Kevin Mahoney, Esq. (SBN: 235367) SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT kmahoney@mahoney-law.net Berkeh Alemzadeh, Esq. (SBN: 324834) balem@mahoney-law.net MAY 0 5 2023 3 MAHONEY LAW GROUP, APC 249 E. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 814 4 Long Beach, CA 90802 Telephone No.: (562) 590-5550 Fax No.: (562) 590-8400 6 Attorneys for Plaintiff Hector Quiroz and Francisco Aguila, as individuals and on behalf of all employees similarly situated, 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 10 SAN BERNARDINO JUSTICE CENTER 11 HECTOR QUIROZ, as an individual and 12 Case No. CIVDS1903315 on behalf of all similarly situated 13 employees, CLASS ACTION 14 Plaintiff. [P<del>ROPOSED</del>] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS 15 v. ACTION SETTLEMENT 16 INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE Assigned for all purposes to: 17 COATINGS, INC., a Washington Hon. David Cohn, Dept. S26 corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, 18 inclusive. Date: April 12, 2023 19 Time: 10:00 a.m. Dept.: S26 20 21 Complaint Filed: January 31, 2019 Trial Date: None Yet Set 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

The Court has reviewed the Motion and the Joint Stipulation Of Class And Representative Action Settlement And Release ("Settlement Agreement"), along with the proposed Amended Notice of Class Action Settlement ("Notice") and Request for Exclusion Form attached Exhibit B of the Declaration of Kevin Mahoney as Exhibits A and B, respectively to the Settlement Agreement. The Court having also considered the Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support of the Motion and declarations submitted in support thereof, and for good cause appearing therein, the Court now FINDS and ORDERS as follows:

- 1. The proposed Settlement Class satisfies the requirement of a class certification because the members are readily ascertainable and a well-defined community of interest exists in the questions of law and fact affecting the Parties.
- 2. The following class is certified for settlement purposes: "all non-exempt employees, currently and formerly employed by Defendant International Aerospace Coatings, Inc., in the State of California during the period of January 31, 2015 through July 31, 2022." The Court hereby approves the class definition.
- 3. The Settlement (including the proposed award of attorneys' fees, PAGA Allocation, litigation costs, and Enhancement Payment to the Class Representatives) falls within the "range of reasonableness and therefore the Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement. Based on a review of the papers submitted by the Parties, the Court finds that the Settlement is the result of arm's length negotiations conducted after Class Counsel had thoroughly and adequately investigated the claims and became familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of those claims.
- 4. The Court finds and concludes that the proposed Notice and Request for Exclusion Form, and the procedures set forth in the Settlement for providing notice to the Class will provide the best notice practicable, satisfies all notice requirements, adequately advises Class Members and Aggrieved Employees of their rights under this Settlement, and therefore meets the requirements of due process. The Notice of Settlement ("Notice") fairly, plainly, accurately, and reasonably informs Class Members of: (1) appropriate information about the nature of this Action, the definition of the Class, the identity of Class Counsel, and the essential terms of the Settlement; (2) appropriate information about Plaintiffs and Class Counsel's forthcoming applications for the

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enhancement payment to the Class Representatives and the Class Counsel attorneys' fees and litigation costs award; (3) appropriate information about how the proceeds of the Settlement will be distributed, and about Class Members' rights to appear through counsel if they desire; (4) appropriate information about how to object to the Settlement or submit an Request for Exclusion Form, if a Class Member wishes to do so; and (5) appropriate instructions as to how to obtain additional information regarding this Action and the Settlement. The Notice also advises Aggrieved Employees they will be sent a PAGA Payment even if they opt out of the Class Payment and will be bound by the PAGA Released Claims. The proposed plan for mailing the Notice and Request for Exclusion Form, by first class mail to the most current mailing address information from a National Change of Address Search (NCOA) based on the most current information provided from Defendant's records, is an appropriate method, reasonably designed to reach all individuals who would be bound by the Settlement. If Notice forms are returned because of incorrect addresses, the Settlement Administrator shall use reasonable practices to obtain more current address information for Class Members and Aggrieved Employees (such as utilizing Class Members' Social Security numbers to search electronic address databases) and re-mail the Notice forms to any new address thus obtained. If new address information is obtained by return mail, the Settlement Administrator shall promptly forward the Notice to the addressee via first class regular U.S. Mail. On all such re-mails, the Settlement Administrator shall indicate on the Notice the date it was re-mailed, and notify counsel for Defendant and Plaintiffs of the date of each remailing.

- 5. All Settlement Class Members are not required to take any action to receive Individual Class Settlement Payments based on the qualifying work week calculation.
- 6. The Notice and Request for Exclusion Forms (collectively, the "Notice Packet"), and the manner of distributing the Notice Packet, are approved.
- 7. The Parties are ordered to carry out the Settlement according to its terms.
- Plaintiffs Hector Quiroz, and Francisco Aguila are appointed the Class Representatives for 8. 26 the Class. Kevin Mahoney and Berkeh Alemzadeh of Mahoney Law Group, APC are appointed Class Counsel.

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- The Court appoints Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions ("Phoenix Settlement 9. Administrators") as the Settlement Administrator. Promptly following the entry of this Order, the
- Settlement Administrator will prepare final versions of the Notice Packets, incorporating into them
- the relevant dates and deadlines set forth in this order.
- 10. Within twenty-one (21) calendar days of preliminary approval, Defendant shall provide the
- Settlement Administrator with the following information that is within Defendant's possession for
  - each Class Member and Aggrieved Employee: 1. Class Member's full name; 2. Class Member's
  - last known address; 3. Class Member's last four digits of social security number; 4. Class
  - Member's employee identification number; and based on Defendant's payroll records, the Class
  - Member's total number of workweeks. This information shall be based on Defendant's payroll
  - and other business records and in a format readily accessible to Defendant. The data contained in
  - the Database shall remain confidential and shall not be disclosed to anyone, except to applicable
  - taxing authorities and as needed by the Settlement Administrator to carry out the reasonable efforts
  - required by this Agreement, or pursuant to express written authorization by Defendant or by order
  - of the Court. The Settlement Administrator shall be authorized to use any reasonable practices to
  - locate Class Members and Aggrieved Employees in order to provide them with Notice Packets
  - and/or Settlement Payments. Neither Class Counsel nor the Settlement Administrator may use the
  - Database for any purpose other than to administer the Settlement as provided in the Settlement.
  - 11. Within ten (10) days after receipt of the database containing Defendant's records pursuant
  - to the Settlement, herein, the Settlement Administrator shall mail a copy of the Notice to all Class
  - Members and Aggrieved Employees by first class regular U.S. mail, using the most current mailing
  - address information possessed by Defendant. The Settlement Administrator will engage in address
  - searches consistent with their normal practices in settlements of wage claims, including skip
  - tracing. Any returned envelopes from this mailing with forwarding address will be utilized by the
  - Settlement Administrator to forward the Notice to the Class Members.
  - 12. Class Members will receive an Individual Class Payment, unless they submit a timely
  - Request for Exclusion Form. Aggrieved Employees will receive an Individual PAGA Payment
- even if they opt-out of the Class Settlement.

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13. Each Notice of Settlement will include the total Individual Weeks Worked by the Class Members and Aggrieved Employees during the Relevant Time Period. To the extent a Class Member or Aggrieved Employee disputes the information listed on his or her Notice of Settlement, the Class Member/Aggrieved Employee may produce evidence to the Settlement Administrator showing the number of weeks the Class Member/Aggrieved Employee contends to have worked during the relevant Period. Defendant's records will be presumed determinative, but the Parties will meet and confer to evaluate the evidence submitted by the Class Member. If the Parties cannot agree, the dispute will be submitted to the Settlement Administrator whose decision as to the proper number of Individual Work Weeks will be final and binding. In the event Notices are re-mailed to certain Class Members by the Settlement Administrator, those Class Members will have an additional 14 days from the second mailing to exclude themselves from the Settlement or to object to the Settlement or until the Response Date, whichever is later. All objections to the Settlement must be in writing and be sent to the Claims Administrator within sixty (60) days after the initial mailing of the Notice Packets by the Claims Administrator in accordance with the specific instruction set forth in the "Notice of Settlement of Class Action", unless the Class Member received a remailed Notice, as discussed above. Copies of all objections will be sent to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel, by the Settlement Administrator. The Parties will lodge all objections with the Court. Class Members can also appear at the final approval hearing, either in person or through a legal representative, and state their objection to the Court. Only Class Members who have not excluded themselves from the Settlement (i.e. "opted-out") may file objections. In the event more than Five (5%) of the Settlement Class opt out of the Settlement, Defendant maintains the right to withdraw from the Settlement. The date of filing with the Settlement Administrator shall be the exclusive means for determining whether an objection has been timely filed.

14. The Court will conduct a Final Approval Hearing to determine: (1) whether the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and should be finally approved by the Court; (2) the amount of attorneys' fees and costs to award to Class Counsel; and (3) the amount of Enhancement

Payment to the Class Representatives. If the settlement is finally approved by the Court, this

| 1  | matter will be dismissed, with prejudice, and Defendant will receive a release of claims as set fort    |  |
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| 2  | in the Settlement Agreement.  |  |
| 3  | 15. Briefs in Support of Final Approval of the Settlement shall be filed on or before                   |  |
| 4  | no later than sixteen (16) court days before the Final Approva  |  |
| 5  | Hearing.  |  |
| 6  | 16. The Court reserves the right to continue the date of the Final Approval Hearing without             |  |
| 7  | further notice to Class Members. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications    |  |
| 8  | arising out of or in connection with the Settlement.  |  |
| 9  | 17. In the event the Settlement is not finally approved, or otherwise does not become effective         |  |
| 10 | in accordance within the terms of the Settlement, this Order shall be rendered null and void and        |  |
| 11 | shall be vacated, and the Parties shall revert to their respective positions as of before entering into |  |
| 12 | the Settlement.   |  |
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| 14 | IT IS SO ORDERED.   |  |
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| 18 | DAVID COHN  |  |
| 19 | HONORABLE DAVID COHN JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  |  |
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## PROOF OF SERVICE

Code of Civ. Proc. § 1013a, subd. (3)

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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 **December 22, 2022,** I served true copies of the following document described as: **[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT.** The document was served on the interested parties in this action, addressed as follows:

|                             | Attorney for Defendant             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| John E. Lattin, Esq.        | INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE            |
| Allen C. Ostergar III, Esq. | COATINGS, INC.                     |
| OSTERGAR LATTIN             |                                    |
| JULANDER LLP                | Telephone No.: (949)305-4590       |
| 9110 Irvine Center Drive    | Facsimile No.: (949)305-4591       |
| Irvine, CA 92618            | Email: <u>jlattin@ostergar.com</u> |
|                             | aostergar@ostergar.com             |
|                             | tjulander@ostergar.com             |
|                             | <u>cslovenec@ostergar.com</u>      |
|                             |                                    |

By e-mail: Based upon court order or an agreement of the parties to accept service by e-mail, I caused the document(s) to be sent to the persons at the electronic service addresses listed above from the email address smarquez@mahoney-law.net. Within a reasonable time after the transmission, no error, electronic message or any other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful was received.

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

Executed on **December 22, 2022**, at Long Beach, California.



Samantha Marquez