1 Kevin Mahoney (SBN: 235367) kmahoney@mahoney-law.net 2 MAHONEY LAW GROUP, APC 249 E. Ocean Blvd., Ste. 814 3 Long Beach, CA 90802 Telephone: (562) 590-5550 4 Facsimile: (562) 590-8400 5 employees similarly situated 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 employees 13

CONFORMED COPY ORIGINAL FILED Superior Court of California County of Los Appeles

JUN 08 2017

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk By: Maria Aguirre, Deputy

Attorneys for Plaintiff JESUS BIBRIESCA and JOSE MOLINA as individuals and on behalf of all

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES-CENTRAL DISTRICT CENTRAL CIVIL WEST

JESUS BIBRIESCA and JOSE MOLINA as individuals and on behalf of all similarly situated

Plaintiff,

V.

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QVEST SANITATION, LLC, SOUTHEAST PERSONNEL LEASING, INC. and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive

Defendants

Case No BC568019

DECLARATION OF KEVIN MAHONEY IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT

Judge:

Hon. Carolyn B. Kuhl

Date: Time: June 26, 2017 10:00 a.m.

Dept.:

309

Complaint Filed:

December 30, 2014

Trial Date:

None Set

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DECLARATION OF KEVIN MAHONEY

I, KEVIN MAHONEY, declare as follows:

- 1. I am an attorney, duly admitted to practice law before the courts in the State of California. Unless otherwise specified, I have personal knowledge of the following facts, and if called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto, without intending to waive any attorney-client privilege.
- 2. I am counsel of record for Plaintiff JESUS BIBRIESCA (hereinafter "Plaintiff" or "Class Representative") in the matter of *Jesus Bibriesca v. Quest Sanitation, LLC, Southeast Personnel Leasing, Inc.*, filed in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, case number BC568019.
- 3. This declaration is submitted in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, filed concurrently here within.

NATURE OF THE CASE

- 4. On December 30, 2014, Plaintiff filed his initial complaint in this action purporting to assert putative class action claims on behalf of himself and all persons similarly situated against Defendants Quest Sanitation, LLC, and Southeast Personnel Leasing, Inc.
- 5. Plaintiff's complaint against Defendants asserts causes of action for: 1) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages; 2) Failure to Provide Meal Periods; 3). Failure to Provide Rest Periods; 4) Failure to Keep Accurate Payroll Records; 5) Failure to Pay Wages Upon Ending Employment; 6) Unfair Competition (Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.); and 7) Failure to Reimburse for Necessary Expenditures (Labor Code § 2802).
- 6. Plaintiff seeks to represent a proposed class defined as: "means any current or former non-exempt employee of Defendant who worked at any time between December 30, 2010 and the court's Preliminary Approval of Class Settlement, and does not opt out."
- 7. Among other things, Plaintiff alleges in his complaint that Defendants failed to meet their obligation to compensate Plaintiff and Plaintiff Class for all hours.
- 8. Defendants contend that they complied with California law and that it paid Plaintiff and Plaintiff Class for all hours worked by Plaintiff and Plaintiff Class as reported on Plaintiff and Plaintiff Class timecards.

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- 9. Among other things, Plaintiff alleges in his complaint that Defendants failed to meet their obligation to provide meal periods to Plaintiff and the class he seeks to represent in violation of Labor Code sections 226.7 and 512.
- 10. Defendants contend that their current meal period policy complies with California law, and that non-exempt employees have been "provided" meal periods in a manner consistent with applicable law.
- 11. Among other things, Plaintiff alleges in his complaint that Defendant failed to meet their obligation to authorize and permit rest periods to Plaintiff and the class he seeks to represent in violation of Cal. Labor Code § 226.7 and section twelve (12) of Wage Order No. 5.
- 12. Defendant contend that they have always "authorized and permitted" its non-exempt employees to take a ten (10) minute rest break per four (4) hours of work or major fraction thereof.
- 13. Among other things, Plaintiff alleges in his complaint that Defendant, by failing to include in the final pay checks to former employees the additional wages due to Defendant's failure to comply with meal and/or rest period requirements, as well as additional overtime compensation, willfully failed to pay all wages earned and unpaid to those former employees within the time frame prescribe by Labor Code §§ 201 and 202.
- 14. Defendant denies any legal violations, and contends that even if any underlying liability is found there was no "willful" violation to trigger section 203 liability.
- 15. Among other things, Plaintiff alleges in his complaint that Defendant willfully failed to make or keep accurate payroll records for Plaintiff and the class he seeks to represent in violation of Labor Code sections 226 and 1174.
- 16. Defendant contends that it has complied with all such requirements with respect to payroll records at all times.
- 17. Plaintiff further alleges in his complaint that Defendant failed to reimburse for necessary business expenditures under Labor Code section 2802.
 - 18. Defendant denies that it failed to reimburse for necessary business expenditures.

INVESTIGATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

- 19. Over the course of the litigation, I (and others from my office) conducted extensive investigation into the claims asserted in this case. That investigation included formal written discovery, as well as review, analysis and sampling of numerous records and other documents, and research and evaluation of claims and defenses.
- 20. Defendant's counsel and I have worked cooperatively regarding document and data productions, which were sufficient for both sides to fully evaluate this case. Defendants produced voluminous records prior to the Parties attending mediation.
- 21. From the inception of this case, Plaintiffs and Defendants engaged in significant discovery and limited motion practice and ultimately decided to participate in and attend mediation. The Parties attended mediation with mediator Steve Rottman on May 20, 2016.
- 22. Information provided by Defendant, defense counsel, and Class counsel's independent investigation has allowed class counsel to fully assess the strengths and weaknesses of the class claims against Defendant.
- 23. Class counsel is experienced in class action wage-and-hour litigation, is currently prosecuting several types of class action cases, and has significant knowledge of the relevant operations of Defendant given the disclosures made by Defendant in the course of the case.
- 24. Plaintiff believe that the case is suitable for class certification in that there were company-wide policies that affected all of Defendants' employees which could be established using representative testimony and declarations from class members, as well as the policies and procedures reflected in the documents produced by Defendant during discovery. However, while Plaintiff asserts that this is a suitable case for certification, Plaintiffs realize that there is always a significant risk associated with class certification proceedings.
- 25. Defendants, in their responsive pleadings, asserted a multitude of affirmative defenses, each of which is still claimed as a valid defense by Defendants. In addition to disputing the merits of Plaintiff's claims, Defendants would strongly challenge any request for class certification.

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SETTLEMENT

Parties negotiated a settlement in good faith and at arm's-length, following informal 26. discovery (including the review and analysis of the compensation paid to Plaintiffs and Class Members, and the time records of Plaintiffs and Class Members, formal discovery and the exchange of documents), and ultimately agreed on a settlement. While the Settlement was not reached at the May 20, 2016 mediation, the Parties continued to work on a resolution of the matter. On February 7, 2017, the Parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The Parties have formalized a long-form settlement agreement attached herein.

Minimum and Overtime Wage Claim Value for Class:

27. Based on the sample of time keeping records produced during discovery, as well as an assumption of "off-the-clock" work, the maximum value of this claim is approximately one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000.00) based on employee time sheets and payroll records. Due to the assumptions made and the difficulty in proving "off-the-clock" claims, a reasonable value of the overtime claim is estimated to be fifty-eight thousand dollars (\$58,000.00) or 40% of the maximum exposure.

Meal Period Claim Value:

28. As to the meal break claims, the Defendant contends that the classes would not be certified due to multiple individual issues, including the California Supreme Court decision in Brinker Restaurant Corp. v Superior Court, (2012) 53 Cal.4th 1004, 139 Cal., Rptr. 3d 315, which Defendant argues states that meal/rest period cases are incapable of certification given the individual questions as to "why" a meal period was not taken. Furthermore, due to the fact that most employees worked four (4) hours or less per day Defendants do not believe there was any liability as to the meal and rest break claims. The total exposure for violation per shift is approximately two hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$230,000.00). This value is based on a 25% violation rate during the Class Period. Due to Brinker and the difficulty in proving "meal period" claims, a reasonable value of the overtime claim is estimated to be forty-six thousand dollars (\$46,000.00) or 20% of the maximum exposure.

Labor Code § 203 Claim:

29. As to the waiting time maximum exposure was approximately three hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$330,000.00). The class discounted this based on risk and the fact that waiting time

 penalties are not awarded if a good faith dispute exists as the class would not have been able to prove "willful" withholding of wages. Furthermore, this was a purely derivative claim. A reasonable evaluation of this claim would be eighty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$82,500.00) or 25% of the maximum exposure.

Failure to Provide/Maintain Accurate Payroll Record Claim Value:

30. As to the paystub penalty, this was a maximum exposure of approximately six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) assuming each paystub provided to each class member each pay period was in violation of Labor Code §226. There was a dispute as to whether the class was required to and could actually prove injury as a result of paystub deficiencies. The risk of not getting certification was considerable in light of the Defendant's claim that each class member would have to establish injury. The class did not have a high confidence level on recovery. The paystub claim was a derivative claim. A reasonable value of the paystub claim is estimated to be one hundred thousand dollars (\$120,000.00) or 20% of the maximum exposure.

Failure to Reimburse for Necessary Business Expenses:

- 31. As to the reimbursement claim, the was a maximum exposure of approximately twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$29,000.00). There was a dispute as to whether the class was fully reimbursed. The risk of not getting certification was considerable in light of the Defendant's claim that each class member would have to establish injury. The class did not have a high confidence level on recovery. A reasonable value of the reimbursement claim is twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$29,000.00) or 100% of the maximum exposure.
- 32. Accordingly, the full exposure at trial based on the reasonable valuation and discounting for risk factors for the class members would have been approximately three hundred thirty-five thousand five hundred (\$335,500.00) (excluding attorneys' fees, interest, and cost). Thus, the settlement of two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$275,000.00) represents approximately 81% of the reasonable value of the case which is fair and reasonable.
- 33. This Settlement is fair and reasonable because it provides substantial and immediate benefits to the class members. The Settlement is jointly presented as the product of extensive arm's-length negotiations by experienced counsel on both sides after thorough discovery and recognition of the

strengths and weaknesses of each other's positions. In calculating the appropriate settlement amount, the Parties had sufficient information, including payroll data and time records, and had conducted an adequate investigation to allow them to make an educated and informed analysis and conclusion.

- 34. Plaintiffs submit that the settlement for each participating class member is fair, reasonable, and adequate given the inherent risk of litigation, the risk of class certification and costs of litigation. With approximately 313 class members, the settlement would result in a net fund of approximately one hundred sixty-six thousand eight hundred thirty-four dollars (\$166,834.00) thus averaging out to approximately five hundred thirty-three dollars (\$533.00) per class member.
- 35. I believe that Plaintiff Jesus Bibriesca performed considerable services on behalf of the Class, since Jesus Bibriesca searched for an attorney, collected and gathered the requested documents and information such as time keeping records, met with us, made himself available each and every single time that I called him in order to answer questions about Defendant's policies and procedures produced in informal discovery or discussed during conversations with opposing counsel or raised in pleadings filed in this matter. Plaintiff Bibriesca provided Class Counsel with factual information needed to prepare the Complaint. Mr. Bibriesca collected relevant documents and produced those documents to Class Counsel. Mr. Bibriesca consulted with Class Counsel about developments in the case and helped to explain to Class Counsel certain evidence that Class Counsel obtained in discovery. Plaintiff Bibriesca has also continued to be involved for the benefit of the class and the finalization of the settlement process. I believe that the representative enhancement of four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.000) is warranted for his time and effort.
- 36. Class Counsel intends to request an award of attorneys' fees equal to 1/3rd of the Maximum Settlement Amount, under the "percentage of benefit" theory.
- 37. To date, Plaintiffs' counsel has incurred costs to date of approximately ten thousand six hundred twelve dollars and thirty cents (\$10,612.30) and this is more than fair and reasonable. Plaintiffs expect further costs of approximately six hundred dollars (\$600.00) associated with the filing of both the Motion for Preliminary Approval and Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval.
- 38. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A is a true and correct copy of the fully executed Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement.

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- 39. Attached hereto as Exhibit "B" is a true and correct copy of the Notice of Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Court Approval.
- 40. Attached hereto as Exhibit C to the Mahoney Declaration is a true and correct copy of the Request for Exclusion Form.
 - 41. Attached hereto as Exhibit D to is a true and correct copy of the Information Sheet
- 42. I have no affiliation whatsoever with the cy pres recipient Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services.

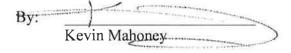
EXPERIENCE AS COUNSEL IN CLASS ACTIONS

- 43. Since in or about 2007, I have been involved in the litigation and settlement of several employment law class action matters through the final approval process. The class size of the matters ranged from approximately 150 to over 15,000. In the last twelve (12) months alone, I have settled several employment class actions with settlement in the millions of dollars.
- 44. In August of 2009, I voluntarily resigned from Rose, Klein & Marias and co-founded Mahoney, Perry & Burrows, in Long Beach, California. The firm (now Mahoney Law Group, APC) currently serves as lead counsel and/or co-counsel in numerous wage and hour class action litigation in the Los Angeles Superior Court, Orange County Superior Court, and United States District Court for the Central District of California. Some examples of cases where I served as lead and/or co-counsel include: Denise Mays v Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Case No. BC477830; Valerie Brooks v Life Care Centers of America, Inc. et al., Case No.SACV 12-00659-CJC(RNBx); Huerta v Prime Wheel Corporation, Case No. BC559408; Dinkins v LaCorr Packaging, LLC, Case No. BC594886; Harvey Holt, et al. v. Parsec, Inc., Case No. CV-9540-VBF; Curiel v Glendora Grand, Inc., Case No. BC618831, Dorothy Berry v. Brierwood Terrace Convalescent Hospital, et al., Case No. BC437781; Dante Booker v The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Case No. BC498399; Manuel Diaz v Excel Sheet Metal, Inc., Case No. BC504033; Fernando Albiar, et al. v. Spectrum Athletics-Canoga Park, et al. Case No. BC413860; Gerardo Ortega, et al. v. CR & R Inc., Case No. BC414434; William Davis v Pacific Hospital of Long Beach, et al. Case No. BC488542; Kurt Casadine v Maxim Healthcare Services, Inc., Case No. CV 12-10078-DMG (CWx); Deborah Cabanillas v Lakewood Park Manor Healthcare, Inc. et al. Case No. BC443859 Daniel Branch v. Indiana Plumbing Supply, Co. Inc. et al., Case No. BC425627; Butch

Calvo v. Providence Health Systems-Southern California, et al. Case No. BC419843; John De La Torre Cri-Help, Inc., Case No. BC508430; Esmerelda Fernandez, et al v Teva Parenteral Medicines, Inc., Case No. 30-2010-00412849-CU-OE-CXC; Kimya Oliver, et al. v. College Health Enterprise, et al. Case No. BC406481; Audi Velazquez v. New Vista Health Services, Inc., Case No. BC 424797; Rick Wilcox, et al. v. Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital, et al., Case No. BC 424796; Gardner v. Longwood Management Corp., Case Nos. BC377127; and Davis v. Vital Care, Inc., Case No. BC385484; Raenan Guadez, et al v Sega Gameworks, LLC, Case No. CIVRS1105099; Erica Teyuca v Pacific Alliance Medical Center, Inc., Case No. BC459422; Yessenia Martinez v Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market, Inc., Case No. CIVRS1104607; and Maria Zimmerman v Quality Children's Services, Case No. BC472001.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 8th day of June, 2017 at Long Beach, California.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Alfred J. Landegger Esq State Bar No. 0844 Roxana E. Verano, Esq State Bar No. 18683' LANDEGGER BARON LAW GROUP A Law Corporation 15760 Ventura Boulevard Suite 1200 Encino, California 91436 Telephone: (818) 986-7561 Facsimile: (818) 986-5147 Attorneys for Defendant QUALITY VALUE EXCELLENT SANITATION TEAM, LLC (erroneously sued as QVEST SANITATION, L.		
8	(ortottodddy) saed as Q (25) Sirikin ()		
9	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10	COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES		
11	JESUS BIBRIESCA and JOSE MOLINA as	Case No. BC568019	
12	individuals and on behalf of all similarly situated employees,	ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO JUDGE ANN I. JONES, DEPT. 308	
13	Plaintiffs,	CLASS ACTION	
14	VS.	JOINT STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION	
15	QVEST SANITATION, LLC, SOUTHEAST	SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE	
16	PERSONNEL LEADING, INC. and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive,	CASE FILED: December 30, 2014	
17	Defendants.		
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20	Plaintiff Jesus Bibriesca ("Plaintiff"), on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated		
21	individuals, and defendant QUALITY VALUE EXCELLENT SANITATION TEAM, LLC, a		
22	California corporation, ("Defendant") hereby agree, subject to the approval of the Court pursuant to		
23	section 832 of the California Code of Civil Procedure and Rule 3.769 of the California Rules of Court,		
24	to resolve the above-captioned case on the terms set forth in this Joint Stipulation of Class Action		
25	Settlement and Release ("Joint Settlement" or "Settlement").		
26	A. DEFINITIONS		
27 28	1. "Action" means the civil action in the Superior Court for the State of California for the		
	I JOINT STIPULATION OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE		
1	JOINE STILLOPATION OF CDAS	DO VOLIDIA DELL'EDIMENTE L'UNE MENEROLO	

County Of Los Angeles entitled Jesus Bibriesca, et al. v. Quest Sanitation, LLC, et al., Case No. BC568019.

- 2. "Claims Administrator" means Phoenix Settlement Administrators, or another third party administrator agreed upon jointly in writing by the Settling Parties, who will perform the duties of (I) conducting address traces to locate Class Members as necessary; (ii) preparing and mailing the Notice of Class Action Settlement and Information Sheet, (iii)) tracking returned Exclusion Forms; (iv) responding to Class Member inquiries; (v) calculating and distributing the amounts due to Class Members pursuant to the Settlement; (vi) tax reporting in connection with the Settlement; and (vii) any other duties necessary for administration of the Settlement.
 - 3. "Class Counsel" means Kevin Mahoney of the Mahoney Law Group, APC.
- 4. "Class Member(s)" means any current or former non-exempt employee of Defendant who worked at any time between December 30, 2010 and the court's Preliminary Approval of Class Settlement, and does not opt out.
 - 5. "Class Representative" and "Plaintiff" means Jesus Bibriesca.
- 6. "Court" means the Superior Court for the State of California for the County of Los Angeles.
- 7. "Defendant" means Quality Value Excellent Sanitation Team, LLC, a California corporation, and all of their officers, directors, agents, attorneys, parents, predecessors, successors, subsidiaries, and related and affiliated entities.
- 8. "Effective Date" means the latest of the following: (a) if no Class Member makes an objection to the Settlement, the date the Court grants final approval to the Settlement; (b) if a Class Member objects to the Settlement, the later of: (i) dismissal or withdrawal of the objection by the Class Member; (ii) the passage of the date for seeking appellate review of the Court's final approval of the Settlement without a timely request for review; (iii) the date a Class Member's appeal from the Court's final approval of the Settlement has been voluntarily dismissed; or (iv) the date the California Court of Appeals or the California Supreme Court has rendered a final judgment on a Class Member's appeal affirming the Court's final approval of the Settlement without material modification.
 - 9. "Exclusion Form" means the form approved by the Parties and subject to Court approval,

substantially in the form attached as Exhibit C which a Class Member must submit to exclude himself or herself (i.e., opt out) from the release of claims pursuant to this Settlement.

- 10. "Gross Settlement Amount" means the maximum amount of Two Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$275,000.00) payable by Defendant pursuant to this Settlement. Under no circumstances shall Defendant be required to contribute any money in excess of the Gross Settlement Amount except that Defendant will be responsible for its own share of payroll taxes.
- 11. "Information Sheet" means the form that shall be prepared by the Settlement
 Administrator, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit B, and sent to each Class Member that will
 include the number of weeks each Class Member worked during the Release Period and is then used to
 determine each Class Member's share of the settlement funds.
- 12. "Net Settlement Amount" means the portion of the Gross Settlement Amount available for distribution to Class Members, after deducting the amounts approved by the Court payable to Class Counsel for fees and costs, the Class Representative as enhancement award, and the Claims Administrator.
- 13. "Notice" means the Notice of Class Action Settlement, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit A, to be mailed out by the Claims Administrator to Class Members informing them of the material terms of the settlement, including their options to object or request to be excluded from the settlement.
 - 14. "Parties" and "Settling Parties" means the Class Representative and Defendant.
- 15. "Release Period" means from December 30, 2010, up to and including the day of the Court's preliminary approval of class settlement.
 - 16. "Settlement" means this Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and Release.
- 17. "Workweek(s)" refers to the number of weeks each Class Member worked for the Defendant during the Release Period, which will be used to determine the amount of each Class Members' Settlement Payment. One Work Week equals seven (7) days, with any remainder being rounded up.

B. RECITALS

1. Plaintiffs commenced this Action in the Superior Court of California for the County of

Los Angeles on December 30, 2014. In their original Class Action Complaint for Damages, Plaintiff alleged that Defendant failed to pay overtime compensation, failed to provide meal and rest periods, engaged in unfair competition, failed to pay all wages owed upon termination, failed to maintain payroll records, failed to provide accurate wage statements, and failed to reimburse for necessary expenditures.

- 2. Defendant denies any liability or wrongdoing of any kind under the wage and hour laws, or any other statutes or case authority, of the State of California or under federal law and further denies that Plaintiff's claims are amenable to class treatment for any purpose other than settlement.
- 3. The Parties participated in a private mediation on May 20, 2016 before experienced Mediator Steve Rottman. The Parties were unable to reach a resolution at the mediation but continued their settlement discussions which culminated in a Memorandum of Understanding which memorialized the principle elements of this Joint Settlement.
- 4. Class Counsel have conducted a thorough investigation into the facts of this case, and have diligently pursued an investigation of the claims against Defendant, including engaging in the exchange of informal discovery and the production of hundreds of pages of documents and detailed information relevant to Plaintiff's claims, and researching the applicable law and potential defenses. Based on their investigation and evaluation, Class Counsel are of the opinion that the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and is in the best interest of the Class Members in light of all known facts and circumstances, including Defendant's defenses. Defendant agrees that the Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate.
- 5. Defendant conditionally agrees to stipulate, solely for the limited purpose of consummating the terms of settlement contained in this Stipulation, to have the Court certify a class of all non-exempt employees employed by Defendant during the Release Period as defined herein.

C. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

1. Gross Settlement Amount: Defendant shall pay up to the maximum amount of Two
Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$275,000.00) in full and complete Settlement of this Action.
The Gross Settlement Amount shall be inclusive of all costs and attorney's fees awarded to Class
Counsel, any court approved enhancement awarded to Plaintiff, and the costs of the Claims

Administrator (estimated to be no more than \$9,000.00). After deduction of the foregoing costs, fees, taxes, and enhancements from the Gross Settlement Amount, the remainder shall constitute the Net Settlement Amount available for distribution to Class Members who do not submit a valid request for exclusion. Under no circumstance shall Defendant be required to contribute any money in excess of the Gross Settlement Amount. Defendant shall pay 50% of the Gross Settlement Amount in the third quarter of year 2017, and the second 50% of the Gross Settlement Amount in the third quarter of year 2018.

- Attorney's Fees and Costs: Defendants will not oppose Class Counsel's application to the Court for an award not to exceed 33%, or Nine One Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars (\$91,666.00), of the Gross Settlement Amount in attorney's fees plus costs (current estimate, not including cost for the Class Administrator, is approximately \$12,000.00) to compensate Class Counsel for the services performed in this case and all services remaining to be performed in documenting the Settlement, securing Court approval of the Settlement, and ensuring that the Settlement is fairly administered and implemented. The Claims Administrator will issue to Class Counsel a Form 1099 with respect to the award of attorneys' fees and costs.
- 3. Enhancement Payment to Class Representative: Defendant will not oppose Plaintiff's request to the Court for an award of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500.00) to plaintiff Jesus Bibriesca, for his service as a Class Representative ("Enhancement Payment"), in addition to any payment he may otherwise be entitled to receive as a Class Member. The Claims Administrator will issue to Plaintiff an IRS Form 1099 for his Enhancement Payment. Class Representative further agrees to sign a separate general release of all claims for which he will receive an additional Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

4. Distribution to Class Members:

a. The Information Sheet mailed with the Notice shall inform the Class Members that they are entitled to a settlement payment and shall indicate the number of Workweeks calculated for the particular Class Member and the amount of the corresponding payment. All Class Members who do not submit a valid request for exclusion shall receive a share of the Net Settlement Amount in proportion to the number of Workweeks each Class Member worked during the Release Period.

- b. In the event settlement checks issued to Class Members by the Claims Administrator are not cashed or deposited within 120 days after mailing by the Claims Administrator, the Claims Administrator shall void any such check and shall distribute the funds from those checks to Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services, as a *cy pres* recipient. The Claims Administrator shall make the payment to the *cy pres* recipient within 14 days of voiding any checks not cashed or deposited. In such event, the participating Class Member shall nevertheless remain bound by this Settlement. The Parties each represent they do not have any financial interest in Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services that could create a conflict of interest.
- 5. Tax Allocation of Class Member Distributions: The Parties agree that the Settlement payments to Class Members will be treated as follows: 20% of the payments shall be allocated to wages and 80% of the payments shall be allocated to penalties and interest. The Claims Administrator shall be responsible for issuing claimants a form W-2 for amounts allocated to wages and a form 1099 for amounts allocated to penalties and interest.

Circular 230 Disclaimer:

Each party to this Agreement (for purposes of this section, the "Acknowledging Party"; and each party to this Agreement other than the Acknowledging Party, an "Other Party") acknowledges and agrees that (1) no provision of this Agreement, and no written communication or disclosure between or among the parties or their attorneys and other advisers, is or was intended to be, nor shall any such communication or disclosure constitute or be construed or be relied upon as, tax advice within the meaning of United States Treasury Department Circular 230 (31 CFR Part 10, as amended); (2) the Acknowledging Party (a) has relied exclusively upon his, her or its own, independent legal and tax advisers for advice (including tax advice) in connection with this Agreement, (b) has not entered into this Agreement based upon the recommendation of any other party or any attorney or advisor to any other party, and (c) is not entitled rely upon any communication or disclosure by any attorney or adviser to any other party to avoid any tax penalty that may be imposed on the Acknowledging Party; and (3) no attorney or adviser to any other party has imposed any limitation that protects the confidentiality of any such attorney's or adviser's tax strategies (regardless of whether such limitation is legally binding) upon disclosure by the Acknowledging Party of the tax treatment or tax structure of

any transaction, including any transaction contemplated by this Agreement.

7. Payment Date: The payment to Plaintiff for his Enhancement Payment, the payment to Class Counsel for their awarded attorney's fees and costs, the payment to the Claims Administrator for the costs of settlement administration, and the payments to Class Members for their settlement payments shall be made within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date. Defendant shall be responsible for providing the Claims Administrator within fifteen (15) days after the Effective Date sufficient funds to make all the payments required under the Settlement.

D. NOTICE, CLAIM, EXCLUSION AND OBJECTION PROCEDURES

- 1. Within fifteen (15) days following the Court's entry of an Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Defendant shall provide to the Claims Administrator a database or spreadsheet listing the name, last known home address, and social security number of Class Members (the "Class List"), and the number of workweeks during the Release Period worked by each Class Member.
- 2. Within 30 days after receiving the Class List from Defendant, the Claims Administrator shall send a Notice of Settlement and Exclusion Form to each Class Member ("Notice Packet") by first class mail.
- The Claims Administrator shall use reasonable standard skip tracing devices as necessary to verify the accuracy of all addresses before the initial mailing date to ensure that Notice Packet is sent to all Class Members at the addresses most likely to result in immediate receipt of those documents. It shall be conclusively presumed that any Notice Packet so mailed and not returned as undeliverable within Twenty (20) days of the mailing shall have been received by the Class Member. With respect to returned Notice Packets, the Claims Administrator shall use reasonable diligence to obtain a current address and re-mail to such address.
- 5. Class Members shall have forty-five (45) days from the initial mailing of the Notice Packet by the Claims Administrator to submit an Exclusion Form. If disputes about the validity or timeliness of any submitted Exclusion Form arise, the Parties shall meet and confer. If the Parties cannot resolve the dispute, the Court shall make a final and binding determination as to whether the disputed Exclusion Form shall be deemed valid.

- 6. Class Members who submit a timely and valid Exclusion Form will not be bound by the release provisions of the Settlement and will not be entitled to receive any settlement benefits under the Settlement.
- 7. If 10% or more of Class Members file Exclusion Forms (i.e., opt out), Defendant at their sole option may abrogate the Settlement, in which case the Settlement shall be null and void.

 Defendants shall exercise this right within ten (10) days after notification by the Claims Administrator of the total number of Class Members who submitted a valid Exclusion Form.
- 8. Class Members shall have forty-five (45) days from the initial mailing of the Notice Packet by the Claims Administrator to submit any objections to the Settlement and advise of their desire to appear at the Final Fairness Hearing. The Notice shall include specific instructions to Class Members for submitting objections.
- As soon as practicable, but no later than five (5) business days following the close of the 45-day response period, the Settlement Administrator shall provide Class Counsel and Counsel for Defendant with a declaration attesting to completion of the notice process, including an explanation of efforts to resend undeliverable notices returned with forwarding addresses, and a summary of objections and exclusions, along with any other matters relevant for the Court to consider. Said declaration shall be filed with the Court by Class Counsel along with their papers requesting final approval of the Settlement.
- 10. Compliance with the procedures described in this Stipulation shall constitute due and sufficient notice to Class Members of this settlement, and the final approval hearing shall satisfy the requirements of due process, and nothing else shall be required of the Plaintiff, Class Counsel, Defendant, Counsel for Defendant, or the Settlement Administrator to provide additional notice of the settlement and the final approval hearing, unless expressly ordered by the Court.

E. RELEASE OF CLAIMS

1. <u>Class Members' Released Claims</u>: Each Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Exclusion Form shall, upon the Effective Date, be deemed to have released any and all claims against Defendant and any former and present parent, subsidiary, and affiliated entities including corporations, limited liability companies (LLC), limited partnerships (LP), trusts,

unincorporated associations, partnerships, and their respective officers, directors, employees, partners, managers, trustees, beneficiaries, shareholders, attorneys and agents, any other successors, assigns, or legal representatives ("Released Parties"), from any and all claims, rights, demands, liabilities and causes of action under California and federal law giving rise to potential liability for acts or omissions during the Release Period which were or could have been raised as part of the Plaintiff's claims in the Action based on the facts alleged in the Class Action Complaint for Damages (the "Released Claims").

Each Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid Exclusion Form waives all rights and benefits afforded by California Civil Code Section 1542 and does so understanding the significance of that waiver with respect to and/or arising out of any claims that were or could have been encompassed in the Action, and any claims which reasonably flow from the facts alleged in the Complaint. The California Civil Code Section 1542 waiver is limited to the Claims alleged in the Action. Section 1542 provides as follows: "A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which is known by him must have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."

2. Additional Attorney's Fees Released by Class Counsel: In consideration of an award of attorneys' fees and costs in accordance with this Settlement, Class Counsel irrevocably and forever waives any and all claims to any further attorneys' fees and costs in connection with the Action.

F. COURT APPROVAL

- f. Plaintiff shall promptly move the Court for the entry of an Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement.
- 2. In accordance with the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, Plaintiff, after the Claims Administrator has mailed the Notice Packet to Class Members, and the time for Class Members to submit an Exclusion Form or objection has expired, shall move the Court for the entry of an Order Granting Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 3. This Settlement shall not take effect until the Court has entered an order granting final approval of the Settlement, and that order has become final after any objections to the Settlement or any appeals from the order granting final approval of the Settlement have been resolved. If for any reason this Settlement is materially modified on appeal, then this Settlement will become null and

void, no payment under this Settlement will be made, and the Settlement shall not be used nor be admissible in any subsequent proceeding either in this Court or in any other Court or forum.

4. The Parties agree to waive appeals from the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement with the following exceptions: (1) the Parties may appeal if the Court materially modifies the Settlement; and (2) Plaintiff may appeal if the Court awards attorney's fees, costs, or an Enhancement Payment in an amount less than requested by Plaintiffs. Any appeal with respect to the amount of attorney's fees, costs, or Enhancement Payment shall not affect the finality of the Settlement in any other regard or delay the payment of settlement benefits to Class Members or administration costs to the Claims Administrator.

G. MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. The respective signatories to the Settlement represent that they are fully authorized to enter into this Settlement and bind the respective Parties to its terms and conditions.
- 2. The Parties agree to cooperate fully with each other to accomplish the terms of this Settlement, including but not limited to, execution of such documents and to take such other action as may reasonably be necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement. The Parties shall use their best efforts, including all efforts contemplated by this Settlement and any other efforts that may become necessary by order of the Court, or otherwise, to effectuate the terms of this Settlement. The Parties further agree not to induce or discourage any former employees to either make or not submit an exclusion or objection to the Settlement.
- 3. The Parties represent, covenant, and warrant that they have not, directly or indirectly, assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer or encumber to any person or entity any portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action or right released and discharged in this Settlement.
- 4. Nothing contained in this Settlement shall be construed or deemed an admission of liability, culpability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing on the part of Defendant, and Defendant denies any such liability, and this Settlement is based on disputed claims by Defendant. Each of the Parties has entered into this Settlement with the intention to avoid further disputes and litigation with the attendant inconvenience and expenses. This Settlement is a settlement document and shall be

EXHIBIT A

JESUS BIBRIESCA v. QVEST SANITATION, LLC, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC568019
600 South Commonwealth Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90005

NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

This Notice provides important information about a proposed settlement in the class action lawsuit brought by Jose Bibriesca ("Plaintiff") against Quality Value Excellent Sanitation Team, LLC (erroneously sued as Qvest Sanitation, LLC), a California corporation, ("Defendant"), and your rights to participate in or exclude yourself from the settlement.

A. Summary Of The Claims

Plaintiff alleges that Defendant owes persons who worked in a non-exempt position for Defendant between December 30, 2010, and _______, 2017 ("Class Members") wages and penalties due to the failure to comply with various labor laws. Plaintiff alleges that: Defendant failed to pay Class Members overtime wages for all hours worked; Defendant failed to provide Class Members all required meal and rest periods; Defendant failed to pay terminated Class Members all wages owed upon termination; Defendant failed to provide accurate wage statements; Defendant failed to maintain payroll records; Defendant failed to reimburse for necessary expenditures; and Defendant engaged in unfair competition. On behalf of himself and other Class Members, Plaintiff seeks to recover unpaid wages, penalties, interest, and attorney's fees.

Defendant denies all of Plaintiff's claims and maintains that they complied with all state and federal labor laws. The Court has not determined whether or not Defendant violated any laws, or whether any Class Member is entitled to any money or other relief.

B. Why You Are Receiving This Notice

On _______, 2017, the Los Angeles County Superior Court (the "Court") preliminarily approved a settlement of the lawsuit. According to Defendant's records, you are a putative Class Member. Because you are a putative Class Member, you have the right to participate in, object to, or exclude yourself from the settlement. This letter explains your legal rights and options with respect to the settlement.

C. The Terms Of The Settlement

Defendant has agreed to pay the Gross Settlement Amount of Two Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$275,000.00) in exchange for a release of the claims asserted by Plaintiff and Class Members in the lawsuit. It is estimated that, after deducting administrative costs and other expenses from the Gross Settlement Amount, approximately One Hundred Fifty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Four Dollars (\$155,834.00) (the Net Settlement Amount) will be available for distribution to Class Members (based on the total number of workweeks worked by Class Members), as follows: The amount each Class Member receives will be based on the number of workweeks worked for Defendant during the Class Period/Release Period.

D. Your Options

You have three options: 1) Do Nothing; 2) object to the settlement; or 3) request exclusion from the settlement.

1. Do Nothing

If you do nothing, you will receive a share of the settlement benefits, and you will be bound by the release of claims in the settlement, which means that you will not be able to sue Defendant for any of the claims asserted against Defendant in the lawsuit. You do not need to respond to this Notice in order to participate in the settlement.

2. Object To The Settlement

As long as you do not exclude yourself from the settlement, you have the right to object to the settlement. The objection must be sent by [date] by regular mail, e-mail or fax to the Claims Administrator at the following address: [insert]

3. Exclude Yourself From The Settlement

If you wish to exclude yourself from the settlement, you must submit a valid Request for Exclusion Form. The Request Form must be sent by [date] by regular mail, e-mail or fax to the Claims Administrator at the following address [insert].

If you exclude yourself from the settlement, you will not be entitled to recover any settlement benefits or object to the settlement, but you will retain the right to bring any claims you have or believe you have against Defendant. If you do not exclude yourself from the settlement, you will upon final approval of the settlement be bound by the release of claims against Defendant and lose the right to sue Defendant for any of the claims asserted against Defendant in the lawsuit.

E. Do I Have a Lawyer In This Case?

The Court has decided that the attorneys of Mahoney Law Group, APC, located at 249 E. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 814 Long Beach, CA 90802, may represent you and all Class Members. Attorney Kevin Mahoney and the attorneys of the Mahoney Law Group, APC are called "Class Counsel." The court has made a preliminary finding concerning this issue. More information about this law firm, its practice, and its attorneys' experience is available at http://www.mahoney-law.net

F. Release Of Claims

Unless you exclude yourself from the settlement, upon final approval of the settlement by the Court you will be deemed to have given up your right to sue Defendant and any former and present parent, subsidiary, and affiliated entities including corporations, limited liability companies (LLC), limited partnerships (LP), trusts, unincorporated association, partnerships, and their respective officers, directors, employees, partners, managers, trustees, beneficiaries, shareholders, attorneys and agents, and any other successors, assigns, or legal representatives ("Released Parties"), from any and all claims, rights, demands, liabilities and causes of action under California and federal law giving rise to potential liability for acts or omissions during the Release Period which were or could have been raised as part of the Plaintiffs' claims in the Action based on the facts alleged in the lawsuit.

You also agree to waive all rights and benefits afforded by California Civil Code Section 1542 and do so understanding the significance of that waiver with respect to and/or arising out of any claims that were or could have been encompassed in the Action, and any claims which reasonably flow from the facts alleged in the Complaint. The California Civil Code Section 1542 waiver is limited to the Claims alleged in the Action. Section 1542 provides as follows: "A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which is known by him must have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."

G. Final Fairness Hearing

The Court has scheduled a Final Fairness Hearing for _______, 2017 at [time] in Department 308 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Central Civil West Courthouse, 600 South Commonwealth Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90005. At the Final Fairness Hearing, the Court will decide whether or not to grant final approval to the settlement. The Court will also rule at the Final Fairness Hearing on the application by Plaintiff' for an award of attorney's fees, costs and service enhancement to Plaintiff. You have the right to attend the Final Fairness Hearing and, if you objected to the settlement, address the Court. You also have the right to retain an attorney, at your own expense, to speak on your behalf.

H. Where To Get More Information

If you want more information about the lawsuit or the settlement, you may contact the Settlement Administrator PHOENIX CLASS ACTION ADMINISTRATION by calling [insert phone number], or by calling Class Counsel at 562-590-5550. You may also email Class Counsel at kmahoney amahoney-law.net.

You may also visit www.[insert administrator's website] to view documents filed in this matter, including the Complaint, Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and Release, Motion for Preliminary Approval and accompanying papers, Motion for Final Approval and accompanying papers, and Notice of Entry of Judgment in this case.

You can also view and obtain copies of lawsuit related documents in the Court's file by going to the clerk's office located at 600 South Commonwealth Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90005. DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT.

If the Court grants final approval to the Settlement, the website will also have copies of all papers filed by Class Counsel in support of their Motion for Final Approval of Class Action

Settlement and the Court's Order Granting Final Approval of Class Action Settlement. If your address changes, or is different from the one on the envelope enclosing this Notice, please promptly notify the Claims Administrator at [insert telephone number].

EXHIBIT C

JESUS BIBRIESCA v. QVEST SANITATION, LLC, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC568019
600 South Commonwealth Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90005

REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FORM

Please indicate any changes/corrections:

SUBMIT THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT.

< <address>> <<city, state="" zipcode="">></city,></address>	
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- Sorry, Didio Zipoodo	
	Please provide a daytime and evening
	telephone number:
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	in the state of th
I. DIRECTIONS	
In order to exclude yourself from the settler Exclusion Form and mail it, fax it or email it to [III] calendar days of the date on the accompanying No Request for Exclusion Form must be postmarked move, please send the Claims Administrator your recurrent address on file with the Claims Administra	tice of Class Action Settlement. If mailed, the ed on or before [INSERT DATE]. If you new address. It is your responsibility to keep a
II. REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM T	THE SETTLMENT
I am a class member in the case of <i>Jose Bi</i> Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC	ibriesca, et al. v. Qvest Sanitation, LLC, et al., 568019.
I have read the Notice of Class Action settlement and do not wish to participate in the se settlement.	Settlement explaining my rights under the ttlement. I request that I be excluded from the
I dealars under nanelty of narium, under the	e laws of the State of California that the
foregoing is true and correct.	

Send this form by [INSERT DATE] to:

Name of Administrator Address Telephone Number Fax Number Email address

EXHIBIT B

JESUS BIBRIESCA v. QVEST SANITATION, LLC, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC568019
600 South Commonwealth Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90005

INFORMATION SHEET

Gross Settlement Amount shall be based upon the total number of weeks worked for Defendant as an
hourly, non-exempt employee who performed paid work for Quality Value Excellent Sanitation Team, LLC in California during the Class Period from December 30, 2010 through, 2017.
For these calculations a Workweek equals a 7-day period of employment. To determine the total number of Workweeks that a Class Member worked during the Class Period, the Settlement Administrator will calculate the number of days the Class Member was employed, and divide the number by seven. The Distributable Amount will be divided by the sum of the Workweeks worked by the Class to determine the value of each Work Week.
To determine the amount to be paid to each Class Member, the Settlement Administrator will multiply the value of each Workweek by the number of Workweeks for each Class Member.
Your Days Employed and Estimated Settlement Payment: According to Defendant's records, you worked from < <date>> to <<date>>, which equals <<workweeks>> Workweeks. Based on your number of Workweeks, your estimated individual Settlement Payment is <<estsettpayment>>. Please note that this is only an estimate; your actual payment may be greater or smaller than the amount reported above.</estsettpayment></workweeks></date></date>
Procedure for Disputing Information: If you disagree with the number of Work Weeks stated above, you must send a letter to the Settlement Administrator stating the reasons why you dispute the amount of pay periods and provide any supporting documentation that you have (e.g., any paystubs). The information you provide should include the estimated number of Workweeks you claim you performed work as a Class Member from December 30, 2010 throughJune 14, 2017. Any disputes and supporting documentation must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address listed below by First Class U.S. Mail, postmarked no later than [Response Deadline].

If you dispute the number of Workweeks stated above, Defendant's records will be presumed determinative unless you are able to provide documentation to the Settlement Administrator that establishes otherwise. The Settlement Administrator will evaluate the evidence submitted by you and will make the final decision as to the number of Workweeks that should be applied and/or the individual

Information Sheet
[Class Member]

Settlement Payment to which you may be entitled. Such a determination will be final and binding with no opportunity for further appeal. You will be informed of the decision.

PROOF OF SERVICE

Code of Civ. Proc. § 1013a, subd. (3)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is, 249 East Ocean Boulevard, Suite 814, Long Beach, California, 90802.

On June 8, 2017, I served true copies of the foregoing document(s) described as: **DECLARATION OF KEVIN MAHONEY IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT** on the interested parties in this action addressed as follows:

Roxana Verano
Roxana@landeggeresq.com
Natalie Mirzayan
Natalie@landeggeresq.com
Alfred J. Landegger

Alfred@landeggeresq.com

LANDEGGER BARON LAW GROUP

15760 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1200 Encino, CA 91436

Attorneys for Defendant Quality Value Excellent Sanitation Team LLC

By Electronic Transmission: The parties listed above were served electronically with a true and correct copy of the document(s) listed above by transmission through CASE ANYWHERE.

(State): I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 8, 2017, at Long Beach, California.

Nicole Pierson

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