#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement (this "Settlement" or "Agreement") is made by and between plaintiffs Luci Gillespie, Ileana Suastegui, Trevor Harding, Esther Corona, Joselito Guerrero, and Mildred Arriaga (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), and defendants Plum Healthcare Group, LLC, Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center, Gladiolus Holdings, LLC d/b/a The Pines at Placerville Healthcare Center, Jujube Holdings, LLC d/b/a Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center, Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC d/b/a Huntington Valley Healthcare Center, Olive Holdings, LLC d/b/a Aviara Healthcare Center; and Rosebud Holdings, LLC dba Western Slope Health Center (collectively, "Defendants"). Plaintiffs and Defendants collectively are referred to in this Agreement as the "Parties."

#### I. **RECITALS**

- A. On December 14, 2020, Plaintiff Luci Gillespie submitted to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency of the State of California (the "LWDA") notices of claims under the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act, California Labor Code section 2698, *et seq.*, ("PAGA") against Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center.
- B. On December 14, 2020, Plaintiff Ileana Suastegui submitted to the LWDA a notice of claims under the PAGA against Plum Healthcare Group, LLC.
- C. On December 14, 2020, Plaintiff Luci Gillespie filed a putative class action entitled "LUCI GILLESPIE, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated vs. RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER; FLAX HOLDINGS, LLC; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive" and assigned the Case No. CVCS20-0002128, in Sutter County Superior Court (the "Sutter class action"). The original complaint in the Sutter class action asserted claims on an individual and putative class basis against River Valley Care Center and Flax Holdings, LLC for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.
- D. On December 17, 2020, Plaintiffs Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui filed a putative class action entitled "LUCI GILLESPIE, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated; ILEANA SUASTEGUI, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated vs. PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive" and assigned the Case No. VCU285376, in Tulare County Superior Court (the "Tulare class action"). The complaint in the Tulare class action asserts claims on an individual and putative class basis against Plum Healthcare Group, LLC for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.
- E. On February 25, 2021, Plaintiff Trevor Harding submitted to the LWDA a notice of claims under the PAGA against Plum Healthcare Group, LLC, Gladiolus Holdings, LLC d/b/a The Pines at Placerville Healthcare Center, and Western Slope Health Center.
- F. On March 18, 2021, Plaintiff Ileana Suastegui filed a PAGA action entitled *"ILEANA SUASTEGUI, on behalf of the State of California and Aggrieved Employees vs. PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC"* and assigned the Case No.

RG21092158, in Alameda County Superior Court (the "Suastegui PAGA action"). The complaint in the Suastegui PAGA action asserts claims on PAGA basis against Plum Healthcare Group, LLC for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.

- G. On March 25, 2021, Plaintiff Luci Gillespie filed a PAGA action entitled "*LUCI GILLESPIE, on behalf of the State of California and Aggrieved Employees vs. FLAX HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER*" and assigned the Case No. RG21093104, in Alameda County Superior Court (the "Gillespie PAGA action"). The complaint in the Gillespie PAGA action asserts claims on PAGA basis against Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.
- H. On March 26, 2021, Plum Healthcare Group, LLC filed a Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay Court Action, with respect to both Plaintiffs, in the Tulare class action.
- I. On March 26, 2021, Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center filed a Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay Court Action in the Sutter class action.
- J. On April 21, 2021, Plaintiff Esther Corona submitted to the LWDA a notice of claims under the PAGA against Jujube Holdings, LLC d/b/a Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center and Plum Healthcare Group, LLC.
- K. On April 21, 2021, Plaintiff Joselito Guerrero submitted to the LWDA a notice of claims under the PAGA against Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC d/b/a Huntington Valley Healthcare Center and Plum Healthcare Group, LLC.
- L. On May 5, 2021, Plaintiff Trevor Harding filed a PAGA action entitled "TREVOR HARDING, on behalf of the State of California, and Aggrieved Employees vs. PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC; GLADIOLUS HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a THE PINES AT PLACERVILLE HEALTHCARE CENTER; ROSEBUD HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a WESTERN SLOPE HEALTH CENTER; and DOES 1-100, inclusive" and assigned the Case No. RG21097877, in Alameda County Superior Court (the "Harding PAGA action"). The complaint in the Harding PAGA action asserts claims on PAGA basis against Plum Healthcare Group, LLC, Gladiolus Holdings, LLC d/b/a The Pines at Placerville Healthcare Center, and Rosebud Holdings, LLC d/b/a Western Slope Health Center for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.
- M. On May 11, 2021, after full briefing and a hearing, Judge Bret Hillman of Tulare County Superior Court granted the Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay Court Action filed by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and ordered the Tulare class action stayed pending resolution of the arbitration proceedings.
- N. On May 14, 2021, Judge Perry Parker of Sutter County Superior Court granted the Parties' Stipulation to Submit Individual Claims to Binding Arbitration and to Dismiss Class Action Without Prejudice, to which the Parties agreed to resolve the Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay Court Action filed by Flax Holdings, LLC

d/b/a River Valley Care Center. The Court ordered Plaintiff Luci Gillespie's individual claims against Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center to arbitration and dismissed the Sutter class action without prejudice.

- O. On July 19, 2021, Plaintiff Ileana Suastegui filed her arbitration demand with AAA, naming Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and Spruce Holdings, LLC as Respondents.
- P. On July 19, 2021, Plaintiff Luci Gillespie filed her arbitration demand with JAMS, naming Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center as Respondents.
- Q. On September 1, 2021, Plaintiff Esther Corona filed a PAGA action entitled *"ESTHER CORONA, on behalf of herself, the State of California, and Aggrieved Employees vs. JUJUBE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a SUNNYVALE POST-ACUTE CENTER; PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC"* and assigned the Case No. RG21111905, in Alameda County Superior Court (the "Corona PAGA action"). The complaint in the Corona PAGA action asserts claims on PAGA basis against Jujube Holdings, LLC d/b/a Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center and Plum Healthcare Group, LLC for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.
- R. On September 1, 2021, Plaintiff Joselito Guerrero filed a PAGA action entitled *"JOSELITO GUERRERO, on behalf of himself, the State of California, and Aggrieved Employees vs. DOUGLAS FIR HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a HUNTINGTON VALLEY HEALTHCARE CENTER; PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC"* and assigned the Case No. RG21111952, in Alameda County Superior Court (the *"Guerrero PAGA action"). The complaint in the Guerrero PAGA action asserts* claims on PAGA basis against Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC d/b/a Huntington Valley Healthcare Center and Plum Healthcare Group, LLC for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.
- S. On November 1, 2021, Plaintiff Mildred Arriaga submitted to the LWDA a notice of claims under the PAGA against Olive Holdings, LLC d/b/a Aviara Healthcare Center and Plum Healthcare Group, LLC.
- T. On November 8, 2021, Defendants filed motions to strike the PAGA claims, that sought to challenge the PAGA claims on manageability and other grounds, in the Suastegui PAGA action, Gillespie PAGA action, Harding PAGA action, Corona PAGA action, and Guerrero PAGA action.
- U. On February 4, 2022, after full briefing and a hearing, Judge Brad Seligman of Alameda County Superior Court denied the motions to strike the PAGA claims in the Suastegui PAGA action, Gillespie PAGA action, Corona PAGA action, and Guerrero PAGA action. Judge Seligman granted in part and denied in part the motion to strike in the Harding PAGA action, striking Plaintiff Harding's PAGA claims against Rosebud Holdings, LLC on statute of limitations grounds.
- V. On February 10, 2022, Plaintiff Mildred Arriaga filed a PAGA action entitled *"Mildred Arriaga, on behalf of the State of California, and Aggrieved Employees vs. PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC; OLIVE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a AVIARA*

*HEALTHCARE CENTER; and DOES 1-100, inclusive*" and assigned the Case No. 22CV006835, in Alameda County Superior Court (the "Arriaga PAGA action"). The complaint in the Arriaga PAGA action asserts claims on PAGA basis against Olive Holdings, LLC d/b/a Aviara Healthcare Center and Plum Healthcare Group, LLC for alleged violations of California wage and hour laws.

- W. On April 27, 2022, Plaintiffs Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui filed a Motion to Vacate Order Compelling Arbitration, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure sections 1281.97, *et seq.*, in Tulare County Superior Court, which sought to reinstate the Tulare class action in court based on the alleged failure by the Respondents to timely pay the required arbitration fees and costs.
- X. On May 25, 2022, after full briefing and a hearing, Judge Bret Hillman of Tulare County Superior Court granted the Motion to Vacate Order Compelling Arbitration filed by Plaintiffs Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui and set aside the prior order compelling the Tulare class action to arbitration.
- Y. On June 14, 2022 Plaintiff Gillespie refiled the Sutter class action following the Court's vacating its order to compel arbitration in the Tulare class action, alleging that the claims related back to the date that the original complaint was filed in the Sutter class action (December 14, 2020).
- Z. On August 10, 2022, pursuant to the Court's instructions in the Tulare class action, the Parties agreed to attend a mediation session with Jeffrey Krivis, a highly respected mediator of wage and hour actions.
- AA. On November 1, 2022, Defendants moved to compel arbitration in the Susategui PAGA action, Gillespie PAGA action, Harding PAGA action, Guerrero PAGA action, and Arriaga PAGA action, on the basis of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Viking River Cruises, Inc. v. Moriana* (2022) 142 S.Ct. 1906.
- BB. On December 19, 2022, Defendants withdrew the motion to compel arbitration filed in the Arriaga PAGA action.
- CC. On January 13, 2023, after full briefing and a hearing, Judge Brad Seligman of Alameda County Superior Court denied in entirety the motions to compel arbitration filed in the Gillespie PAGA action and the Guerrero PAGA action. Judge Seligman granted in part and denied in part the motions to compel arbitration filed in the Susategui PAGA action and Harding PAGA action, compelling the individual PAGA claims while allowing the representative PAGA claims to proceed in Court.
- DD. On March 14, 2023, Defendants Plum Healthcare Group, LLC, Gladiolus Holdings, LLC dba The Pines At Placerville Healthcare Center; and Rosebud Holdings, LLC dba Western Slope Health Center filed notices of appeal to seek appellate review of the order granting in part and denying in part the motion to compel arbitration in the Susategui PAGA action and Harding PAGA action.

- EE. On March 30, 2023, the Parties participated in a mediation session with Jeffrey Krivis. At the March 30, 2023 session, the Parties agreed, with the assistance of the mediator, to negotiate a class and PAGA settlement on a statewide basis as to all of the facilities allegedly at issue in California as alleged in all Actions, pursuant to an agreed upon scope determined by prior settlements and arbitration agreements. The Parties agreed that Defendants would produce informal mediation discovery showing the number of facilities, number of employees, number of workweeks, and other data points and records for the employees within the agreed upon scope. The Parties further agreed to conduct a second mediation session with Mr. Krivis on May 16, 2023, and that Defendants would produce the agreed-upon informal mediation discovery prior to the second session.
- FF. Defendants produced informal mediation discovery ahead of the second session that showed that, across all of these actions, there were 37 facilities; 8,478 putative class members that worked a combined total of 355,196 workweeks; and 1,402 alleged aggrieved (PAGA) employees that worked a combined total of 47,944 pay periods. Defendants maintain that these figures include only those employees that did not execute arbitration agreements and did not release claims in a prior settlement.
- GG. On May 16, 2023, the Parties participated in the second mediation with Mr. Krivis. During the mediation, each side, represented by its respective counsel, recognized the substantial risk of an adverse result in the litigation, and agreed to settle all claims made in the Tulare class action, Sutter class action, Susategui PAGA action, Gillespie PAGA action, Harding PAGA action, Corona PAGA action, Guerrero PAGA action, and Arriaga PAGA action, for the employees that did not execute arbitration agreements and did not release claims in a prior settlement.
- HH. After the May 16, 2023 mediation, the Parties and their counsel signed a Term Sheet that contains the broad terms of the settlement. The Parties then drafted this long-form Agreement, which formalizes the Term Sheet.
- II. It is the Parties' intention that, subject to the terms set forth in Section III.J, this long-form Agreement covers the same scope of employees as the scope of employees encompassed in the mediation data produced by Defendants—37 facilities; 8,478 putative class members that worked a combined total of 355,196 workweeks; and 1,402 alleged aggrieved (PAGA) employees that worked a combined total of 47,944 pay periods. Furthermore, it is the Parties intention that, subject to this scope, this Agreement fully resolves the Tulare class action, Sutter class action, Susategui PAGA action, Gillespie PAGA action, Harding PAGA action.
- JJ. This Agreement represents a compromise and settlement of highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission by any of the Defendants that any of Plaintiffs' claims in the Tulare class action, Sutter class action, Susategui PAGA action, Gillespie PAGA action, Harding PAGA action, Corona PAGA action, Guerrero PAGA action, and/or Arriaga PAGA action have merit or that it has any liability to Plaintiffs, putative class members, or alleged

aggrieved employees on any of those claims, or as an admission by Plaintiffs that Defendants' defenses have merit.

Based on these Recitals, the Parties agree as follows:

#### II. **DEFINITIONS**

In addition to other terms defined in this Agreement, the terms below have the following meaning in this Agreement:

A. "Actions" means the following cases, collectively:

*i. Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC* (Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU285376) (the "Tulare class action")

*ii. Ileana Suastegui v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC* (Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG21092158) (the "Suastegui PAGA action")

*iii. Luci Gillespie v. Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center* (Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG21093104) (the "Gillespie PAGA action")

*iv. Trevor Harding v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC; Gladiolus Holdings, LLC d/b/a The Pines at Placerville Healthcare Center* (Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG21097877) (the "Harding PAGA action")

v. Esther Corona v. Jujube Holdings, LLC d/b/a Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center; Plum Healthcare Group, LLC (Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG21111905) (the "Corona PAGA action")

vi. Joselito Guerrero v. Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC d/b/a Huntington Valley Healthcare Center; Plum Healthcare Group, LLC (Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG21111952) (the "Guerrero PAGA action")

vii. Mildred Arriaga v. Olive Holdings, LLC d/b/a Aviara Healthcare Center; Plum Healthcare Group, LLC (Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. 22CV006835) (the "Arriaga PAGA action")

*viii.Luci Gillespie v. Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center* (Sutter County Superior Court, Case No. CVCS22-0001058) (the "Sutter class action")

- B. "Aggrieved Employees" means all current and former non-exempt employees, allegedly employed in California by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity, who worked at any of the Facilities during the PAGA Period, was not subject to an arbitration agreement, and did not release claims under a settlement in any of the Settled Cases
- C. "Class" means all current and former non-exempt employees, allegedly employed in California by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity,

who worked at any of the Facilities during the Class Period, was not subject to an arbitration agreement, and did not release claims under a settlement in any of the Settled Cases.

- D. "Class Counsel" means Carolyn Hunt Cottrell, Caroline N. Cohen, and Scott L. Gordon of Schneider Wallace Cottrell Konecky LLP and Edwin Aiwazian of Lawyers for Justice, PC.
- E. "Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment" means the amount awarded to Class Counsel by the Court to compensate them for the services they have rendered and will render to Plaintiffs, the Class, the State of California, and Aggrieved Employees, and any expenses they have incurred, in connection with the Actions, including their pre-filing investigation, their commencement of the Actions, and all related litigation activities, this Settlement, and all post-Settlement administration and compliance procedures.
- F. "Class Members" means all members of the Class.
- G. "Class Net Settlement Amount" means the amount from the Gross Settlement Amount that is available for distribution as Class Settlement Shares to Class Members; the Class Net Settlement Amount equals the Gross Settlement Amount minus (a) the PAGA Allocation; (b) the Service Awards; (c) the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment; (d) the Settlement Administrator's fees and expenses; and (e) the employer-side payroll taxes and withholding.
- H. "Class Notice" means the Notice of Class Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing as evidenced by Exhibit B to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- I. "Class Notice Packet" means the Class Notice (Exhibit B to this Agreement) and the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award (Exhibit C to this Agreement).
- J. "Class Period" means the period of time from December 17, 2016 through the date of preliminary approval of the Settlement or July 17, 2023, whichever is earlier.
- K. "Class Released Claims" means any and all any and all demands, rights, liabilities, claims, and/or causes of action against Defendants and the Released Parties during the class period, known or unknown, that are or could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative complaints and/or the notices of claims under the PAGA to the LWDA in any of the Actions. The Class Released Claims include, but are not limited to, claims that any of the Released Parties failed to pay for all hours worked (including, but not limited to, any and all claims related to "off the clock work"); pay minimum wages or overtime compensation; provide compliant meal and rest periods (including but not limited to, providing short, skipped, late, or otherwise deficient meal and rest breaks); reimburse or indemnify employees for necessary business expenses; provide accurate itemized wage statements; and pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees. The Class Released Claims include, but are not limited to, such claims brought under California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 1174(d),

1182.11, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802; California Business and Professions Code sections 17200-17208; the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; and the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* Such claims include claims for wages, statutory penalties, civil penalties, or other relief under the California Labor Code and any other related state or municipal law, relief from unfair competition under California Business and Professions Code section 17200 *et seq.*; attorneys' fees and costs; and interest.

- L. "Class Settlement Share" means the portion of the Class Net Settlement Amount allocable to each Class Member as provided by this Agreement.
- M. "Defendants" means, collectively, Plum Healthcare Group, LLC; Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center; Gladiolus Holdings, LLC d/b/a The Pines at Placerville Healthcare Center; Jujube Holdings, LLC d/b/a Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center; Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC d/b/a Huntington Valley Healthcare Center; Rosebud Holdings, LLC dba Western Slope Health Center; and Olive Holdings, LLC d/b/a Aviara Healthcare Center.
- N. "Defendants' Counsel" means Grace Y. Horoupian, Victor Xu, and Kristina Buan of Fisher & Phillips LLP.
- О. "Effective Date" means the date the Superior Court has entered the Final Judgment after the Superior Court has granted final approval of the Settlement if no objections to the Settlement are filed, or if any objections to the Settlement are filed and subsequently withdrawn. If objections are filed and overruled, and no appeal of the Final Judgment is filed, then the Effective Date will be 60 calendar days following the date the Final Judgment is entered. In the event an appeal is filed, the Effective Date is 20 calendar days after the date on which the appeal is disposed of in the Parties' favor, dismissed or otherwise resolved in a manner that upholds the Settlement in its entirety and is no longer subject to review by any court, whether by appeal, petition for rehearing or re-argument, petition for review, or otherwise. Should any appeal not result in approval of the Settlement as described herein, the Agreement shall be void *ab initio* and of no further force or effect, but the Parties shall return and attend mediation with Jeffery Krivis attempt in good faith to reach a settlement approved by the Superior Court. However, if parties are unable to reach a resolution after reengaging with Jeffrey Krivis, parties agree to attend and split the costs of a second mediation in an attempt to reach a settlement approved the Court. In the event an appeal, writ, motion challenging the judgment or other collateral attack is made, no payments shall be made under the Settlement until the challenge is resolved in a manner that upholds the Agreement in its entirety. This definition presupposes that the Agreement has been signed by the Parties and Class Counsel, the Court has entered Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, and that the Class Notice Packet been mailed to the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees as ordered by the Court.
- P. "Exclusion Letter" means a signed letter requesting exclusion from the Settlement that is mailed to the Settlement Administrator. The Exclusion Letter must include the Class Member's name, current address, telephone number, the last four (4) digits of the Class Member's Social Security number, the Class Member's

signature, and the following statement or a substantively similar statement: "I request to be excluded from the class action Settlement taking place in the matter of *Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC*, Case No. VCU285376, Superior Court of California, County of Tulare."

- Q. "Facility" or "Facilities" means the 37 healthcare facilities identified in Exhibit A.
- R. "Facility Entity" means any entity that owns and/or operates any Facility.
- S. "Final Approval Hearing" means the hearing to be conducted by the Superior Court to determine whether to approve finally and implement the terms of this Agreement.
- T. "Gross Settlement Amount" means the total amount to be paid by Defendants as provided by this Agreement. The Gross Settlement Amount is \$10,000,000.00 (Ten Million Dollars), subject to the provisions set forth in Section III.J. The Gross Settlement Amount shall be used to satisfy all of Defendants' liabilities arising from: (a) all Class Settlement Shares; (b) all PAGA Settlement Shares; (c) the LWDA Payment; (d) all Service Awards; (d) the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment (including all attorneys' fees and expenses incurred to date and to be incurred in documenting the Settlement, securing trial and appellate court approval of the Settlement, and attending to the administration of the Settlement); (e) the Settlement Administrator's fees and expenses; and (f) the employer-side payroll taxes and withholdings.
- U. "Judgment" means the Order Granting Final Approval of Class Action Settlement and Entering Judgment entered by the Superior Court.
- V. "Lead Case" means the Tulare class action, wherein Plaintiff's counsel will seek preliminary and final approval of the Settlement.
- W. "LWDA Payment" means the amount payable to the LWDA for its 75% share of the PAGA Allocation.
- X. "Notice of Estimated Settlement Award" means the form that Class Members will receive that describes their estimated Settlement Shares, as evidenced by Exhibit C to this Agreement and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- Y. "PAGA Allocation" means the \$100,000.00 allocated from the Gross Settlement Amount to the settlement of claims for civil penalties under PAGA.
- Z. "PAGA Net Settlement Amount" means the amount from the PAGA Allocation that is available for distribution as PAGA Settlement Shares to Aggrieved Employees; the PAGA Net Settlement Amount equals the PAGA Allocation minus the LWDA Payment.
- AA. "PAGA Period" means the period of time from January 13, 2020 through the date of preliminary approval of the Settlement.

- BB. "PAGA Released Claims" means any and all any and all demands, rights, liabilities, claims, and/or causes of action under the PAGA against Defendants and the Released Parties during the PAGA Period, known or unknown, that are or could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative complaints and/or the notices of claims under the PAGA to the LWDA in any of the Actions. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, PAGA claims alleging that any of the Released Parties failed to pay for all hours worked (including, but not limited to, any and all claims related to "off the clock work"); pay minimum wages or overtime compensation; provide meal and rest periods (including but not limited to, providing short, skipped, late, or otherwise deficient meal and rest breaks); reimburse or indemnify employees for necessary business expenses; provide accurate itemized wage statements; and pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, such PAGA claims alleging violations of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 1174(d), 1182.11, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802; and the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, claims under the PAGA for civil penalties; attorneys' fees and costs; and interest.
- CC. "PAGA Settlement Share" means the portion of the PAGA Net Settlement Amount allocable to each Aggrieved Employee as provided by this Agreement.
- DD. "Participating Class Members" means all Class Members that do not timely and validly opt out of the Settlement.
- EE. "Plaintiffs" means, collectively, Luci Gillespie, Ileana Suastegui, Trevor Harding, Esther Corona, Joselito Guerrero, and Mildred Arriaga.
- FF. "Preliminary Approval of the Settlement" means the Superior Court's preliminary approval of the Settlement without material change, or with material changes to the Settlement to which the Parties both agree. An award by the Superior Court of lesser amounts than sought for the Service Awards or Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment will not be considered a material change to the Settlement.
- GG. "Released Parties" means Defendants, the Facilities, and the Facility Entities; any of their present and former parents, subsidiaries, and affiliated companies or entities; their respective officers, directors, employees, partners, shareholders and agents; and any other successors, assigns and legal representatives and related persons and entities. The Released Parties include, but are not limited to, Providence Group, Inc. and Providence Administrative Consulting Services.
- HH. "Service Awards" means the special payment made to Plaintiffs in their capacities as named plaintiffs and class and/or PAGA representatives to compensate them for initiating and pursuing the Actions, undertaking the risk of liability for attorneys' fees and expenses in the event they were unsuccessful in the prosecution of the Actions, and granting the release described in Section III.F.1 of the Settlement
- II. "Settled Cases" means the following cases, collectively:

*i. Chace v. Daisy Holdings, LLC* (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case. No. 00209613)

*ii. Grimsley v. Spruce Holdings, LLC* (Tulare County Superior Court, Case. No. VCU275267)

*iii.* D'Antonio v. Fig Holdings, LLC, (Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case. No. CV-19-4015)

*iv. Jackson v. White Fir Holdings, et al,* (PAGA) (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case. No. 34-2021-00301656-CU-OE-GDS)

*v. Foxx v. Healthcare Services Group, et al.* (PAGA) (Alameda County Superior Court, Case. No. RG21100855)

*vi. Legaspi v. Cucumber Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 20STCV24775)

*vii.* Buckmaster v. Pepperbush Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case. No. 37-2020-00023125-CU-OE-CTL)

*viii. Allen v. Kumquat Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 20STCV33311)

*ix. Cetnarowski v. Melon Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Yuba County Superior Court, Case. No. CVCV21-01007)

*x. Abarca v. Cantaloupe Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 21STCV08753)

*xi. Jimenez v. Olive Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case. No. 37-2021-00048293-CU-OE-CTL)

*xii.* Anguiano v. Norway Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 97-2021-00041803-CU-OE-CTL).

- JJ. Settlement Administrator" means the administrator proposed by the Parties, Atticus Administration LLC, and appointed by the Superior Court to administer the Settlement.
- KK. "Settlements Shares" means the Class Settlement Shares and the PAGA Settlement Shares, collectively.
- LL. "Superior Court" means the Superior Court of California in which the Lead Case is pending.

### **III. SETTLEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

A. **Gross Settlement Amount.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including but not limited to Section III.J, the Gross Settlement Amount is

\$10,000,000.00 (Ten Million Dollars). The Gross Settlement Amount shall be used to satisfy all of Defendants' liabilities arising from: (a) all settlement payments to Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees eligible for settlement payments; (b) the LWDA Payment; (c) the Service Awards; (d) the Class Counsel's Fees and Expense Payment; and (e) the Settlement Administrator's fees and expenses. The entire \$10,000,000.00 Gross Settlement Amount is nonreversionary. The Gross Settlement Amount covers employer-side payroll taxes that are triggered by payment of the unpaid wage portion of each Class Settlement Share.

Defendants shall fund the Gross Settlement Amount in three equal installments. The first installment shall be due 90 days after the Effective Date. The second installment shall be due 180 days after the Effective Date. The third and final installment shall be due 270 days after the Effective Date.

All payments under the Settlement to Participating Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, the LWDA, and the Settlement Administrator shall also be made in three equal shares.

- B. **Settlement Shares.** Each Participating Class Member shall be paid a Class Settlement Share and each Aggrieved Employee shall be paid a PAGA Settlement Share. If a Participating Class Member is also an Aggrieved Employee, he or she will be paid both a Class Settlement Share and a PAGA Settlement Share. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator will allocate Class Settlement Shares from the Class Net Settlement Amount to Participating Class Members and PAGA Settlement Shares from the PAGA Net Settlement Amount as follows:
  - 1. **Calculation.** The Settlement Administrator will calculate each Participating Class Member's Class Settlement Share based on the following formula: Each Participating Class Member will receive a payment equal to the Class Net Settlement Amount times the ratio of (i) the number of workweeks worked by the Participating Class Member as a nonexempt employee at any Facility during the Class Period ("Class Workweeks") to (ii) the total number of Class Workweeks worked by all Participating Class Members.

The Settlement Administrator will calculate each Aggrieved Employee's PAGA Settlement Share based on the following formula: Each Aggrieved Employee will receive a payment equal to the PAGA Net Settlement Amount times the ratio of (i) the number of pay periods worked by the Aggrieved Employee as a non-exempt employee at any Facility during the PAGA Period ("PAGA Pay Periods") to (ii) the total number of PAGA Pay Periods worked by all Aggrieved Employees.

For purposes of the estimated Class Settlement Share and PAGA Settlement Share reported to Class Members in the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, the Settlement Administrator will calculate each Class Member's estimated Class Settlement Share assuming that no Class Members opt out of, or request exclusion from, the Settlement.

- 2. Effect of Class Members Who Opt Out of Settlement. A Class Member who timely and validly opts out of the Settlement by submitting an Exclusion Letter will not receive a Class Settlement Share, will not release any of the Class Released Claims, and will not be included with Participating Class Members for purposes of the calculation of Class Settlement Shares. The Settlement Share that otherwise would have been payable to such Class Member will be retained in the Class Net Settlement Amount for distribution to all Participating Class Members. Aggrieved Employees may not opt out of the PAGA component of the Settlement. If a Class Member that is also an Aggrieved Employee timely and validly opts out of the Settlement by submitting an Exclusion Letter, he or she will still receive a PAGA Settlement Share and will still release the PAGA Released Claims.
- 3. **Tax Treatment.** The Settlement Shares shall be reported to taxing authorities as follows:
  - a. Ten percent (10%) of each Class Settlement Share (the "Wage Portion") will be treated as a payment in settlement of the Participating Class Member's claims for unpaid wages. Accordingly, the Wage Portion will be reduced by applicable employer-side payroll tax withholding and deductions, and the Settlement Administrator will issue to the Participating Class Member a Form W-2 with respect to the Wage Portion. Participating Class Members shall be responsible for employee-side taxes and deductions that are triggered by payment of the Wage Portion of their Settlement Share.
  - b. Ninety percent (90%) of each Class Settlement Share (the "Non-Wage Portion") will be treated as a payment in settlement of the Participating Class Member's claims for all unreimbursed business expenses, liquidated damages, and penalties. Accordingly, the Non-Wage Portion will not be reduced by payroll tax withholding and deductions; and, instead, the Settlement Administrator will report payment of the Non-Wage Portion to the Participating Class Member on Form 1099.
  - c. 100 percent (100%) of each PAGA Settlement Share will be treated as a payment in settlement of penalties to Aggrieved Employees. Accordingly, the PAGA Settlement Share will not be reduced by payroll tax withholding and deductions; and, instead, the Settlement Administrator will report payment of the PAGA Settlement Share to the Aggrieved Employee on Form 1099.

- C. **Payments to Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, LWDA, and Settlement Administrator.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator will make the following payments out of the Gross Settlement Amount as follows:
  - 1. To Plaintiffs: In addition to Plaintiffs' Class Settlement Shares and PAGA Settlement Shares. Plaintiffs will apply to the Superior Court for Service Awards in consideration of initiating and pursuing the Actions, undertaking the risk of liability for attorneys' fees and expenses in the event they were unsuccessful in the prosecution of the Actions, and granting the release provided for in Section III.F.1 of this Agreement. Defendants will not oppose a Service Award of up to \$15,000.00 for Plaintiff Joselito Guerrero, and up to \$10,000.00 for Plaintiffs Luci Gillespie, Ileana Suastegui, Trevor Harding, Esther Corona, and Mildred Arriaga. The Settlement Administrator will pay the Service Awards approved by the Superior Court out of the Gross Settlement Amount. If the Superior Court approves Service Awards in lesser amounts, the remainder will be retained in the Class Net Settlement Amount. Tax deductions and withholdings will not be taken from the Service Awards, and instead Form 1099 will be issued to Plaintiffs with respect to these payments.
  - 2. To Class Counsel: Class Counsel will apply to the Superior Court for an award of not more than \$3,500,000.00 (35% of the Gross Settlement Amount), and the actual amount of expenses as their Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment, and Defendants will not oppose their request. Class Counsel, at their option, may also apply to the court in any of the Actions for further attorneys' fees and costs associated with obtaining and monitoring the equitable/injunctive components of the Settlement (see Section III.G), in the amount of up to an additional 35% of the valuation of the equitable/injunctive relief, and Defendants will not oppose their request. If the Superior Court approves a Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment in a lesser amount, the remainder will be retained in the Class Net Settlement Amount. A Form 1099 will be issued with respect to the awarded attorneys' fees and costs, and Class Counsel beforehand will provide Defendants or the Settlement Administrator (as applicable) with a completed Form W-9.
  - 3. **To LWDA.** The LWDA Payment of \$75,000.00 reflects the LWDA's share of the settlement of civil penalties paid under this Agreement pursuant to PAGA. The LWDA Payment represents 75% of the PAGA Allocation under the Settlement of \$100,000.00. This amount reflects the Parties' good-faith and reasonable assessment, for purposes of settlement, of the likelihood that a PAGA representative action would be maintained; that liability under PAGA would be established; and the amount of penalties the Superior Court would award even if a PAGA representative action were maintained and liability were found. If the Superior Court approves an LWDA Payment of less than \$75,000.00, the remainder will be retained in the PAGA Net Settlement Amount.

- 4. **To the Settlement Administrator.** The Settlement Administrator will pay to itself out of the Gross Settlement Amount its reasonable fees and expenses as approved by the Superior Court. It is projected that these fees and expenses shall not exceed \$100,000.00.
- D. **Appointment of Settlement Administrator.** The Parties will ask the Superior Court to appoint Atticus Administration LLC to act as Settlement Administrator, which, as a condition of appointment, will agree to be bound by this Agreement with respect to the performance of its duties and its compensation. The Settlement Administrator's duties will include preparing, printing, mailing, and emailing the Class Notice Packet; creating and hosting a Settlement website; conducting a National Change of Address search and using Accurint and other reasonable and cost-effective skip trace methods to locate any individuals whose Class Notice Packet was returned by the U.S. Postal Service as non-deliverable, and re-mailing the Class Notice Packet to the Class Member's new address; receiving Class Member objections and opt-outs from the Settlement; providing the Parties with weekly status reports about the delivery of Class Notice Packets and receipt of Class Member opt-outs from the Settlement; calculating Settlement Shares; calculating the amounts of employer-side payroll taxes and employee-side taxes and deductions; issuing the checks to effectuate the payments due under the Settlement; preparing Form W-2s and Form 1099s and completing required report to tax authorities; and otherwise administering the Settlement pursuant to this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses, including the cost of printing and mailing the Class Notice Packet, will be paid out of the Gross Settlement Amount.

## E. **Procedure for Approving Settlement.**

# 1. Motion for Preliminary Approval.

- a. Within 14 days after this Agreement is signed by the last Party to sign it, Plaintiffs will file a motion (the "Motion for Preliminary Approval") with the Superior Court in the Lead Case for an order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, conditionally certifying the Class, setting a date for the Final Approval Hearing, and approving and authorizing the dissemination of the Class Notice and the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award. The Motion for Preliminary Approval shall be unopposed.
- b. Upon or before filing the Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Parties will file a stipulation to amend the complaint in the Lead Case to bring all pending parties and claims in the Actions (inclusive of class and PAGA claims) into one proceeding. The proposed amended complaint shall be attached to the stipulation.
- c. Pursuant to PAGA, on the date Plaintiffs file the Motion for Preliminary Approval with the Superior Court, Plaintiffs will submit to the LWDA the Motion for Preliminary Approval and the Settlement. The Parties intend and believe that providing notice of

this Settlement to the LWDA pursuant to the procedures described in this section complies with the requirements of PAGA, and will request that the Superior Court grant approval of the Settlement with respect to the settled PAGA claims.

- d. At the hearing on the Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Parties will jointly appear, support the granting of the motion, and submit an order granting the motion.
- e. Should the Superior Court decline to preliminarily approve all material aspects of the Settlement, or order material changes to the Settlement to which the Parties do not agree after good faith efforts to meet and confer to try to arrive at an alternative resolution, the Settlement will be null and void and the Parties will have no further obligations under it. An award by the Court of lesser amounts than sought for the Service Awards or the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment will not be a material modification of the Settlement.
- 2. **Notice to Class Members.** After the Superior Court enters its order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, every Class Member and Aggrieved Employee will be provided with the Class Notice Packet (which will include the Class Notice completed to reflect the order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, and the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award) as follows:
  - Within 21 days after the Superior Court enters its order granting a. Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendants will provide to the Settlement Administrator in a secure fashion the following information for each Class Member and Aggrieved Employee: name, last known address and telephone number, Social Security number, his or her number of Class Workweeks, and his or her number of PAGA Pay Periods. The workweek and pay period totals will be contemporaneously produced to counsel for Plaintiffs. If any or all of the Class Members' or Aggrieved Employees' data are unavailable to Defendants, Defendants will use best efforts to deduce or reconstruct the data prior to when it must be submitted to the Settlement Administrator; approximations or averages may be used. This information will otherwise remain confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone, except in order to carry out the efforts described in Section III.B and to disseminate the Class Notice Packet pursuant to this Agreement, or pursuant to Defendants' express written authorization or by order of the Superior Court.
  - b. Within 14 days after receiving the Class Member and Aggrieved Employee information from Defendants, the Settlement Administrator will send to each Class Member and Aggrieved Employee the Class Notice Packet via First Class U.S. Mail and via email. In the event of returned or non-deliverable Class Notice

Packets sent via U.S. Mail, the Settlement Administrator will make reasonable efforts to locate Class Members/Aggrieved Employees and re-send the notices. Prior to the initial mailing, the Settlement Administrator will check the addresses provided by Defendants through the National Change of Address System. Prior to the initial mailing, the Settlement Administrator will provide to counsel for all Parties its payment calculations for Class Members/Aggrieved Employees with anonymized employee identification numbers and obtain approval of the calculations from counsel for all Parties. The Settlement Administrator will mail the Class Notice Packet to all identified Class Members and Aggrieved Employees, and email the Class Notice Packet to all such individuals for whom Defendants provide a personal email address.

- The Settlement Administrator will create and host a website for the c. Settlement, which will allow Class Members and Aggrieved Employees to view the Class Notice, this Agreement, and all papers filed by Class Counsel to obtain preliminary and final approval of the Settlement, and the related orders of the Superior Court. Additionally, the Settlement website will provide contact information for Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement website shall go live at the same date and time as the Settlement Administrator first disseminates the Class Notice Packets. The Settlement Administrator will provide Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel with a preview of the proposed website within 14 days of the order granting Preliminary Approval. Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel must approve the website before it goes live and also must approve any modifications to the website within 10 days of receipt. The Settlement Administrator shall also create a toll-free call center to field telephone inquiries from Class Members and Aggrieved Employees during the notice and settlement administration periods. The Settlement Administrator will be directed to take the website and call center down after the expiration of the final round of checks issued to Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees.
- d. If a Class Notice Packet sent via U.S. Mail is returned because of an incorrect address and no forwarding address is affixed thereto, the Settlement Administrator will promptly, and not later than two (2) business days from receipt of the returned packet, search for a more current address for the Class Members/Aggrieved Employees using a skip trace, and re-mail the Class Notice Packet to the Class Members/Aggrieved Employees. The Settlement Administrator will use the individual's data and otherwise work with Defendants to find a more current address. The Settlement Administrator will be responsible for taking reasonable steps, consistent with its agreed-upon job parameters, court orders, and fee, as agreed to with Class Counsel and according to the following deadlines, to trace the

mailing address of any individual for whom a Class Notice Packet is returned by the U.S. Postal Service as undeliverable. These reasonable steps will include, at a minimum, the tracking of all undelivered mail; performing address searches for all mail returned without a forwarding address; and promptly re-mailing to Class Members/Aggrieved Employees for whom new addresses are found. If the Class Notice Packet is re-mailed, the Settlement Administrator will note for its own records and notify Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel the number of such re-mailings as part of a weekly status report provided to the Parties.

- e. Each week, the Settlement Administrator will provide to Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel a report showing whether any Class Notice Packets have been returned and re-mailed and the receipt of any opt-outs and/or objections to the Settlement.
- f. In connection with the filing of Plaintiffs' motion for final approval of the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will prepare, and Plaintiffs will file with the Superior Court, a declaration of due diligence setting forth its compliance with its obligations under this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator shall transmit the declaration to Plaintiff's counsel within ten (10) days of the deadline to opt-out, object or submit disputes as to employment dates, and no later than at least 30 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. Prior to the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator will supplement its declaration of due diligence if any material changes occur from the date of the filing of its prior declaration.
- 3. **Objections to Settlement; Opt-outs from Settlement.** Class Members may submit objections to the Settlement or opt out of the Settlement pursuant to the following procedures:
  - a. **Objections to Settlement.** Class Members who wish to object to any term of the Settlement must mail his or her objection to the Settlement Administrator not later than 45 days after notice of the Settlement was first sent via U.S. Mail and/or email. The Settlement Administrator shall, within two (2) business days of receipt, serve any objection(s) as received on Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel, who shall then promptly file all such objections with the Court. Defendants' Counsel and Class Counsel shall file and serve any responses to objections no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the Final Approval hearing. To be valid, any objection must: (1) contain the objecting Class Member's full name, current address, and telephone number, as well as contact information for any attorney representing the objecting Class Member for purposes of the objection; (2) include all objections and the factual and legal bases for same; (3) include any and all supporting papers, briefs, written evidence, declarations, and/or other evidence supporting the objection; and (4) be postmarked no later than 45 days after the

Settlement Administrator originally sends the Class Notice Packets via U.S. Mail and/or email. The objection also will indicate whether the Class Member intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing.

- Request for Exclusion. The Class Notice will provide that Class b. Members may exclude themselves from the Settlement by mailing to the Settlement Administrator a signed Exclusion Letter, postmarked no later than 45 days after the Settlement Administrator originally sends the Class Notice Packets via U.S. Mail and/or email. To be valid, the Request for Exclusion must: (1) contain the Class Member's full name, current address, and telephone number; and (2) be postmarked no later than 45 days after the Settlement Administrator originally sends the Class Notice Packets via U.S. Mail and/or email. If a question is raised about the authenticity of an Exclusion Letter, the Settlement Administrator will have the right to demand additional proof of the Class Member's identity. A Class Member who timely submits a valid Exclusion Letter will not participate in or be bound by the Settlement and the Judgment, will not be entitled to any payment from the Settlement, and will not have any right to object to, appeal from, or comment on the Settlement. A Class Member who does not complete and mail a valid Exclusion Letter in Settlement in the manner and by the deadline specified above will automatically be bound by all terms and conditions of the Settlement, including its release of claims, if the Settlement is approved by the Court, and by the Judgment. Aggrieved Employees may not opt out of the PAGA component of the Settlement. If a Class Member who is also an Aggrieved Employee timely and validly opts out of the Settlement by submitting an Exclusion Letter, he or she will still receive a PAGA Settlement Share and will still release the PAGA Released Claims. If an individual is an Aggrieved Employee but not a Class Member, such persons may not opt out of the Settlement.
- c. **Report.** Not later than ten (10) days after the deadline for submission of opt-outs to the Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will provide the Parties with a complete and accurate list of objections and opt-outs submitted by Class Members.
- 4. **Resolution of Disputes.** If a Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee disputes the Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shown on his or her Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, the individual must submit a dispute to the Settlement Administrator by returning the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award with the information that he or she contends is correct and including with the sheet any documentation the individual has to support his or her contention. Any such dispute must be postmarked no later than 45 days after the Settlement Administrator originally sends the Class Notice Packets via U.S. Mail and/or email. In the event of such a dispute, Defendants will have the right to review its payroll and personnel records to verify the correct information. Unless both parties agree that the

individual presents convincing evidence proving that he or she worked more workweeks than shown by Defendants' records, the individual will be paid based on Defendants' records. The Settlement Administrator shall notify counsel for the Parties of any disputes. The Parties shall meet and confer in an effort to resolve any disputes, and shall notify the Settlement Administrator of their decision. If a dispute cannot be resolved, it shall be presented to the Court for resolution. To the extent that an individual who was not included on the list of Class Members and Aggrieved Employees that Defendants provided to the Settlement Administrator self-identifies as a Class Member and/or Aggrieved Employee, such individual must present evidence to the Settlement Administrator establishing the Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Workweeks that he or she contends to have worked no later than 45 days after the Settlement Administrator originally sends the Class Notice Packets via U.S. Mail and/or email, and the individual's claim will be resolved pursuant to the dispute procedure set forth in this paragraph. The resolution of disputes pursuant to the dispute procedure set forth in this paragraph will be final, binding on the Parties and the Class Member/Aggrieved Employee, and non-appealable.

- 5. **No Solicitation of Objection, Appeal, or Opt-Out.** Neither the Parties nor their respective counsel will solicit or otherwise encourage directly or indirectly any Class Member to object to the Settlement, appeal from the Judgment, or opt out of the Settlement.
- **Right of Defendants to Reject Settlement.** If ten percent (10%) or more 6. of Class Members timely submit valid Exclusion Letters, Defendants will have the right to, in its sole discretion, unilaterally rescind the Settlement, and the Settlement and all actions taken in furtherance of it will be null and Defendants must exercise this right within 30 days after the void. Settlement Administrator notifies the Parties of the number of opt-outs, which the Settlement Administrator will do within ten (10) days after the deadline for submission of Exclusion Letters. If Defendants exercise the right to rescind, it will be responsible for the costs of administration of the Settlement incurred through that time. If Defendants do not exercise the right to rescind. Plaintiffs will move for final approval of the Settlement and for an award of the Service Awards and the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment pursuant to the Settlement, which Defendants will not oppose. The named Plaintiffs will not opt out of nor object to the settlement, nor refuse to execute a general release of claims as references in Section III.F.

#### 7. Additional Briefing and Final Approval.

a. Not later than 16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiffs will file with the Superior Court a motion for final approval of the Settlement, the LWDA Payment, and payment of the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses (the "Motion for Final Approval"). Plaintiffs will also move for awards of the Service Awards and the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment pursuant to this Settlement, either as part of the Motion for Final Approval or via separate motion. The Motion for Final Approval shall be unopposed.

- b. Not later than five (5) days before the Final Approval Hearing, Plaintiffs and/or the Parties jointly may file a reply in support of the motion for final approval of the Settlement to the extent that any opposition to the motion is filed.
- If the Superior Court does not grant final approval of the Settlement, c. or if the Court's final approval of the Settlement is reversed or materially modified on appellate review, then this Settlement will be null and void after good faith efforts by Counsel for the Parties to meet and confer to try to arrive at an alternative resolution; if that occurs, the Parties will have no further obligations under the Settlement, including any obligation by Defendants to pay the Gross Settlement Amount, except that parties will evenly split the Settlement Administrator's reasonable fees and expenses incurred as of the date that the Settlement is deemed null and void. The Parties will thereafter return and attend mediation with Jeffery Krivis attempt in good faith to reach a settlement approved by the Superior Court. However, if parties are unable to reach a resolution after reengaging with Jeffrey Krivis, parties agree to attend and split the costs of a second mediation in an attempt to reach a settlement approved the Court. An award by the Court of lesser amounts than sought for the Service Awards or Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment will not constitute a material modification of the Settlement: although Plaintiffs maintain the right to appeal any such reduction. In the event that the Superior Court awards lesser-thensought Service Awards or Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment, the difference between the amounts awarded and sought will not revert back to Defendants, but will revert to the Class Net Settlement Amount.
- d. Together with the Motion for Final Approval, Plaintiffs will present a proposed Judgment to the Superior Court for its approval and entry. After entry of the Judgment, the Superior Court will have continuing jurisdiction over the Settlement solely for purposes of (1) enforcing this Agreement, (2) addressing settlement administration matters, and (3) addressing such post-judgment matters as may be appropriate under court rules or applicable law.
- 8. **Waiver of Right to Appeal.** Provided that the Judgment is consistent with the material terms of this Agreement, Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, Defendants, and their respective counsel hereby waive any and all rights to appeal from the Judgment, including all rights to any post-judgment proceeding and appellate proceeding, such as a motion to vacate judgment, a motion for new trial, and any extraordinary writ, and the Judgment therefore will become non-appealable at the time it

is entered. The waiver of appeal does not include any waiver of the right to oppose any appeal, appellate proceedings or post-judgment proceedings, or to file a cross-appeal. This paragraph does not preclude Plaintiffs or Class Counsel from appealing from a refusal by the Superior Court to award the full Service Awards or the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment sought by them; however, such an order or affirmance of such an order will not entitle Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, or Defendants to avoid the Settlement. If an appeal is taken from the Judgment, the time for consummating the Settlement (including making payments under the Settlement) will be suspended until such time as the appeal is finally resolved and the Judgment becomes Final, as defined in this Agreement.

- 9. Vacating, Reversal, or Material Modification of Judgment on Appeal or Review. If, after a notice of appeal or a petition for *certiorari* or review, or any other motion, petition, or application, the reviewing court vacates, reverses, or modifies the Judgment such that there is a material change to the Settlement, and that court's decision is not completely reversed and the Judgment is not fully affirmed on review by a higher court, then either Plaintiff or Defendants will have the right to void the Settlement, which the Party must do by giving written notice to the other Parties, the reviewing court, and the Superior Court not later than 30 days after the reviewing court's decision vacating, reversing, or materially modifying the Judgment becomes final. A vacation, reversal, or modification of the Superior Court's award of the Service Awards or the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment will not constitute a vacating, reversal, or material modification of the Judgment within the meaning of this paragraph.
- 10. Timing of Settlement Payments. Within seven (7) days after the Effective Date, as defined in this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator will provide Defendants with wire transfer information. Defendants shall fund the Gross Settlement Amount in three equal installments, by wire transfer. The first installment shall be due 90 days after the Effective Date. The second installment shall be due 180 days after the Effective Date. The third and final installment shall be due 270 days after the Effective Date via wire transfer. Within 14 days after it receives each funding installment, the Settlement Administrator will pay one third of the total payments due to Participating Class Members for Class Settlement Shares, Aggrieved Employees for PAGA Settlement Shares, Plaintiffs for Service Awards; the LWDA for the LWDA Payment, Class Counsel for the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses Payment; and the Settlement Administrator for its reasonable fees and expenses. The Settlement Administrator shall calculate the amount(s) of employer-side payroll taxes for the Class Settlement Shares and shall deduct those amounts from each funding installment prior to issuing the payments from that installment.
- 11. **Uncashed Settlement Share Checks.** Checks for Class Settlement Shares and PAGA Settlement Shares must be negotiated within, and will be void, 90 days after they are mailed. If a check issued from the first or second

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funding installment is returned to the Settlement Administrator, the Settlement Administrator will reissue that payment with the next check issued to the Participating Class Member/Aggrieved Employee. The Settlement Administrator will make all reasonable efforts to re-mail checks to the correct address. After the close of the check-cashing period for the third (and final) round of checks, the Settlement Administrator will redistribute the funds from uncashed checks (from all rounds of payments) to the Participating Class Members/Aggrieved Employees that cashed their third check. The uncashed check funds will be redistributed pro rata based on the total amount of the checks that the individual cashed divided by the total amount of all checks that were cashed by the Participating Class Members/Aggrieved Employees. In the event of a redistribution of funds from uncashed checks, the additional settlement administration costs and any additional employer-side payroll taxes related to the redistribution will be paid from the total amount of uncashed checks prior to the redistribution. To mitigate against the issuance of redistribution checks in small amounts, the Settlement Administrator shall exclude from the redistribution any individual that would receive a gross amount of less than \$10, prior to any reduction for employer-side payroll taxes, employee side payroll taxes, and additional settlement administration costs related to the redistribution. If the total amount of uncashed checks funds is less than \$100,000, or if there are uncashed funds remaining after the redistribution described in this paragraph, the Settlement Administrator will deposit such funds into a cv pres recipient jointly selected by the Parties and approved by the Superior Court. The Parties propose Legal Aid at Work as the *cv pres* recipient.

#### F. Release and Waiver of Claims.

- 1. **Plaintiffs.** Provided that he or she is awarded a Service Award of any amount by the Superior Court, as of the Effective Date, in consideration for the same and the other consideration provided by this Agreement, each Plaintiff releases the Released Parties from any and all known and unknown claims, complaints, charges, liabilities, obligations, promises, agreements, controversies, damages, actions, causes of action, suits, rights, demands, costs, losses, debts, and penalties arising out of or relating to their employment with the Released Parties, including all of the allegations in this Action, as well as attorneys' fees and costs, and waives the protection of California Civil Code section 1542 with respect to claims encompassed in this release ("Plaintiffs' Released Claims").
- 2. **Participating Class Members.** In consideration for their awarded Class Settlement Shares, as of the Effective Date, all Participating Class Members release any and all known and unknown Class Released Claims against the Released Parties. In consideration for their awarded PAGA Settlement Shares and the LWDA Payment, as of the Effective Date, all Aggrieved Employees and the LWDA release any and all known and unknown PAGA Released Claims against the Released Parties.

- 3. **Class Counsel.** Class Counsel will not seek or be entitled to any attorneys' fees and/or expenses other than those specified in this Agreement.
- 4. **Waiver of Rights under California Civil Code Section 1542.** Plaintiffs' Released Claims as provided for in Section III.F.1 include all such respective claims, whether known or unknown by the releasing party. Thus, even if a Plaintiff discovers facts in addition to or different from those that he or she now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of his or she respective Plaintiffs' Released Claims, those claims will remain released and forever barred. Therefore, with respect only to those respective released claims, Plaintiffs expressly waive and relinquish the provisions, rights and benefits of section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides as follows:

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.

- G. **Equitable/Injunctive Components.** Defendants, the Facilities, and the Facility entities agree to make certain changes to their operations by the Effective Date, and continuing into the future without modification absent it being agreed upon in writing. These changes must include:
  - 1. The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to not punish or discipline nonexempt employees, or otherwise impose negative employment consequences, when they report that they were not provided with a compliant meal period or rest break.
  - 2. The Facilities and Facility Entities shall establish a "missed meal period log" where non-exempt employees can readily report that that were not provided with a full, timely, uninterrupted, off-duty meal period of at least 30 minutes in length. The Facilities and/or Facility Entities agree to pay all legally required premium payments for any instance where an employee reports they were not provided with a full, timely, uninterrupted, off-duty meal period of at least 30 minutes in length in a shift where they were entitled to receive one.
  - 3. The Facilities and Facility Entities shall establish a "missed rest break log" where non-exempt employees can readily report that that they did not receive a full, timely, uninterrupted, off-duty rest break of at least ten (10) minutes in length. The Facilities and/or Facility Entities agree to pay all required premium payments for any instance where an employee reports they were not provided with a full, timely, uninterrupted, off-duty rest break of at least ten (10) minutes in length in a shift where they were entitled to receive one.

- 4. The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to not punish or discipline nonexempt employees, or otherwise impose negative employment consequences, when such employees report that they were required by the Facilities and Facility Entities to work any additional hours beyond their scheduled shift time and/or overtime hours or record such hours in their timekeeping. The Facilities and/or Facility Entities agree to pay all required wages due in such circumstances, inclusive of overtime premiums where applicable.
- 5. The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to remedy any issues with their timekeeping and payroll systems so that non-exempt employees are duly and timely paid for all "on the clock" time that they record. All "on the clock" time must be readily viewable by non-exempt employees in the Workday application.
- 6. The Facilities shall provide required training for management and supervisors at the Facilities on the California wage and hour laws alleged in the Actions, and methods for compliance.
- 7. Management at the Facilities shall orally read a notice to all current nonexempt employees of Defendants (i.e., at a team meeting or similar setting) that summarizes in plain language the wage and hour laws, and related protections and obligations, as are alleged in the Actions. At such time, management at the Facilities shall also inform all current non-exempt employees of Defendants about the process for using the "missed meal and rest break logs" (referenced above in Section III, G.2 and Section III, G.3) to notify Defendants of non-compliant meal and/or rest periods. The notice language shall be mutually agreed by counsel for the Parties, as set forth in **Exhibit D** to this Agreement.
- 8. The changes required by this section shall be formally adopted in the handbooks and other formal policies for the Facilities and Facility Entities to the extent they have not been already.
- 9. Each Facilities and/or Facility Entities shall provide a declaration 30 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing attesting to the status of the implementation of these changes to date.
- H. **No Effect on Other Benefits.** The Class Settlement Shares and PAGA Settlement Shares will not result in any additional benefit payments (such as 401(k) or bonus) beyond those provided by this Agreement to Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees. Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees will be deemed to have waived all such claims, whether known or unknown by them, as part of their release of claims under this Agreement.
- I. **Confidentiality Preceding Preliminary Approval.** Neither Plaintiffs nor Class Counsel will issue any press or other media releases or talk to the press or media regarding the Settlement, and Class Counsel will not publicize the Settlement on their website or social media. Prior to filing of the Motion for Preliminary

Approval, Plaintiffs may discuss the Settlement and its terms with Class Counsel, but both Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will not engage in any public disclosure of the Settlement and its terms.

J. Unanticipated Increase in Class Size. If the number of Class Members, Class Workweeks, Aggrieved Employees, and/or PAGA Pay Periods exceeds, by more than 10%, the amounts set forth in paragraph I.II of the Recitals section of this Agreement, then Defendants will have the option of either increasing the Gross Settlement Amount proportionally or shortening the release period so that there is no increase in the amount.

### K. Miscellaneous Terms.

### 1. No Admission of Liability.

- a. Defendants deny that they have engaged in any unlawful activity, have failed to comply with the law in any respect, have any liability to anyone under the claims asserted in Actions, or that but for the Settlement a class should be certified in the Actions. This Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising highly disputed claims. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or will be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendants, or an admission by Plaintiffs that any of his claims were non-meritorious or any defense asserted by Defendants was meritorious. This Settlement and the fact that Plaintiffs and Defendants were willing to settle the Actions will have no bearing on, and will not be admissible in connection with, any litigation (other than solely in connection with the Settlement).
- b. The Parties agree that the Motion for Preliminary Approval seeking, *inter alia*, certification of a class is for purposes of the Settlement only and if, for any reason, the Settlement is not approved, the certification will have no force or effect and will be immediately revoked. The Parties further agree that certification for purposes of the Settlement is in no way an admission that class certification is proper under the more stringent standard applied for litigation purposes and that this Settlement will not be admissible in these or any other proceedings as evidence that (a) a class should be certified or (b) Defendants are liable to Plaintiffs, the Class Members, or Aggrieved Employees.
- c. Whether or not there is an Effective Date for the Settlement, nothing in this Agreement, any document, statement, proceeding or conduct related to the Settlement, or any reports or accounting of those matters, will be (i) construed as, offered or admitted in evidence as, received as, or deemed to be evidence for any purpose adverse to Defendants or the Released Parties, including, but not limited to, evidence of a presumption, concession, indication or admission by any of the Released Parties of any liability, fault, wrongdoing,

omission, concession or damage; or (ii) disclosed, referred to or offered in evidence against any of the Released Parties, in any further proceeding in any of the Actions, or any other civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding except for purposes of effectuating the Settlement.

- d. This section and all other provisions of this Agreement notwithstanding, any and all provisions of this Agreement may be admitted in evidence and otherwise used in any and all proceedings to enforce any or all terms of this Agreement, or in defense of any claims released or barred by this Agreement.
- 2. **Integrated Agreement.** After this Agreement is signed and delivered by all Parties and their counsel, this Agreement and its exhibits will constitute the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the Settlement, and it will then be deemed that no oral representations, warranties, covenants, or inducements have been made to any Party concerning this Agreement or its exhibits other than the representations, warranties, covenants, and inducements expressly stated in this Agreement and its exhibits. However, the Term Sheet may be introduced into evidence to prove the fact and terms of the Parties' Settlement.
- 3. **Modification of Agreement.** This Agreement, and any and all parts of it, may be amended, modified, changed, or waived only by an express written instrument signed by all Parties or their successors-in-interest, or by counsel for all Parties or their successors-in-interest.
- 4. **Failure to Fund Settlement.** If Defendants fail to fund the Settlement after the Effective Date pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, the Settlement shall be null and void *ab initio*, the release of claims by Plaintiffs, Participating Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees shall be without effect, and any order or judgment entered by the Court in furtherance of this Settlement shall be treated as withdrawn or vacated by stipulation of the Parties.
- 5. **Agreement Binding on Successors.** This Agreement will be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors of each of the Parties.
- 6. **Applicable Law.** All terms and conditions of this Agreement and its exhibits will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of California, without giving effect to any conflict of law principles or choice of law principles.
- 7. **Cooperation in Drafting.** The Parties have cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Agreement. This Agreement will not be construed against any Party on the basis that the Party was the drafter or participated in the drafting.

- 8. **Fair Settlement.** The Parties and their respective counsel believe and warrant that this Agreement reflects a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement of the Actions and have arrived at this Agreement through armslength negotiations, taking into account all relevant factors, current and potential.
- 9. **Authority to Act for Plaintiffs.** Class Counsel represent that they have full authority to accept this Agreement on behalf of Plaintiffs and to bind Plaintiffs to all of its terms and conditions.
- 10. **Headings.** The descriptive heading of any section or paragraph of this Agreement is inserted for convenience of reference only and does not constitute a part of this Agreement.
- 11. **Notice.** All notices, demands or other communications given under this Agreement will be in writing and deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after mailing by United States mail, addressed as follows:

To Plaintiffs and the Class:

Carolyn Hunt Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP 2000 Powell Street, Suite 1400 Emeryville, California 94608 Telephone: (415) 421-7100 Facsimile: (415) 421-7105 ccottrell@schneiderwallace.com ccohen@schneiderwallace.com Grace Y. Horoupian Victor T. Xu Kristina Noel Buan FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP 2050 Main Street, Suite 1000 Irvine, California 92614 Telephone: (949) 851-2424 Facsimile: (949) 851-0152 ghoroupian@fisherphillips.com

kbuan@fisherphillips.com

*To Defendants:* 

- 12. **Invalidity of Any Provision**. The Parties request that before declaring any provision of this Agreement invalid, the Court shall first attempt to construe all provisions as valid to the fullest extent possible consistent with applicable precedents.
- 13. **Execution in Counterpart.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument provided that counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves original signed counterparts. Facsimile signatures will be accepted if the original signature is provided within seven (7) days. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

## IV. EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL

The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.

Dated: 12 / 11 / 2023

Plaintiff LUCI GILLESPIE

Dated: 12 / 11 / 2023

Plaintiff ILEANA SUASTEGUI

Dated:

Plaintiff TREVOR HARDING

Dated:

Plaintiff ESTHER CORONA

Dated: 12 / 11 / 2023

Al

Plaintiff JOSELITO GUERRERO

Dated: 12 / 12 / 2023

MAR

Plaintiff MILDRED ARRIAGA

- 12. **Invalidity of Any Provision**. The Parties request that before declaring any provision of this Agreement invalid, the Court shall first attempt to construe all provisions as valid to the fullest extent possible consistent with applicable precedents.
- 13. **Execution in Counterpart.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them will be deemed to be one and the same instrument provided that counsel for the Parties will exchange between themselves original signed counterparts. Facsimile signatures will be accepted if the original signature is provided within seven (7) days. Any executed counterpart will be admissible in evidence to prove the existence and contents of this Agreement.

## IV. EXECUTION BY PARTIES AND COUNSEL

The Parties and their counsel hereby execute this Agreement.

Dated: 12 / 11 / 2023

Plaintiff LUCI GILLESPIE

Dated: 12 / 11 / 2023

Plaintiff ILEANA SUASTEGUI

Dated: 12 / 17 / 2023

Plaintiff TREVOR HARDING

Dated:

Plaintiff ESTHER CORONA

Dated: 12 / 11 / 2023

Plaintiff JOSELITO GUERRERO

Dated:

Plaintiff MILDRED ARRIAGA

- 12. **Invalidez de cualquier disposición**. Las Partes solicitan que antes de declarar la invalidez de cualquier disposición de este Acuerdo, el Tribunal primero intente interpretar todas las disposiciones como válidas en la mayor medida posible de conformidad con los precedentes aplicables.
- 13. **Firma de ejemplares.** Este Acuerdo puede firmarse en uno o más ejemplares. Todos y cada uno de los ejemplares firmados se considerarán un mismo instrumento siempre que los abogados de las Partes intercambien entre sí los ejemplares originales firmadas. Se aceptarán firmas por fax si la firma original se proporciona dentro de los siete (7) días. Cualquier ejemplar firmado será admisible como prueba para acreditar la existencia y contenido del presente Acuerdo.

#### IV. FIRMA DE LAS PARTES Y DE LOS ABOGADOS

Las Partes y sus abogados firman este Acuerdo.

Fecha:	
	Demandante LUCI GILLESPIE
Fecha:	Demandante ILEANA SUASTEGUI
Fecha:	Demandante TREVOR HARDING
Fecha: 12 / 20 / 2023	Demandante ESTHER CORONA
Fecha:	Demandante JOSELITO GUERRERO
Fecha:	Demandante MILDRED ARRIAGA

February 2, 2024
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Su S. L

Carolyn Hunt Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP

When Aningjn\_

Edwin Aiwazian LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC

Dated:

Dated: January 30, 2024

Print Name: PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC

Dated:

Print Name: PROVIDENCE GROUP, INC.

Dated:

Print Name: FLAX HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER

Dated:

Print Name:

GLADIOLUS HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a THE PINES AT PLACERVILLE HEALTHCARE CENTER

Dated:	Carolyn Hunt Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP
Dated:	Edwin Aiwazian LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC
Dated:	Print Name: PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC
Dated:	Print Name: PROVIDENCE GROUP, INC.
Dated:	Print Name: FLAX HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER
Dated:	Print Name: GLADIOLUS HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a THE PINES AT PLACERVILLE HEALTHCARE CENTER

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Dated:	
	Carolyn Hunt Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP
Dated:	Edwin Aiwazian LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC
Dated:	Print Name: PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC
Dated:	Print Name: PROVIDENCE GROUP, INC.
Dated: 1/18/24	Print Name: FLAX HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER
Dated:	Print Name: GLADIOLUS HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a THE PINES AT PLACERVILLE

.

HEALTHCARE CENTER

Dated:	
	Carolyn Hunt Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP
Dated:	Edwin Aiwazian LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC
Dated:	Print Name: PLUM HEALTHCARE GROUP, LLC
Dated:	Print Name: PROVIDENCE GROUP, INC.
Dated:	Print Name: FLAX HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER
Dated: 1/18/24	<u>Colby</u> Hollings Worth Print Name: GLADIOLUS HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a THE PINES AT PLACERVILLE HEALTHCARE CENTER

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Dated: 1/19/24

Print Name: POBERT PIERCE JUJUBE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a SUNNYVALE POST-ACUTE CENTER

Dated:

Print Name: DOUGLAS FIR HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a HUNTINGTON VALLEY HEALTHCARE CENTER

Dated:

Dated: 1/19/24

Print Name: OLIVE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a AVIARA HEALTHCARE CENTER

DEFENDANTS' COUNSEL:

Grace Y. Horoupian Victor T. Xu Kristina Noel Buan FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

Dated:	
	Print Name: JUJUBE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a SUNNYVALE POST-ACUTE CENTER
Dated: 1/18/24	Andrew Stephenson
	Print Name: DOUGLAS FIR HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a HUNTINGTON VALLEY HEALTHCARE CENTER
Dated:	Print Name:
	OLIVE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a AVIARA HEALTHCARE CENTER
	DEFENDANTS' COUNSEL:
Dated:	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
	Grace Y. Horoupian Victor T. Xu
	Kristina Noel Buan

FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

Dated:

Print Name: JUJUBE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a SUNNYVALE POST-ACUTE CENTER

Υ.

Dated:

Print Name: DOUGLAS FIR HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a HUNTINGTON VALLEY HEALTHCARE CENTER

Dated: 1/18/24

APyin

Print Name: Austin Pepin OLIVE HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a AVIARA HEALTHCARE CENTER

DEFENDANTS' COUNSEL:

Dated:

Grace Y. Horoupian Victor T. Xu Kristina Noel Buan FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

## EXHIBIT A

### [LIST OF 37 FACILITIES]

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Honeyflower Holdings, LLC dba Arlington Gardens Care Center		
Aloe Holdings, LLC dba Auburn Oaks Care Center		
Olive Holdings, LLC dba Aviara Healthcare Center		
Ixia Holdings, LLC dba Bishop Care Center		
Dragonfruit Holdings, LLC dba Canyon Springs Post-Acute		
Applewood Operating Company, LLC dba Copper Ridge Care Center		
Koa Holdings, LLC dba Cottonwood Canyon Healthcare Center		
Norway Maple Holdings, LLC dba Crystal Cove Care Center		
Marjoram Holdings, LLC dba Cypress Ridge Care Center		
Bilberry Holdings, LLC dba East Bay Post-Acute		
Fig Holdings, LLC dba Garden City Healthcare Center		
Cedar Holdings, LLC dba Highland Palms Healthcare Center		
Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC dba Huntington Valley Healthcare Center		
Elm Holdings, LLC dba La Mesa Healthcare Center		
Italian Maple Holdings, LLC dba La Paloma Healthcare Center		
Melon Holdings, LLC dba Marysville Post-Acute		
Azalea Holdings, LLC dba McKinley Park Care Center		
White Fir Holdings, LLC dba Midtown Oaks Post-Acute		

Pear Holdings, LLC dba Peninsula Post-Acute		
Daisy Holdings, LLC dba Pine Creek Care Center		
Plum Healthcare Group, LLC		
Poplar Holdings, LLC dba Poway Healthcare Center		
Kumquat Holdings, LLC dba Primrose Post-Acute		
Ash Holdings, LLC dba Redlands Healthcare Center		
Lilac Holdings, LLC dba Reo Vista Healthcare Center		
Flax Holdings, LLC dba River Valley Care Center		
Ulmus Holdings, LLC dba Rock Creek Care Center		
Crocus Holdings, LLC dba Roseville Care Center		
Oleander Holdings, LLC dba Sacramento Post-Acute		
Pepperbush Holdings, LLC dba San Diego Post-Acute Center		
Jujube Holdings, LLC dba Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center		
Macadamia Holdings, LLC dba Trellis Chino		
Birch Holdings, LLC dba University Care Center		
Rosebud Holdings, LLC dba Western Slope Health Center		
Hawthorne Holdings, LLC dba White Blossom Care Center		
Queen Ann's Lace Holdings, LLC dba Whitney Oaks Care Center		
Guava Holdings, LLC dba Yuba City Post-Acute		

## EXHIBIT B

## [NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND FINAL APPROVAL HEARING]

#### *Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC* Superior Court of California, County of Tulare, Case No. VCU285376<sup>1</sup>

#### NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND FINAL APPROVAL HEARING Please read this notice carefully

You are receiving this Notice of Class Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing ("Notice") because the records of Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity show you performed work as a non-exempt employee at one of 37 healthcare facilities in California ("Facilities"), identified in Section 2 below, between December 17, 2016 and July 17, 2023. Because you fit this definition, <u>you may be entitled to receive money from a Settlement<sup>2</sup> in this case, as described below</u>.

#### 1. Why Should You Read This Notice?

This Notice explains what this case is about; your right to share in the monetary proceeds of this Settlement; how much you can expect to receive; the claims that are being resolved; and your options. It explains that there are two groups of workers that are covered by the Settlement: (1) <u>Class Members</u>, for whom the Plaintiffs seek damages under the California Labor Code for unpaid wages (including minimum wages and overtime), missed or non-compliant meal periods and rest breaks, unreimbursed business expenses, and related violations; and (2) <u>Aggrieved Employees</u>, for whom Plaintiffs seek civil penalties (fines) that are allegedly owed to the State of California under the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") for the labor violations alleged.

Your rights and options under the Settlement depend on whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both. Please carefully review this Notice and the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to determine whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both.

The Superior Court of California, County of Tulare, has preliminarily approved the Settlement as fair and reasonable. The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2024 at \_\_\_\_\_\_, before the Honorable Bret Hillman in Department 7 of the Tulare County Superior Court, located at 221 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93291.

#### 2. What Is This Case About?

The Settlement in this case resolves certain labor claims under California law for non-exempt employees at 37 Facilities that were allegedly connected with Plum Healthcare Group, LLC. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This proposed Settlement in this case also resolves numerous other lawsuits pending in California.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The "Settlement" refers to the Settlement Agreement. This Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. The capitalized terms in this Notice have defined meanings that are set out in detail in the Settlement. To review a copy of the Settlement, please visit the Settlement website at [INSERT URL].

Facilities (and associated Facility Entities) are:

- 1. Arlington Gardens Care Center (Honeyflower Holdings, LLC)
- 2. Auburn Oaks Care Center (Aloe Holdings, LLC)
- 3. Aviara Healthcare Center (Olive Holdings, LLC)
- 4. Bishop Care Center (Ixia Holdings, LLC)
- 5. Canyon Springs Post-Acute (Dragonfruit Holdings, LLC)
- 6. Copper Ridge Care Center (Applewood Operating Company, LLC)
- 7. Cottonwood Canyon Healthcare Center (Koa Holdings, LLC)
- 8. Crystal Cove Care Center (Norway Maple Holdings, LLC)
- 9. Cypress Ridge Care Center (Marjoram Holdings, LLC)
- 10. East Bay Post-Acute (Bilberry Holdings, LLC)
- 11. Garden City Healthcare Center (Fig Holdings, LLC)
- 12. Highland Palms Healthcare Center (Cedar Holdings, LLC)
- 13. Huntington Valley Healthcare Center (Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC)
- 14. La Mesa Healthcare Center (Elm Holdings, LLC)
- 15. La Paloma Healthcare Center (Italian Maple Holdings, LLC)
- 16. Marysville Post-Acute (Melon Holdings, LLC)
- 17. McKinley Park Care Center (Azalea Holdings, LLC)
- 18. Midtown Oaks Post-Acute (White Fir Holdings, LLC)
- 19. Peninsula Post-Acute (Pear Holdings, LLC)
- 20. Pine Creek Care Center (Daisy Holdings, LLC)
- 21. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC
- 22. Poway Healthcare Center (Poplar Holdings, LLC)
- 23. Primrose Post-Acute (Kumquat Holdings, LLC)
- 24. Redlands Healthcare Center (Ash Holdings, LLC)
- 25. Reo Vista Healthcare Center (Lilac Holdings, LLC)
- 26. River Valley Care Center (Flax Holdings, LLC)
- 27. Rock Creek Care Center (Ulmus Holdings, LLC)
- 28. Roseville Care Center (Crocus Holdings, LLC)
- 29. Sacramento Post-Acute (Oleander Holdings, LLC)
- 30. San Diego Post-Acute Center (Pepperbush Holdings, LLC)
- 31. Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center (Jujube Holdings, LLC)
- 32. Trellis Chino (Macadamia Holdings, LLC)
- 33. University Care Center (Birch Holdings, LLC)
- 34. Western Slope Health Center (Rosebud Holdings, LLC)
- 35. White Blossom Care Center (Hawthorne Holdings, LLC)
- 36. Whitney Oaks Care Center (Queen Ann's Lace Holdings, LLC)
- 37. Yuba City Post-Acute (Guava Holdings, LLC)

This case alleges that hourly-paid, non-exempt individuals who worked at the Facilities were not paid for all hours that they actually worked (i.e., they worked "off the clock" without pay), inclusive of all minimum wages and overtime. The case also alleges that these workers were not provided compliant meal periods and rest breaks. The case further alleges that these workers were not reimbursed for necessary business expenses that they incurred for their work, were not provided complete and accurate wage statements, and were not paid final wages at the end of employment. The case seeks recovery of unpaid wages, statutory damages, civil penalties under the PAGA, restitution, interest, and attorneys' fees and costs. The claims in this case are brought under California law.

The Plaintiffs in this case are Luci Gillespie, Ileana Suastegui, Trevor Harding, Esther Corona, Joselito Guerrero, and Mildred Arriaga (collectively, the "Plaintiffs"). The Plaintiffs had originally filed eight separate lawsuits around California (the "Actions") and consolidated their claims in this case after reaching the Settlement. The Defendants in this case are Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and various Facility Entities (collectively, "Defendants"). Defendants vehemently deny these allegations and contend that they have legal and factual defenses to these claims, but recognize the risks, distractions, and costs associated with litigation. Further, Plum Healthcare Group, LLC denies that it was a joint employer of any employees of the Facility Entities.

This Settlement is the result of good faith, arms' length negotiations between Plaintiffs and Defendants, through their respective attorneys. Both sides agree that, considering the risks and expenses associated with continued litigation, this Settlement is fair and appropriate under the circumstances and in the best interests of the Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, and the State of California. This Settlement is a compromise and is not an admission of liability on the part of Defendants, the Facilities, or the Facility Entities. The Court has not ruled on the merits of Plaintiffs' claims or Defendants' defenses.

The Settlement Administrator has created a Settlement website, which can be accessed at [INSERT URL]. The Settlement website allows interested persons to view the Settlement, papers filed by Class Counsel to obtain Court approval of the Settlement Agreement, and this Notice (in generic form). The Settlement website also provides contact information for Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator.

#### 3. What Are the Terms of the Settlement?

Defendants have agreed to pay \$10,000,000.00 to settle this case (the "Gross Settlement Amount"). The Settlement also requires the Facilities to make certain changes to their policies and practices regarding meal periods, rest breaks, and timekeeping and payroll (the "Equitable/Injunctive Components" to the Settlement).

Deductions will be made from the Gross Settlement Amount for attorneys' fees and costs for Class Counsel (up to \$3,500,000.00, plus attorneys' costs; see Section 10 below); settlement administration costs (currently estimated at \$\_\_\_\_); Service Awards to the Plaintiffs (up to \$15,000.00 for Plaintiff Guerrero and up to \$10,000.00 each for the other Plaintiffs); and the PAGA Allocation (\$100,000.00).

After deductions of these amounts, the remaining amount (the "Class Net Settlement Amount") will be available to pay monetary Settlement Shares to the Participating Class Members. The PAGA Allocation will be distributed so that the State of California will receive 75%, or \$75,000.00, and the Aggrieved Employees will receive 25%, or \$25,000.00 (the "PAGA Net Settlement Amount").

The Class Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Class Members that do not opt out of the Settlement ("Participating Class Members"). The following persons are "<u>Class Members</u>" and will be eligible to receive a monetary award from the Class Net Settlement Amount: *all current and former non-exempt employees, allegedly employed in California by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity, who worked at any of the Facilities from December 17, 2016 to July 17, 2023, was not subject to an arbitration agreement<sup>3</sup>, and did not release claims under a settlement in any of the Settled Cases.* 

The PAGA Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees. The following persons are "<u>Aggrieved Employees</u>" and will be eligible to receive a monetary award from the PAGA Net Settlement Amount: *all current and former non-exempt employees, allegedly employed in California by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity, who worked at any of the Facilities from January 13, 2020 through [insert date of preliminary approval], was not subject to an arbitration agreement, and did not release claims under a settlement in any of the Settled Cases.* 

Employees at the Facilities that released claims in any of the Settled Cases are not eligible to participate in the Settlement. The "Settled Cases" are the following lawsuits, which are class actions and/or PAGA actions that resulted in settlements:

- *i.* Chace v. Daisy Holdings, LLC (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case. No. 00209613)
- *ii. Grimsley v. Spruce Holdings, LLC* (Tulare County Superior Court, Case. No. VCU275267)
- *iii. D'Antonio v. Fig Holdings, LLC,* (Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case. No. CV-19-4015)
- *iv. Jackson v. White Fir Holdings, et al,* (PAGA) (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case. No. 34-2021-00301656-CU-OE-GDS)
- v. Foxx v. Healthcare Services Group, et al. (PAGA) (Alameda County Superior Court, Case. No. RG21100855)
- vi. Legaspi v. Cucumber Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 20STCV24775)
- vii. Buckmaster v. Pepperbush Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case. No. 37-2020-00023125-CU-OE-CTL)
- viii. Allen v. Kumquat Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 20STCV33311)
- *ix. Cetnarowski v. Melon Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Yuba County Superior Court, Case. No. CVCV21-01007)
- *x. Abarca v. Cantaloupe Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 21STCV08753)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> An arbitration agreement is an agreement between two parties that dictates how they will resolve a legal conflict or dispute between them. When parties agree to mandatory arbitration, legal disputes between them are decided in private arbitration, as opposed to a court provided by the government. A neutral third party, called an arbitrator, hears the evidence, makes legal and factual determinations, and decides each party's claims. When employees sign arbitration agreements, it is typically difficult or impossible for them to bring their claims as part of a class action.

- xi. Jimenez v. Olive Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case. No. 37-2021-00048293-CU-OE-CTL)
- *xii. Anguiano v. Norway Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 97-2021-00041803-CU-OE-CTL).

The Equitable/Injunctive Components of the Settlement require specific changes to operations at the Facilities, and include (but are not limited to) the following:

- The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to not punish or discipline non-exempt employees, or otherwise impose negative employment consequences, when they report that (1) they were not provided with a compliant meal period or rest break, or (2) they were required to work additional hours beyond their scheduled shift time and/or overtime hours.
- The Facilities and Facility Entities will establish a "missed meal period log" and a "missed rest break log" where non-exempt employees can readily report that that were not provided with a full, timely, uninterrupted, off-duty break.
- The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to remedy any issues with their timekeeping and payroll systems so that non-exempt employees are duly and timely paid for all "on the clock" time that they record. All "on the clock" time must be readily viewable by non-exempt employees in the Workday application.
- The Facilities will provide required training for management and supervisors on the California wage and hour laws as alleged in this case, and methods for compliance.
- Management at the Facilities will orally read a notice to all current non-exempt employees (i.e., at a team meeting or similar setting) that summarizes in plain language the wage and hour laws and related protections and obligations, and will inform workers of the "missed meal period log" and the "missed rest break log."

#### 4. How Much Can I Expect to Receive?

# Please see the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award for your estimated Class Settlement Share and/or your estimated PAGA Settlement Share.

All Participating Class Members will receive a *pro rata* share of the Class Net Settlement Amount based on the total number of workweeks that they worked at any Facility during the Class Period (from December 17, 2016 to July 17, 2023), if any ("Class Workweeks").

The total number of Class Workweeks for all Participating Class Members will be added together and the resulting sum will be divided into the Class Net Settlement Amount to reach a per workweek dollar figure. That figure will then be multiplied by each Participating Class Member's Class Workweeks to determine the Participating Class Member's Class Settlement Share.

Additionally, Aggrieved Employees will also receive a *pro rata* share of the PAGA Net Settlement Amount based on the total number of pay periods that they worked at any Facility during the PAGA Period (from January 13, 2020 through [insert date of preliminary approval]), if any ("PAGA Workweeks").

To the extent an individual is both a Participating Class Member and an Aggrieved Employee, their PAGA Settlement Share will be paid separately from, and in addition to, their Class Settlement Share. Any Class Members that validly opt out of the Settlement will still receive a PAGA share and will still release claims under the PAGA.

The enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award provides your Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, in addition to your estimated Class Settlement Share and/or your estimated PAGA Settlement Share, as applicable. If you are not credited with any Class Workweeks, you are not eligible to participate in the Settlement as a Class Member. If you are not credited with any PAGA Pay Periods, you are not eligible to participate in the Settlement as an Aggrieved Employee.

All Class Settlement Share and PAGA Settlement Share determinations will be based on timekeeping, payroll, and/or other records maintained by Defendants, the Facilities, and/or the Facility Entities. The amounts reported on the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award are estimated amounts, and your final share is expected to differ from this amount (i.e., it could be higher or lower) and will be calculated as set forth above.

# Please note that all payments under the Settlement, including Class Settlement Shares and PAGA Settlement Shares, will be paid in three equal installments, approximately 90 days apart.

If you dispute the number of workweeks or pay periods shown on the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, you may produce evidence to the Settlement Administrator establishing the dates you contend to have worked as a non-exempt employee at any of the Facilities as a Class Member or Aggrieved Employee, as applicable. To do so, complete and sign the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, provide an explanation for the basis for your dispute, attach copies of the supporting evidence, and send these items to the Settlement Administrator (*please retain copies of all of these documents for your records*). Unless you present convincing evidence proving you worked more workweeks and/or pay periods than shown by the records maintained by Defendants, the Facilities, and/or the Facility Entities, your Settlement Share(s) will be determined based those records. Any disputes must be postmarked by [INSERT DATE, which is **45 days** from the mailing of this Notice] and should be mailed to [INSERT SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESS]. The Settlement Administrator will notify you of the decision on the dispute.

For tax reporting purposes, Class Settlement Shares to Participating Class Members will be allocated as follows: 10% of each Class Settlement Share (the "Wage Portion") will be treated as a payment in settlement of the Participating Class Member's claims for unpaid wages. The Wage Portion will be reduced by applicable employee-side withholding and deductions, as well as applicable employer-side payroll tax withholding and deductions, and will be reported on Form W-2. The remaining 90% of each Class Settlement Share (the "Non-Wage Portion") will be treated as a payment in settlement of the Participating Class Member's claims for all unreimbursed business expenses, liquidated damages, and penalties. The Non-Wage Portion will not be reduced by tax withholding and deductions, and will be reported on Form 1099. PAGA Settlement Shares to Aggrieved Employees will be allocated 100% as settlement of claims for penalties, will not be reduced by tax withholding and deductions, and will be reported on Form 1099. None of the Parties or attorneys makes any representations concerning the tax consequences of this Settlement or your

participation in it. Class Members and Aggrieved Employees should consult with their own tax advisors concerning the tax consequences of the Settlement.

If you participate in the Settlement, you will be issued three checks, each for one-third of your total Settlement Share. You will have 90 days to cash the checks that will be sent to you, and if not cashed by then, the check will be void. If you do not cash your check in the first or second round of payments, the payment will be reissued to you with the next round of checks. If you do not cash your third check within the 90-day check void period, you will forfeit your payment(s). At the conclusion of the 90-day check void period for the third round of payments, the uncashed checks funds will be redistributed among Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees that cashed their third check, on a *pro rata* basis, provided that the total amount of uncashed checks equals or exceeds \$100,000.00. Any uncashed checks from this second distribution will be paid to the Parties' agreed upon *cy pres* recipient, Legal Aid at Work, subject to the Court's approval in the final approval order.

It is your responsibility to keep a current address on file with the Settlement Administrator to ensure receipt of your Settlement checks. If you fail to keep your address current, you may not receive all of your Settlement checks. You may contact the Settlement Administrator, [name], at [contact information] to update your address.

#### 5. What Are the Releases?

There are separate releases of claims under the Settlement for Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees.

As of the Effective Date (the date by which the Court grants final approval for the Settlement and all appeals (if any) of the approval have been exhausted), all Participating Class Members release the following claims against the Released Parties (defined below):

"Class Released Claims" means any and all any and all demands, rights, liabilities, claims, and/or causes of action against Defendants and the Released Parties during the class period, known or unknown, that are or could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative complaints and/or the notices of claims under the PAGA to the LWDA in any of the Actions. The Class Released Claims include, but are not limited to, claims that any of the Released Parties failed to pay for all hours worked (including, but not limited to, any and all claims related to "off the clock work"); pay minimum wages or overtime compensation; provide compliant meal and rest periods (including but not limited to, providing short, skipped, late, or otherwise deficient meal and rest breaks); reimburse or indemnify employees for necessary business expenses; provide accurate itemized wage statements; and pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees. The Class Released Claims include, but are not limited to, such claims brought under California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 1174(d), 1182.11, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802; California Business and Professions Code sections 17200-17208; the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; and the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. Such claims include claims for wages, statutory penalties, civil penalties, or other relief under the California Labor Code and any other related state or municipal law, relief from

unfair competition under California Business and Professions Code section 17200 et seq.; attorneys' fees and costs; and interest.

As of the Effective Date, all Aggrieved Employees release the following claims against the Released Parties:

"PAGA Released Claims" means any and all any and all demands, rights, liabilities, claims, and/or causes of action under the PAGA against Defendants and the Released Parties during the PAGA Period, known or unknown, that are or could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative complaints and/or the notices of claims under the PAGA to the LWDA in any of the Actions. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, PAGA claims alleging that any of the Released Parties failed to pay for all hours worked (including, but not limited to, any and all claims related to "off the clock work"); pay minimum wages or overtime compensation; provide meal and rest periods (including but not limited to, providing short, skipped, late, or otherwise deficient meal and rest breaks); reimburse or indemnify employees for necessary business expenses; provide accurate itemized wage statements; and pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, such PAGA claims alleging violations of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 1174(d), 1182.11, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802; and the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, claims under the PAGA for civil penalties; attorneys' fees and costs; and interest.

The "Released Parties" means Defendants, the Facilities, and the Facility Entities; any of their present and former parents, subsidiaries, and affiliated companies or entities; their respective officers, directors, employees, partners, shareholders and agents; and any other successors, assigns and legal representatives and related persons and entities. The Released Parties include, but are not limited to, Providence Group, Inc. and Providence Administrative Consulting Services.

#### 6. What Are My Rights?

Your right and options under the Settlement depend on whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both. Please see Section 4, above, and the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to determine whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both. As a general matter, only Class Members are permitted to opt-out or object. If you are only an Aggrieved Employee under the Settlement, you are not permitted to opt-out or object. Within this framework, the following options are available.

• **Do Nothing**: (1) If you are a Class Member and do not timely and validly opt-out, you will automatically become a Participating Class Member and receive your Class Settlement Share and will be bound by the Settlement including its release provisions for Participating Class Members. (2) If you are an Aggrieved Employee and do nothing, you will be paid your PAGA Settlement Share and will be bound by the Settlement including its release provisions for Aggrieved Employees. You may utilize the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to provide address changes to the Settlement Administrator (please retain a copy for your records).

• **Opt-Out**: If you are Class Member and do not wish to be bound by the Settlement, you must submit a written Request for Exclusion ("opt-out"), postmarked by [INSERT DATE, which is **45 days** from the mailing of this Notice]. The Request for Exclusion must contain your full name, address, telephone number, email address (if applicable), last four digits of your social security number, and must be signed individually by you. No Request for Exclusion must be sent by mail to the Settlement Administrator at [INSERT SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESS].

Any Class Member who opts out of the Settlement will not be entitled to any Class Settlement Share, will not be bound by the Released Claims, and will not have any right to object, appeal or comment on the Settlement.

**However, Class Members may not opt out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement**. Thus, Class Members that are also Aggrieved Employees will still receive their PAGA Settlement Share and will still be subject to the release of PAGA claims under the Settlement even if they opt out.

If you are ONLY an Aggrieved Employee, and not a Class Member, you are not permitted to opt out of the Settlement.

• **Object**: If you are Class Member and wish to object to the Settlement, you may submit a written statement objecting to the Settlement by [INSERT DATE, which is **45 days** from the mailing of this Notice]. The statement must state the factual and legal grounds for your objection to the settlement. The statement must state your full name, address, telephone number, and email address (if applicable), and must be signed by you or your attorney. The postmark date of mailing to the Settlement Administrator shall be the exclusive means for determining that an objection is timely mailed.

You may also, if you wish, appear at the Final Approval Hearing to discuss your objection with the Court and the parties to the lawsuit. Your written objection should indicate whether you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing. Objections will only be considered if the Class Member has not opted out of the Settlement.

If you are ONLY an Aggrieved Employee, and not a Class Member, you are not permitted to object to the Settlement.

#### 7. How Do I Appear at the Final Approval Hearing?

If you do not opt out of the Settlement, you may appear at the Final Approval Hearing. You do not have to attend the Final Approval Hearing, but you may do so at your own expense. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary. Please see Section 1, above, for the date, time, and location of the Final Approval Hearing.

#### 8. Can Defendants Retaliate Against Me for Participating in this Settlement?

No. Your decision as to whether or not to participate in this Settlement will in no way affect your work or employment, or future work or employment, with Defendants, the Facilities, or the Facility

Entities. It is unlawful for Defendants, the Facilities, or the Facility Entities to take any adverse action against you as a result of your participation in this Settlement.

# 9. Who Are the Attorneys Representing Plaintiffs, Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees ?

Plaintiffs, Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees are represented by the following attorneys acting as Class Counsel:

Carolyn H. Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon **SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP** 2000 Powell Street, Suite 1400 Emeryville, CA 94608 Telephone: (800) 689-0024 Facsimile: (415) 421-7105 ccottrell@schneiderwallace.com ccohen@schneiderwallace.com Edwin Aiwazian LAWYERS *for* JUSTICE PC 410 W. Arden Avenue, Suite 203 Glendale, CA 91203 Telephone: (818) 265-1020 edwin@calljustice.com

Defendants are represented by the following attorneys:

Grace Y. Horoupian Victor T. Xu Kristina N. Buan FISHER & PHILLIPS, LLP 2050 Main St., Ste. 1000 Irvine, CA 92614 Tel: (949) 851-2424 Fax: (949) 851-0152 ghoroupian@fisherphillips.com vxu@fisherphillips.com kbaun@fisherphillips.com

#### 10. How Will the Attorneys for the Class Be Paid?

Class Counsel will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount of \$10,000,000.00. You do not have to pay the attorneys who represent the Class. The Settlement provides that Class Counsel will receive attorneys' fees not to exceed 35% of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$3,500,000.00) plus their out-of-pocket costs, currently estimated at \$\_\_\_\_\_. The amount of attorneys' fees and costs awarded will be determined by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing. Class Counsel, at their option, may also apply to the court in any of the Actions for further attorneys' fees and costs associated with obtaining and monitoring the Equitable/Injunctive Components of the Settlement, in the amount of up to an additional 35% of the valuation of the equitable/injunctive relief, and Defendants will not oppose their request.

#### 11. Where Can I Get More Information?

If you have questions about this Notice, or the Settlement, or if you did not receive this Notice in the mail and you believe that you are or may be a member of the Settlement, you should contact the Class Counsel. You may contact the Settlement Administrator at [insert phone number] if you have an address change or routine inquiry.

This Notice is only a summary. For the precise terms and conditions of the Settlement, please see the full Class Action Settlement Agreement, available at the Settlement website at [INSERT URL]. You may also access the full Settlement Agreement, as well as the pleadings and other records in this litigation: (a) by contacting Class Counsel at the contact information listed above; or (b) in person at the Clerk's Office, Tulare County Superior Court, located at 221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 201, Visalia, CA 93291, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding Court holidays.

PLEASE DO <u>NOT</u> CONTACT THE COURT, THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE JUDGE, OR DEFENDANTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OR THIS CASE.

### <u>EXHIBIT C</u> [NOTICE OF ESTIMATED SETTLEMENT AWARD]

#### NOTICE OF ESTIMATED SETTLEMENT AWARD

*Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC* Superior Court of California, County of Tulare, Case No. VCU285376

This Notice of Estimated Settlement Award provides your estimated Class Settlement Share and/or your estimated PAGA Settlement Share. It also provides your Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, as applicable, and the name and address to which your payments will be issued. You may use this form to submit (1) disputes regarding Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, (2) name or address changes, or both.

YOUR ESTIMATED CLASS SETTLEMENT SHARE: \$\_\_\_\_\_ YOUR CLASS WORKWEEKS: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR ESTIMATED PAGA SETTLEMENT SHARE: \$\_\_\_\_\_ YOUR PAGA PAY PERIODS: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Workweeks are the total number of workweeks that you worked as a non-exempt employee at any Facility from December 17, 2016 through July 17, 2023. PAGA Pay Periods are the total number of pay periods that you worked as a non-exempt employee at any Facility from January 13, 2020 through [insert date of preliminary approval]. Your estimated Class Settlement Share and/or your estimated PAGA Settlement Share is based on corporate and business records maintained by Defendants, the Facilities, and/or the Facility Entities. The amounts reported here are estimated amounts, and your final share is expected to differ from this amount (i.e., it could be higher or lower).

Please note that you may not be eligible for both a Class Settlement Share and a PAGA Settlement Share. If you have zero (0) Class Workweeks as reported above, you are not eligible to participate in the Settlement as Class Member and you will not receive a Class Settlement Share. If you have zero (0) PAGA Pay Periods as reported above, you are not eligible to participate in the Settlement as an Aggrieved Employee and you will not receive a PAGA Settlement Share.

#### YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS

Please Make any Name/Address Changes Here:

«First» «Last»	
«Address1»	
«Address2»	
«City»	
«State»	
«Zip»	

#### I. IF YOU AGREE WITH THE INFORMATION ABOVE

If you believe the number of Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods listed above is/are correct, and you do not have any changes for your name or address, <u>you do NOT need to return</u> or otherwise take any action in response to this Notice of Estimated Settlement Award.

#### II. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE NAME OR ADDRESS CHANGES

To submit name or address changes, write in the updated name or address, print and sign your name, provide the date, and return this Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to the Settlement Administrator at the address below by [INSERT DATE]. Please be sure to retain a copy of this Notice of Estimated Settlement Award for your records.

#### III. IF YOU DISPUTE YOUR CLASS WORKWEEKS AND/OR PAGA PAY PERIODS

If you believe the Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods specified above is incorrect, check the appropriate box(es) below, write in the number of Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods you contend is correct, print and sign your name, insert the date, and, by [INSERT DATE], send this Notice of Estimated Settlement Award and supporting documentation to the Settlement Administrator at the address below. Please be sure to retain a copy of this Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, and any supporting documentation you submit, for your records.

The Settlement Administrator and Counsel for the Parties will resolve any dispute based upon records maintained by Defendants, the Facilities, and/or the Facility Entities and any documents and information you provide. Please be advised that the Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods specified above are presumed to be correct unless the documents you submit contain convincing evidence otherwise.

I disagree with the Class Workweeks above and have submitted supporting documentation. I contend that my correct Class Workweeks from December 17, 2016 through July 17, 2023 is:

I disagree with the PAGA Pay Periods above and have submitted supporting documentation. I contend that my correct PAGA Pay Periods from January 13, 2020 through [insert date of preliminary approval] is:

\_\_\_\_\_·

#### **IV. ATTESTATION**

If I am disputing my Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods provided to me in this notice is not correct, that the corrected Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods I provide are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that I have submitted documentation establishing the corrected Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods.

If I am submitting name or address changes, I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that I am authorized to make the name or address changes that I specify in this Notice of Estimated Settlement Award.

Sign your name here

Print the date here

Print your name here

#### IF NECESSARY, MAIL THIS FORM AND ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO: [INSERT SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR NAME AND ADDRESS]

#### PLEASE RETAIN A COPY OF THIS NOTICE AND ANY DOCUMENTATION YOU SEND TO THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR FOR YOUR RECORDS

Information regarding the case, the Settlement, and your options is contained in the accompanying Notice of Class Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing.

### <u>EXHIBIT D</u> [WAGE AND HOUR BULLETIN]

### CALIFORNIA MISSED MEAL OR REST BREAK LOG INSTRUCTIONS AND SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA WAGE LAWS (FOR NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEES ONLY)

At [Entity Name] (the 'Company') we know you work hard every day. We want to ensure that you are taking the required California Meal and Rest Breaks to rest and refresh. We understand it gets busy at times and it's difficult to step away, and that's why we want to ensure that we know when you are unable to take a fully compliant meal break and/or rest break. Please refer to the following instructions for reporting missed, late, or interrupted meal and rest breaks.

When "clocking out" at the end of your shift, you will be prompted at the time clock to confirm that a compliant meal and rest break was taken/provided:

1) If you work more than five hours in a workday, you will be provided an unpaid, uninterrupted thirty (30) minute meal period no later than the end of your fifth hour of work and will be required to "clock out" from the timekeeping system. If you work fewer than six hours in a workday, you may mutually agree with your supervisor to waive the meal period.

If you work more than 10 hours in a workday, you will be provided a second unpaid, uninterrupted thirty (30) minute meal period no later than the end of your tenth hour of work and will be required to "clock out" from the timekeeping system. Depending on your occupation, if you work no more than 12 hours in a workday and have taken the first meal period, you may mutually agree with your supervisor to waive the second meal period.

# If you were unable to take one or more fully compliant meal period that you were entitled to, you should select that you were not provided with a meal period. You will then be asked to confirm your response and the Company's timekeeping system will automatically log the missed meal period.

2) You will be provided paid, 10-minute rest periods based on total hours worked daily and you are not required to "clock out" from the timekeeping system. You will receive 10 minutes of uninterrupted rest time for every four hours of work, or major portion of each four hours worked.

# If you were unable to take one or more fully compliant rest breaks that you were entitled to, you should select that you were not provided with a rest period. You will then be asked to confirm your response and the Company's timekeeping system will automatically log the missed rest period.

California law requires employers to provide compliant meal and rest breaks to employees, and employers can be required to pay an additional hour of pay as a penalty when this does not occur. California law provides numerous additional protections for workers.

Employers must pay employees for all of the hours that they work. This includes all time that employees spend on work activities and all time that employees are subject to the control of the employer. It also includes additional time worked by employees beyond their scheduled hours.

Employers must pay at least the California minimum wage for all hours worked, and additionally must pay overtime and double time rates where necessary. Generally, employers must pay:

- One and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of eight hours up to and including 12 hours in any workday, and for the first eight hours worked on the seventh consecutive day of work in a workweek; and
- Double the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 12 hours in any workday and for all hours worked in excess of eight on the seventh consecutive day of work in a workweek.

There are, however, a number of exemptions and exceptions from the California overtime law, some of which may apply to workers in the healthcare industry. Further information is available at the website for the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations.

Additionally, employers must provide reimbursement for work-related expenses that are incurred by their employees. To be eligible for reimbursement, the expense must be both reasonable and necessary for the employee to do his or her job, and incurred as a direct consequence of his or her job duties.

Please contact your supervisor if you have any questions regarding the reporting process for missed meal and rest breaks. If you are unable to record a compliant meal or rest break through the Company's timekeeping system, or if you believe that you have not been accurately paid for any work you performed, or if you are experiencing other issues, please notify your supervisor as soon as possible.

#### AMENDMENT TO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Plaintiffs Luci Gillespie; Ileana Suastegui; Trevor Harding; Esther Corona; Joselito Guerrero; and Mildred Arriaga (together, "Plaintiffs") and Defendants Plum Healthcare Group, LLC; Flax Holdings, LLC d/b/a River Valley Care Center; Gladiolus Holdings, LLC d/b/a The Pines at Placerville Healthcare Center; Jujube Holdings, LLC d/b/a Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center; Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC d/b/a Huntington Valley Healthcare Center; Rosebud Holdings, LLC d/b/a Western Slope Health Center; and Olive Holdings, LLC d/b/a Aviara Healthcare Center (together, "Defendants") hereby enter into this Amendment to the Settlement Agreement ("Settlement," or "Agreement") that the Parties executed on or about February 2, 2024 and submitted to the Court on February 8, 2024.

The Parties make the following amendments to the Settlement to extend the notice period for Class Members to submit objections, opt-outs, and disputes regarding workweeks from 45 to 60 days:

1. Paragraph III.E.3.a (on pages 18-19 of the Agreement), regarding objections to the Settlement, is amended such that Class Members who wish to object to any term of the Settlement must mail their written objections to the Settlement Administrator not later than 60 days after the Class Notice Packets are first sent by the Settlement Administrator via U.S. Mail and/or email.

2. Paragraph III.E.3.b (on page 19 of the Agreement), regarding opt-outs from the Settlement, is amended such that Class Members who wish to exclude themselves from the Settlement must mail their Exclusion Letters to the Settlement Administrator not later than 60 days after the Class Notice Packets are first sent by the Settlement Administrator via U.S. Mail and/or email.

3. Paragraph III.E.4 (on pages 19-20 of the Agreement), regarding disputes over Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, is amended such that Class Members and/or Aggrieved Employees who wish to dispute the number of Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods shown on their Notice of Estimated Settlement Award must mail their disputes (with supporting evidence) to the Settlement Administrator not later than 60 days after the Class Notice Packets are first sent by the Settlement Administrator via U.S. Mail and/or email.

4. The Notice of Class Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing – attached to the Agreement as Exhibit B – is amended in Sections 4 and 6 to indicate that the notice period for Class Members to submit objections, opt-outs, and disputes regarding Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods is 60 days. The Notice of Class Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing attached hereto as Exhibit B incorporates these amendments and shall replace the original Exhibit B attached to the Agreement.

The Parties enter into this Amendment through their respective counsel of record pursuant to Paragraph III.K.3 of the Agreement. This Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts.

March 20, 2024

SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP

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Carolyn Hunt Cottrell Scott L. Gordon Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: <u>March 28, 2024</u>

LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE, PC

Whini Aninjn\_

Edwin Aiwazian Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: <u>03/20/24</u>

FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

Grace Y. Horoupian Victor Xu Kristina Buan Attorneys for Defendant

# **Exhibit B**

#### *Luci Gillespie and Ileana Suastegui v. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC* Superior Court of California, County of Tulare, Case No. VCU285376<sup>1</sup>

#### NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND FINAL APPROVAL HEARING Please read this notice carefully

You are receiving this Notice of Class Action Settlement and Final Approval Hearing ("Notice") because the records of Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity show you performed work as a non-exempt employee at one of 37 healthcare facilities in California ("Facilities"), identified in Section 2 below, between December 17, 2016 and July 17, 2023. Because you fit this definition, <u>you may be entitled to receive money from a Settlement<sup>2</sup> in this case, as described below</u>.

#### 1. Why Should You Read This Notice?

This Notice explains what this case is about; your right to share in the monetary proceeds of this Settlement; how much you can expect to receive; the claims that are being resolved; and your options. It explains that there are two groups of workers that are covered by the Settlement: (1) <u>Class Members</u>, for whom the Plaintiffs seek damages under the California Labor Code for unpaid wages (including minimum wages and overtime), missed or non-compliant meal periods and rest breaks, unreimbursed business expenses, and related violations; and (2) <u>Aggrieved Employees</u>, for whom Plaintiffs seek civil penalties (fines) that are allegedly owed to the State of California under the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") for the labor violations alleged.

Your rights and options under the Settlement depend on whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both. Please carefully review this Notice and the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to determine whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both.

The Superior Court of California, County of Tulare, has preliminarily approved the Settlement as fair and reasonable. The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2024 at \_\_\_\_\_\_, before the Honorable Bret Hillman in Department 7 of the Tulare County Superior Court, located at 221 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93291.

#### 2. What Is This Case About?

The Settlement in this case resolves certain labor claims under California law for non-exempt employees at 37 Facilities that were allegedly connected with Plum Healthcare Group, LLC. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This proposed Settlement in this case also resolves numerous other lawsuits pending in California.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The "Settlement" refers to the Settlement Agreement. This Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. The capitalized terms in this Notice have defined meanings that are set out in detail in the Settlement. To review a copy of the Settlement, please visit the Settlement website at [INSERT URL].

Facilities (and associated Facility Entities) are:

- 1. Arlington Gardens Care Center (Honeyflower Holdings, LLC)
- 2. Auburn Oaks Care Center (Aloe Holdings, LLC)
- 3. Aviara Healthcare Center (Olive Holdings, LLC)
- 4. Bishop Care Center (Ixia Holdings, LLC)
- 5. Canyon Springs Post-Acute (Dragonfruit Holdings, LLC)
- 6. Copper Ridge Care Center (Applewood Operating Company, LLC)
- 7. Cottonwood Canyon Healthcare Center (Koa Holdings, LLC)
- 8. Crystal Cove Care Center (Norway Maple Holdings, LLC)
- 9. Cypress Ridge Care Center (Marjoram Holdings, LLC)
- 10. East Bay Post-Acute (Bilberry Holdings, LLC)
- 11. Garden City Healthcare Center (Fig Holdings, LLC)
- 12. Highland Palms Healthcare Center (Cedar Holdings, LLC)
- 13. Huntington Valley Healthcare Center (Douglas Fir Holdings, LLC)
- 14. La Mesa Healthcare Center (Elm Holdings, LLC)
- 15. La Paloma Healthcare Center (Italian Maple Holdings, LLC)
- 16. Marysville Post-Acute (Melon Holdings, LLC)
- 17. McKinley Park Care Center (Azalea Holdings, LLC)
- 18. Midtown Oaks Post-Acute (White Fir Holdings, LLC)
- 19. Peninsula Post-Acute (Pear Holdings, LLC)
- 20. Pine Creek Care Center (Daisy Holdings, LLC)
- 21. Plum Healthcare Group, LLC
- 22. Poway Healthcare Center (Poplar Holdings, LLC)
- 23. Primrose Post-Acute (Kumquat Holdings, LLC)
- 24. Redlands Healthcare Center (Ash Holdings, LLC)
- 25. Reo Vista Healthcare Center (Lilac Holdings, LLC)
- 26. River Valley Care Center (Flax Holdings, LLC)
- 27. Rock Creek Care Center (Ulmus Holdings, LLC)
- 28. Roseville Care Center (Crocus Holdings, LLC)
- 29. Sacramento Post-Acute (Oleander Holdings, LLC)
- 30. San Diego Post-Acute Center (Pepperbush Holdings, LLC)
- 31. Sunnyvale Post-Acute Center (Jujube Holdings, LLC)
- 32. Trellis Chino (Macadamia Holdings, LLC)
- 33. University Care Center (Birch Holdings, LLC)
- 34. Western Slope Health Center (Rosebud Holdings, LLC)
- 35. White Blossom Care Center (Hawthorne Holdings, LLC)
- 36. Whitney Oaks Care Center (Queen Ann's Lace Holdings, LLC)
- 37. Yuba City Post-Acute (Guava Holdings, LLC)

This case alleges that hourly-paid, non-exempt individuals who worked at the Facilities were not paid for all hours that they actually worked (i.e., they worked "off the clock" without pay), inclusive of all minimum wages and overtime. The case also alleges that these workers were not provided compliant meal periods and rest breaks. The case further alleges that these workers were not reimbursed for necessary business expenses that they incurred for their work, were not provided complete and accurate wage statements, and were not paid final wages at the end of employment. The case seeks recovery of unpaid wages, statutory damages, civil penalties under the PAGA, restitution, interest, and attorneys' fees and costs. The claims in this case are brought under California law.

The Plaintiffs in this case are Luci Gillespie, Ileana Suastegui, Trevor Harding, Esther Corona, Joselito Guerrero, and Mildred Arriaga (collectively, the "Plaintiffs"). The Plaintiffs had originally filed eight separate lawsuits around California (the "Actions") and consolidated their claims in this case after reaching the Settlement. The Defendants in this case are Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and various Facility Entities (collectively, "Defendants"). Defendants vehemently deny these allegations and contend that they have legal and factual defenses to these claims, but recognize the risks, distractions, and costs associated with litigation. Further, Plum Healthcare Group, LLC denies that it was a joint employer of any employees of the Facility Entities.

This Settlement is the result of good faith, arms' length negotiations between Plaintiffs and Defendants, through their respective attorneys. Both sides agree that, considering the risks and expenses associated with continued litigation, this Settlement is fair and appropriate under the circumstances and in the best interests of the Class Members, Aggrieved Employees, and the State of California. This Settlement is a compromise and is not an admission of liability on the part of Defendants, the Facilities, or the Facility Entities. The Court has not ruled on the merits of Plaintiffs' claims or Defendants' defenses.

The Settlement Administrator has created a Settlement website, which can be accessed at [INSERT URL]. The Settlement website allows interested persons to view the Settlement, papers filed by Class Counsel to obtain Court approval of the Settlement Agreement, and this Notice (in generic form). The Settlement website also provides contact information for Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator.

#### 3. What Are the Terms of the Settlement?

Defendants have agreed to pay \$10,000,000.00 to settle this case (the "Gross Settlement Amount"). The Settlement also requires the Facilities to make certain changes to their policies and practices regarding meal periods, rest breaks, and timekeeping and payroll (the "Equitable/Injunctive Components" to the Settlement).

Deductions will be made from the Gross Settlement Amount for attorneys' fees and costs for Class Counsel (up to \$3,500,000.00, plus attorneys' costs; see Section 10 below); settlement administration costs (currently estimated at \$\_\_\_\_); Service Awards to the Plaintiffs (up to \$15,000.00 for Plaintiff Guerrero and up to \$10,000.00 each for the other Plaintiffs); and the PAGA Allocation (\$100,000.00).

After deductions of these amounts, the remaining amount (the "Class Net Settlement Amount") will be available to pay monetary Settlement Shares to the Participating Class Members. The PAGA Allocation will be distributed so that the State of California will receive 75%, or \$75,000.00, and the Aggrieved Employees will receive 25%, or \$25,000.00 (the "PAGA Net Settlement Amount").

The Class Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Class Members that do not opt out of the Settlement ("Participating Class Members"). The following persons are "<u>Class Members</u>" and will be eligible to receive a monetary award from the Class Net Settlement Amount: *all current and former non-exempt employees, allegedly employed in California by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity, who worked at any of the Facilities from December 17, 2016 to July 17, 2023, was not subject to an arbitration agreement<sup>3</sup>, and did not release claims under a settlement in any of the Settled Cases.* 

The PAGA Net Settlement Amount will be distributed to Aggrieved Employees. The following persons are "<u>Aggrieved Employees</u>" and will be eligible to receive a monetary award from the PAGA Net Settlement Amount: *all current and former non-exempt employees, allegedly employed in California by Plum Healthcare Group, LLC and/or the applicable Facility Entity, who worked at any of the Facilities from January 13, 2020 through [insert date of preliminary approval], was not subject to an arbitration agreement, and did not release claims under a settlement in any of the Settled Cases.* 

Employees at the Facilities that released claims in any of the Settled Cases are not eligible to participate in the Settlement. The "Settled Cases" are the following lawsuits, which are class actions and/or PAGA actions that resulted in settlements:

- *i.* Chace v. Daisy Holdings, LLC (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case. No. 00209613)
- *ii. Grimsley v. Spruce Holdings, LLC* (Tulare County Superior Court, Case. No. VCU275267)
- *iii. D'Antonio v. Fig Holdings, LLC,* (Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case. No. CV-19-4015)
- *iv. Jackson v. White Fir Holdings, et al,* (PAGA) (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case. No. 34-2021-00301656-CU-OE-GDS)
- v. Foxx v. Healthcare Services Group, et al. (PAGA) (Alameda County Superior Court, Case. No. RG21100855)
- vi. Legaspi v. Cucumber Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 20STCV24775)
- vii. Buckmaster v. Pepperbush Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case. No. 37-2020-00023125-CU-OE-CTL)
- viii. Allen v. Kumquat Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 20STCV33311)
- *ix. Cetnarowski v. Melon Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Yuba County Superior Court, Case. No. CVCV21-01007)
- *x. Abarca v. Cantaloupe Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case. No. 21STCV08753)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> An arbitration agreement is an agreement between two parties that dictates how they will resolve a legal conflict or dispute between them. When parties agree to mandatory arbitration, legal disputes between them are decided in private arbitration, as opposed to a court provided by the government. A neutral third party, called an arbitrator, hears the evidence, makes legal and factual determinations, and decides each party's claims. When employees sign arbitration agreements, it is typically difficult or impossible for them to bring their claims as part of a class action.

- xi. Jimenez v. Olive Holdings, LLC (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case. No. 37-2021-00048293-CU-OE-CTL)
- *xii. Anguiano v. Norway Holdings, LLC* (PAGA) (San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 97-2021-00041803-CU-OE-CTL).

The Equitable/Injunctive Components of the Settlement require specific changes to operations at the Facilities, and include (but are not limited to) the following:

- The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to not punish or discipline non-exempt employees, or otherwise impose negative employment consequences, when they report that (1) they were not provided with a compliant meal period or rest break, or (2) they were required to work additional hours beyond their scheduled shift time and/or overtime hours.
- The Facilities and Facility Entities will establish a "missed meal period log" and a "missed rest break log" where non-exempt employees can readily report that that were not provided with a full, timely, uninterrupted, off-duty break.
- The Facilities and Facility Entities agree to remedy any issues with their timekeeping and payroll systems so that non-exempt employees are duly and timely paid for all "on the clock" time that they record. All "on the clock" time must be readily viewable by non-exempt employees in the Workday application.
- The Facilities will provide required training for management and supervisors on the California wage and hour laws as alleged in this case, and methods for compliance.
- Management at the Facilities will orally read a notice to all current non-exempt employees (i.e., at a team meeting or similar setting) that summarizes in plain language the wage and hour laws and related protections and obligations, and will inform workers of the "missed meal period log" and the "missed rest break log."

#### 4. How Much Can I Expect to Receive?

# Please see the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award for your estimated Class Settlement Share and/or your estimated PAGA Settlement Share.

All Participating Class Members will receive a *pro rata* share of the Class Net Settlement Amount based on the total number of workweeks that they worked at any Facility during the Class Period (from December 17, 2016 to July 17, 2023), if any ("Class Workweeks").

The total number of Class Workweeks for all Participating Class Members will be added together and the resulting sum will be divided into the Class Net Settlement Amount to reach a per workweek dollar figure. That figure will then be multiplied by each Participating Class Member's Class Workweeks to determine the Participating Class Member's Class Settlement Share.

Additionally, Aggrieved Employees will also receive a *pro rata* share of the PAGA Net Settlement Amount based on the total number of pay periods that they worked at any Facility during the PAGA Period (from January 13, 2020 through [insert date of preliminary approval]), if any ("PAGA Workweeks").

To the extent an individual is both a Participating Class Member and an Aggrieved Employee, their PAGA Settlement Share will be paid separately from, and in addition to, their Class Settlement Share. Any Class Members that validly opt out of the Settlement will still receive a PAGA share and will still release claims under the PAGA.

The enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award provides your Class Workweeks and/or PAGA Pay Periods, in addition to your estimated Class Settlement Share and/or your estimated PAGA Settlement Share, as applicable. If you are not credited with any Class Workweeks, you are not eligible to participate in the Settlement as a Class Member. If you are not credited with any PAGA Pay Periods, you are not eligible to participate in the Settlement as an Aggrieved Employee.

All Class Settlement Share and PAGA Settlement Share determinations will be based on timekeeping, payroll, and/or other records maintained by Defendants, the Facilities, and/or the Facility Entities. The amounts reported on the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award are estimated amounts, and your final share is expected to differ from this amount (i.e., it could be higher or lower) and will be calculated as set forth above.

# Please note that all payments under the Settlement, including Class Settlement Shares and PAGA Settlement Shares, will be paid in three equal installments, approximately 90 days apart.

If you dispute the number of workweeks or pay periods shown on the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, you may produce evidence to the Settlement Administrator establishing the dates you contend to have worked as a non-exempt employee at any of the Facilities as a Class Member or Aggrieved Employee, as applicable. To do so, complete and sign the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award, provide an explanation for the basis for your dispute, attach copies of the supporting evidence, and send these items to the Settlement Administrator (*please retain copies of all of these documents for your records*). Unless you present convincing evidence proving you worked more workweeks and/or pay periods than shown by the records maintained by Defendants, the Facilities, and/or the Facility Entities, your Settlement Share(s) will be determined based those records. Any disputes must be postmarked by [INSERT DATE, which is **60 days** from the mailing of this Notice] and should be mailed to [INSERT SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESS]. The Settlement Administrator will notify you of the decision on the dispute.

For tax reporting purposes, Class Settlement Shares to Participating Class Members will be allocated as follows: 10% of each Class Settlement Share (the "Wage Portion") will be treated as a payment in settlement of the Participating Class Member's claims for unpaid wages. The Wage Portion will be reduced by applicable employee-side withholding and deductions, as well as applicable employer-side payroll tax withholding and deductions, and will be reported on Form W-2. The remaining 90% of each Class Settlement Share (the "Non-Wage Portion") will be treated as a payment in settlement of the Participating Class Member's claims for all unreimbursed business expenses, liquidated damages, and penalties. The Non-Wage Portion will not be reduced by tax withholding and deductions, and will be reported on Form 1099. PAGA Settlement Shares to Aggrieved Employees will be allocated 100% as settlement of claims for penalties, will not be reduced by tax withholding and deductions, and will be reported on Form 1099. None of the Parties or attorneys makes any representations concerning the tax consequences of this Settlement or your

participation in it. Class Members and Aggrieved Employees should consult with their own tax advisors concerning the tax consequences of the Settlement.

If you participate in the Settlement, you will be issued three checks, each for one-third of your total Settlement Share. You will have 90 days to cash the checks that will be sent to you, and if not cashed by then, the check will be void. If you do not cash your check in the first or second round of payments, the payment will be reissued to you with the next round of checks. If you do not cash your third check within the 90-day check void period, you will forfeit your payment(s). At the conclusion of the 90-day check void period for the third round of payments, the uncashed checks funds will be redistributed among Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees that cashed their third check, on a *pro rata* basis, provided that the total amount of uncashed checks equals or exceeds \$100,000.00. Any uncashed checks from this second distribution will be paid to the Parties' agreed upon *cy pres* recipient, Legal Aid at Work, subject to the Court's approval in the final approval order.

It is your responsibility to keep a current address on file with the Settlement Administrator to ensure receipt of your Settlement checks. If you fail to keep your address current, you may not receive all of your Settlement checks. You may contact the Settlement Administrator, [name], at [contact information] to update your address.

#### 5. What Are the Releases?

There are separate releases of claims under the Settlement for Participating Class Members and Aggrieved Employees.

As of the Effective Date (the date by which the Court grants final approval for the Settlement and all appeals (if any) of the approval have been exhausted), all Participating Class Members release the following claims against the Released Parties (defined below):

"Class Released Claims" means any and all any and all demands, rights, liabilities, claims, and/or causes of action against Defendants and the Released Parties during the class period, known or unknown, that are or could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative complaints and/or the notices of claims under the PAGA to the LWDA in any of the Actions. The Class Released Claims include, but are not limited to, claims that any of the Released Parties failed to pay for all hours worked (including, but not limited to, any and all claims related to "off the clock work"); pay minimum wages or overtime compensation; provide compliant meal and rest periods (including but not limited to, providing short, skipped, late, or otherwise deficient meal and rest breaks); reimburse or indemnify employees for necessary business expenses; provide accurate itemized wage statements; and pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees. The Class Released Claims include, but are not limited to, such claims brought under California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 1174(d), 1182.11, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802; California Business and Professions Code sections 17200-17208; the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders; and the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. Such claims include claims for wages, statutory penalties, civil penalties, or other relief under the California Labor Code and any other related state or municipal law, relief from

unfair competition under California Business and Professions Code section 17200 et seq.; attorneys' fees and costs; and interest.

As of the Effective Date, all Aggrieved Employees release the following claims against the Released Parties:

"PAGA Released Claims" means any and all any and all demands, rights, liabilities, claims, and/or causes of action under the PAGA against Defendants and the Released Parties during the PAGA Period, known or unknown, that are or could have been alleged based on the facts alleged in the operative complaints and/or the notices of claims under the PAGA to the LWDA in any of the Actions. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, PAGA claims alleging that any of the Released Parties failed to pay for all hours worked (including, but not limited to, any and all claims related to "off the clock work"); pay minimum wages or overtime compensation; provide meal and rest periods (including but not limited to, providing short, skipped, late, or otherwise deficient meal and rest breaks); reimburse or indemnify employees for necessary business expenses; provide accurate itemized wage statements; and pay all wages due to discharged and quitting employees. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, such PAGA claims alleging violations of California Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 256, 510, 512, 1174(d), 1182.11, 1182.12, 1194, 1194.2, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802; and the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders. The PAGA Released Claims include, but are not limited to, claims under the PAGA for civil penalties; attorneys' fees and costs; and interest.

The "Released Parties" means Defendants, the Facilities, and the Facility Entities; any of their present and former parents, subsidiaries, and affiliated companies or entities; their respective officers, directors, employees, partners, shareholders and agents; and any other successors, assigns and legal representatives and related persons and entities. The Released Parties include, but are not limited to, Providence Group, Inc. and Providence Administrative Consulting Services.

#### 6. What Are My Rights?

Your right and options under the Settlement depend on whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both. Please see Section 4, above, and the enclosed Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to determine whether you are a Class Member, an Aggrieved Employee, or both. As a general matter, only Class Members are permitted to opt-out or object. If you are only an Aggrieved Employee under the Settlement, you are not permitted to opt-out or object. Within this framework, the following options are available.

• **Do Nothing**: (1) If you are a Class Member and do not timely and validly opt-out, you will automatically become a Participating Class Member and receive your Class Settlement Share and will be bound by the Settlement including its release provisions for Participating Class Members. (2) If you are an Aggrieved Employee and do nothing, you will be paid your PAGA Settlement Share and will be bound by the Settlement including its release provisions for Aggrieved Employees. You may utilize the Notice of Estimated Settlement Award to provide address changes to the Settlement Administrator (please retain a copy for your records).

• **Opt-Out**: If you are Class Member and do not wish to be bound by the Settlement, you must submit a written Request for Exclusion ("opt-out"), postmarked by [INSERT DATE, which is **60 days** from the mailing of this Notice]. The Request for Exclusion must contain your full name, address, telephone number, email address (if applicable), last four digits of your social security number, and must be signed individually by you. No Request for Exclusion must be sent by mail to the Settlement Administrator at [INSERT SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESS].

Any Class Member who opts out of the Settlement will not be entitled to any Class Settlement Share, will not be bound by the Released Claims, and will not have any right to object, appeal or comment on the Settlement.

**However, Class Members may not opt out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement**. Thus, Class Members that are also Aggrieved Employees will still receive their PAGA Settlement Share and will still be subject to the release of PAGA claims under the Settlement even if they opt out.

If you are ONLY an Aggrieved Employee, and not a Class Member, you are not permitted to opt out of the Settlement.

• **Object**: If you are Class Member and wish to object to the Settlement, you may submit a written statement objecting to the Settlement by [INSERT DATE, which is **60 days** from the mailing of this Notice]. The statement must state the factual and legal grounds for your objection to the settlement. The statement must state your full name, address, telephone number, and email address (if applicable), and must be signed by you or your attorney. The postmark date of mailing to the Settlement Administrator shall be the exclusive means for determining that an objection is timely mailed.

You may also, if you wish, appear at the Final Approval Hearing to discuss your objection with the Court and the parties to the lawsuit. Your written objection should indicate whether you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing. Objections will only be considered if the Class Member has not opted out of the Settlement.

If you are ONLY an Aggrieved Employee, and not a Class Member, you are not permitted to object to the Settlement.

#### 7. How Do I Appear at the Final Approval Hearing?

If you do not opt out of the Settlement, you may appear at the Final Approval Hearing. You do not have to attend the Final Approval Hearing, but you may do so at your own expense. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary. Please see Section 1, above, for the date, time, and location of the Final Approval Hearing.

#### 8. Can Defendants Retaliate Against Me for Participating in this Settlement?

No. Your decision as to whether or not to participate in this Settlement will in no way affect your work or employment, or future work or employment, with Defendants, the Facilities, or the Facility

Entities. It is unlawful for Defendants, the Facilities, or the Facility Entities to take any adverse action against you as a result of your participation in this Settlement.

# 9. Who Are the Attorneys Representing Plaintiffs, Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees ?

Plaintiffs, Class Members, and Aggrieved Employees are represented by the following attorneys acting as Class Counsel:

Carolyn H. Cottrell Caroline N. Cohen Scott L. Gordon **SCHNEIDER WALLACE COTTRELL KONECKY LLP** 2000 Powell Street, Suite 1400 Emeryville, CA 94608 Telephone: (800) 689-0024 Facsimile: (415) 421-7105 ccottrell@schneiderwallace.com ccohen@schneiderwallace.com Edwin Aiwazian LAWYERS *for* JUSTICE PC 410 W. Arden Avenue, Suite 203 Glendale, CA 91203 Telephone: (818) 265-1020 edwin@calljustice.com

Defendants are represented by the following attorneys:

Grace Y. Horoupian Victor T. Xu Kristina N. Buan FISHER & PHILLIPS, LLP 2050 Main St., Ste. 1000 Irvine, CA 92614 Tel: (949) 851-2424 Fax: (949) 851-0152 ghoroupian@fisherphillips.com vxu@fisherphillips.com kbaun@fisherphillips.com

#### 10. How Will the Attorneys for the Class Be Paid?

Class Counsel will be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount of \$10,000,000.00. You do not have to pay the attorneys who represent the Class. The Settlement provides that Class Counsel will receive attorneys' fees not to exceed 35% of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$3,500,000.00) plus their out-of-pocket costs, currently estimated at \$\_\_\_\_\_. The amount of attorneys' fees and costs awarded will be determined by the Court at the Final Approval Hearing. Class Counsel, at their option, may also apply to the court in any of the Actions for further attorneys' fees and costs associated with obtaining and monitoring the Equitable/Injunctive Components of the Settlement, in the amount of up to an additional 35% of the valuation of the equitable/injunctive relief, and Defendants will not oppose their request.

#### 11. Where Can I Get More Information?

If you have questions about this Notice, or the Settlement, or if you did not receive this Notice in the mail and you believe that you are or may be a member of the Settlement, you should contact the Class Counsel. You may contact the Settlement Administrator at [insert phone number] if you have an address change or routine inquiry.

This Notice is only a summary. For the precise terms and conditions of the Settlement, please see the full Class Action Settlement Agreement, available at the Settlement website at [INSERT URL]. You may also access the full Settlement Agreement, as well as the pleadings and other records in this litigation: (a) by contacting Class Counsel at the contact information listed above; or (b) in person at the Clerk's Office, Tulare County Superior Court, located at 221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 201, Visalia, CA 93291, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding Court holidays.

PLEASE DO <u>NOT</u> CONTACT THE COURT, THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE JUDGE, OR DEFENDANTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OR THIS CASE.