## **ORDER**

Plaintiffs Alexandra Escamilla, Mireya Corona, Steven Rivera, and Brianna Molyneaux's ("Plaintiffs") Motion for Final Approval of Class Action and PAGA Settlement ("Motion") in the above-captioned matter came on regularly for hearing on July 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in Department SSC-6 of the above-entitled Court. Due and adequate notice having been given to the Class Members, and the Court having considered Plaintiffs' Motion and all documents submitted in support thereof, the Class Action and PAGA Settlement Agreement ("Settlement"), all papers filed and proceedings had herein and all oral and written comments received regarding the proposed Settlement, and good cause appearing, the Court hereby ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Pursuant to California law, this Court hereby grants final approval of the Settlement. The Settlement Agreement is hereby deemed incorporated herein as if expressly set forth, and has the full force and effect of an Order of this Court. All terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement.
- 2. The Court has jurisdiction over all claims asserted in the Actions, Plaintiffs Alexandra Escamilla, Mireya Corona, Steven Rivera, and Brianna Molyneaux ("Plaintiffs"), the Participating Class Members, and Defendants Ono Hawaiian BBQ, Inc., Apelila And J, LLC, Culver City Sepulveda, LLC, Santa Monica Bundy, LLC, Alhambra Valley Restaurant, LLC, C & S Stockton, LLC, Colma Serramonte Restaurant, LLC, Hayward Hesperian Restaurant, LLC, Las Tunas Enterprise, LLC, Manteca Airport Restaurant, LLC, Mira Loma PR, LLC, Moreno Beach Express, Inc., Morgan Cochrane, LLC, OHB Holding I, LLC, Perris Case, LLC, Puente Hills Restaurant, LLC, Riverside CSP Restaurant, LLC, Rosemead Marshall Restaurant, LLC, S & F Hawaiian BBQ, LLC, S & H Hayward, LLC, San Leandro Palma, LLC, Walnut Florence, LLC, Alameda Compton, LLC, Culver City Jefferson, LLC, Fontana Summit, LLC, Hollywood Sunset, LLC, Turlock Countryside Restaurant, LLC, Stockton Pacific Restaurant, LLC, LA Sunset, LLC, Malaki And J, LLC, J & U Hawaiian BBQ, LLC, ONO Management, LLC, San Pedro Gaffey Investments, LLC, WH Gardena Marketplace, LLC, and OHB Restaurant, LLC ("Defendants").
- 3. The Court finds that the Settlement was made and entered into in good faith and hereby approves the Settlement as fair, adequate and reasonable to all Class Members.

4. Solely for purposes of effectuating the Settlement, this Court certifies a Class defined as follows:

All non-exempt employees of Defendants Ono Hawaiian BBQ, Inc., Apelila And J, LLC, Culver City Sepulveda, LLC, Santa Monica Bundy, LLC, Alhambra Valley Restaurant, LLC, C & S Stockton, LLC, Colma Serramonte Restaurant, LLC, Hayward Hesperian Restaurant, LLC, Las Tunas Enterprise, LLC, Manteca Airport Restaurant, LLC, Mira Loma PR, LLC, Moreno Beach Express, Inc., Morgan Cochrane, LLC, OHB Holding I, LLC, Perris Case, LLC, Puente Hills Restaurant, LLC, Riverside CSP Restaurant, LLC, Rosemead Marshall Restaurant, LLC, S & F Hawaiian BBQ, LLC, S & H Hayward, LLC, San Leandro Palma, LLC, Walnut Florence, LLC, Alameda Compton, LLC, Culver City Jefferson, LLC, Fontana Summit, LLC, Hollywood Sunset, LLC, Turlock Countryside Restaurant, LLC, Stockton Pacific Restaurant, LLC, LA Sunset, LLC, Malaki And J, LLC, J & U Hawaiian BBQ, LLC, ONO Management, LLC, San Pedro Gaffey Investments, LLC, WH Gardena Marketplace, LLC, and OHB Restaurant, LLC ("Defendants") who performed work in California for any Defendant at any time from February 27, 2013 through January 26, 2023.

- 5. With respect to the Class and for purposes of approving the Settlement only and for no other purpose, this Court finds and concludes that: (a) the Participating Class Members are ascertainable and so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law or fact common to the Participating Class Members, and there is a well-defined community of interest among the Participating Class Members with respect to the subject matter of the claims in the action; (c) the claims of Plaintiffs are typical of the claims of the Participating Class Members; (d) Plaintiffs have fairly and adequately protected the interests of the Participating Class Members; (e) a class action is superior to other available methods for an efficient adjudication of the action; and (f) Class Counsel is qualified to serve as counsel for the Participating Class Members.
- 6. The Notice Of Class Action Settlement And Hearing Date For Final Court Approval ("Class Notice") provided to the Class Members conforms with the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382, California Civil Code section 1781, California Rules of Court, rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and any other applicable law, and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances, by providing individual notice to all Class Members who could be identified through reasonable effort, and by providing due and adequate notice of the proceedings and of the matters set forth therein. The Class Notice fully

satisfies the requirements of due process.

- 7. The Court finds that the dissemination of the Class Notice constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances to all Class Members, and fully met the requirements of California law and due process under the United States Constitution. Based on evidence and other material submitted in conjunction with the final approval hearing, the actual notice to the Class was adequate.
- 8. The Court approves the settlement of the Action, as set forth in the Settlement, and each of the releases and other terms, as fair, just, reasonable and adequate. The parties are directed to perform in accordance with the terms set forth in the Settlement.
  - 9. The Court finds that zero (0) Class Members have objected to the Settlement.
- 10. The Court finds that four (4) Class Members have requested to be excluded from the Settlement: Alberto Martinez, Joanna Danaya Banks Fernandez, Rita Ivone Ramirez Mendoza, and Juan Marcelino Alvarez Ortega.
- 11. Effective upon the Settlement Administrator's receipt of the total Gross Settlement Amount and the Employer's Share of Payroll Taxes, Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees shall be deemed to have released their respective Released Claims against the Released Parties, as set forth in paragraphs 12 through 15, below.
- 12. "Released Parties" means Defendants Ono Hawaiian BBQ, Inc., Apelila And J, LLC, Culver City Sepulveda, LLC, Santa Monica Bundy, LLC, Alhambra Valley Restaurant, LLC, C & S Stockton, LLC, Colma Serramonte Restaurant, LLC, Diamond Bridgegate Investments, LLC, Fairway Colima CA Six, LLC, Hayward Hesperian Restaurant, LLC, Las Tunas Enterprise, LLC, Manteca Airport Restaurant, LLC, Mira Loma PR, LLC, Moreno Beach Express, Inc., Morgan Cochrane, LLC, OHB Holding I, LLC, Perris Case, LLC, Puente Hills Restaurant, LLC, Riverside CSP Restaurant, LLC, Rosemead Marshall Restaurant, LLC, S & F Hawaiian BBQ, LLC, S & H Hayward, LLC, S & S Hawaii B.B.Q., LLC, San Leandro Palma, LLC, Walnut Florence, LLC, Ahi Mahi Enterprise, LLC, Alameda Compton, LLC, Apple Valley BV Restaurant, LLC, Culver City Jefferson, LLC, Fontana Summit, LLC, HGL Global, LLC, HGL Restaurant Group,

LLC, Redlands LA, LLC, Hollywood Sunset, LLC, Pie 585 Investments, LLC, Turlock

Countryside Restaurant, LLC, Stockton Pacific Restaurant, LLC, LA Sunset, LLC, Malaki And J, LLC, J & U Hawaiian BBQ, LLC, WH Gardena Marketplace, LLC, San Pedro Gaffey, LLC, San Pedro Gaffey Investments, LLC, Ono Management, LLC, Ianuali and J, LLC, OHB 2021, LLC, and OHB Restaurant, LLC and each of their past, present, and future agents, employees (including but not limited to Hua Gui Liang (aka "Joe Liang"), and Jim Ng), servants, officers (including but not limited to Joshua Liang), directors, managing agents, members, owners (whether direct or indirect), partners, trustees, representatives, shareholders, stockholders, attorneys, parents, subsidiaries, equity sponsors, related companies/corporations and/or partnerships, divisions, assigns, predecessors, successors, insurers, consultants, joint venturers, joint employers, potential and alleged joint employers, dual employers, potential and alleged dual employers, co-employers, potential and alleged co-employers, staffing agencies and companies, temporary staffing firms (whether direct or indirect), temporary staffing agencies (whether direct or indirect), common law employers, potential and alleged common law employers, contractors, lenders, affiliates, service providers, alter-egos, alleged alter-egos, vendors, affiliated organizations, any person and/or entity with potential or alleged to have joint liability, and all of their respective past, present and future employees, directors, officers, members, owners, agents, representatives, payroll agencies, attorneys, stockholders, fiduciaries, parents, subsidiaries, other service providers, and assigns.

13. All Participating Class Members, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, spouses, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, shall fully and finally release the Released Parties of the "Released Class Claims." The Released Class Claims" means all claims for unpaid wages, including, but not limited to, failure to pay minimum wages, straight time compensation, overtime compensation, failure to pay double-time wages, and interest thereon; the calculation of the regular rate of pay; non-compliant (e.g., missed, short, late, and/or interrupted) meal periods and rest periods; failure to provide meal periods; failure to authorize and permit rest periods; the calculation and payment of meal period and rest period premiums; failure to reimburse for all necessary business expenses; payment for all hours worked, including off-the-clock work and rounded time; wage statements; failure to keep accurate records; unlawful deductions and/or withholdings from wages; failure to timely pay wages;

failure to timely pay final wages; unfair business practices related to the Released Class Claims; penalties, including recordkeeping penalties, wage statement penalties, minimum-wage penalties, and waiting-time penalties; noncompliant wage statements; and attorneys' fees and costs; all claims related to the Released Class Claims arising under the California Labor Code including, but not limited to, sections 200, 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 206, 210, 215, 216, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 223, 224, 225, 225.5, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1194.3, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.2, 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2802, and 2804); Wage Order No. 5-2001 of the California Industrial Welfare Commission; California Business and Professions Code sections 17200, et seq.; the California Civil Code, to include but not limited to, sections 3287, 3288, 3336 and 3294; California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5. The Released Class Claims excludes the release of claims not permitted by law. Upon entry of Judgment, Class Members are precluded from filing a wage and hour action under the Fair Labor Standards Act against the Released Parties for claims and/or causes of action encompassed by the Released Class Claims, which are extinguished and precluded pursuant to Rangel v. PLS Check Cashers of California. Inc., 899 F.3d 1106 (2018). Participating Class Members do not release any other claims, including claims for vested benefits, wrongful termination, violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act, unemployment insurance, disability, social security, or workers' compensation. The Released Class Claims are limited to the Class Period. "Class Period" means the period from February 13, 2013 through January 23, 2023.

14. All Aggrieved Employees, on behalf of themselves and their respective former and present representatives, spouses, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns, shall fully and finally release the Released Parties from all claims for civil penalties under PAGA that were alleged, or could have been alleged, in the Action, based on the allegations asserted in Plaintiffs' Operative Complaint, as amended, and/or in the PAGA Notices. The Released PAGA Claims include, but are not limited to, claims for unpaid wages, including, but not limited to, failure to pay minimum wages, straight time compensation, overtime compensation, double-time compensation, and interest; the calculation of the regular rate of pay; non-compliant (e.g., missed, short, late, and/or interrupted) meal periods and rest periods; failure to provide meal periods; failure

to authorize and permit rest periods; the calculation and payment of meal period and rest period premiums; failure to reimburse for all necessary business expenses; payment for all hours worked, including off-the-clock work and rounded time; wage statements; failure to keep accurate records; unlawful deductions and/or withholdings from wages; failure to timely pay wages; and failure to timely pay final wages. The Released PAGA Claims include but are not limited to claims for violation of Wage Order 5-2001 and the following California Labor Code sections: 200, 201, 201.3, 202, 203, 204, 206, 210, 215, 216, 218, 218.5, 218.6, 221, 223, 224, 225, 225.5, 226, 226.2, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1194.3, 1197, 1197.1, 1197.2, 1198, 1198.5, 1199, 2802, 2804, 2698 et seq., and 2699 et seq. Aggrieved Employees' Released PAGA Claims are limited to the PAGA Period. "PAGA Period" means the period from December 24, 2015 through January 26, 2023.

15. With respect to Plaintiffs only, Plaintiffs and each of their respective former and present spouses, representatives, agents, attorneys, heirs, administrators, successors, and assigns generally, release and discharge the Released Parties from all known and unknown claims, transactions, or occurrences under federal, state and/or local law, statute, ordinance, regulation, common law, or other source of law, including but not limited to claims arising from or related to their respective employments Defendants and their compensation while so employed ("Plaintiffs' Release"). Plaintiffs' Release includes all claims asserted in the Action and/or arising from or related to the facts and claims alleged in the Action or the PAGA Notices, or that could have been raised in the Action or the PAGA Notices based on the facts and claims alleged. Plaintiffs' Release includes, but is not limited to, all claims for unpaid wages, including, but not limited to, failure to pay minimum wages, straight time compensation, overtime compensation, double-time compensation, and interest; the calculation of the regular rate of pay; failure to pay wages at least twice each calendar month; failure to timely pay wages; failure to timely pay final wages; noncompliant (e.g., missed, short, late, and/or interrupted) meal periods and rest periods; failure to provide meal periods; failure to authorize and permit rest periods; the calculation and payment of meal period and rest period premiums; failure to reimburse business expenses; payment for all hours worked, including off-the-clock work and rounded time; wage statements; deductions; failure

expressly waive and relinquish the provisions, rights, and benefits, if any, of section 1542 of the California Civil Code which reads:

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.

- Amount, the PAGA Penalties, and the methodology used to calculate and pay each Participating Class Member's Individual Class Payment and Aggrieved Employee's Individual PAGA Payment are fair and reasonable, and authorizes the Settlement Administrator to pay the Individual Class Payments to Participating Class Members, the Individual PAGA Payments to Aggrieved Employees, and the LWDA PAGA Payment to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.
- 17. The Gross Settlement Amount of \$3,000,000.00 shall be paid by Defendants within fourteen (14) calendar days after the Effective Date. Defendants shall separately pay their share of any employer-side payroll taxes on the same date.
- 18. The Settlement Administrator shall distribute Individual Class Payments, according to the formula set forth in the Settlement, to each Participating Class Member's last known mailing address within fourteen (14) calendar days after the Settlement Administrator is provided with the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 19. The Settlement Administrator shall distribute Individual PAGA Payments, according to the formula set forth in the Settlement, to each Aggrieved Employee's last known mailing address within fourteen (14) calendar days after the Settlement Administrator is provided with the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 20. The Court finds that Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, which is one-third of the Gross Settlement Amount, is reasonable under the common fund method with a lodestar cross-check. The Court finds that the number of hours Class Counsel spent prosecuting the Actions is reasonable and Class Counsel's hourly rates are reasonable and in line with rates prevailing in the community. The Court awards Class Counsel

\$1,000,000.00 attorneys' fees to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount

- 21. The Court finds that Class Counsel has incurred \$207,882.63 in costs and expenses, which were reasonably necessary to the prosecution of this lawsuit on behalf of the Class Members. The Court awards Class Counsel \$207,882.63 in costs and expenses to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount as follows:
- 22. The Court approves Class Representative Service Payments in the amount of \$7,500.00 each to Plaintiffs Alexandra Escamilla, Mireya Corona, Steven Rivera, and Brianna Molyneaux for their efforts and risks in prosecuting the Actions on behalf of Class Members and for Plaintiffs' Release.
- 23. The Court approves penalties under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, California Labor Code sections 2698, et seq., in the amount of \$300,000.00. \$225,000.00 of the PAGA Penalties shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, and \$75,000.00 shall be distributed to Aggrieved Employees according to the formula set forth in the Settlement as their Individual PAGA Payment.
- 24. The Court approves payment of Settlement Administration Costs in the amount of \$54,750.00 to CPT Group, Inc., to be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 25. The Court also hereby orders that any checks distributed to Participating Class Members and/or Aggrieved Employees from the Gross Settlement Amount that remain uncashed after 180 calendar days of being issued. All uncashed settlement checks shall be transferred to the Controller of the State of California to be held pursuant to the Unclaimed Property Law, California Civil Code § 1500, et seq. for the benefit of the Participating Class Member(s) or Aggrieved Employee(s) who did not cash their checks until such time that they claim their property, or the property is otherwise disposed of pursuant to the Unclaimed Property Law.
  - 26. The parties shall implement the Settlement according to its terms.
- 27. Pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 3.769(h), and Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6, this Court shall retain exclusive and continuing jurisdiction over the parties with respect to all matters related to the administration and consummation of the Settlement, and any and all claims, asserted in, arising out of, or related to the subject matter of the Actions.