#### FILED Raul Perez (SBN 174687) Superior Court of California 1 County of Alameda Raul.Perez@capstonelawyers.com Bevin Allen Pike (SBN 221936) 07/03/2025 2 Bevin.Pike@capstonelawyers.com Chad Finke, Executive Officer/Clerk of the Court 3 Daniel Jonathan (SBN 262209) By: Tr. Lopez Daniel.Jonathan@capstonelawyers.com Trisha K. Monesi (SBN 303512) 4 Trisha.Monesi@capstonelawyers.com CAPSTONE LAW APC 5 1875 Century Park East, Suite 1000 Los Angeles, California 90067 6 Telephone: (310) 556-4811 7 Facsimile: (310) 943-0396 8 Kyle Todd (SBN 286370) kyle@kyletodd.com 9 KYLE TODD, P.C. 171 North Altadena Drive, Suite 270 10 Pasadena, California 91107 Telephone: (323) 208-9171 11 Facsimile: (323) 693-0822 Attorneys for Plaintiff Maggie Chong 12 13 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 14 FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No. RG21100705 15 MAGGIE CHONG, an individual, individually, on behalf of the general public, and all others 16 Assigned to the Hon. Michael Markman similarly situated. 17 **RESERVATION NO. A-21100705-001** Plaintiff. 18 [AMENDED PROPOSED] ORDER AND JUDGMENT GRANTING MOTION FOR VS. 19 FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR JINGLEBELLS LLC, a California company; ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS, AND A CLASS 20 JINGLE BELLS ENTERPRISES, LLC, a REPRESENTATIVE SERVICE PAYMENT California company; JINGLEBELLS 21 HOLDING LLC, a California company; and Date: June 26, 2025 DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, 22 Time: 10:00 a.m. Place: Department 23 23 Defendants. Complaint Filed: June 2, 2021 Trial Date: None Set 24 25 26 27 28 Page 1

ORDER AND JUDGMENT GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION AND PAGA SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS, AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE SERVICE PAYMENT

5 3469055.2/017358.00010

### 

# 

#### 

# 

#### 

### 

## 

# 

#### 

## 

## 

### 

### 

#### 

# 

#### ORDER AND JUDGMENT

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

- 1. For the reasons set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order, which are adopted and incorporated herein by reference, this Court finds that the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and rule 3.769 of the California Rules of Court have been satisfied.
- 2. This Order hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the terms and conditions of the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement and Amendment (collectively, "Settlement Agreement" or "Settlement"), together with the definitions and terms used and contained therein.
- 3. The Court finds that it has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the action and over all parties to the action, including all members of the Settlement Class.
- 4. The Class Notice fully and accurately informed Class Members of all material elements of the proposed settlement and of their opportunity to opt out or object; was the best notice practicable under the circumstances; was valid, due, and sufficient notice to all Class Members; and complied fully with the laws of the State of California and due process. The Class Notice fairly and adequately described the settlement and provided Class Members with adequate instructions and a variety of means to obtain additional information.
- 5. Class Members were given a full opportunity to participate in the Final Approval hearing, and all Class Members and other persons wishing to be heard have been heard. Accordingly, the Court determines that all Class Members who did not timely and properly opt out of the settlement are bound by this Order.
- 6. The Court has considered all relevant factors for determining the fairness of the settlement and has concluded that all such factors weigh in favor of granting final approval. In particular, the Court finds that the settlement was reached following meaningful discovery and investigation conducted by

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

- 7. In so finding, the Court has considered all evidence presented, including evidence regarding the strength of Plaintiff's case; the risk, expense, and complexity of the claims presented; the likely duration of further litigation; the amount offered in settlement; the extent of investigation and discovery completed; and the experience and views of counsel. The Parties have provided the Court with sufficient information about the nature and magnitude of the claims being settled, as well as the impediments to recovery, to make an independent assessment of the reasonableness of the terms to which the Parties have agreed.
- 8. Accordingly, the Court hereby approves the settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and expressly finds that the settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the entire Settlement Class and hereby directs implementation of all remaining terms, conditions, and provisions of the Settlement Agreement. The Court also finds that settlement now will avoid additional and potentially substantial litigation costs, as well as delay and risks if the Parties were to continue to litigate the case. Additionally, after considering the monetary recovery provided by the settlement in light of the challenges posed by continued litigation, the Court concludes that the settlement provides Class Members with fair and adequate relief.
- 9. The Settlement Agreement is not an admission by Defendants or by any other Released Party, nor is this Order a finding of the validity of any allegations or of any wrongdoing by Defendants or any other Released Party. Neither this Order, the Settlement Agreement, nor any document referred to herein, nor any action taken to carry out the Settlement Agreement, may be construed as, or may be used as, an admission of any fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, waiver of defenses, or liability whatsoever by or against Defendants or any of the other Released Parties.
- 10. The Court finds that the instant action presented a good faith dispute of the claims alleged, and the Court finds in favor of settlement approval.
- 11. Final approval shall be with respect to the following Class: All persons employed by Defendants in California and classified as non-exempt employees during the period from June 2, 2017,

through April 28, 2024. As set forth in the Settlement, Aggrieved Employees include all persons employed by Defendants in California and classified as a non-exempt employee during the period of April 22, 2020, to April 28, 2024.

- 12. Plaintiff Maggie Chong is an adequate and suitable representative and is hereby appointed the Class Representative for the Settlement Class. The Court finds that Plaintiff's investment and commitment to the litigation and its outcome ensured adequate and zealous advocacy for the Settlement Class, and that her interests are aligned with those of the Settlement Class.
- 13. The Court hereby awards Plaintiff a Class Representative Service Payment of \$7,500 for her service on behalf of the Settlement Class, and for agreeing to a full general release of all claims arising out of her employment with Defendants, including a Civil Code section 1542 waiver of unknown claims.
- 14. The Court finds that the attorneys at Capstone Law APC and Kyle Todd, P.C. have the requisite qualifications, experience, and skill to protect and advance the interests of the Settlement Class. The Court therefore finds that counsel satisfy the professional and ethical obligations attendant to the position of Class Counsel, and hereby appoints Capstone Law APC and Kyle Todd, P.C. as counsel for the Settlement Class.
- 15. Class Counsel provided notice of the requested approval of the PAGA settlement to the LWDA through the online submission portal on June 3, 2025, and notice of this Order and Judgment shall be given by Plaintiff to the LWDA by submission through the online system established for the filing of notices and documents, in conformity with Labor Code section 2699, subdivision (s)(3).
- 16. The settlement of civil penalties under PAGA in the amount of \$15,000 is hereby approved. Seventy-Five Percent (75%), or \$11,250, shall be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. The remaining Twenty-Five Percent (25%), or \$3,750, will be paid to Aggrieved Employees.
- 17. The Court hereby awards \$296,250 in attorneys' fees and \$15,481.38 in costs and expenses to Capstone Law APC and Kyle Todd, P.C. The Court finds that the requested award of attorneys' fees is reasonable for a contingency fee in a class action such as this; i.e., one-third of the common fund created by the settlement. Counsel have also established the reasonableness of the requested award of attorneys' fees via their lodestar crosscheck, and the Court finds that the attorney staffing, hours

billed, and hourly rates are reasonable. The award of attorneys' fees and costs will be divided as follows: (a) \$177,750 in attorneys' fees and \$941.58 in litigation costs to Capstone Law APC; and (b) \$118,500 in attorneys' fees and \$14,539.80 in litigation costs to Kyle Todd, P.C.

- 18. The Parties are to bear their own costs, including attorney fees, except as otherwise provided in the Settlement.
- 19. The Court approves settlement administration costs and expenses in the amount of \$14,000 to CPT Group, Inc.
- 20. All Class Members were given a full and fair opportunity to participate in the Approval Hearing, and all members of the Settlement Class wishing to be heard have been heard. Members of the Settlement Class also have had a full and fair opportunity to exclude themselves from the proposed settlement and the class. There were no requests for exclusion. Accordingly, the terms of the Settlement Agreement and of the Court's Order and Judgment shall be forever binding on all Participating Class Members. These Participating Class Members have released and forever discharged the Released Parties for any and all Released Class Claims during the Class Period:

Any and all claims, damages, or causes of action alleged in, or arising out of, the allegations in the Action that arose during the Class Period and which were alleged, or could have been alleged, by Plaintiff based on any of the factual allegations contained in the Complaint in the Action, including, but not limited to, claims under state, federal or local law including, but not limited to claims for unpaid minimum and overtime wages (including, inter alia, in connection with off-theclock work and improper rounding of time), claims related to non-compliant meal and rest breaks or periods and nonpayment of premium pay for such, failure to comply with itemized employee wage statement provisions, failure to pay wages due at separation and associated waiting time penalties, failure to timely pay wages during employment, failure to maintain compliant time and payroll records, the failure to pay all accrued sick days, and unfair or unlawful business practices pursuant to California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq. based on the aforementioned. The Released Class Claims specifically include, but are not limited to, all claims arising under California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 233, 246, 246.5, 248.5, 510, 512, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, and the corresponding sections of the applicable California Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, including Wage Order 5, and California Business and Profession Code sections 17200, et seq., based on the preceding claims, and California common law of contract, interest, and claims for attorneys' fees relating in any way to those claims alleged in the Action.

21. Additionally, all Aggrieved Employees and the LWDA have released and forever discharged the Released Parties for any and all Released PAGA Claims during the PAGA Period:

///

25

26

27

28