

1 Alan Harris (SBN 146079) David Garrett (SBN 160274) 2 HARRIS & RÙBLE 4771 Cromwell Street Los Angeles, CA 90028 Tel: 323.962.3777 Fax: 323.962.3004 3 4 E-mail: aharris@harrisandruble.com E-mail: dgarrett@harrisandruble.com 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff CORY WIGERSMA 6 7 8 9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 12 13 CORY WIGERSMA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly 14 situated. 15 **Plaintiffs** 16 v. 17 MOTION THEORY, INC., a California Corporation, and DOE ONE through and including DOE 18 ONE HUNDRED, 19

Defendants.

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Sherri R. Carter, Executivo Officer/Cletk By! Sharon McKlaney, Deputy

FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CENTRAL DISTRICT

Case No: BC 531180

Assigned to Hon. Elihu M. Berle, Dept. 323, Central Civil West

OCCO ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS-ACTION SETTLEMENT

Date: December 30, 2014

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Dept: 323

Place: Central Civil West

600 S. Commonwealth Ave. Los Angeles, California

Complaint filed: December 19, 2013 First Am. Comp. filed: Mar. 28, 2014

Discovery Cut-Off: N/A Motion Cut-Off: N/A Trial Date: N/A

WHEREAS, the Court has before it the unopposed motion by Plaintiff Cory Wigersma ("Plaintiff") for preliminary approval of a proposed class-action settlement.

WHEREAS, the parties having made application for an order preliminarily approving the settlement of this action, in accordance with a Joint Stipulation of Settlement and Release ("Stipulation") that sets forth the terms and conditions for a proposed settlement of the entire litigation and entry of judgment upon the terms and conditions set forth therein;

WHEREAS, the Court having read and considered the Stipulation; and WHEREAS, all defined terms containing herein having the same meanings as those set forth in the Stipulation;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the Stipulation as being within the range of possible approval and as disclosing no grounds to doubt its fairness.
- 2. The Stipulation, entered in the course of a JAMS mediation with mediator Joel Grossman, has been negotiated at arm's-length and is preliminarily determined to be fair, reasonable and adequate, pending final hearing and approval.
- 3. The Court preliminarily determines that the class should be certified as the proposed class: (1) is sufficiently numerous; (2) there are common issues of law or fact and these common issues affect all class members; (3) the claims of the class representative are typical of the claims of the class; and (4) class counsel and the representative plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the entire class.
- 4. Solely for purposes of the proposed settlement, two Settlement Classes are hereby provisionally certified pursuant to section 382 of the California Code of Civil Procedure as follows:
- (a) The Final Wage Class: All employees tendered a final paycheck in California by or on behalf of Defendant in the State of California during the period of three years preceding the filing of this action to July 31, 2014; and

- (b) The 226 Class: All non-exempt employees tendered a paycheck in California by or on behalf of Defendant in the State of California during the period from one year prior to the filing of the Complaint to the date July 31, 2014.
- 5.. Solely for purposes of the proposed settlement, the Court does hereby preliminarily approve (a) Alan Harris and David Garrett of Harris & Ruble as Class Counsel; and (b) Cory Wigersma as Class Representative.
- 6. <u>Deadlines</u>: Counsel for Defendant shall deliver a complete list of class member contact information to the Settlement Administrator no later than January 12, 2015. The Settlement Administrator shall mail notices to Class Members no later than January 26, 2015. Class Counsel shall file its Motion for Attorney Fees and Incentive Award no later than February 20, 2015. Class Member Claims, Objections, or Opt-Out Requests must be postmarked no later than March 27, 2015. The Deadline for Class Counsel to respond to objections and report class participation data to the Court is April 17, 2015.
- 7. On April 27, 2015, at 10 a.m., or on such other date and time as the Court may hereafter designate, a final approval hearing shall be held before this Court, in Department 323 or in such other Department as the Court may hereafter designate, to determine (a) whether the proposed settlement of the litigation on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable, and adequate; and (b) the amount of attorney's fees and costs that should be awarded to Class Counsel.
- 8. Gilardi & Co., LLC ("Gilardi" or the "Claims Administrator") is approved as Settlement Administrator to supervise and administer the notice procedure as more fully set forth in the Stipulation. Gilardi shall serve as Settlement Administrator subject to its November 6, 2014, Administration Estimate Summary, which provides for an Administration Fee Cap of \$40,000 (the "Administrative Fee").
- 9. By no later than twenty days after entry of the Order granting Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, but no earlier than January 30, 2015, Defendant will deposit the sum of \$150,000 with the Claims Administrator (the "Initial Deposit"). On

December 1, 2015, Defendant will deposit the sum of \$200,000 with the Claims Administrator. On December 1, 2016, Defendant will deposit the sum of \$300,000 with the Claims Administrator. On December 1, 2017, Defendant will deposit the sum of \$350,000 with the Claims Administrator. (These deposits shall collectively be known as the "Settlement Funds.")

- 10. The Claims Administrator shall place the Settlement Funds in an account or accounts that is/are not market-dependent and that are federally guaranteed or federally insured to maintain the principal without any risk of loss whatsoever.
- 11. In December of 2015, the Claims Administrator shall make an initial distribution of Settlement Funds to the Participating Class Members, less any other courtapproved payments as indicated below (the "First Distribution"). In January of 2017, the Claims Administrator shall make a second distribution of Settlement Funds to the Participating Class Members, less any other court-approved payments as indicated below (the "Second Distribution"). In December of 2017, the Claims Administrator shall make a final distribution of Settlement Funds to the Participating Class Members, less any other court-approved payments as indicated below (the "Final Distribution").
 - 12. The Settlement Funds shall be distributed as follows:
 - (a) From the **Initial Deposit**:
 - Gilardi shall be paid 75% of the \$40,000 Administrative Fee i.e. \$30,000.
 - (b) From the **First Distribution**:
 - Class Counsel shall be paid 75% of its court-approved Costs, with the remaining balance of the First Distribution to be distributed to Participating Class Members pursuant to the Stipulation.
 - (c) From the **Second Distribution**:
 - Class Counsel shall be paid be 25% of its court-approved attorney fees, with the remaining balance of the Second Distribution to be distributed to Participating Class Members pursuant to the Stipulation.

(d) From the Final Distribution:

- Gilardi shall be paid 25% of the Administrative Fee, i.e. \$10,000.
- Class Counsel shall be paid 25% of its court-approved Costs.
- The LWDA shall be paid \$20,000.
- Plaintiff shall be paid the \$5,000 Enhancement Award.
- Class Counsel shall be paid the remaining balance of its fees.
- Any amount of the Final Distribution remaining after the abovereferenced payments are made shall be distributed to Participating Class Members pursuant to the Stipulation.
- 13. All Settlement Class Members who do not exclude themselves from the Settlement shall be bound by all determinations and judgments in the litigation concerning the settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable to the Settlement Class. Any Settlement Class Member who wishes to be excluded from the Settlement Class and not participate in the proposed settlement must submit a request for exclusion as more fully set forth in the Stipulation.
- 14. Any Member of the Settlement Class may enter an appearance in the litigation, at his or her own expense, individually or through counsel of his or her own choice, by filing a notice to appear. Any Member of the Settlement Class who does not enter an appearance or exclude himself or herself from the Class—i.e., opt out of the settlement—will be represented by Class Counsel as to all of the released claims more fully set forth the Stipulation.
- 15. Class Members who do not exclude themselves from the Class—i.e. opt out of the settlement—shall be permitted to object to the settlement as more fully set forth in the Stipulation. To object, a Class Member must file a written objection with the Claims Administrator by the date to be set forth in the Notice to Class Members.
- 16. Any written objections shall state each specific objection and any legal support for each objection. The objection must also state the Class Member's full name and address. Plaintiff's Counsel and Defendant's Counsel shall thereafter be entitled to

file and serve a response to any such objection no later than April 17, 2015. If the Court rejects the Class Member's objection, the Class Member will still be bound by the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement. If a Class Member intends to object to the settlement but nevertheless wishes to receive his or her share of the settlement funds, the Class Member must submit a valid and timely Claim Form. If the Court approves the settlement despite any objections, and if the objecting Class Member did not file a valid and timely Claim Form, he or she will not receive any settlement proceeds. If a Class Member submits both a Claim Form and an Opt-Out request, the Opt-Out Request will be disregarded.

- 14. The Court reserves the right to adjourn the date of the final-approval hearing without further notice to the Settlement Class Members, and the Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or connected with the proposed settlement.
 - 15. Bet Tzedek Legal Services is named as the cy pres recipient.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DEC 30 2014	ELIHU M. BERLE
DEC 31 2014	JUDGE, CALIFORNIA SUPERIOR COURT

Facsimile: I caused such envelope to be delivered by e-mail or fax to:

Jennifer@landeggeresq.com Alfred@landeggeresq.com Landegger Baron Law Group

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I am readily familiar with the Firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid in the ordinary course of business, addressed as follows:

Oscar Rivas Jennifer Komsky Alfred Landegger Landegger Baron Law Group 15760 Ventura Blvd. #1200 Encino, CA 91331

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct. Executed on December 23, 2014, at Los Angeles, California.

David Garrett