1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Michael D. Palmer (pro hac vice) mpalmer@sanfordheisler.com SANFORD HEISLER SHARP, LLP 1350 Avenue of the Americas, 31st Floor New York, NY 10019 Telephone: (646) 402-5653 Facsimile: (646) 402-5651  Danielle Fuschetti (CA Bar No. 294064) dfuschetti@sanfordheisler.com SANFORD HEISLER SHARP, LLP 111 Sutter Street, Suite 975 San Francisco, CA 94104 Telephone: (415) 795-2020 Facsimile: (415) 795-2021	Xinying Valerian (CA Bar No. 254890) xinying@valerian.law VALERIAN LAW 1604 Solano Avenue, Suite D Albany, CA 94707 Telephone: (888) 686-1918 Facsimile: (510) 982-4513 ALAMEDA COUNTY  APR 1 5 2019 CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COUNTY By  Depu	main.	
11	Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Class			
12	SUPERIOR COURT OF T	HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
13				
14		COUNTY OF ALAMEDA		
15	UNLIMITED JURISDICTION			
16	MARTIN FLETSCHER, On Behalf of Himself	Case No. RG17852058		
17	and All Others Similarly Situated,	CLASS ACTION		
18	Plaintiff,	54		
19	v.	[PROPOSED] ORDER OF FINAL		
20	OVERLAND SOLUTIONS, INC.,	APPROVAL AND JUDGMENT		
21	Defendant.	ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO JUDO STEPHEN KAUS, DEPT. 19	зE	
22		Hearing Date: April 15, 2019		
23		Time: 3:00 p.m. Reservation Number: R-2021210		
24		Date Action Filed: March 8, 2017 Trial Date: Not set		
25		1100300		
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### RECITALS

WHEREAS, Martin Fletscher (the "Plaintiff" or "Class Representative") brought wage and hour claims against Overland Solutions, Inc. ("Defendant") on behalf of himself and other similarly situated individuals.

WHEREAS, Defendant denies any wrongdoing, fault, violation of law, or liability for damages of any sort.

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2018, the Parties entered into the Amended Joint Stipulation of Class Settlement and Release ("Settlement Agreement," "Settlement," or "Agreement") to resolve the wage and hour claims on a class-wide basis. The Settlement provides that Defendant will make a non-reversionary payment of \$2,400,000.00 to settle the class and PAGA claims.

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2018, the Court preliminarily approved the Settlement, deeming it to be a fair and reasonable result for the Class. In granting preliminary approval, the Court provisionally certified the Class, appointed Plaintiff Fletscher as Class Representative and Plaintiff's Counsel (Sanford Heisler Sharp, LLP and Valerian Law) as Class Counsel, approved RG/2 Claims Administration LLC as the Settlement Administrator, and approved the distribution of notice to all Class Members.

WHEREAS, the Settlement Administrator has certified that the Court-approved Notice of Settlement of Class Action was distributed to Class Members as approved by the Court.

WHEREAS, no Class Member submitted a written objection to the Settlement, and only one Class Member requested to be excluded from the Settlement.

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2019, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Final Approval of Class Settlement, Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Service Award, and Settlement Administration Costs (the "Motion"), and no party opposed the Motion.

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2019, the Court held a Final Approval Hearing, and no Class Member objected to the Settlement.

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## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS ON FINAL APPROVAL

## THE COURT NOW FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Settlement, Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Service Award, and Settlement Administration Costs is hereby GRANTED in its entirety. The Settlement is ORDERED APPROVED in its entirety. The terms of the Settlement Agreement are incorporated, and made part of this Order, as if copied herein, and shall be effective, implemented, and enforced as provided in the Settlement Agreement. The Parties to the Settlement are directed to effectuate its terms.
- 2. All capitalized terms contained and not otherwise defined within this Order shall be governed by the definitions set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

#### Final Certification of the Class

- 3. For settlement purposes only, the Court makes the following findings:
  - The Class Members are ascertainable and are so numerous as to make joinder impracticable;
  - There are questions of law and fact common to the Class, and such questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members;
  - Plaintiff suffered from the same alleged course of conduct as the Class Members,
     and their claims are typical of the Class;
  - d. Plaintiff and Class Counsel can protect and have fairly and adequately protected the interests of Class Members; and
  - e. A class action is superior to all other available methods for fairly and efficiently resolving the class claims.

4. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382, California Rule of Court 3.769, and/or other applicable laws, the Court GRANTS final certification of the following Class for settlement purposes:

All individuals classified by OSI as independent contractors who performed insurance inspections or surveys as part of OSI's Survey Division in the state of California at any point from March 8, 2013 to July 25, 2018.

#### Distribution of Class Notice

- 5. The Court also finds that due and adequate notice of the Settlement has been provided to the Class. The Notice of Class Action Settlement ("Class Notice") approved by the Court was distributed to Class Members. The Class Notice provided an accurate, objective, and clear explanation of the nature of the case and the terms of the Settlement, including the anticipated requests for attorneys' fees, expenses, and service award. The Class Notice also clearly and accurately explained the process by which a Class Member could seek exclusion from the Settlement, detailed the method for submitting written objections, and explained that Class Members could appear at the Final Approval Hearing to raise or explain any objections.
- 6. The appointed Settlement Administrator, RG/2 Claims Administration LLC, distributed the Class Notice pursuant to the process approved by the Court in its Preliminary Approval Order. The Settlement Administrator was provided Class Members' last known addresses, which it updated as necessary based upon the United States Postal Service's National Change of Address database. As provided in the Settlement and approved by the Court in its Preliminary Approval Order, follow-up efforts were made to send the Notice to those individuals whose original Notices were returned as undeliverable. The Court finds that the method by which Class Members were provided the Class Notice was valid, due, and sufficient.
- 7. No Class Members objected to any aspect of the Settlement. Only one Class Member requested to be excluded from the Settlement. By his timely opt-out request, Mark Predovic is excluded from the Class and is thus not a Class Member and not bound by the terms of the Settlement.

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## Final Approval of the Class and PAGA Settlement

- 8. Having reviewed the Settlement Agreement and Plaintiff's submissions in support of Final Approval of Class Settlement, and based upon all proceedings herein, the Court concludes that the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable in all respects and GRANTS final approval of the Settlement.
  - 9. Specifically, the Court finds that:
    - a. The Settlement was the result of extensive, arm's-length negotiations among the Parties after Class Counsel investigated the class claims and became intimately familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of the class claims;
    - The Class Members strongly support the Settlement Agreement; indeed, no Class Member objected to the Settlement and only one individual out of the 271-person Class opted out;
    - Class Counsel have significant experience in wage and hour class actions, and they strongly endorse the Settlement as an outstanding result for the Class; and
    - d. The Settlement Agreement provides substantial compensation for Class Members, especially in light of the significant litigation risks had the case not been resolved through settlement.
- 10. The Court finds that the Settlement reasonably settles the penalties under the California Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 ("PAGA") for \$50,000.00 and ORDERS that three-quarters of this amount (\$37,500.00) be paid to the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.
- 11. The Court finds that the Class Settlement payment process provided in the Settlement is fair and reasonable, and the Court ORDERS the Parties and the Settlement Administrator to consummate the Settlement and distribute Class Settlement Payments pursuant to the terms of the Settlement.

# Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and Settlement Administration Costs

12. The Court also finds that the requested attorneys' fees award of one-third the total Settlement fund (i.e., \$800,000.00) is fair and reasonable.

- 13. Specifically, the Court finds that:
  - a. The percentage method is an appropriate means of calculating attorneys' fees in this case, where Plaintiff has secured a common fund;
  - Class Counsel's requested fee award of one-third the total Settlement fund is within the ordinary range of percentages approved by courts;
  - c. Class Counsel obtained an outstanding result, achieving an early and substantial recovery for the Class, especially considering the short tenure of the average Class Member and the substantial risks associated with continued litigation;
  - d. Class Counsel are highly skilled and experienced in wage and hour class actions, and the requested fee award of one-third of the Settlement fund falls well within the norm for attorneys with Class Counsel's skills and depth of experience;
  - e. Class Counsel have dedicated considerable time and effort to prosecuting this case;
  - f. Class Counsel incurred significant risks in prosecuting this class action entirely on a contingency basis, as they risked that they would never be compensated for their time or reimbursed for their expenses; and
  - g. The Court further finds that the requested fee award is reasonable under the lodestar cross-check. Class Counsel have invested \$741,776.92 worth of time in obtaining a fair and reasonable settlement for the Class. The requested attorneys' fees amounts to one hundred and eight percent (108%) of Class Counsel's lodestar, reflecting a modest multiplier which is warranted under the circumstances. The Court finds that such a multiplier is well within the range of multipliers approved by courts using the lodestar cross-check and that this modest multiplier is justified in light of the substantial relief afforded to the Class Members, Class Counsel's skills and deep experience, and the risks in prosecuting this case on a contingency basis and thereby forgoing other opportunities.

- 14. The Court further finds that Class Counsel's litigation costs of \$21,485.23 were reasonable and necessary to the prosecution of the case, and the Court awards Class Counsel full reimbursement of these costs.
- 15. The Court further finds that the requested payment of \$10,000 for the fees and costs of RG/2 Claims Administration LLC, the appointed Settlement Administrator, is reasonable and necessary to administering the Settlement. The Court therefore awards this requested payment in full.
- 16. Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Class Counsel are awarded a total of \$800,000.00 for fees and \$21,485.23 for litigation costs. The Settlement Administrator will pay ninety percent (90%) of the Court-approved attorneys' fees, and the entirety of the Court-approved expenses to Class Counsel within ten (10) calendar days of the Effective Date. The remaining ten percent (10%) of attorneys' fees shall remain in the Qualified Settlement Fund (QSF), until the completion of the settlement distribution process and Court approval of a final accounting. The Administrator shall not release these funds to class counsel until the Court determines that these conditions have been met.
- 17. By no later than two hundred twenty (220) calendar days after the Effective Date of the Settlement, Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator shall report to the Court how the Settlement funds have been distributed to Class Members, the total Net Settlement Amount remaining in the settlement fund (if any), and the status of any unresolved issues (the "Final Report").
- 18. A class settlement compliance hearing is hereby set to occur on January 8, 2020, at 3:00 in Department 19 Administration Building (Third Floor), 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, at which time the Court will consider evidence that the distribution process is complete and that a final accounting may be approved.

# Settlement Administrator's Fees and Costs

- 19. The Court finds that the requested payment of \$10,000 for the fees and costs of RG/2 Claims Administration LLC, the appointed Settlement Administrator, is reasonable and necessary to administering the Settlement.
- 20. Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Settlement Administrator is awarded a total of \$10,000.00 for its fees and costs.

# Service Award

- 21. The Court finds that the requested service award of \$18,000 for Plaintiff Fletscher is reasonable and well-justified in light of the substantial time and effort that he, the sole Class Representative, has expended on behalf of the Class; the outstanding recovery achieved for the Class as a result of the Class Representative's indispensable service; the significant risks that the Class Representative faced by bringing this Lawsuit; the modest size of the service award relative to the overall settlement value, as well as the average and highest individual Class Member recoveries; the general release that he is agreeing to provide Defendant, for no additional consideration, in service of the Class; and Class Members' overwhelming support for the terms of the Settlement, including its provision for a service award of \$18,000 to Class Representative Fletscher.
- 22. Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiff Martin Fletscher will receive a service award of \$18,000.00.

## Cv Pres Beneficiary Award

- 23. The Court finds that the distribution of residual monies to Bay Area Legal Aid, an eligible non-profit organization providing civil legal services to the indigent, is an appropriate *cy pres* remedy under California Code of Civil Procedure § 384. Therefore, the Court approves of the *cy pres* distribution provided for in the Settlement and finds that it is fair and reasonable.
- 24. In the Final Report, Class Counsel shall report to the Court the total amount that was actually paid to the Class Members. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 384, the Court shall amend the judgment to direct that all unclaimed or abandoned class member funds, plus any interest that has accrued thereon, be distributed to Bay Area Legal Aid.

# <u>JUDGMENT</u>

25. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that if there is no appeal of this Order, the Effective Date of this Settlement will be sixty-five (65) calendar days after the entry of the Order. If there is an appeal of this Order, the Effective Date of this Settlement will be ten (10) business days after the appeal is finally withdrawn, dismissed, or denied with prejudice.

- 26. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that upon the Effective Date of this Settlement, each Class Member will fully release and discharge the Released Parties¹ from any and all claims arising at any point from March 8, 2013 through July 25, 2018 (the "Settlement Period"), that were asserted in this lawsuit, or that are based on any of the facts, circumstances, transactions, events, occurrences, acts, disclosures, statements, omissions or failures to act alleged in the Second Amended Complaint (the "Released Claims"). The Released Claims specifically include: (1) failure to pay minimum wages for all hours worked; (2) failure to furnish accurate wage statements; (3) failure to reimburse business expenses; (4) failure to timely pay all final wages to Class Members upon termination of Services for OSI; (5) incorporated or related claims asserted through California Business and Professions Code § 17200; (6) incorporated or related claims asserted through PAGA; and (7) any and all penalties, interest and attorneys' fees and costs based on the alleged.
- 27. Unnamed Class Members are not releasing any claims that are unrelated to services they performed as Class Members during the Settlement Period; nor are they releasing any claims other than the defined Released Claims.
- 28. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, and in accordance with Plaintiff's release set forth in the Settlement, Plaintiff Fletscher will also (i) release all claims against the Released Parties that were or could have been asserted by Plaintiff which arise out of or relate in any way to his performance of services for OSI as a Class Member and (ii) generally release all claims against OSI arising prior to the last day of the Settlement Period.
- 29. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Court enters final judgment on the class action claims and PAGA claims asserted in the Second Amended Complaint in accordance with the terms of the Settlement and this Order. By virtue of this Order, all Class Members, including Plaintiff, are bound by the Settlement Agreement and permanently barred from prosecuting any of the Released Claims against any of the Released Parties.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Per the Settlement Agreement, the "Released Parties" are Defendant, its subsidiaries, officers, directors, members, partners, owners, shareholders, employees, former employees, agents, servants, attorneys, assigns, affiliates, independent contractors, volunteers, predecessors, successors, parent companies and organizations, insurers, and any and all other persons, firms and corporations in which Defendant may have an interest. (Settlement § I, ¶ 12.)

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[PROPOSED] ORDER OF FINAL APPROVAL AND JUDGMENT – CASE NO. RG17852058