendant, and numerous potential appellate issues. Defendant and Defendant's Counsel also agree that the Settlement is fair and in the best interest of the Class Members and PAGA Employees.
- 28. The Parties agree to cooperate and take all steps necessary and appropriate to obtain preliminary and final approval of this Settlement.

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29. The Parties agree to stay all proceedings in the Action, except those proceedings necessary to implement and complete the Settlement, pending the Final Approval hearing to be conducted by the Court.

PRIMARY TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

- 30. NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, promises and agreements set forth herein, the Parties agree, subject to the Court's approval, as follows:
 - (a) It is agreed by and among the Parties that this Action and any claims, damages, or causes of action arising out of the disputes which are the subject of the Action, be settled and compromised as between the Class Members, PAGA Employees, and Defendant, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement and the approval of the Court.
 - The terms of settlement embodied in this (b) Effective Date: Settlement shall become effective when all of the following events have occurred: (i) this Joint Stipulation of Settlement has been executed by all Parties and their respective counsel; (ii) the Court has given preliminary approval to the Settlement; (iii) the Notice has been given to the Class, providing them with an opportunity to dispute information contained in the Notice, to opt out of the Settlement, or to object to the Settlement; (iv) the Court has held a final approval hearing and entered a final order and judgment certifying the Class and approving this Settlement; and (v) the later of the following events: (a) five (5) calendar days have passed since final approval is granted if there are no objections to the Settlement; (b) sixty-five (65) days following notice of entry of the Court's final order approving the Settlement if there are any objections by any Class Member; (c) or if any

appeal, writ or other appellate proceeding opposing this Settlement has been filed within sixty-five (65) days following notice of entry of the Court's final order approving the Settlement, then twenty (20) days after when any appeal, writ or other appellate proceeding opposing the Settlement has been resolved finally and conclusively with no right to pursue further remedies or relief. In this regard, it is the intention of the Parties that the Settlement shall not become effective until the Court's order approving the Settlement is completely final, and there is no further recourse by an appellant or objector who seeks to contest the Settlement.

- (c) Gross Settlement Amount: Shamrock's maximum total payment under the Settlement, including all attorney's fees and costs, the Service Payments to the named Plaintiffs, the costs of settlement administration, the PAGA Allocation, and any other payments provided by this Settlement, is One Million Dollars and Zero Cents \$1,000,000 ("Gross Settlement Amount"). Shamrock will be separately responsible for any employer payroll taxes required by law, including the employer FICA, FUTA, and SDI contributions related to any wage payment made under this Agreement.
- (d) <u>Non-reversionary Settlement</u>: No portion of the Gross Settlement Amount will revert to Defendant.
- (e) <u>No Claims Required</u>: Class Members will not be required to submit a claim to receive their Settlement Payment.
- (f) Net Settlement Amount: The Net Settlement Amount shall be calculated by deducting from the Gross Settlement Amount (\$1,000,000) the following sums, subject to approval by the

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Court: (1) attorney's fees (not to exceed 33.3% of the Gross Settlement Amount, or \$333,333.33); (2) reasonable litigation costs (not to exceed \$25,000); (3) the Service Payments (up to \$15,000 to named Plaintiff George Valdez and up to \$5,000 to Plaintiff Raul Romero, for a total combined sum not to exceed \$17,500); (4) the PAGA Penalty Payment in the total amount of \$40,000; and (5) costs of settlement administration (not to exceed \$20,000). Settlement Payments to the Class Members will be calculated by the Settlement Administrator and paid out of the Net Settlement Amount as set forth below.

- Payroll Taxes and Required Withholdings: To the extent any (g) portions of the Settlement Class Members' Settlement Payments constitute wages, Shamrock will be separately responsible for any employer payroll taxes required by law, including the employer FICA, FUTA, and SDI contributions. Except for any employer payroll taxes, it is understood and agreed that Defendant's maximum total liability under this Settlement shall not exceed the Gross Settlement Amount. The Settlement Administrator will calculate and submit the Shamrock's employer share of payroll taxes after advising Defendant of the total amount owed, in aggregate, as employer-side payroll taxes and receiving a lump sum payment from Shamrock in that amount when the Gross Settlement Amount is delivered to the Settlement Administrator.
- (h) <u>Settlement Class Payments (Excludes PAGA Payments)</u>:
 Settlement Class Payments will be paid out of the Net Settlement
 Amount. Each Settlement Class Member will be paid a pro-rata
 share of the Net Settlement Amount (less the PAGA Settlement

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Payments), as calculated by the Settlement Administrator. The pro-rata share will be determined by comparing the individual Settlement Class Member's Covered Workweeks employed during the Class Period in California to the total Covered Workweeks of all the Settlement Class Members during the Class Period as follows: [Workweeks worked by a Settlement Class Member] ÷ [Sum of all Covered Workweeks worked by all Settlement Class Members] × [Net Settlement Amount – all PAGA Settlement Payments] = individual Settlement Payment for a Settlement Class Member. Settlement Class Payments in the appropriate amounts will be distributed by the Settlement Administrator by mail to the Settlement Class Members. Uncashed, unclaimed or abandoned checks, shall be transmitted to the California Controller's Office, as set forth below.

of the Net Settlement Amount. Each PAGA Employee will be paid a pro-rata share of the PAGA Employees' PAGA Settlement Payment, as calculated by the Settlement Administrator. Class Members will not be permitted to exclude themselves from this portion of the Settlement. The pro-rata share will be determined by comparing the individual PAGA Employees' PAGA Pay Periods during the PAGA Period to the total PAGA Pay Periods of all the PAGA Employees during the PAGA Period as follows:

[PAGA Pay Periods worked by a PAGA Employee] ÷ [Sum of all PAGA Pay Periods worked by all PAGA Employees] ×

[PAGA Settlement Payment] = individual PAGA Employee's portion of the PAGA Settlement Payment. PAGA Settlement Payments to PAGA Employees in the appropriate amounts will

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be distributed by the Settlement Administrator by mail to the PAGA Employees at the same time Settlement Class Payments issue to the Settlement Class. Un-cashed, unclaimed or abandoned checks, shall be transmitted to the California Controller's Office, as set forth below. The LWDA's PAGA Penalty Payment (75% or \$30,000) will issue to the LWDA at the same time Settlement Payments issue to the Settlement Class.

- Allocation of Settlement Payments: The Parties have agreed that (i) Settlement Class Payments will be allocated as follows: 20% to wages and 80% to penalties and interest. The PAGA Settlement Payment shares to PAGA Employees (25% or \$10,000) will be entirely allocated to penalties. Appropriate federal, state and local withholding taxes will be taken out of the wage allocations prior to payment to Class Members, and each Class Member will receive an IRS Form W-2 with respect to this portion of the Settlement Payment. The employer's share of payroll taxes and other required withholdings will be paid as set forth above, including but not limited to the Shamrock's FICA and FUTA contributions, based on the payment of claims to the Class Members. IRS Forms 1099 will be issued to each Class Member reflecting the payments for penalties and interest. Class Members are responsible to pay appropriate taxes due on the Settlement Payments they receive. To the extent required by law, IRS Forms 1099 and W-2 will be issued to each Class Member with respect to such payments.
- (k) <u>Settlement Payments Do Not Give Rise to Additional Benefits</u>:

 All Settlement Payments to individual Class Members shall be deemed to be paid to such Class Member solely in the year in

which such payments actually are received by the Class Members. It is expressly understood and agreed that the receipt of such Settlement Payments will not entitle any Class Members to additional compensation or benefits under any company bonus, contest or other compensation or benefit plan or agreement in place during the period covered by the Settlement, nor will it entitle any Class Members to any increased retirement, 401(k) benefits or matching benefits or deferred compensation benefits. It is the intent that the Settlement Payments provided for in this Settlement are the sole payments to be made by Shamrock to the Class Members, and that the Class Members are not entitled to any new or additional compensation or benefits as result of having received the Settlement Payments (notwithstanding any contrary language or agreement in any benefit or compensation plan document that might have been in effect during the period covered by this Settlement).

- (l) Attorney's Fees and Costs: Subject to approval by the Court, Defendant will not object to Class Counsel's application for attorney's fees not to exceed 33.3% of the Gross Settlement Amount (\$333,333.33) and reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses not to exceed \$25,000.
- (m) <u>Service Payments</u>: Subject to Court approval, and in exchange for a general release, Defendant will not object to Class Counsel's application for an additional payment of up to \$15,000 to the Plaintiff/Class Representative George Valdez and up to \$5,000 to Plaintiff/Class Representative Raul Romero as the Class Representatives ("Service Payments") but not to exceed the collective sum of \$17,500. The Parties agree and acknowledge

that the enhancement amount was determined by Plaintiffs and Class Counsel. As part of this settlement, Defendant shall neither oppose the amount sought by Plaintiffs, nor be required to take any steps to specifically support the amount of the enhancement. To the extent any amount of the requested enhanced is reduced by the Court, it shall revert to the Net Settlement Fund. It is understood that the Service Payments are in addition to the individual Settlement Payment to which the Class Representatives are entitled along with the other Class Members.

(n) In exchange, Plaintiffs/Class Representatives have agreed to release all claims, whether known or unknown, against the Releasees, as defined, to the extent permitted by law, through the Class Period (including the Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims). Plaintiffs understand that these releases include unknown claims and that they 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 Service Payment will issue at the same time all Settlement Payments are mailed to the Settlement Class.

(o) The Settlement Administrator will issue an IRS Form 1099 for the Service Payment to the Plaintiffs. The Plaintiffs will be individually responsible for correctly characterizing this compensation on personal income tax returns for tax purposes

and for paying any taxes on the amounts received. Should the Court approve a Service Payment(s) in an amount less than that set forth above, the difference between the lesser amount(s) approved by the Court and the Service Payment amounts set forth above shall be added to the Net Settlement Amount. Plaintiffs agree not to opt out or object to the Service Payments as the Class Representatives.

- (p) <u>Settlement Administrator</u>: The Settlement Administrator will be CPT Group, or such Settlement Administrator as may be mutually agreeable to the Parties and approved by the Court. Settlement Administration Costs are estimated not to exceed \$20,000. The costs of the Settlement Administrator for work done shall be paid regardless of the outcome of this Settlement.
- (q) <u>Funding of Settlement Account</u>: Shamrock will fund the settlement account within fifteen (15) business days of the Effective Date of this settlement, as defined above.
- (r) <u>Mailing of Settlement Payments</u>: The Settlement Administrator shall cause the Settlement Payments to be mailed to the Class Members, Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, and LWDA, within fourteen (14) calendar days of the receipt of the settlement account being funded by Shamrock.
- (s) Notice of Settlement: Class Members will be mailed a notice setting forth the material terms of the proposed Settlement, along with instructions about how to object or request exclusion from the proposed class action Settlement ("Notice"). For each Class Member, there will be pre-printed information on the mailed Notice, based on Shamrock's records, stating the Class Member's Covered Workweeks during the Class Period and the

estimated total Settlement Payment under the Settlement, including the Settlement Class Payment and the PAGA Settlement Payment that will be distributed irrespective of any exclusion request. The pre-printed information based on Shamrock's records shall be presumed to be correct. A Class Member may dispute the pre-printed information on the Notice as to his or her Covered Workweeks during the Class Period. Class Members must submit any dispute regarding the information on the Notice as to his or her Covered Workweeks within the Response Deadline. Unless a disputing Class Member submits documentary evidence in support of his or her dispute, the records of Shamrock will be determinative. Attached as **Exhibit B** is a true and correct copy of the notice to be provided, subject to Court approval.

- (t) <u>Settlement Notice Language</u>: The Notice will issue in English only, as each Class Member and PAGA Employee is fluent in English.
- Class Members Cannot Exclude Themselves from the Released PAGA Claims: Class Members submitting a Request for Exclusion will nevertheless receive their pro-rata share of the PAGA Settlement Payment. If the Court approves the compromise of the Released PAGA Claims, all Class Members are bound by the Court's resolution of those Released PAGA Claims. Plaintiffs shall serve a notice of settlement on the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency at or before the time Plaintiffs file the motion for preliminary approval.
- (v) <u>Resolution of Workweek Disputes</u>: If a Class Member disputes the accuracy of Shamrock's records used to calculate Covered

Workweeks, and the Parties' counsel cannot resolve the dispute informally, the matter will be referred to the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will review Shamrock's records and any information or documents submitted by the Class Member and issue a non-appealable decision regarding the dispute. The Class Member must submit information or documents supporting his or her position to the Settlement Administrator prior to the expiration of the Response Deadline. Information or documents submitted after the expiration of the Response Deadline will not be considered by the Settlement Administrator, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.

(w) Right of Class Member to Request Exclusion from the Settlement: Any Class Member may request to be excluded from the Class Settlement by mailing a "Request for Exclusion" from the Settlement within the Response Deadline, stating, as follows or in substantially similar terms:

"I WISH TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASS IN THE VALDEZ, ET AL. V. SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT, S.D.C., CENTRAL DISTRICT, CASE NO. 5-22-CV 1719-SSS-SHK. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I ASK TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASS, I WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY MONEY FROM THE SETTLEMENT OTHER THAN MY SHARE OF THE PAGA PAYMENT."

Any Request for Exclusion must include the name, address, telephone number, last four digits of the Class Member's Social Security Number, and the signature of the Class Member requesting exclusion. Any such request must be made in accordance with the terms of the Notice, and the Notice will

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advise Class Members of these requirements. Any Class Member who timely requests exclusion in compliance with these requirements (i) shall not have any rights under this Settlement other than a right to receive a pro-rata share of the portion of the PAGA payment allocated to the Class Members if the Class Member is also PAGA Employee; (ii) shall not be entitled to receive any Settlement Payments under this Settlement other than as stated in Paragraph 30(i); and (iii) shall not be bound by this Settlement or the Court's Order and Final Judgment other than as it applies to the Released PAGA Claims.

Right of Settlement Class Member to Object to The Settlement: (x) Any Class Member may object to the Settlement. To object, the Class Member may (1) appear at the Final Approval Hearing, remotely or in person, to explain any objection, (2) have an attorney object for the Class Member, or (3) submit a simple written brief or statement of objection to the Settlement Administrator. If any Class Member chooses to submit a written objection, the written objection should contain sufficient information to confirm the identity of the objector and the basis of the objection, including (1) the full name of the Settlement Class Member; (2) the signature of the Settlement Class Member; (3) the grounds for the objection; and (4) be postmarked within the Response Deadline to permit adequate time for processing and review by the Parties of the written statement or objection. Class Counsel shall ensure that any written objections are transmitted to the Court for the Court's review (either by Class Counsel or as an attachment to declaration from the Settlement Administrator). Regardless of the form, an objection alone will

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not satisfy the requirement that a Settlement Class Member must either make a timely complaint in intervention before final judgment or by file a motion to set aside and vacate the class judgment under Code of Civil Procedure § 663 to have standing to appeal entry of judgment approving this Settlement, as is required under the California Supreme Court decision of Hernandez v. Restoration Hardware, 4 Cal. 5th 260 (2018). A Class Member who does not object prior to or at the Final Approval Hearing, will be deemed to have waived any objections and will be foreclosed from making any objections (whether at the Final Approval Hearing, by appeal, or otherwise) to the Settlement. If the objecting Class Member does not formally intervene in the action or move to set aside any judgment and/or the Court rejects the Class Member's objection, the Class Member will still be bound by the terms of this Agreement. Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel may, at least five (5) calendar days (or some other number of days as the Court shall specify) before the final approval hearing, file responses to any written objections submitted to the Court.

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR'S PRIMARY DUTIES

- 31. Subject to the Court's approval, the Parties will mutually identify, agree and select a third-party administrator to perform the customary duties of Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will mail the Notice to the Class Members.
- 32. The Settlement Administrator will independently review the Covered Workweeks attributed to each Class Member and will calculate the estimated amounts due to each Class Member and the actual amounts due to each Settlement Class Member in accordance with this Settlement. The Settlement Administrator

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shall report, in summary or narrative form, the substance of its findings. Settlement Administrator shall be granted reasonable access to Shamrock's records in order to perform its duties.

- 33. In accordance with the terms of this Settlement, and upon receipt of Gross Settlement Amount from Shamrock, the Settlement Administrator will issue and send out the Settlement Payment checks to the Class Members and PAGA Employees. Tax treatment of the Settlement Payments will be as set forth herein, and in accordance with state and federal tax laws. All disputes relating to the Settlement Administrator's performance of its duties shall be referred to the Court, if necessary, which will have continuing jurisdiction over the terms and conditions of this Settlement until all payments and obligations contemplated by this Settlement have been fully carried out.
- 34. The Settlement Administrator will post the final judgment approving the Settlement on a website maintained by the Settlement Administrator for a period of not less than 90 calendar days after the final judgment is entered. The address of that website will be included in the Notice.

ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS

35. The amounts set forth above for attorney's fees and litigation costs will cover all work performed and all fees and costs incurred to date, and all work to be performed and all fees and costs to be incurred in connection with the approval by the Court of this Settlement and administration of the Settlement. Should Class Counsel request a lesser amount and/or the Court approve a lesser amount(s) of attorney's fees and/or attorneys' costs, the difference between the lesser amount(s) and the maximum amount set forth above shall be added to the Net Settlement Amount. As with the Settlement Payments to the Settlement Class, the attorney's fees and costs approved by the Court shall be paid to Class Counsel, within 14 calendar days of the receipt of each installment of settlement funds by the Settlement Administrator. In the event that the Court awards less than the requested amount of attorney's fees, Class Counsel

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shall retain the right to appeal that portion of any Final Approval Order and Judgment.

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NOTICE PROCESS

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36. A Notice in approximately the form attached hereto as **Exhibit "B,"** and as approved by the Court, shall be sent by the Settlement Administrator to the Class Members by first class mail. The Notice shall not be translated because all Class Members speak English. Any returned envelopes from this mailing with forwarding addresses will be utilized by the Settlement Administrator to forward the Notices to the Class.

> Within 7 calendar days from the date of preliminary approval of this Settlement by the Court, Defendant shall provide to the Settlement Administrator the following information for each Class Member: (1) name; (2) last known address; (3) social security number; and (5) dates of employment at Shamrock's locations in California. This information shall be based on Defendant's payroll and other business records and shall be provided in a format acceptable to the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will run a check of the Class Members' addresses against those on file with the U.S. Postal Service's National Change of Address List; this check will be performed only once per Class Member by the Settlement Administrator. Absent mutual written agreement of counsel for the Parties or Court order, the Settlement Administrator will keep this information confidential and secure and use it only for the purposes described herein, and will return this information to Defendant upon final approval of the settlement or destroy all records containing the information after the Settlement is final and all payments are distributed as required under this Agreement.

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- (b) Within fourteen (14) calendar days after the information is provided to the Settlement Administrator, the Settlement Administrator will mail the Notices to the Class Members by First Class United States mail.
- Notices returned to the Settlement Administrator as non-(c) deliverable on or before the initial Response Deadline shall be resent to the forwarding address, if any, on the returned envelope. A returned Notice will be forwarded by the Settlement Administrator any time that a forwarding address is provided with the returned mail. If there is no forwarding address, the Settlement Administrator will do a computer search for a new address using the Class Member's social security number or other information. In any instance where a Notice is re-mailed, that Class Member will have until the extended Response Deadline as described above. A letter prepared by the Settlement Administrator will be included in the re-mailed Notice in that instance, stating the extended Response Deadline. completion of these steps by the Settlement Administrator, Defendant and the Settlement Administrator shall be deemed to have satisfied their obligations to provide the Notice to the affected Class Member. The affected Class Member shall remain a member of the Settlement Class and shall be bound by all the terms of the Settlement and the Court's Order and Final Judgment.
- (d) Class Counsel shall provide to the Court, at least five (5) calendar days prior to the final approval hearing, or such other date as set by the Court, a declaration by the Settlement Administrator of

due diligence and confirming mailing of the Notices.

DISPOSITION OF SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS AND UNCASHED CHECKS

37. As set forth above, each Class Member will have until the expiration of the applicable Response Deadline to submit to the Settlement Administrator any challenge or dispute to the Class Member's Covered Workweek information on the Notice. No disputes will be honored if they are submitted after the Response Deadline, unless the Parties mutually agree to accept the untimely dispute. Each Class Member is responsible to maintain a copy of any documents sent to the Settlement Administrator and a record of proof of mailing.

- 38. The Settlement Administrator shall cause the Settlement Payments to be mailed to the Settlement Class Members and PAGA Employees as provided herein. Settlement Class Payments and PAGA Payments may be combined into one check. Settlement Payment checks shall remain valid and negotiable for 180 calendar days from the date of their issuance. Settlement Payment checks will automatically be cancelled by the Settlement Administrator if they are not cashed by the Class Member within that time, and the Class Member's relevant claims will remain released by the Settlement. Settlement Payment checks which have expired will not be reissued.
- 39. Funds from un-cashed or abandoned Settlement Payment checks, based on a 180-day void date, shall be transmitted to the California State Controller's Office for Unclaimed Property in the name of each Class Member who failed to cash their Settlement Payment check prior to the void date.
- 40. Upon completion of its calculation of Settlement Payments, the Settlement Administrator shall provide Class Counsel and Shamrock's Counsel with a report listing the amounts of all payments to be made to Class Members (to be identified anonymously by employee number or other identifier). A Declaration attesting to completion of all payment obligations will be provided to Class Counsel and Shamrock's Counsel and filed with the Court by Class Counsel.

RELEASE BY THE CLASS MEMBERS AND PAGA EMPLOYEES

- 41. Upon the final approval by the Court of this Settlement and Shamrock's payment of all sums due pursuant to this Settlement, and except as to such rights or claims as may be created by this Settlement, (i) Plaintiffs/Class Representatives, (ii) Class Members who have not submitted a valid and timely request for exclusion as to the Released Class Claims, (iii) and PAGA Employees, regardless of whether they have requested exclusion from the Settlement of the Released Class Claims, shall release claims as follows:
 - (a) Date Release Becomes Active. The Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims will be released upon the later of (1) the Settlement's Effective Date, or (2) the satisfaction of Shamrock's obligation to provide to the Settlement Administrator a sum in the amount required to satisfy all required payments and distributions pursuant to this Settlement and the Order and Judgment of final approval. Class Members will not release the Released Class Claims or Released PAGA Claims until both the Effective Date of the Settlement has occurred, and Shamrock has funded the settlement.
 - (b) Claims Released by Settlement Class Members. Each and every Settlement Class Member, on behalf of himself or herself and his or her heirs and assigns, shall release Releasees from Released Class Claims during the Class Period.
 - (c) Claims Released by PAGA Employees. All PAGA Employees shall release Releasees from all Released PAGA Claims during the PAGA Period regardless of whether they have requested exclusion from the Settlement as to the Released Class Claims.

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EMPLOYMENT BY DEFENDANT

42. Current employment of Plaintiffs by Defendant is not consideration for, or a condition of, this Settlement.

DUTIES OF THE PARTIES PRIOR TO COURT APPROVAL

- 43. The Parties shall submit this Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement to the Court in support of Plaintiffs' unopposed motion for preliminary approval for determination by the Court as to its fairness, adequacy, and reasonableness. Upon execution of this Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement, the Parties shall apply to the Court for the entry of an order:
 - (a) Scheduling a final approval and fairness hearing on the question of whether the proposed Settlement, including payment of attorney's fees and costs, and the Class Representatives' Service Payment(s), should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate as to the Class Members;
 - (b) Certifying a Class;
 - (c) Approving as to form and content the proposed Notice;
 - (d) Directing the mailing of the Notice;
 - (e) Preliminarily approving the Settlement subject only to the objections of Class Members and final review by the Court;
 - (f) Conditionally appointing Plaintiffs and Class Counsel as representatives of the proposed Class Members; and,
 - (g) Appointing CPT Group as the Settlement Administrator, and order the Settlement Administrator to issue Notices as outlined above.

DUTIES OF THE PARTIES FOLLOWING FINAL COURT APPROVAL

44. In conjunction with the hearing of a motion for final approval by the Court of the Settlement provided for in this Joint Stipulation of Settlement, Class Counsel will provide to Defendant's Counsel for review and approval and then submit to the

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NULLIFICATION AND TERMINATION

45. This Settlement will be null and void if any of the following occur: (a) the Court should for any reason fail to certify a class for settlement purposes; (b) the Court should for any reason fail to preliminarily or finally approve of this Settlement in the form agreed to by the Parties, other than adjustments made to the attorney's fees and costs or granting of Service Payments; (c) the Court should for any reason fail to enter the final judgment; (d) the final judgment is reversed, modified, or declared or rendered void; or (e) the Settlement does not become final for any other reason.

46. If ten percent (10%) or more of the Class Members opt out of this Settlement, then Defendant in their sole discretion may terminate, nullify and void this Settlement. The Settlement Administrator shall provide Defendant's Counsel with the information necessary to effectuate this provision on a regular basis, but no less frequently than on a monthly basis. To terminate this Settlement under this paragraph, Defendant's Counsel must give Class Counsel written notice, by United States registered or certified mail, return receipt requested no later than 30 calendar days after the Response Deadline. Moreover, any notice by Defendant under this provision shall also be concurrently emailed to all Class Counsel, as a courtesy. If this option is exercised by Defendant, Defendant shall be solely responsible for the costs incurred by the Settlement Administrator for the settlement administration. In the event this Settlement is nullified or terminated as provided above: (i) this Settlement shall be considered null and void, (ii) neither this Settlement nor any of the related negotiations or proceedings shall have any force or effect and no party shall be bound by any of its terms, and (iii) all Parties to this Settlement shall stand in the same position, without prejudice, as if the Settlement had been neither entered into nor filed with the Court.

47. In the event the number of Settlement Class members exceeds 750 by more than ten percent (10%), then the Gross Settlement Amount will increase

proportionally to the increase in Settlement Class Members (e.g., if the number of Settlement Class Members increases by 25%, then the Gross Settlement Amount shall increase by 15%). However, in Defendant's sole discretion, Defendant may reduce the class size (by, for example, modifying the Class Period) so the number of Settlement Class Members does not exceed that 10% threshold and thus no increase in the Gross Settlement Amount is necessary.

PARTIES' AUTHORITY

48. The signatories hereto hereby represent that they are fully authorized to enter into this Settlement and bind the Parties hereto to the terms and conditions thereof.

MUTUAL FULL COOPERATION

49. The Parties agree to fully cooperate with each other to accomplish the terms of this Settlement including, but not limited to, execution of such documents and taking such other action as reasonably may be necessary to implement the terms of this Settlement. The Parties to this Settlement shall use their best efforts, including all efforts contemplated by this Settlement and any other efforts that may become necessary by order of the Court, or otherwise, to effectuate this Settlement and the terms set forth herein. As soon as practicable after execution of this Settlement, Class Counsel shall, with the assistance and cooperation of Defendant and Defendant's Counsel, take all necessary steps to secure the Court's preliminary and final approval of this Settlement.

NO PRIOR ASSIGNMENTS

50. The Parties and their respective 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.

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NO ADMISSION OF LIABILITY

51. Nothing contained herein, nor the consummation of this Settlement, is to be construed or deemed an admission of liability, culpability, negligence, or wrongdoing on the part of Defendant. Defendant denies all the claims and contentions alleged by the Plaintiffs in this case. Defendant has entered into this Settlement solely with the intention to avoid further disputes and litigation with the attendant inconvenience and expenses.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

52. In the event that one or more of the Parties to this Settlement 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 shall be entitled to recover from the unsuccessful party or parties reasonable attorney's fees and costs, including expert witness fees incurred in connection with any actions.

NOTICES

53. Unless otherwise specifically provided herein, all notices, demands or other communications given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

Class Counsel:

Michael H. Boyamian BOYAMAIN LAW, INC. 550 North Brand Boulevard, Suite Glendale, California 91203 Tel: (818) 547-5300 Fax: (818) 547-5678 michael@boymanianlaw.com Counsel for Defendant:

Andrew J. Sommer
Ariella M. Kupetz
FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP
444 South Flower Street, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, California 90071
Telephone (213) 330-4500
Facsimile (213) 330-4501
Email:
asommer@fisherphillips.com
akupetz@fisherphillips.com

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CONSTRUCTION

54. The Parties hereto agree that the terms and conditions of this Settlement are the result of lengthy, intensive arms-length negotiations between the Parties, and this Settlement shall not be construed in favor of or against any party by reason of the extent to which any party or his, her or its counsel participated in the drafting of this Settlement.

CAPTIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

55. Paragraph titles or captions contained herein are inserted as a matter of convenience and for reference, and in no way define, limit, extend, or describe the scope of this Settlement or any provision hereof. Each term of this Settlement is contractual and not merely a recital.

MODIFICATION

56. This Settlement may not be changed, altered, or modified, except in writing and signed by the Parties hereto, and approved by the Court. This Settlement may not be discharged except by performance in accordance with its terms or by a writing signed by the Parties hereto.

INTEGRATION CLAUSE

57. This Settlement contains the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement and transaction contemplated hereby, and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, representations, and statements, whether oral or written and whether by a party or such party's legal counsel, are merged herein. No rights hereunder may be waived except in writing.

WAIVER OF APPEALS

58. The Parties agree to waive appeals and to stipulate to class certification for purposes of implementing this Settlement only, with the exception that Class Counsel retains the right to appeal the amount awarded as attorney's fees in the event that the Court awards less than the requested amount of attorney's fees.

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BINDING ON ASSIGNS

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59. This Settlement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective heirs, trustees, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

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CLASS COUNSEL SIGNATORIES

60. It is agreed that it is impossible or impractical to have each Class Member

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execute this Settlement. The Notice will advise all Class Members of the binding

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nature of the Released Class Claims and Released PAGA Claims, and the release

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shall have the same force and effect as if this Settlement were executed by each Class

10 | Member.

COUNTERPARTS

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61. This Settlement may be executed in counterparts and by electronic or facsimile signatures, and when each party has signed and delivered at least one such counterpart, each counterpart shall be deemed an original, and, when taken together with other signed counterparts, shall constitute one Settlement, which shall be binding

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upon and effective as to all Parties.

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CONFIDENTIALITY & PUBLIC COMMENT

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any disparaging comments about Defendant relating to this Settlement of this Action

62. The Class Representatives and Class Counsel agree they will not make

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or disclose the negotiations of the Settlement. The Class Representatives and Class

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Counsel shall only disclose matters of public record other than to Class Members, who may receive information about the Settlement that is not in the public record

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after the Court has preliminarily approved the Settlement. Other than as to Class

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Members or as expressly allowed below, the Parties and attorneys will keep the

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settlement confidential until the filing of the motion for preliminary approval of the

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class settlement. Thereafter, the Parties agree to make no comments to the media or

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otherwise publicize the terms of the Settlement, other than in court filings. Any

communication about the Settlement to Class Members prior to the Court-approved

mailing will be limited to (1) a statement that a settlement has been reached, (2) a statement of any of the details that would necessarily be included in any Courtapproved Notice if a Class Member requests details about the proposed Settlement, and (3) a warning that the terms of the proposed Settlement have not yet been approved by the Court. Prior to preliminary approval, the Class Representatives are prohibited from discussing the terms or the fact of the settlement with third parties other than (1) a spouse, (2) accountants or lawyers as necessary for tax purposes, or (3) Class Members. At all times, the Class Representatives are prohibited from communicating about the terms or the fact of the settlement on any form of social media ("Social Media Bar"). In the event of a proven breach of the Social Media Bar, the violating Plaintiff shall forfeit one-half of the class representative enhancement payment, as a form of liquidated damages. Class Counsel will not include or use the settlement for any marketing or promotional purposes other than as expressly allowed above.

FINAL JUDGMENT

63. The Parties agree that, upon final approval of the Settlement, final judgment of dismissal of this Action will be made and entered in its entirety. The final judgment may be included in the Order granting Final Approval of the Settlement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto knowingly and voluntarily executed this Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement between Plaintiffs and Defendant as set forth below:

IT IS SO STIPULATED.

FP 48147160.4

1	Plaintiffs & Class Representatives:		
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3	Dated: 10/6/2023	By: George Valder	
4		George Valdez	
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6		DocuSigned by:	
7	Dated: 10/6/2023	By:	
8		Raul Romero	
9			
10	Defendent.		
11	Defendant:		
12		SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY	
13			
14	Dated:	By: Carrie Ryerson, General Counsel	
15		General Counsel	
16			
17	Approved as to form:		
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19			
20	Class Counsel:		
21			
22	Dated: 10/6/23	BOYAMAIN LAW, INC.	
23			
24		By: Michael H. Boyamian	
25		•	
26		Attorney for Plaintiffs GEORGE VALDEZ and RAUL ROMERO	
27			
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JOINT STIPULATION FOR CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT

1	Plaintiffs & Class Representatives:		
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4	Dated: By:	George Valdez	
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7	Dated: By:		
8		Raul Romero	
9			
0	Defendant:		
. 1	Defendant.		
2		SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY	
3	Dated: 10/06/2023 By:	$ \omega _{\omega}$	
4	By.	Carrie Ryerson, General Counsel	
15		General Counsel	
6			
7	Approved as to form:		
8			
20	Class Counsel		
21	Class Counsel:		
22	Dated:	BOYAMAIN LAW, INC.	
23			
24	By:	Michael II Dovernier	
25		Michael H. Boyamian	
26		Attorney for Plaintiffs GEORGE VALDEZ and RAUL ROMERO	
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		33	
	JOINT STIPULATION FOR CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT FP 48147160.4		

1	Dofond	ant's Counsel:	
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	Detellu	ant 5 Counsel:	
3	Dated:	10/06/2023	FISHER & PHILLIPS, LLP
4			
5			By: Andrew I. Samman
6			Andrew J. Sommer Ariella M. Kupetz
7			Attorneys for Defendant SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY
8			SHAIVIROCK FOODS COIVIPAN I
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