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9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10 FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
11

12 JUANITA VALLADARES, individually, and
13 on behalf of other members of the general public
similarly situated,

14 Plaintiff,

15 vs.

16 MOUNTAIN SHADOWS SUPPORT
GROUP, a California corporation; MOUNTAIN
17 SHADOWS ANCILLARY SERVICES, a
California corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,
18 inclusive,

19 Defendants.
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ELECTRONICALLY RECEIVED
Superior Court of California,
County of San Diego

11/04/2022 at 09:50:13 AM

Clerk of the Superior Court
By Elizabeth Reyes, Deputy Clerk

FILED
Clerk of the Superior Court

DEC 02 2022

By: A. Taylor, Deputy

Case No.: 37-2020-00037995-CU-OE-CTL

Assigned to the Hon. Joel R. Wohlfeil

**PROPOSED ORDER AND JUDGMENT
GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR
ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS AND
EXPENSES, AND A CLASS
REPRESENTATIVE ENHANCEMENT
PAYMENT**

Date: December 2, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Department C-73

Complaint Filed: October 20, 2020

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ORDER AND JUDGMENT

This matter came before the Court for a hearing on the Motion for Final Approval of the Class Action Settlement and Motion for Attorneys' Fees, Costs and Expenses, and a Class Representative Enhancement Payment (collectively, the "Motions"). Due and adequate notice having been given to Class Members as required by the Court's Preliminary Approval Order, and the Court having reviewed the Motions, and determining that the settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable, and otherwise being fully informed and **GOOD CAUSE** appearing therefore, it is hereby **ORDERED AS FOLLOWS**:

1. For the reasons set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order, which are adopted and incorporated herein by reference, this Court finds that the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and rule 3.769 of the California Rules of Court have been satisfied.

2. This Order hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the terms and conditions of the Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and Release (collectively, "Settlement Agreement" or "Settlement"), together with the definitions and terms used and contained therein.

3. The Court finds that it has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the action and over all parties to the action, including all members of the Settlement Class.

4. The Class Notice fully and accurately informed Class Members of all material elements of the proposed settlement and of their opportunity to opt out or object; was the best notice practicable under the circumstances; was valid, due, and sufficient notice to all Class Members; and complied fully with the laws of the State of California and due process. The Class Notice fairly and adequately described the settlement and provided Class Members with adequate instructions and a variety of means to obtain additional information.

5. Class Members were given a full opportunity to participate in the Final Approval hearing, and all Class Members and other persons wishing to be heard have been heard. Accordingly, the Court determines that all Class Members who did not timely and properly opt out of the settlement are bound by this Order and Judgment.

6. The Court has considered all relevant factors for determining the fairness of the settlement and has concluded that all such factors weigh in favor of granting final approval. In particular, the Court finds that the settlement was reached following meaningful discovery and investigation

1 conducted by Plaintiff's Counsel; that the settlement is the result of serious, informed, adversarial, and
2 arm's-length negotiations between the Parties; and that the terms of the settlement are in all respects fair,
3 adequate, and reasonable.

4 7. In so finding, the Court has considered all evidence presented, including evidence
5 regarding the strength of Plaintiff's case; the risk, expense, and complexity of the claims presented; the
6 likely duration of further litigation; the amount offered in settlement; the extent of investigation and
7 discovery completed; and the experience and views of counsel. The Parties have provided the Court with
8 sufficient information about the nature and magnitude of the claims being settled, as well as the
9 impediments to recovery, to make an independent assessment of the reasonableness of the terms to
10 which the Parties have agreed.

11 8. Accordingly, the Court hereby approves the settlement as set forth in the Settlement
12 Agreement and expressly finds that the settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the
13 best interests of the entire Settlement Class and hereby directs implementation of all remaining terms,
14 conditions, and provisions of the Settlement Agreement. The Court also finds that settlement now will
15 avoid additional and potentially substantial litigation costs, as well as delay and risks if the Parties were
16 to continue to litigate the case. Additionally, after considering the monetary recovery provided by the
17 settlement in light of the challenges posed by continued litigation, the Court concludes that the settlement
18 provides Class Members with fair and adequate relief.

19 9. The Settlement Agreement is not an admission by Defendants or by any other Released
20 Party, nor is this Order a finding of the validity of any allegations or of any wrongdoing by Defendants
21 or any other Released Party. Neither this Order, the Settlement Agreement, nor any document referred to
22 herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Settlement Agreement, may be construed as, or may be used
23 as, an admission of any fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, waiver of defenses, or liability
24 whatsoever by or against Defendants or any of the other Released Parties.

25 10. With the exception of Michelle Overton who opted out of the Settlement Class, final
26 approval shall be with respect to: All persons who worked for Defendants as non-exempt, hourly paid
27 employees in the State of California at any time from October 22, 2016 to May 21, 2022.

28 11. Plaintiff Juanita Valladares is an adequate and suitable representative and is hereby

1 appointed the Class Representative for the Settlement Class. The Court finds that Plaintiff's investment
2 and commitment to the litigation and its outcome ensured adequate and zealous advocacy for the
3 Settlement Class, and that her interests are aligned with those of the Settlement Class.

4 12. The Court hereby awards Plaintiff a Class Representative Enhancement Payment of
5 \$10,000 for her service on behalf of the Settlement Class, and for agreeing to a general release of all
6 claims arising out of her employment with Defendants.

7 13. The Court finds that the attorneys at Capstone Law APC have the requisite
8 qualifications, experience, and skill to protect and advance the interests of the Settlement Class. The
9 Court therefore finds that counsel satisfy the professional and ethical obligations attendant to the position
10 of Class Counsel, and hereby appoints Capstone Law APC as counsel for the Settlement Class.

11 14. The settlement of civil penalties under PAGA in the amount of \$200,000 is hereby
12 approved. Seventy-Five Percent (75%), or \$150,000, shall be paid to the California Labor and
13 Workforce Development Agency. The remaining Twenty-Five Percent (25%), or \$50,000, will be paid
14 to PAGA Members.

15 15. The Court hereby awards \$833,333 in attorneys' fees and \$10,318.87 in costs and
16 expenses to Capstone Law APC. The Court finds that the requested award of attorneys' fees is
17 reasonable for a contingency fee in a class action such as this; i.e., one-third of the common fund created
18 by the settlement. Counsel have also established the reasonableness of the requested award of attorneys'
19 fees via their lodestar crosscheck, and the Court finds that the rates, hours billed, and risk multiplier are
20 fair and reasonable. The Court also finds that the fee award is appropriate in light of the benefit obtained
21 for the class and the efficiency with which class counsel conducted the litigation.

22 16. The Court approves settlement administration costs and expenses in the amount of
23 \$15,500 to CPT Group, Inc.

24 17. All Class Members were given a full and fair opportunity to participate in the Approval
25 Hearing, and all members of the Settlement Class wishing to be heard have been heard. Members of the
26 Settlement Class also have had a full and fair opportunity to exclude themselves from the proposed
27 settlement and the class. Accordingly, the terms of the Settlement Agreement and of the Court's Order
28 shall be forever binding on all Participating Class Members. These Participating Class Members have

1 released and forever discharged the Released Parties for any and all Released Class Claims:

2 All claims, rights, demands, liabilities, and causes of action, reasonably arising
3 from, or related to, the same set of operative facts as those set forth in the operative
4 complaint during the Class Period, including: (i) all claims for unpaid overtime;
5 (ii) all claims for meal and rest break violations; (iii) all claims for unpaid minimum
6 wages; (iv) all claims for the failure to reimburse for necessary business expenses;
7 (v) all claims for the failure to timely pay wages upon termination based on the
8 preceding claims; (vi) all claims for the failure to timely pay wages during
9 employment based on the preceding claims; (vii) all claims for wage statement
10 violations based on the preceding claims; and (viii) all claims asserted through
11 California Business & Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

12 18. Additionally, all PAGA Members and the LWDA have released and forever discharged
13 the Released Parties for any and all Released PAGA Claims:

14 All claims for civil penalties asserted through California Labor Code §§ 2698, *et*
15 *seq.*, that reasonably arise out of or are related to the Released Class Claims during
16 the PAGA Period.

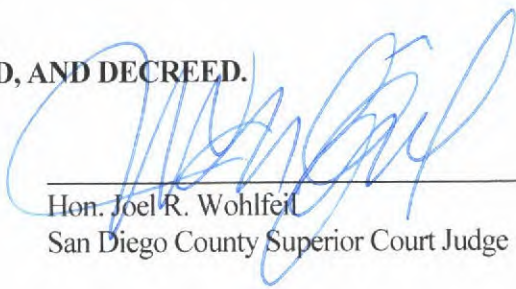
17 19. Judgment in this matter is entered in accordance with the above findings.

18 20. Without affecting the finality of the Judgment, the Court shall retain exclusive and
19 continuing jurisdiction over the above-captioned action and the parties, including all Participating
20 Settlement Members, for purposes of enforcing the terms of the Judgment entered herein.

21 21. This document shall constitute a judgment (and separate document constituting said
22 judgment) for purposes of California Rules of Court, Rule 3.769(h).

23 **IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED.**

24 Dated: 12-2-22

25 
26 Hon. Joel R. Wohlfeil
27 San Diego County Superior Court Judge
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