1	ZORIK MOORADIAN, Bar No. 136636		
2	HAIK HACOPIAN, Bar No. 282361 MOORADIAN LAW, APC		
3	24007 Ventura Blvd., Suite 210 Calabasas, CA 91302		
4	Telephone: (818) 487-1998 Facsimile: (888) 783-1030		
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff Laura Herrera, individ and on behalf of others similarly situated and		
6	similarly aggrieved employees		
7	DIANE MARIE O'MALLEY, SBN 139166 WARREN HODGES, SBN 287162		
8	HANSON BRIDGETT LLP 425 Market Street, 26th Floor		
9	San Francisco, CA 94105 Telephone: (415) 777-3200		
10	Facsimile: (415) 541-9366		
11	Attorneys for Defendant CASCADE LIVING GROUP MANAGEME	INT	
12	LLC		
13	[Additional counsel listed following caption]		
14	SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA		
15	FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE		
16	LAURA HERRERA, individually and on	Case No.: 20STCV48606 (related to	
17	behalf of others similarly situated and other aggrieved employees,	22STCV16298)	
18		CLASS AND REPRESENTATIVE ACTION	
19	Plaintiffs, v.	[Assigned to Hon. Stuart M. Rice in Dept.	
20	CASCADE LIVING GROUP	SS-1]	
21	MANAGEMENT, LLC, an active	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT	
22	Washington Limited Liability Company; BPM SENIOR LIVING COMPANY, an	AGREEMENT	
23	active Delaware Corporation; and DOES 1 through 10,		
24	Defendants.		
25	Derendants.		
26			
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	STIPULATED SF	ETTLEMENT AGREEMENT	

1	James R. Hawkins, Esq. SBN 192925 Isandra Fernandez, Esq. SBN 220482	
2	JAMES HAWKINS APLC 9880 Research Drive, Suite 200	
3	Irvine, CA 92618 TEL: (949) 387-7200	
4	FAX: (949) 387-6676	
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff, VALERIE CHAVEZ on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated	
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	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT	
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1	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and among the undersigned parties,	
2	subject to the approval of the Court pursuant to Section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure	
3	and Rule 3.769 of the California Rules of Court, that the settlement of this captioned action shall be	
4	effectuated upon and subject to the following terms and conditions. Capitalized terms used herein shall	
5	have the meanings set forth in Section I or elsewhere in this Agreement.	
6	I.	
7	DEFINITIONS	
8		
9	Unless otherwise defined herein, the following terms used in this Agreement shall have	
10	the meanings ascribed to them as set forth below:	
11	1.1 "Action" means the lawsuit entitled <i>Laura Herrera, individually and on behalf</i>	
12	of others similarly situated and similarly aggrieved employees v. Cascade Living Group Management,	
13	LLC, et al., and Does 1 to 10, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCV48606 and the	
14	related lawsuit entitled Valerie Chavez on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated v. Cascade	
15	Living Group Management, LLC, and Does 1 through 50, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case	
16	No. 21STCV35724.	
17	1.2 "Agreement" or "Settlement Agreement" or "Settlement" means this Stipulated	
18	Settlement Agreement, including any Exhibit(s) attached hereto.	
19	1.3 "Aggrieved Employees" means all non-exempt employees who are or	
20	previously were employed by Defendant Cascade Living Group Management, LLC in California	
21	during the PAGA Period.	
22	1.4 "Class List and Data Report" means a list of the names, last known mailing	
23	address, and Social Security number of each Settlement Class Member, number of Workweeks	
24	Worked by each Settlement Class Member during the applicable Class Period, and employment status	
25	of each Settlement Class Member as of December 13, 2022.	
26	1.5 "Class Period" means the period starting December 21, 2016 to December 13,	
27	2022.	
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	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT	

1 1.6 "Class Notice" or "Notice of Class Action Settlement" means the notice 2 approved by the Court in the Order of Preliminary Approval in the form substantially similar to Exhibit 3 1, attached hereto. The Class Notice attached as Exhibit 1 shall be provided to Settlement Class 4 Members. The Class Notice to Settlement Class Members will contain the respective Settlement Class 5 Member's individual information, including name, address, number of Workweeks Worked during 6 the Class Period, and the estimated amount each Settlement Class Member may receive in the 7 Settlement. The Class Notice to be sent to Settlement Class Members will include a Spanish 8 translation; provided, however, that in case of any disagreement or question regarding the translation, 9 the English language version of the Class Notice shall control. 10 1.7 "Complaint" or "Complaints" mean each and every Complaint filed at any time in the Action. 11 12 1.8 "Court" means the Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles. 13 1.9 "Defendant" or "CASCADE" means Defendant Cascade Living Group 14 Management, LLC, Cascade Living Group, Inc., Cascade Living Group – Hemet, LLC, and Cascade 15 Living Group – Grass Valley, LLC, unless otherwise indicated. 16 1.10 "Defense Counsel" means: Diane Marie O'Malley and Warren Hodges of 17 Hanson Bridgett LLP, 425 Market Street, 26th Floor, Los Angeles California, 94105. 18 1.11 "Effective Date" means and refers to the date when all of the following events 19 have occurred: (1) this Settlement Agreement has been executed by all Parties; (2) the Court has given 20 preliminary approval to this Settlement Agreement; (3) the Class Notice has been sent to Settlement 21 Class Members, providing them with an opportunity to object to the terms of this Settlement 22 Agreement or to opt out of the Settlement; (4) the Court has held a formal fairness hearing and entered 23 a final Order and Judgment certifying the Settlement Class, and approving this Settlement Agreement; 24 (5) ten (10) calendar days have passed since the Court has entered a Final Approval Order and 25 Judgment certifying the Settlement Class, and approving the Stipulated Settlement Agreement; and 26 (6) in the event there are written objections filed prior to the final fairness hearing which are not later 27 withdrawn or denied, the later of the following events: fifteen (15) days after the period for filing any 28 4.

appeal, writ, or other appellate proceeding opposing the Court's final Order approving the Settlement
has elapsed without any appeal, writ, or other appellate proceeding having been filed; or, if any appeal,
writ or other appellate proceeding opposing the Court's final Order approving the Settlement has been
filed, fifteen (15) days after any appeal, writ, or other appellate proceedings opposing the Settlement
has been finally and conclusively dismissed with no right to pursue further remedies or relief.

6 1.12 "Net Settlement Amount" means the portion of the Settlement Amount 7 available for distribution to Participating Settlement Class Members under this Agreement after 8 payment of (1) the attorneys' fees and costs award to be paid to Settlement Class Counsel; (2) the 9 service payment to Plaintiffs; (3) all payments to or withholdings for governmental authorities for the 10 employee portion of any payroll taxes or other required taxes or withholdings; (4) all payments to the 11 Aggrieved Employees and the California Labor Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") for 12 PAGA penalties; and (5) all costs and fees incurred by and awarded to the Settlement Administrator. 13 One hundred percent (100%) of the Net Settlement Amount, less tax withholdings on the portion 14 characterized as wages, shall be distributed to Participating Settlement Class Members with no 15 reversion to Defendant.

16 1.13. "PAGA Period" means the period starting December 19, 2019 to December 13,
17 2022.

18 1.14 "Participating Settlement Class Member" means a Settlement Class Member
19 who has not timely opted-out of the Settlement.

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1.15 "Parties" means Defendant and Plaintiffs.

21 1.16 "Plaintiffs" means named Plaintiff Laura Herrera and named Plaintiff Valerie
22 Chavez.

1.17 "Released Claims" means: all class claims alleged in the operative complaint
which are based upon alleged actions that occurred during the Class Period, and those claims that
could have been based on the same factual allegations and legal assertions made in the operative
complaint, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful
termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, and claims

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outside of the Class Period.

2 1.18 "Released PAGA Claims" means all PAGA claims alleged in the operative 3 complaint and Plaintiffs' PAGA notices to the LWDA which occurred during the PAGA Period, and 4 expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, 5 unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, and PAGA claims based 6 upon alleged actions that are outside of the PAGA Period.

7 "Released Parties" means Defendant, including each of Defendant's respective 1.19 past, present, and/or future, direct and/or indirect, officers, directors, members, managers, employees, 9 agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, shareholders, administrators, parent 10 companies, subsidiaries, related entities, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, assigns, and joint venturers. Defendant BPM Senior Living Company is expressly excluded from the definition of Released Parties.

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1.20 "Settlement Administrator" means CPT Group, Inc.

14 "Settlement Amount" means and refers to the maximum amount of money 1.21 15 Defendant will be required to pay pursuant to this Agreement. The Settlement Amount is Eight 16 Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$850,000.00). The Settlement Amount shall be 17 inclusive of: (1) all payments to Participating Settlement Class Members; (2) the attorneys' fees and 18 costs award to be paid to Settlement Class Counsel; (3) the service awards to Plaintiffs; (4) all 19 payments to or withholdings for governmental authorities for the employee portion of any payroll 20 taxes or other required taxes or withholdings; (5) all payments to the LWDA for PAGA penalties; (6) 21 all penalty payments to the aggrieved employees; and (7) all costs incurred by and awarded to the 22 Settlement Administrator. In addition to the Settlement Amount, Defendant shall also be responsible 23 for employer taxes, including the employer FICA, FUTA and SDI contribution, on the wage portion 24 of the Settlement paid to Participating Settlement Class Members. The Settlement Amount is premised 25 on a class size not to exceed 750 individuals and to the extent the class size exceeds this number, the 26 Settlement Amount shall increase on a pro-rata basis for each additional Class Member, or \$1,133.33 27 for each additional class member. Except as so provided, the parties agree, covenant and represent that

1	Defendant shall be required to pay no more than the Settlement Amount of \$850,000.00 plus employer		
2	taxes as described above.		
3	1.22 "Settlement Class" and "Settlement Class Members" means shall refer to the		
4	following: All current and former non-exempt employees employed by Cascade Living Group, Inc.,		
5	Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, Cascade Living Group – Hemet, LLC, or Cascade Living		
6	Group – Grass Valley, LLC, in California during the Class Period.		
7	1.23 "Settlement Class Counsel" means the following:		
8	Zorik Mooradian		
9	Haik Hacopian Mooradian Law, APC		
10	24007 Ventura Blvd., Suite 210 Calabasas, California 91302		
11	Telephone: (818) 487-1998		
12	Facsimile: (888) 783-1030		
13	James R. Hawkins Isandra Fernandez		
14	James Hawkins APLC		
15	9880 Research Drive, Suite 200 Irvine, California 92618		
16	Telephone: (949) 387-7200 Facsimile: (949) 387-6676		
17			
18	1.24 "Individual PAGA Settlement Payment" means the proportional share of the		
19	25% portion of the PAGA Payment (as defined in Paragraph 3.9) allocated and paid to the Aggrieved		
20	Employees, as calculated by the Settlement Administrator according to the terms of this Agreement.		
21	1.25 "Individual Settlement Payment" means the proportional share of the Net		
22	Settlement Amount to be paid to Participating Class Members, as calculated by the Settlement		
23	Administrator according to the terms of this Agreement.		
24	1.26 "Workweek Worked" means any calendar week during the applicable Class		
25	Period in which a Settlement Class Member performed any work, as reflected in Defendant's time and		
26	payroll records.		
27	П.		
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	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT		

### **RECITALS**

2.1 On December 21, 2020, Plaintiff Laura Herrera filed a class action complaint against Defendant Cascade Living Group Management, LLC and Defendant BPM Senior Living Company, individually and on behalf of other persons similarly situated. That lawsuit is *Laura Herrera v. Cascade Living Group Management, LLC et al.*, Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Los Angeles, Case No. 20STCV48606 ("Herrera Action").

2.2 On December 19, 2020, Plaintiff Herrera communicated a notice letter pursuant to the Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") to Defendant Cascade and thereafter to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"). Plaintiff Herrera's PAGA claim was assigned case no. LWDA-CM-816251-20 upon electronic submission to the LWDA.

2.3 On February 25, 2021, Plaintiff Laura Herrera filed a representative PAGA action against Defendant Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, individually and on behalf of all other aggrieved employees. That lawsuit is *Laura Herrera v. Cascade Living Group Management, LLC*, Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Los Angeles, Case No. 21STCV07475 ("Herrera PAGA Action").

2.4 On September 28, 2021, Plaintiff Valerie Chavez filed a class action complaint against Defendant Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, individually and on behalf of other persons similarly situated. That lawsuit is *Valerie Chavez v. Cascade Living Group Management, LLC*, Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Los Angeles, Case No. 21STCV35724 ("Chavez Action"). On that date as well, Plaintiff Chavez communicated a notice letter pursuant to PAGA to Defendant Cascade and the LWDA. Plaintiff Chavez's PAGA claim was assigned case no. LWDA-CM-846361-21 upon electronic submission to the LWDA.

2.5 On January 20, 2022, the Herrera Action and the Chavez Action were related before Department SS-1 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, where they are currently pending.

2.6 On January 25, 2022, a First Amended Complaint was filed in the Chavez Action which added a cause of action for PAGA violations. On February 28, 2022, Cascade filed its Answer to the First Amended Complaint.

2.7 On May 26, 2022, the operative First Amended Complaint was filed in the Herrera Action which added a cause of action for PAGA violations. The First Amended Complaint asserts the following causes of action: (1) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; (2) Failure to Provide Paid Rest Periods; (3) Failure to Pay Wages; (4) Failure to Timely Pay Wages at Termination/Separation; (5) Failure to Timely Pay Wages at Termination/Separation; (6) Failure to Provide Accurate Wage Statements; (7) Violation of Unfair Business Practices Act - Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.; and (8) Penalties Pursuant to Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA"). The Herrera PAGA Action (Case No. 21STCV07475) was thereafter dismissed. On June 28, 2022, Cascade filed its Answer to the First Amended Complaint.

10 2.8 On December 13, 2022, Plaintiff Laura Herrera and Defendant participated in a full-day mediation before Scott Markus and were able to reach a settlement on that date and executed 12 a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"). Thereafter, the Parties agreed to this Settlement, fully 13 incorporating the terms of their MOU.

14 2.9 Proceedings. This Action has been vigorously litigated between the Parties, 15 including formal discovery and production of documents and electronic records for Plaintiff Herrera 16 and the putative class. The Parties specifically and mutually intend to settle the claims for all theories 17 of liability alleged in the foregoing Action with respect to the Settlement Class herein. No class has 18 been certified. The Parties agree to amend the Action to add Plaintiff Chavez as a named plaintiff and 19 will separately enter into a stipulation in accordance.

20 2.10 Reasons for Settlement. Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Counsel have 21 concluded, after taking into account disputed factual and legal issues involved in the Action, the risks 22 attending further prosecution, and the benefits received and to be received pursuant to the compromise 23 and settlement of the Action, that settlement on the terms hereinafter set forth is in the best interest of 24 Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class. Defendant and Defense Counsel have concluded, after taking into 25 account the disputed factual and legal issues involved in the Action, the risks attending further defense 26 and litigation, the substantial expense and burden of protracted litigation, and their desire to put the 27 controversy to rest, that settlement on the terms hereinafter set forth is in the best interest of Defendant.

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1 2.11Defendant's Denial of Wrongdoing. Defendant has denied and continues to 2 deny each of the claims and contentions alleged by Plaintiffs in the Action. Defendant has repeatedly 3 asserted and continues to assert defenses thereto, and has expressly denied and continues to deny any 4 wrongdoing or legal liability arising out of any of the facts or conduct alleged in the Action. Neither 5 this Agreement, nor any document referred to or contemplated herein, nor any action taken to carry 6 out this Agreement, is, may be construed as, or may be used as an admission, concession, or indication 7 by or against Defendant of any fault, wrongdoing, or liability whatsoever. The Settling Parties 8 understand and agree that this Settlement Agreement is the result of a good faith compromise 9 settlement of disputed claims, and Defendant enters into this agreement solely to resolve disputed 10 matters. No part of this Settlement Agreement or any conduct or written or oral statements made in 11 connection with this Settlement and this Settlement Agreement, whether or not the Settlement is finally 12 approved and/or consummated, may be offered as, or construed to be, an admission or concession of 13 any kind by Defendant or any of the Releasing or Released Parties, or anyone else. In particular, but 14 without limiting the generality of the foregoing, nothing about this Settlement Agreement shall be 15 offered or construed as an admission that Defendant has failed to pay any Class Member in accordance 16 with its obligations set forth in the California Labor Code, or of liability in general, or any wrongdoing, 17 impropriety, responsibility, or fault whatsoever on the part of Defendant and/or the Released Parties. 18 Similarly, nothing about this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as or deemed to be evidence 19 of, or an admission or concession by Defendant, that the Class Representatives or any Class Member 20 have suffered any damage. In addition, this Settlement Agreement shall not be offered or be admissible 21 in evidence against Defendant or any Released Party, except in any action or proceeding brought by 22 or against Plaintiffs, the Class, Class Members, or Defendant to enforce its terms, or by Defendant in 23 defense of any claims brought by Plaintiffs, the Class, Class Members, or any member of the general 24 public, including any and all individuals who opted out of the Class.

25 2.12 <u>Settlement</u>. This Settlement was agreed to after, and as a result of arms-length
 26 negotiations between the Parties facilitated by an experienced and neutral mediator. This Settlement
 27 contemplates: (1) the discharge of liability for all claims raised in the Action and for those claims

1 released in this Agreement; and (2) the entry of an Order and Judgment of Final Approval granting 2 monetary relief to Participating Settlement Class Members as set forth in this Agreement. 3 III. 4 **TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT** 5 3.1 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED, by and among 6 7 Plaintiffs, on their own behalf and on behalf of the Settlement Class Members, and Defendant on the 8 other hand, and subject to the approval of the Superior Court, that the Action is hereby being 9 compromised and settled pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, subject to 10 the definitions and recitals set forth hereinabove which by this reference become an integral part of 11 this Agreement and subject to the following terms and conditions: 12 3.2 Full Investigation. Plaintiff Herrera has fully investigated the factual and legal 13 bases for the causes of action asserted in the Action and the claims being released by this Settlement. 14 3.3 Conditional Certification of the Settlement Class. No class has been certified 15 in the Action. The Parties hereby consent and agree, solely for purposes of the Settlement set forth in 16 this Agreement, to the conditional certification of the Settlement Class, to the conditional appointment 17 of Settlement Class Counsel, and to the conditional approval of the Representative Plaintiff Laura 18 Herrera and the Representative Plaintiff Valerie Chavez. 19 3.4 Contingent Nature of the Settlement. The agreement to conditionally certify the 20 Settlement Class is contingent upon final approval of this Agreement by the Court and is made for 21 settlement purposes only. If the Settlement fails to be approved or otherwise fails to be consummated 22 for any reason whatsoever, including but not limited to the Judgment not becoming final, then the 23 Parties retain all rights previously available to them, and any provisional certification of any class, or 24 the adoption of any procedure herein, shall be undone and the Parties restored to their pre-settlement 25 status as if no settlement had been reached and no decisions were made pursuant to it, except as 26 otherwise expressly provided herein. In that event, no evidence presented or statement made as part 27 of this Settlement, including the Class Notice, shall be admissible in subsequent proceedings to support 28 11.

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or oppose class certification by either side.

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2 3.5 Settlement Amount. Subject to entry of a Final Approval order by the Court and 3 the additional conditions specified in this Agreement, and in consideration of the mutual covenants 4 and promises set forth herein, Defendant agrees to make payment under this Agreement totaling Eight 5 Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$850,000.00) (the "Settlement Amount") in full and 6 final settlement of this matter and the Released Claims, as contemplated by the schedule set forth in 7 Paragraph 4.12 below. Defendant shall also pay employer taxes on the wage portion of the Individual 8 Settlement Payments made to Participating Class Members. In no event shall Defendant be required 9 to pay any amount above the Settlement Amount and employer taxes except as otherwise set forth 10 herein.

any application or motion by Settlement Class Counsel for attorneys' fees not in excess of Two

Hundred Ninety Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$297,500), or thirty-five

percent (35%) of the Settlement Amount. Defendant further agrees not to oppose any application or

motion by Settlement Class Counsel for the reimbursement of any costs associated with Settlement

Class Counsel's prosecution of this Action not in excess of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars and No

Cents (\$25,000.00). Any amount awarded for costs to Settlement Class Counsel less than \$25,000.00

will result in the non-awarded amount of costs being distributed to Participating Settlement Class

Members in this matter in an amount proportionate to the amount of their Individual Settlement

Attorneys' Fees and Cost Award. Defendant agrees not to oppose or impede

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Payment. Any amount awarded for attorneys' fees to Settlement Class Counsel of less than \$297,500 will result in the non-awarded amounts of attorneys' fees being distributed to Participating Settlement Class Members in this matter in an amount proportionate to the amount of their Individual Settlement Payment unless Settlement Class Counsel appeals the attorneys' fee award. The attorneys' fees can be appealed by Settlement Class Counsel without affecting the remainder of this Agreement. If an appeal on a reduced attorney fee award is taken and is unsuccessful or only partially successful, each Participating Settlement Class member shall be entitled to receive a second distribution of the difference between the amount requested and the amount awarded, which second distribution shall be

1 distributed in an amount proportionate to the amount of each Participating Settlement Class Member's 2 Individual Settlement Payment within thirty (30) days of a final ruling on the appeal. Settlement Class 3 Counsel will be responsible for any second distribution, if necessary. Settlement Class Counsel shall 4 be solely and legally responsible to pay all applicable taxes on the payment(s) made pursuant to this 5 Paragraph. Forms 1099 – MISC, Box 14 shall be provided to Settlement Class Counsel for the 6 payments made pursuant to this Paragraph. The attorneys' fees awarded under this paragraph shall be 7 paid seventy-five percent (75%) to Mooradian Law, APC and twenty-five percent (25%) to James 8 Hawkins APLC.

9 3.7 Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall be paid for the 10 costs of administration of the settlement from the Settlement Amount. The estimate of such costs of 11 administration is Thirteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$13,000.00), and which is based on 750 12 Settlement Class Members. Any amount awarded for costs of administration to the Settlement 13 Administrator less than \$13,000.00 will result in the non-awarded amount to be awarded to 14 Participating Settlement Class Members in an amount proportional to the amount of their Individual 15 Settlement Payment. This estimate includes the required tax reporting on the settlement amounts, 16 including but not limited to the issuing of W2 and 1099 forms (if any), as well as calculation of 17 employee withholding taxes and the employer payroll taxes for Defendant to be remitted to the tax 18 authorities by the Settlement Administrator. A Form 1099 – MISC, Box 7 shall be issued to the 19 Settlement Administrator.

20 3.8 Service Award. Subject to Court approval, in exchange for the release of all 21 Released Claims, a General Release of all claims, and for their time and effort in bringing and 22 prosecuting this matter, Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez shall be paid up to a total of Ten 23 Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) each, or such lower amount as the Court may order. The 24 Parties agree that a decision by the Court to award Plaintiff Herrera and/or Plaintiff Chavez amounts 25 less than the amount stated above shall not be a basis for Plaintiff Herrera, Plaintiff Chavez, or 26 Settlement Class Counsel to void this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator shall issue a 27 Form 1099 – MISC, Box 3 for the service awards. Any amount awarded for the service awards to

Plaintiff Herrera or Plaintiff Chavez less than \$10,000.00 each will result in the non-awarded funds being awarded to Participating Settlement Class Members in this matter in an amount proportionate to the amount of their Individual Settlement Payment. Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez shall be solely and legally responsible to pay any and all applicable taxes on their service awards and shall hold harmless Defendant from any claim or liability for taxes, penalties, or interest arising as a result of the payment. This service awards shall be in addition to Plaintiff Herrera's and Plaintiff Chavez's share of the Settlement Amount as Settlement Class Members.

8 3.9 PAGA Payment. The total amount of the Settlement Amount allocated to 9 PAGA claims being settled by this Agreement shall be Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents 10 (\$30,000.00). Of this amount, Twenty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents 11 (\$22,500.00) shall be paid to the LWDA as part of this Settlement. This PAGA Payment is made 12 pursuant to PAGA's penalty provisions. The balance of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and 13 No Cents (\$7,500.00) shall be included in the Net Settlement Amount for distribution to Aggrieved 14 Employees who were employed during the PAGA Period. The sum attributable to each Aggrieved 15 Employee shall be allocated based on the proportionate number of pay periods worked by the 16 individual Aggrieved Employee during the PAGA Period relative to the total number of pay periods 17 worked by all Aggrieved Employees during the PAGA Period. Settlement Class Members who are 18 entitled to a PAGA share and who exclude themselves from the Settlement will still be paid their 19 PAGA share under this paragraph and will still release the PAGA Released Claims.

3.10 <u>Tax Liability</u>. Defendant makes no representations as to the tax treatment or
 legal effect of the payments called for hereunder, and Plaintiffs are not relying on any statement or
 representation by Defendant in this regard. Plaintiffs understand and agree that Plaintiffs will be solely
 responsible for the payment of any taxes and penalties assessed on the payments described herein.

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#### IV.

### SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES

4.1 Preliminary Settlement Hearing. Plaintiffs shall file a motion for preliminary

#### STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1	approval of the proposed Settlement and setting a date for a Final Approval Hearing. In conjunction
2	with the hearing on the motion for preliminary approval of the Settlement, Plaintiffs will submit this
3	Stipulated Settlement Agreement and the attached Notice, and a preliminary approval order which sets
4	forth the terms of this Settlement Agreement. The Order shall provide for Notice of the Settlement and
5	related matters to be sent to Settlement Class Members as specified herein.

6 4.2 <u>Settlement Administration/Management</u>. This Settlement shall be managed and
7 administered as follows:

a. CPT Group, Inc. shall be retained to serve as Settlement Administrator. The Parties
each represent they do not have any financial interest in the Settlement
Administrator or otherwise have a relationship with the Settlement Administrator
that could create a conflict of interest.

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- b. Defendant will diligently and in good faith compile and provide to the Settlement Administrator the Class List and Data Report within fourteen (14) calendar days of Preliminary Approval of the Settlement. The report shall be provided to the Settlement Administrator in a computer-readable format.
  - c. Within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of the Class List and Data Report, the Settlement Administrator shall determine the approximate amount of each Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement Amount and will prepare and mail the appropriate Class Notice to each Settlement Class Member.
    - d. All Settlement Class Members who do not timely opt-out of the Settlement will receive Individual Settlement Payments as Participating Settlement Class Members without having to submit any claim.
      - e. Ten (10) business days following the expiration of the period to opt-out or submit objections, the Settlement Administrator shall provide Defendant and Settlement Class Counsel a report and declaration indicating: (i) the names and number of Settlement Class Members who have objected to the Settlement; (ii) the names of the Settlement Class Members who have opted out of the Settlement; (iii) the names

#### STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

of each Participating Settlement Class Member and the Individual Settlement Amount for each Participating Settlement Class Member; and (iv) the total amount of employer-side taxes on the Wage Component of the Participating Settlement Class Members' Individual Settlement Payments.

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- f. The Parties agree to cooperate in the settlement administration process and to make all reasonable efforts to control and minimize the costs and expenses incurred in administration of the Settlement.
- The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for: calculating the approximate g. amount of the Individual Settlement Amount for each Settlement Class Member; printing and mailing the Class Notice to Settlement Class Members; resolving Settlement Class Member disputes regarding the number of Workweeks Worked by the Settlement Class Member during the applicable Class Period; receiving and reporting the objections and Requests for Exclusion submitted by Settlement Class Members; notifying Defendant of the total amount to be paid to fully fund the Settlement; calculating, preparing and mailing Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Settlement Class Members; distributing the Attorney's Fees and Costs Award, PAGA Payment, service award to Plaintiff Herrera, and service award to Plaintiff Chavez; creating all required tax and reporting forms and remitting appropriate monies to the taxing authorities; and otherwise performing all tasks required to properly administer the Settlement. The Settlement Administrator shall keep Defendant's Counsel and Settlement Class Counsel timely apprised of the performance of all Settlement Administrator responsibilities.
  - h. The Settlement Administrator, on Defendant's behalf, shall have the authority and obligation to make payments, credits, and disbursements, including payments and credits in the manner set forth herein, to Participating Settlement Class Members and taxing authorities calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in this Agreement, and any refunds to which Defendant is entitled for the employer taxes

1	paid on uncashed checks, and orders of the Court.
2	i. Any tax return filing required in conjunction with the payments to be made pursuant
3	to this Agreement shall be made by the Settlement Administrator. Any expenses
4	incurred in connection with such filing shall be a cost of administration of the
5	Settlement.
6	j. No person shall have any claim against Defendant or Defendant's Counsel, Plaintiff
7	Herrera, Plaintiff Chavez, Settlement Class Members, the Settlement Class,
8	Settlement Class Counsel or the Settlement Administrator based on distributions
9	and payments made in accordance with this Agreement.
10	k. If the number of valid opt-outs exceeds 10 percent of the total of Settlement Class
11	Members, Defendant may, but is not required to, elect to withdraw from the
12	Settlement. The Parties agree that, if Defendant withdraws, the Settlement shall be
13	void ab initio, have no force or effect whatsoever, and that neither Party will have
14	any further obligation to perform under this Agreement; provided, however,
15	Defendant will remain responsible for paying all Settlement Administrator
16	expenses incurred to that point. Defendant must notify Class Counsel and the Court
17	of its election to withdraw not later than seven business days after the Administrator
18	sends the final list of opt outs to Defense Counsel. Late opt-outs shall have no effect.
19	4.3 Calculation of Individual Settlement Amounts. To determine the Individual
20	Settlement Amount to be included in the Class Notice sent to Settlement Class Members, the
21	Settlement Administrator will:
22	a. Determine the total number of Workweeks Worked by the Settlement Class during
23	the Class Period as provided in the Class List and Data Report, including the
24	additional Workweeks Worked generated by subsection (c) below.
25	b. Divide the Net Settlement Amount, by the total number of Workweeks Worked by
26	the Settlement Class and the additional Workweeks Worked generated by
27	subsection (c) below to determine the Per Workweek Settlement Amount. The Per
28	17.
	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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1 Workweek Settlement Amount shall then be multiplied by the number of 2 Workweeks Worked by each Settlement Class Member during the applicable 3 Class Period to determine each Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement 4 Amount. All Settlement Class Members will be entitled to payment for at least one 5 (1) workweek. c. Settlement Class Members whose employment ended at any point between 6 7 December 21, 2017 and December 13, 2022 will be allocated an additional 0.25 8 Workweeks Worked for each Workweek Worked, up to a maximum of 6 9 additional Workweeks Worked credit to compensate them for their waiting time 10 claim. These credited Workweeks Worked shall not increase or decrease the determined total number of Workweeks Worked by the Settlement Class. 11 12 4.4 Notice to Settlement Class Members. Notice of the Settlement shall be 13 provided to all Settlement Class Members using the following procedures: 14 a. Notice By First-Class Mail. Within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of 15 the Class List and Data Report, the Settlement Administrator shall mail the 16 Class Notice to the Settlement Class Members via first-class regular U.S. mail. 17 The Class Notice to Settlement Class Members shall substantially be in the form 18 attached hereto as Exhibit 1. Prior to mailing, the Settlement Administrator 19 will perform a search based on the National Change of Address Database 20 information to update and correct for any known or identifiable address 21 changes. If a new address is obtained by way of a returned Notice, then the 22 Settlement Administrator shall promptly forward the original Class Notice and 23 to the updated address via first-class regular U.S. mail indicating on the original 24 Class Notice packet the date of such re-mailing. 25 b. Opt Out/Objection Deadline Date. Settlement Class Members will have Sixty 26 (60) days from the mailing of the Class Notice to submit a Request for 27 Exclusion or object to the Settlement. 28 18. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

c. Disputes Regarding Individual Settlement Amounts. The Parties agree that if any Class Member disputes the number of Workweeks Worked attributed to him or her during the applicable Class Period, absent clear evidence submitted by the Settlement Class Member establishing otherwise, Defendant's records shall presumptively control. The Parties further agree that any dispute shall be resolved by the Settlement Administrator with the assistance of Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel. Class Members shall have Sixty (60) days from the mailing of the Class Notice to submit their dispute under this paragraph, inclusive of all documentation that they wish to have considered. To the extent the Settlement Administrator is unable to resolve the dispute to the satisfaction of the Settlement Class Member, the Parties will submit the dispute with all supporting evidence to the Court for final adjudication at the Final Approval Hearing. d. Procedure for Undeliverable Notices. Any Notice returned to the Settlement Administrator as non-delivered on or before the expiration of the Opt Out and Objections Deadline Date shall be sent to the forwarding address affixed thereto within five (5) business days. If no forwarding address is provided, then the

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d. <u>Proceedure for Ordenverable Nonces</u>. Any Nonce featured to the Settlement Administrator as non-delivered on or before the expiration of the Opt Out and Objections Deadline Date shall be sent to the forwarding address affixed thereto within five (5) business days. If no forwarding address is provided, then the Settlement Administrator shall promptly attempt to determine a correct address using a single skip-trace, computer, or other search using the name, address, and/or Social Security number of the individual involved, and shall then perform a single re-mailing within five (5) business days. Those Settlement Class Members that receive a re-mailed Class Notice shall have their deadline for submitting an opt-out, objection, or disputes regarding Individual Settlement Amounts to the Settlement extended by seven (7) calendar days from the post mark date of re-mailing. In the event the procedures in this Paragraph are followed and the intended recipient of a Class Notice still does not receive the Notice, the Settlement Class Member shall be bound by all terms

1 of the Settlement and any final order entered by the Court if the Settlement is 2 approved by the Court. 3 4.5 Procedure for Requesting Exclusion ("Opt Out") from the Class Action The Class Notice shall inform all Settlement Class Members that they may exclude 4 Settlement. 5 themselves from the Settlement, but that they may not exclude themselves from the settlement of the 6 PAGA claims. 7 a. Requesting Exclusion. If a Settlement Class Member elects to exclude 8 herself/himself from the Settlement ("opt out"), the Settlement Class Member 9 must submit a written Request for Exclusion requesting exclusion from the 10 Action on or before the expiration of the Opt Out Period (60 days after the date 11 that the Class Notice is mailed). Such Request for Exclusion must contain the 12 name, address, telephone number, and the last four digits of the Social Security 13 number of the person requesting exclusion. The Request for Exclusion must be 14 returned to the Settlement Administrator as instructed in the Class Notice and 15 must be postmarked on or before the date specified in the Class Notice. The 16 date of the postmark on the return mailing envelope shall be the exclusive 17 means used to determine whether a Request for Exclusion has been timely 18 submitted. 19 b. No Solicitation of Opt-Outs. At no time shall any of the Parties or their counsel 20 seek to solicit or otherwise encourage Settlement Class Members to opt out of 21 the Settlement. 22 c. Effect of Exclusion. Any Settlement Class Member who requests exclusion 23 from the Settlement by timely submitting a valid Request for Exclusion will not 24 be entitled to an Individual Settlement Payment (but will be entitled to an 25 Individual PAGA Settlement Payment if she or she is an Aggrieved Employee), will no longer be a Settlement Class Member and will not be bound by the 26 27 Agreement or have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon, except that 28 20. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1 he or she will still be bound by the release of the PAGA Released Claims if he 2 or she is an Aggrieved Employee. Settlement Class Members who fail to submit 3 a valid and timely Request for Exclusion on or before the expiration of the Opt 4 Out Period shall be bound by all terms of the Agreement and the Final Approval 5 Order and/or Order and Final Judgment. 4.6 Procedure for Objecting to the Class Action Settlement. Any Settlement Class 6 7 Member wishing to object to the Settlement must submit an objection to the Settlement using the 8 following procedures: 9 Procedure for Objecting. The Class Notice shall provide that those Settlement a. 10 Class Members who wish to object to the Settlement may mail a written statement of objection ("Notice of Objection") to the Settlement Administrator 11 12 no later than the deadline to opt out or object. Settlement Class Members who 13 timely opt out of the Settlement cannot submit an objection to the Settlement. 14 The postmark date of the mailing shall be deemed the exclusive means for 15 determining that a Notice of Objection is timely. Only Settlement Class 16 Members who do not opt out of the Settlement may object to the Settlement. 17 The written objection must include the Settlement Class Member's name, 18 address and phone number and the name of this case. Settlement Class Members 19 who do not opt out of the Settlement and who submit a timely Notice of 20 Objection may, at their option, include with their objection any legal briefs, 21 papers or memoranda the objecting Settlement Class Member wishes to submit 22 to the Court, or file such legal briefs, papers or memoranda directly with the 23 Court no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. The 24 Settlement Administrator shall send all objections by .pdf to counsel for 25 Defendant and Class Counsel, and also include the objections in its declaration which is to be submitted to the Court in support of final approval of the 26 27 Settlement. Settlement Class Members who fail to submit a timely Notice of 28 21. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Objection to the Settlement Administrator will not be barred from making an appearance at the Final Approval Hearing to orally present their objection for consideration by the Court.

- b. <u>Copies of Objections to the Parties</u>. No later than ten (10) business days after the deadline to opt out or object, the Settlement Administrator shall electronically provide to counsel for the Parties complete copies of each Notice of Objection received, including the postmark dates for each Notice, and any legal briefs, papers or memoranda in support of objections received by the Settlement Administrator.
- c. <u>No Solicitation of Objections</u>. The Parties agree to use their best efforts to carry out the terms of this Settlement. 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 final order and/or judgment.
  - d. Settlement Class Members who object to the Settlement shall be conclusively bound by the Release contained in this Agreement to the extent final approval of this Settlement is granted whereby any objection is overruled or denied.

4.7 <u>Failure to Respond to the Notice</u>. Any Settlement Class Member who does not
request to be excluded from the Settlement shall continue to be a Settlement Class Member and be
conclusively bound by the Release contained in this Agreement and shall be entitled to his or her
Individual Settlement Payment.

4.8 <u>Procedure for Payment of Individual Settlement Payments</u>: All Settlement
Class Members who do not timely opt out of the Settlement will receive an Individual Settlement
Payment, to be distributed through the Settlement Administrator pursuant to Section 4.13 below.
Individual Settlement Payments for Participating Settlement Class Members shall be paid pursuant to
the settlement formula set forth herein. Should any question arise regarding the determination of
eligibility for, or the amounts of, any Individual Settlement Payment under the terms of this

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Agreement, Settlement Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel shall meet and confer, with the assistance of the Settlement Administrator, in an attempt to reach agreement. If they cannot agree, the Court shall make the final determination, and that determination shall be conclusive, final and binding on all Parties, including all Settlement Class Members.

4.9 <u>Calculation of Individual Settlement Payments and Individual PAGA</u>
<u>Settlement Payments.</u> The Individual Settlement Payment to each Participating Class Member and
Individual PAGA Settlement Payment to each Aggrieved Employee shall be determined by the
Settlement Administrator as follows:

9 a. Only Participating Settlement Class Members shall be entitled to payment 10 under the Settlement. Participating Settlement Class Members shall be entitled 11 to the payment of the Individual Settlement Amount calculated as set forth 12 above in Paragraph 4.3. Any portion of the Net Settlement Amount not payable 13 to Settlement Class Members shall be distributed to Participating Settlement 14 Class Members on a basis proportional to the number of Workweeks Worked 15 by each Participating Settlement Class Member, including Workweeks Worked 16 enhancements. The total payout to each Participating Settlement Class Member 17 shall be known as the Individual Settlement Payment.

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b. Twenty Percent (20%) of each Participating Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement Payment shall be apportioned to wages ("Wage Component"). The Wage Component shall be reduced by any required legal deductions for each Participating Settlement Class Member. Standard employee payroll deductions shall be made for state and federal withholding taxes and any other applicable payroll deductions owed by the Participating Settlement Class Members as a result of the Wage Component. The Settlement Administrator will issue a check and W-2 Form to each Participating Settlement Class Member for the Net Wage Component.

c. Eighty Percent (80%) of each Participating Settlement Class Member's

1		Individual Settlement Payment shall be apportioned to interest and penalties.
2		No withholding shall be made on the interest and penalty portion of the
3		Individual Settlement Payment. The Settlement Administrator will issue a
4		second check and IRS Form 1099 for the interest and penalty component paid
5		to each Participating Settlement Class Member.
6	d.	All Aggrieved Employees shall be entitled to a payment of the PAGA Payment.
7		One Hundred Percent (100%) of each Aggrieved Employee's Individual PAGA
8		Settlement Payment shall be apportioned to penalties with an IRS Form 1099
9		to be issued accordingly.
10	e.	The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for issuing the payments and
11		calculating and withholding all required state and federal taxes.
12	f.	Defendant will be responsible for paying all employer tax liabilities on the
13		Wage Component separate and apart from the Settlement Amount which shall
14		be conclusively determined upon final approval once the final number of
15		Participating Class Members and Individual Settlement Payment Amounts are
16		known.
17	g.	Defendant makes no representation as to the tax treatment or legal effect of the
18		payments called for hereunder, and the Class Representatives and Class
19		Members are not relying on any statement, representation, or calculation by
20		Defendant or by the Settlement Administrator in this regard. The Class
21		Representatives and Class Members understand and agree that except for
22		Defendant's payment of the employer's portion of any employment and payroll
23		taxes and contributions, they will be solely responsible for the payment of any
24		taxes and penalties assessed on the payments described herein and will defend,
25		indemnify, and hold Defendant free and harmless from and against any claims
26		resulting from treatment of such payments as non-taxable damages.
27	h.	Participating Settlement Class Members shall be conclusively bound by the
28		24.
		STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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#### Release contained in this Agreement.

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4.10 <u>Nullification of Settlement Agreement</u>. In the event: (i) the Court does not enter the Preliminary Approval Order specified herein; (ii) the Court does not finally approve the Settlement as provided herein; (iii) the Court does not enter a Final Judgment as provided herein, which becomes final as a result of the occurrence of the Effective Date; (iv) the Settlement or Final Judgment is reversed on appeal; (v) the Effective Date does not occur; or (vi) the Settlement does not become final for any other reason, this Settlement Agreement shall be null and void, any order or judgment entered by the Court in furtherance of this Settlement shall be treated as void from the beginning, and the stipulations and recitals contained herein shall be of no force or effect, and shall not be treated as an admission by any parties or their Counsel. In such a case, the Parties shall be returned to their respective statuses as of the date and time immediately prior to the execution of this Agreement, and the Parties shall proceed in all respects as if this Settlement Agreement had not been executed, except that any fees already incurred by the Settlement Administrator shall be paid by Defendant.

4.11 <u>Final Approval Hearing and Entry of Final Judgment</u>. At least thirty (30) business days after expiration of the Opt-Out/Objection Period, the Final Approval Hearing shall be conducted to determine final approval of the Settlement along with the amount properly payable for (i) the attorney's fees and costs award, (ii) any service awards for Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez, and (iii) settlement administration costs. In advance of said hearing, Settlement Class Counsel shall timely file and serve their motion seeking final approval of the Settlement, an award of attorneys' fees and costs consistent with the terms of this Agreement, and service awards for Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez. Upon final approval of the Settlement by the Court the Parties shall present a final judgment to the Court for its approval. After entry of the final judgment, the Court shall have continuing jurisdiction solely for purposes of addressing: (i) the interpretation and enforcement of the terms of the Settlement, (ii) Settlement administration matters, and (iii) such post-Final Judgment matters as may be appropriate under court rules or as set forth in this Agreement.

4.12 <u>Creation of the Qualified Settlement Fund and Administration of the</u> <u>Settlement</u>. Defendant shall deliver the Settlement Amount to the Settlement Administrator who shall 25.

1 deposit said funds into a Qualified Settlement Fund created by the Settlement Administrator pursuant 2 to Internal Revenue Code Section 1.468B-1 ("QSF"). Within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, 3 Defendant shall deliver the Settlement Amount and the corresponding share of employer taxes to the 4 Settlement Administrator. All payments that Defendant is required to make pursuant to the Settlement 5 Agreement shall be made from this Fund. To the extent Defendant fails to deliver payments by the 6 deadlines contemplated herein, interest shall accrue on the balance at the legal rate of interest until 7 funding is completed. Plaintiffs may seek entry of judgment on an *ex parte* basis for any balance owed 8 and be entitled to recovery of reasonable fees and costs should any such effort be undertaken. 9 Payments from the Qualified Settlement Fund shall be made for (1) any service awards to Plaintiff 10 Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez, as specified in this Agreement and approved by the Court; (2) the 11 attorneys' fees and costs award paid to Settlement Class Counsel, as specified in this Agreement and 12 approved by the Court; (3) the Settlement Administration Costs, as specified in this Agreement and 13 approved by the Court; (4) the amount allocated to the LWDA for its portion of the PAGA Payment; 14 (5) all payments to Participating Settlement Class Members; and (6) payment of both the employee 15 and employer portions of tax withholdings on the portions of the Net Settlement Amount characterized 16 as wages.

17 4.13 Distribution by the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator 18 shall make a distribution from the Qualified Settlement Fund not later than fourteen (14) days after 19 receiving the Settlement Amount from Defendant. Prior to distribution, the Settlement Administrator 20 will perform a search based on the National Change of Address Database information to update and 21 correct for any known or identifiable address changes. If a new address is obtained by way of a returned 22 distribution payment, then the Settlement Administrator shall promptly forward the distribution 23 payment to the updated address via first-class regular U.S. mail indicating on the original mailing the 24 date of such re-mailing. With the distribution, the Settlement Administrator is to make distribution to 25 the appropriate parties for payments due under this Agreement as follows:

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a. Settlement Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs as awarded by the Court under Paragraph 3.6 herein.

1	b. The service awards to Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez as awarded by the	
2	Court under Paragraph 3.8 herein.	
3	c. The PAGA payments to the LWDA and Aggrieved Employees as set forth in	
4	Paragraph 3.9 herein.	
5	d. Payment to the Settlement Administrator for the costs of settlement	
6	administration as set forth in Paragraph 3.7 herein and approved by the Court.	
7	e. Individual Settlement Payments to Participating Class Members as set forth in	
8	Paragraph 4.3 and 4.9 herein.	
9	4.14 <u>Undeliverable Individual Settlement Payments</u> . Should any Individual	
10	Settlement Payment checks be returned as undeliverable to the Settlement Administrator, the	
11	Settlement Administrator shall use reasonable efforts to identify a correct address for the Participating	
12	Class Member, and cause the Individual Settlement Payment check to be delivered to the correct	
13	address.	
14	4.15 <u>Uncashed Individual Settlement Payment Checks</u> . All checks for Individual	
15	Settlement Payments shall remain valid and negotiable for 180 days from the date of their issuance.	
16	Funds associated with any checks not cashed during the 180 day period shall be void, and the	
17	Participating Settlement Class Member's release set forth herein shall remain valid. After the 180	
18	day period following distribution, all remaining funds shall be transferred to the State Controller's	
19	Office in accordance with California's Unclaimed Property Law in the names of Participating Class	
20	Members whose Individual Settlement Payments were not cashed.	
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22	4.16 <u>Certification By Settlement Administrator</u> . Upon completion of administration	
23	and upon the distribution set forth in Section 4.15 above, the Settlement Administrator shall provide	
24	written certification of such completion, including any administration summary, to the Court and	
25	counsel for all Parties.	
26	<b>V.</b>	
27	RELEASES	
28	<u>KELEASES</u> 27.	
	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT	

1 5.1 Release As To All Participating Class Members. Upon the Effective Date and 2 funding in full of the Settlement Amount by Defendant, all Settlement Class Members who do not 3 timely opt out of the Settlement ("Participating Class Members"), including their heirs, assigns, 4 estates, and representatives, shall be deemed to fully forever, irrevocably, and unconditionally release 5 and discharge the Released Parties from the Released Claims. The Settlement Agreement shall be in 6 full settlement, compromise, release, and discharge of the Released Claims and each of them, and the 7 Released Claims by the Class Representatives, and the Released Parties shall have no further liability 8 or obligation to any Class Member and/or the Class Representatives with respect to the Released 9 Claims and Class Representatives' Released Claims, except as expressly provided herein.

<u>Release As To All Aggrieved Employees</u>. Upon the Effective Date and funding in full
 of the Settlement Amount by Defendant, Plaintiffs, Aggrieved Employees, and the State of California
 shall be deemed to fully forever, irrevocably and unconditionally release and discharge the Released
 Parties from the Released PAGA Claims.

Labor Code Sections 206.5 and 2804 Do Not Apply to Releases. The Parties agree that
 California Labor Code §§ 206.5 and 2804 do not invalidate any provision of this Agreement, because
 among other things, the claims and Released Claims are disputed and contested, and the Settlement
 was bargained for at arms' length and approved by the Court.

18 5.2 General Release By Named Plaintiffs Only. In addition to the release made by 19 the Participating Class Members as set forth in Paragraph 5.1 hereof, Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff 20 Chavez, in their individual capacities and with respect to their individual claims only, agree to release 21 the Released Parties from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities and causes of action of every nature 22 and description whatsoever, known or unknown, asserted or that might have been asserted, whether in 23 tort, contract, or for violation of any state or federal statute, rule or regulation arising out of, relating 24 to, or in connection with any act or omission by or on the part of any of the Released Parties committed 25 or omitted prior to the execution hereof including a waiver of Civil Code §1542.

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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

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Plaintiff Chavez do not know or suspect to exist in their favor at the time of the General

5.2.1. The General Release includes any unknown claims that Plaintiff Herrera and

Release, which, if known by them, might have affected their settlement with, and release of, the Released Parties or might have affected their decision not to object to this Settlement or the General Release.

4 5.2.2. The Class Representatives hereby fully and finally release and discharge the 5 Released Parties from any and all of the Released Claims and from any and all claims, charges, 6 complaints, liens, demands, causes of action, obligations, damages and liabilities, known or unknown, 7 suspected or unsuspected, that the Class Representatives had, now have, or may hereafter claim to 8 have against the Released Parties arising out of, or relating in any way to, the Class Representatives' 9 hiring by, employment with, separation of employment with the Released Parties ("Class 10 Representatives' Released Claims"), arising or accruing from the beginning of time up through the 11 date the Court preliminarily approves this Settlement. The Class Representatives' Released Claims 12 include, but are not limited to, claims arising from or dependent on the California Labor Code; the 13 Wage Orders of the California Industrial Welfare Commission; California Business and Professions 14 Code section 17200 et seq.; the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, Cal. Gov't Code § 15 12900 et seq.; the California common law of contract and tort; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 16 1964; the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.; the Employee Retirement 17 Income Security Act of 1974, 29 U.S.C. § 1001 et seq.; the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 18 et seq. and the Portal to Portal Act, 29 U.S.C. § 251 et seq. This release expressly excludes any 19 Worker's Compensation claims the Class Representatives currently may have pending against 20 Defendant.

The Class Representatives further warrant that they understand that Section 1542 gives them the right not to release existing claims of which they are not now aware, unless they voluntarily choose to waive this right. Having been so apprised, the Class Representatives shall nevertheless voluntarily waive the rights described in Section 1542, which states:

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.

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5.2.3. Plaintiff Herrera and Plaintiff Chavez may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those they now know or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of the General Release, but they shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever settled and released any and all of the claims released pursuant to the General Release whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, which now exist, or heretofore have existed upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct that is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts.

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 14 herein released and discharged, except as set forth herein.

### VI.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

6.1 No Public Comment. All Parties and Class Counsel agree they will not make any public disclosure of the Settlement or the previously-signed Memorandum of Understanding until after this Stipulated Settlement Agreement is filed with the Court. Class Counsel will take all steps necessary to ensure all Parties are aware of, and will encourage them to adhere to, the restriction against any public disclosure of this Stipulated Settlement Agreement until after this Stipulated Settlement Agreement is filed with the Court. Following the filing of this Stipulated Settlement Agreement, all Parties and Class Counsel agree they will not have any communications with the media, other than to direct the media to the public records of the Action on file with the Court. Class Counsel will take all steps necessary to ensure all Parties are aware of, and will adhere to, the restriction against

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any media comment on this Stipulated Settlement Agreement and its terms.

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6.2 No Additional Benefits. All Individual Settlement Payments paid to Participating Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to be paid to such Participating Settlement Class Members solely in the year in which such payments actually are received by Participating Settlement Class Members. It is expressly understood and agreed that the receipt of such payments will not entitle any Participating Settlement Class Member to any additional compensation or benefits under any bonus, contest, or other compensation or benefit plan or agreement currently in place and/or that was in place during the applicable Class Period or thereafter, nor will receipt of such payments entitle any Participating Settlement Class Member to any increased retirement, 401k benefits or matching benefits, deferred compensation benefits, or any other type of benefit. It is the intent of this Settlement that the Individual Settlement Payments provided for in this Agreement are the sole payments to be made by Defendant to the Participating Settlement Class Members, and that the Participating Settlement Class Members are not entitled to any new or additional compensation or benefits as a result of having received the payments, notwithstanding any contrary language or agreement in any benefit or compensation plan document currently in place and/or that was in place during the applicable Class Period or thereafter.

20 6.3 <u>Dispute Resolution</u>. Except as otherwise set forth herein, all disputes
 21 concerning the interpretation, calculation or payment of settlement claims, or other disputes regarding
 22 compliance with this Agreement shall be resolved as follows:

 a. If Plaintiff Herrera or Plaintiff Chavez, or Settlement Class Counsel, on behalf of Plaintiff Herrera or Plaintiff Chavez, or any Settlement Class Member, or Defense Counsel at any time believe that the other Party has breached or acted contrary to the Agreement, that Party shall notify the other Party in writing of the alleged violation.

1	b. Upon receiving notice of the alleged violation or dispute, the responding Party		
2	shall have ten (10) business days to correct the alleged violation and/or respond		
3	to the initiating Party with the reasons why the party disputes all or part of the		
4	allegation.		
5	c. If the response does not address the alleged violation to the initiating Party's		
6	satisfaction, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith for up to ten (10) business		
7	days to resolve their differences.		
8	d. If the Parties are unable to resolve their differences after twenty (20) business		
9	days, either Party may file an appropriate motion for enforcement with the		
10	Court. The briefing of such motion should be in letter brief form and shall no		
11	exceed five (5) single-spaced pages (excluding exhibits).		
12	e. Reasonable attorney's fees and costs for work done in resolving a dispute under		
13	this Section may be recovered by any party that prevails under the standards se		
14	forth within the meaning of applicable law.		
15	6.4 <u>Exhibits and Headings</u> . The terms of this Agreement, including the terms se		
16	forth in the attached Notice, which is incorporated by this reference as though fully set forth herein		
17	shall be the only terms of this Agreement. The descriptive headings of any paragraphs or sections of		
18	this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and do not constitute a part of this		
19	Agreement.		
20	6.5 <u>Interim Stay of Proceedings</u> . The Parties agree to the Court staying and holding		
21	all proceedings in the Action, except such proceedings necessary to implement and complete the		
22	Settlement, in abeyance pending the Final Settlement Hearing to be conducted by the Court.		
23	6.6 <u>Amendment or Modification</u> . This Agreement may be amended or modified		
24	only by a written instrument signed by counsel for all Parties or their successors-in-interest and subject		
25	to the Court's approval.		
26	6.7 <u>Entire Agreement</u> . This Agreement and any attached exhibits constitute the		
27	entire agreement among these Parties, and no oral or written representations, warranties or		
28	32.		
	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT		

inducements have been made to any Party concerning this Agreement or its exhibits other than the
 representations, warranties and covenants contained and memorialized in such documents.

6.8 <u>Extensions of Time</u>. Without further order of the Court, the Settling Parties
hereto may agree in writing to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of the
Settlement.

6 6.9 <u>Waivers</u>. The waiver by any party of any breach of this Settlement Agreement
7 shall not be deemed or construed as a waiver of any other breach, whether prior, subsequent, or
8 contemporaneous, of this Settlement Agreement.

9 Authorization to Enter Into Settlement Agreement. Counsel for all Parties 6.10 10 warrant and represent they are expressly authorized by the Parties whom they represent to negotiate 11 this Agreement and to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by such Parties 12 pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms, and to execute any other documents required to 13 effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties and their counsel will cooperate with each other 14 and use their best efforts to effect the implementation of the Settlement. In the event the Parties are 15 unable to reach agreement on the form or content of any document needed to implement the 16 Settlement, or on any supplemental provisions that may become necessary to effectuate the terms of 17 this Settlement, the Parties may seek the assistance of the Court to resolve such disagreement. The 18 person signing this Agreement on behalf of Defendant represents and warrants that he/she is 19 authorized to sign this Agreement on behalf of Defendant.

20 6.11 <u>Binding on Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and
 21 inure to the benefit of, the successors or assigns of the Parties hereto, as previously defined.

22 6.12 <u>California Law Governs</u>. All terms of this Agreement and the exhibits hereto
 23 shall be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California.

6.13 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. A facsimile or scanned signature shall have the same effect as an original signature and shall not affect the enforceability of this Agreement. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument provided that Counsel for the Parties to this Agreement shall exchange

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#### STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1 among themselves signed counterparts.

6.14 Jurisdiction of the Court. Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 3.769(h)
and California Code of Civil Procedure Sec. 664.6, the Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to
the interpretation, implementation and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement and all orders and
judgments entered in connection therewith, and the Parties and their counsel hereto submit to the
jurisdiction of the Court for purposes of interpreting, implementing and enforcing the settlement
embodied in this Agreement and all orders and judgments entered in connection therewith.

8 6.15 <u>Cooperation and Drafting</u>. Each of the Parties has cooperated in the drafting
9 and preparation of this Agreement. Hence, in any construction made to this Agreement, the same shall
10 not be construed against any of the Parties.

6.16 <u>Invalidity of Any Provision</u>. Before declaring any provision of this Agreement
 invalid, the Court shall first attempt to construe the provisions valid to the fullest extent possible
 consistent with applicable precedents so as to define all provisions of this Agreement valid and
 enforceable.

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Dated: MAY '31, 202

Dated: 05

PLAINTIFF LAURA HERRERA

Represented By:

MOORADIAN LAW, APO Bv: Mooradian, Haik Hacopian

Attorney for Plaintiff Herrera and the Settlement Class

34. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1		PLAINTIEF VALERIE CHAVEZ
2	Dated: <u>5/31/2023</u>	Valerie Chavez
3		Valerie Chavez
4		
5		Represented By:
6		JAMES HAWKINS, APLC
7		By: James R. Hawkins, Isandra Fernandez
8	Dated: 06/01/2023	James R. Hawkins, Isandra Fernandez
9		Attorney for Plaintiff Chavez and the Settlement Class
10		
11		DEFENDANT CASCADE LIVING GROUP MANAGEMENT, LLC
12	Dated:	By:
13		Its:
14		
15		Represented By:
16		HANSON BRIDGETT LLP
17		
18	Dated:	By: Diane Marie O'Malley, Warren Hodges
19		Diane Marie O Maney, warren Hodges
20		Attorney for Defendant
21		
22		
23		
24		
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27		
28		
		35. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
		19552.

1	PLAINTIFF VALERIE CHAVEZ
2	Dated: Valerie Chavez
3	
4	
5	Represented By:
6	JAMES HAWKINS, APLC
7	By: James R. Hawkins, Isandra Fernandez
8	Dated:
9	Attorney for Plaintiff Chavez and the Settlement Class
10	
11	DEFENDANT CASCADE LIVING GROUP MANAGEMENT, LLC
12	Dated: By: By:
13	Its: Manager
14	
15	Represented By:
16	HANSON BRIDGETT LLP
17	5
18	Dated: By: <u>Sicre Marie O'Malley</u> Diane Marie O'Malley, Warren Hodges
19	Attorney for Defendant
20	
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÷	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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Laura Herrera, Valerie Chavez, et al. v. Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, et al. Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCV48606

As a current or former hourly non-exempt employee of Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, Cascade Living Group, Inc., Cascade Living Group – Hemet, LLC, and Cascade Living Group – Grass Valley, LLC ("CASCADE") in California at any time from December 21, 2016 through December 13, 2022, you may be entitled to receive money from a proposed class action settlement.

The California Superior Court, County of Los Angeles authorized this Class Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer. This is not a lawsuit against you. You have not been sued.

# PLEASE READ THIS CLASS NOTICE CAREFULLY. YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS ARE AFFECTED BY IT.

- A proposed class action settlement of \$850,000 has been reached between Plaintiff Laura Herrera, Plaintiff Valerie Chavez, and Defendant Cascade Living Group Management, LLC on behalf of Settlement Class Members who were employed by Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, Cascade Living Group, Inc., Cascade Living Group – Hemet, LLC, and Cascade Living Group – Grass Valley, LLC (hereinafter "CASCADE" or "Defendant") at four separate locations in California: (1) Desert Hills Memory Care Center in East Hemet, (2) Cascade of Grass Valley in Grass Valley, (3) Magnolia Grand in Riverside, and (4) Regency Grand in West Covina.
- The settlement resolves the class and representative action lawsuit entitled *Laura Herrera, Valerie Chavez, individually and on behalf of other persons similarly situated and similarly aggrieved employees, v. Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCV48606 ("**Lawsuit**"), wherein Plaintiffs allege various wage and hour violations. The Settlement also avoids the costs and risks from continuing the Lawsuit, pays money to persons like you, and releases CASCADE from alleged liability.
- The Court has not made a determination of the validity of the claims in the Lawsuit. CASCADE denies any and all liability arising from any of the claims and contends that at all relevant times it complied with applicable laws.
- This Settlement will be used to settle claims of all Settlement Class Members. The amount of Settlement Class Members' individual settlements will be determined by the number of weeks they worked for CASCADE ("workweeks") during the period from December 21, 2016 through December 13, 2022.
- Lawyers for the Settlement Class Members will be asking the Court to award up to \$297,500.00 to be paid out of the settlement (35%) as attorneys' fees for investigating the facts, litigating the case, and negotiating the settlement, as well as litigation costs and expenses, not to exceed \$25,000, incurred during the case. They also will ask the Court to approve: (1) a \$10,000 incentive award to Plaintiff Laura Herrera and a \$10,000 incentive award to Plaintiff Valerie Chavez ("**Plaintiffs**") or "**Representative Plaintiffs**") who assisted in litigating this case for the benefit of all Settlement Class Members; (2) a \$22,500 payment to the California Labor and Workforce Development

Agency ("LWDA"); and (3) up to a maximum of \$13,000 to the Settlement Administrator for costs incurred in administering this Settlement.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS	AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT
DO NOTHING	You will automatically receive payment from the Settlement and you will give up any right you may have to sue for alleged violations and related claims released by the Settlement. You get a payment and release your claims. ( <i>See Sections 10, 11 and 19, below</i> ).
	If you do not agree with the number of workweeks presented to you in this Class Notice, you will have until [INSERT DATE] to submit any dispute regarding your individual workweek calculations. ( <i>See Section 10, below</i> ).
OPT OUT OR EXCLUDE YOURSELF	If you do not want to participate in the settlement you can opt-out. To opt-out, you must submit a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator stating your intent to not be part of the settlement and sign and date the statement. The written statement must be postmarked on or before [INSERT DATE]. If you opt-out, you will not release any claims against CASCADE and you will receive no benefit from this settlement, except your share of PAGA civil penalties to the extent you are entitled to them. ( <i>See Sections 10 and 13, below</i> ).
OBJECT	If you do not think the settlement is fair and do not opt out, then you may write to the Settlement Administrator about why you do not like the settlement and they will forward your concerns to the attorneys who will then provide it to the court. Your objection must be postmarked on or before [INSERT DATE]. ( <i>See Section 16, below</i> ). You may not object if you have opted out.

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

## 1. Why did I get this Class Notice package?

The records of CASCADE indicate that you were employed by CASCADE in California as an hourly non-exempt employee at some point during the period of time from December 21, 2016 through December 13, 2022 ("**Settlement Class**") (*See Section 6, below*).

You were sent this Class Notice because you have a right to know about a proposed settlement involving this lawsuit and about all of your options before the Court decides whether to finally approve the settlement. If the Court approves the settlement and after any objections and appeals are resolved, a "**Settlement Administrator**" appointed by the Court will make the payments that the settlement allows. This package explains the Lawsuit, the settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, who is eligible for them, and how to get them. The Court in charge of this case is the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles. The persons who sued are called the Plaintiffs, and the organization they sued is called the Defendant.

## 2. What is this Lawsuit about?

On December 21, 2020, Plaintiff Laura Herrera filed a class action complaint in the Los Angeles County Superior Court (20STCV48606) against Cascade Living Group Management, LLC and BPM Senior Living Company, on her own behalf and on behalf of other persons. On September 28, 2021, Plaintiff Valerie Chavez filed a separate class action lawsuit against Cascade Living Group Management, LLC and later agreed to join the case filed by Plaintiff Herrera.

On May 26, 2022, the operative Second Amended Complaint was filed which asserts the following class causes of action: (1) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; (2) Failure to Provide Paid Rest Periods; (3) Failure to Pay Wages; (4) Failure to Timely Pay Wages at Termination/Separation; (5) Failure to Timely Pay Vacation Wages at Termination/Separation; (6) Failure to Provide Accurate Wage Statements; and (7) Violation of Unfair Business Practices Act – Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq. The Second Amended Complaint also includes a representative cause of action for civil penalties under the Private Attorneys' General Act ("PAGA") in accordance with the required notice communicated by Plaintiffs to the LWDA and CASCADE.

CASCADE has vigorously denied and defended against the allegations in the Lawsuit, asserting that it has paid its employees properly and has no liability for any of the alleged claims under any statute, wage order, common law, or equitable theory.

## 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called Class Representatives or Representative Plaintiffs sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All these people comprise a Class and are referred to as Class Members, except those who decide to exclude themselves from the Class. One court resolves the issues for all Class Members.

#### 4. Why is there a settlement?

Since the Lawsuit was filed, there has been an ongoing investigation, and information exchanged. The parties have participated in mediation with a highly respected neutral mediator. Subsequently, after further negotiations, the parties reached this Settlement to avoid the cost and risk of further litigation.

The Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, has not made a ruling on the merits of Plaintiffs' claims or CASCADE's defenses. However, the Court has preliminarily approved the proposed Settlement. The Court will decide whether to give final approval to the Settlement at the Final Approval hearing scheduled for [INSERT DATE] at \_\_\_\_\_\_. The Court is located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA, 90012, in Department SS-1, Judge Stuart M. Rice presiding.

The settlement does not mean that any law was broken. The proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims and does not mean that CASCADE violated any legal wage requirements or is liable for any of the charges made by Plaintiffs. CASCADE denies all of the legal claims in the case, and also asserts that a class action is improper for any purpose other than this settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel believe that this settlement is fair and reasonable and is in the best interest of all Settlement Class Members.

#### 5. What is a class action settlement?

The Court must approve the terms of the settlement described below as fair and reasonable to the class. Once approved, the settlement will affect all Settlement Class Members except those who have opted out (*i.e.* excluded themselves). This Class Notice explains your legal rights, the terms of the settlement, what you must do to participate, and the amount of money you may get. <u>Please read this entire Class Notice carefully</u>.

## WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

## To see if you will get money from this settlement, you first have to decide if you are a Settlement Class Member.

### 6. How do I know if I am a Settlement Class Member?

The parties have agreed, subject to Court approval, that the Settlement Class is made up of the following group:

### The **Settlement Class** is defined as:

All current and former non-exempt employees employed by Cascade Living Group, Inc., Cascade Living Group Management, LLC, Cascade Living Group – Hemet, LLC, or Cascade Living Group – Grass Valley, LLC, in California during the period of December 21, 2016 through December 13, 2022 ("Class Period").

If you received this Class Notice, you are considered to be a Settlement Class Member.

### 7. Are there exceptions to being included?

You can elect to be excluded from this settlement by opting out of this settlement and you will not be a Settlement Class Member.

#### 8. I'm still not sure if I am a Settlement Class Member. What should I do?

You are receiving this Class Notice because CASCADE's records indicate that you are a Settlement Class Member. If you believe you have received this Class Notice in error, please notify the Settlement Administrator immediately.

If this Class Notice was sent to a different address from where you now reside, you need to contact the Settlement Administrator and provide updated information so that any future correspondence or the settlement payment itself reaches you.

#### In order to receive payment under this Settlement, you do not have to take any action.

## THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT YOU GET

#### 9. What does the settlement provide?

The Settlement Agreement provides that CASCADE will pay Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000) (the "**Settlement Amount**") to fully resolve the claims being settled and released in the Lawsuit. After payment of the sums awarded by the Court (1) to the Settlement Administrator for its costs, up to a maximum of Thirteen Thousand Dollars (\$13,000); (2) to Settlement Class Counsel for their legal fees in the Action, including any work they do in the future, up to a maximum of Two Hundred Ninety Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$297,500), which is thirty five percent (35%) of the Settlement Amount; (3) to Settlement Class Counsel for their litigation costs and expenses, up to a maximum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000); (4) to Representative Plaintiff Laura Herrera and Representative Plaintiff Valerie Chavez, as service awards for services they provided on behalf of the Settlement Class,

risk of payment of costs in the event there had been an unfavorable outcome in the Action, and stigma, up to a maximum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) each; (5) to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA"), the sum of Twenty Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$22,500) as its share of PAGA penalties, and (6) the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) to Aggrieved Employees for their share of PAGA penalties; the remaining sum, estimated at no less than Four Hundred Sixty Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$464,500) (the "**Net Settlement Amount**") will be distributed entirely to Settlement Class Members who qualify to receive payment.

The actual and complete terms of the Settlement are set forth in the Stipulated Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement") filed with the Court. You can obtain a complete copy of the Settlement Agreement by calling Settlement Class Counsel, whose contact information is provided in Section 20, below.

10. How much will my payment be? How do I receive payment?

## As a Settlement Class Member, you will automatically receive payment if you do not exclude yourself.

Based on CASCADE's records, your total number of Workweeks during the Class Period is: [NUMBER].

Your estimated settlement payment based on the number of Workweeks indicated above is: [AMOUNT], less taxes.

Your estimated settlement payment is calculated pursuant to the method set forth below:

A Settlement Class Member's estimated share of the Net Settlement Amount shall be determined based on each Settlement Class Member's number of Workweeks Worked during the applicable Class Period. Each Settlement Class Member's share of the Net Settlement Amount shall be determined by dividing the Net Settlement Amount by the total number of Workweeks Worked by all Settlement Class Members during the applicable Class Period, and the total of additional Workweeks Worked enhancements as set forth below, to determine the Per Workweek Settlement Amount. Each Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement Amount is then determined by multiplying the Per Workweek Settlement. Amount by the number of Workweeks Worked by that Settlement Class Member, plus any additional Workweeks Worked enhancement. In the event that any Settlement Class Members opt out of the Settlement, any portion of the Net Settlement Amount that is not claimed shall be paid to Participating Settlement Class Member. The amount actually paid to each Participating Settlement class Member shall be known as the Individual settlement Payment.

Settlement Class Members whose employment ended at any point between December 21, 2017 and December 13, 2022 will be allocated an additional 0.25 Workweeks Worked enhancement for each Workweek Worked, up to a maximum of 6 additional Workweeks Worked credit to compensate them for their waiting time claim.

Taxation of your Individual Settlement Payment will be as follows:

Twenty Percent (20%) of each Participating Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement Payment shall be apportioned to wages. Standard payroll deductions shall be taken from the wage portion. The Settlement Administrator will issue a check and W-2 Form to each Participating Settlement Class Member for the Wage Component.

Eighty Percent (80%) of each Participating Settlement Class Member's Individual Settlement Payment shall be apportioned to penalties and interest. No withholding shall be made on the interest and penalty portion. The Settlement Administrator will issue a second check and IRS Form 1099 for the interest and penalty component. Any taxes due on the portion of the Individual Settlement Payment reported on a Form 1099 shall be the responsibility of the individual Participating Settlement Class Member.

The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for issuing the payments and calculating and withholding all required state and federal taxes.

CASCADE will be responsible for paying all employer tax liabilities separate and apart from the Settlement Amount.

<u>What if I believe My Workweeks are Wrong?</u> If you wish to challenge the number of Workweeks shown above, you must provide a written statement stating what you believe to be the correct number of Workweeks you worked during the Class Period. You must also include information and/or documents that support your claim that you worked a different number of Workweeks. CASCADE's records will control unless you submit documentation that establishes otherwise. If there is a dispute about which information is accurate, the Settlement Administrator will resolve the challenge with the assistance of Class Counsel and Defense Counsel. If the dispute remains unresolved, it will be submitted to the Court for final resolution.

**Your share of PAGA civil penalties**: Please note that if you were employed at any time from December 19, 2019 to December 13, 2022 ("**PAGA Period**"), you will additionally be entitled to a proportionate share of the \$7,500 allocated to PAGA civil penalties payable to employees. Your share will be reflected by the proportionate number of pay periods worked by you during the PAGA Period relative to the total number of pay periods worked by Settlement Class Members during the PAGA Period. Settlement Class Members who are entitled to a PAGA share and who exclude themselves from the Settlement will still be paid their PAGA share under this paragraph. You will be issued a Form 1099 for this payment.

Your estimated PAGA share based on the [NUMBER] pay periods you were employed during the PAGA Period indicated above is: [AMOUNT]. You will receive a payment for this sum, even if you exclude yourself from this Settlement.

11. When would I get my payment?

The Court will hold a hearing on **[INSERT DATE]**, to decide whether to approve the settlement. If the Court approves the settlement, after that there may be appeals if anyone objects. It is always uncertain when these objections and appeals can be resolved, and resolving them can take time. To check on the progress of the settlement, call the Settlement Administrator at 1-800-542-0900 or Class Counsel. *Please be patient*.

If the Court approves the settlement and if you do not opt out, your individual payment set forth in Section 10 above is expected to be distributed thereafter.

<u>Uncashed Checks</u>: All checks for Individual Settlement Payments shall remain valid and negotiable for 180 days from the date of their issuance. Any checks not cashed during the 180 day period after distribution shall be void, and the Participating Settlement Class Member's release set forth herein shall remain valid. After the 180 day period following distribution, all funds will shall be transferred to the State Controller's Office in accordance with California's Unclaimed Property Law in the names of Participating Class Members whose Individual Settlement Payments were not cashed. Any such uncashed payments may be identified and claimed from the State Controller's Office at the following website: sco.ca.gov.

Your payment is expected to be mailed to the address where you received this Class Notice. <u>If your mailing address</u> changes for any reason, you must promptly notify the Settlement Administrator to ensure that your payment is mailed to the correct address.

12. What am I releasing?

**Release As To All Participating Class Members**: Upon the Effective Date and funding in full of the Settlement Amount by Defendant, all Settlement Class Members who do not timely opt out of the Settlement ("**Participating Class Members**"), including their heirs, assigns, estates, and representatives, shall be deemed to fully forever, irrevocably, and unconditionally release and discharge the Released Parties from the Released Claims. The Settlement Agreement shall be in full settlement, compromise, release, and discharge of the Released Claims and each of them, and the Released Claims by the Class Representatives, and the Released Parties shall have no further liability or obligation to any Class Member and/or the Class Representatives with respect to the Released Claims and Class Representatives' Released Claims, except as expressly provided herein.

**Release As To All Aggrieved Employees**: Upon the Effective Date and funding in full of the Settlement Amount by Defendant, Plaintiffs, Aggrieved Employees, and the State of California shall be deemed to fully forever, irrevocably and unconditionally release and discharge the Released Parties from the Released PAGA Claims.

"**Released Claims**" means: all class claims alleged in the Lawsuit which are based upon alleged actions that occurred during the Class Period, and those claims that could have been based on the same factual allegations and legal assertions made in the Lawsuit, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, and claims outside of the Class Period.

"**Released PAGA Claims**" means: all PAGA claims alleged in the Lawsuit and Plaintiffs' PAGA notices to the LWDA which occurred during the PAGA Period, and expressly excluding all other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, workers' compensation, and PAGA claims based upon alleged actions that are outside of the PAGA Period.

"**Released Parties**" means: Defendant, including each of Defendant's respective past, present, and/or future, direct and/or indirect, officers, directors, members, managers, employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, partners, investors, shareholders, administrators, parent companies, subsidiaries, related entities, affiliates, divisions, predecessors, successors, assigns, and joint venturers. Defendant BPM Senior Living Company is expressly excluded from the definition of Released Parties.

## HOW YOU OPT OUT

## 13. How can I opt out of this settlement?

If you do not want to remain a member of the Settlement Class, you may opt out of the class action Settlement by mailing a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator, CPT Group, Inc., postmarked no later than **[INSERT DATE]**. The request for exclusion must be submitted in writing in any form you choose but must be signed by you and must include your name, address, telephone number, last four digits of your Social Security number and a statement that you wish to be excluded from the Settlement. If you timely opt out of the Settlement, you will no longer be a member of the Settlement Class and you will be barred from participating in this Settlement. You will not receive any settlement payment if you opt out of the Settlement, except for your share of PAGA civil penalties described in Section 10, above. By timely opting out of the Settlement, you will retain whatever rights or claims you may have, if any, against CASCADE, and you will be free to hire your own attorney to pursue those claims on an individual basis, or you may represent yourself, if you choose to do so.

If you do not opt out, you will be bound by all the terms of the Settlement Agreement, including the release of claims set forth above, meaning that you cannot separately sue CASCADE, their employees, or any other related persons or entities for the matters being settled in this case. You will also be releasing your ability to file or prosecute any claims, suits, or administrative proceedings (including filing claims with the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement) regarding claims released by the Settlement.

### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

#### 14. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

To represent you and other Class Members in this action, the Court has appointed Zorik Mooradian and Haik Hacopian of Mooradian Law, APC and James A. Hawkins and Isandra Fernandez of James Hawkins APLC. These lawyers are called Class Counsel. They will be compensated from the Settlement Amount as discussed in this Class Notice. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

## 15. How will the lawyers be paid?

Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve payment of up to \$297,500 to them for attorneys' fees, or thirty five percent (35%) of the Settlement Amount. The fees will pay Class Counsel for investigating the facts, litigating the case and negotiating and finalizing the settlement. Class Counsel will also ask the Court to award litigation costs and expenses, not to exceed \$25,000. CASCADE has agreed not to oppose Class Counsel's application for these fees and costs. The Court may choose to award less than the amount requested by Class Counsel.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

You can tell the Court that you do not agree with the settlement or some part of it.

#### 16. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the settlement?

You may appear at the Final Approval Hearing to present any objection you may have to the settlement, regardless of whether you submit a written objection in advance. You may object to the Settlement either personally or through an attorney. To the extent you wish to submit a written objection, you are strongly encouraged to do so by timely mailing a written notice that you are objecting to the Settlement Administrator (CPT Group) postmarked no later than **[INSERT DATE]**. If you submit a written objection by the deadline and in compliance with this paragraph, you are not required to appear in person at the Final Approval Hearing for your objection to be considered by the Court. In order for your objection (written or otherwise) to be considered, you must not have opted out. The Final Approval Hearing is presently set for **[date]** at **[time]**. If you have not opted out, you may appear, personally or through an attorney, at the Final Approval Hearing to present your objection, you may provide them to the Settlement Administrator with your written notice that you are objecting or you may file them directly with the Court no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing.

All written objections must be signed and must contain the following information:

- Your name;
- Your address;
- Your telephone number;
- The name of the case (CASCADE Class Action); and
- A description of your objections.

If you object to the Settlement and if the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement in the same way as a Settlement Class member who does not object. You will also receive a settlement payment.

#### THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

CLASS NOTICE PAGE 8 OF 10 QUESTIONS? CALL 1-800-542-0900 The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the settlement. You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you do not have to. If you have submitted a written objection by the deadline and in compliance with this paragraph, you are not required to appear in person at the Final Approval Hearing for your objection to be considered by the Court.

### 17. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the settlement?

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing at \_\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Dept. SS-1, Judge Stuart M. Rice presiding, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Judge will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. At or after the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the settlement. We do not know how long this decision will take.

The date of the Fairness Hearing may change without formal notice to you and any change will be posted on the Settlement Administrator's general website at <u>www.cptgroup.com</u>, which you should check periodically.

## 18. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel will represent the Participating Class Members at the hearing. But you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you sent an objection, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not required.

Should you choose to appear at the Fairness Hearing, you may appear remotely. To do so, you must arrange an appearance at <u>https://my.lacourt.org/laccwelcome</u> through the "Civil" tab not sooner than thirty (30) days before the hearing. You will be asked to create a login and pass technical validations for your hardware. You must enter the case number (20STCV48606) when prompted and select the hearing date for the Final Fairness Hearing to schedule an appearance.

## IF YOU DO NOTHING

## 19. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing, you will receive your settlement payment. You will remain a member of the Settlement Class and will be bound by all the terms of the Settlement Agreement, including the release of claims set forth in Section 12 above, meaning that you cannot separately sue CASCADE, their employees, or any other related persons or entities for the matters being settled under this Settlement. You will also be releasing your ability to file or prosecute any claims, suits, or administrative proceedings (including filing claims with the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement) regarding claims released by the Settlement.

## **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

#### 20. Are there more details about the settlement?

This Class Notice summarizes the proposed settlement. You may call or contact Class Counsel or the Settlement Administrator if you would like more information about the case. If you would like a complete copy of the Settlement Agreement, please contact Settlement Class Counsel. You may also go to the Court's website at <a href="http://www.lacourt.org/casesummary/ui/">http://www.lacourt.org/casesummary/ui/</a> and enter the case number (20STCV48606) to electronically access all publicly filed documents in the Lawsuit. Please note that fees may be charged by the Court for retrieval of any

documents. You may also access important case documents, including the Final Judgment if the Court grants final approval, on the Settlement Administrator's website at <a href="https://www.cptgroup.com/case-access/">https://www.cptgroup.com/case-access/</a>.

THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SETTLEMENT IS:	SETTLEMENT CLASS COUNSEL	ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT CASCADE LIVING GROUP MANAGEMENT, LLC ("DEFENSE COUNSEL")
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# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE JUDGE, OR CASCADE WITH INQUIRIES.

The statements in this document are not findings by a court of law. These statements are not an expression of opinion or approval by a judge. This notice is based only on statements by the Parties to this Lawsuit. You received this notice to help you decide what steps, if any, to take about this Lawsuit.