SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA **COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO** JENNA NOVOTNY, individually and on behalf) Case No. 37-2020-00017688-CU-BT-CTL of all others similarly situated,) [Case Assigned for all Purposes to) Hon. Joel R. Wohlfeil, Dept. C-73] Plaintiff, AMENDED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT VS. AND RELEASE MASSAGE HEIGHTS FRANCHISING, LLC, a) Texas limited liability company; and DOES 1-50, inclusive, Defendants,

AMENDED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

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this ___ day of March 2022, by and among: (1) Plaintiff Jenna Novotny ("Plaintiff"), for herself and on behalf of the putative Class she seeks to represent (defined below); and (2) Defendant Massage Heights Franchising, LLC ("Defendant"). The Agreement is intended by Plaintiff and Defendant (collectively, the "Parties") to fully, finally, and forever resolve, discharge, release, and settle the

Released Claims (as defined below) upon and subject to the terms and conditions hereof.

This Amended Settlement Agreement and Release ("Agreement") is made and entered into

I. <u>RECITALS</u>

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed a lawsuit against Defendant that is currently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, San Diego County, entitled: *Jenna Novotny v. Massage Heights Franchising, LLC*, Case No. 37-2020-00017688-CU-BT-CTL (the "Action");

WHEREAS, Plaintiff has asserted claims, on her own behalf and on behalf of a putative Class of similarly situated individuals, seeking monetary damages and other statutory and declaratory relief against Defendant concerning provisions in the Membership Agreement (defined below) that affect the ability of "Class Members" to use/ redeem "Unutilized Massages" (defined below) upon Membership (defined below) cancellation, nonrenewal, or termination for nonpayment. Plaintiff alleges these provisions violate California law;

WHEREAS, Defendant denies Plaintiff's allegations of wrongful conduct, liability, and/or damages in their entirety, and has asserted numerous procedural and substantive defenses to Plaintiff's claims;

WHEREAS, Class Counsel (defined below) has conducted a thorough investigation of the facts and legal theories relating to and forming the basis of the claims alleged in the Action, including an extensive, multi-phase discovery and fact-finding process in preparation for and as part of a good faith and an arm's-length mediation process and subsequent litigation; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiff and Class Counsel have concluded, based upon the aforementioned litigation record and factual investigation, and taking into account the sharply contested issues involved, the expense and time necessary to prosecute the Action through trial, and subsequent potential appeals, the risks, costs, and uncertainties of further prosecution of the Action, and the substantial benefits to be provided to the Class Members pursuant to this Agreement, that a settlement

with Defendant on the terms set forth herein is fair, equitable, adequate, reasonable, and in the best interests of Plaintiff and the Class Members. The Parties have therefore agreed to settle the Action on the terms set forth herein.

II. AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, intending to be legally bound and acknowledging the sufficiency of the consideration and undertakings set forth below, Defendant, Defendant's Counsel (defined below), Class Counsel, and Plaintiff hereby stipulate and agree that, in consideration of the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and the exhibits contained herein, and subject to and expressly conditioned upon the Court's entry of a Final Approval Order and Judgment approving this Agreement, all Released Claims shall be settled, compromised, released, and fully disposed of upon the terms and conditions set forth herein.

III. **DEFINITIONS**

In addition to the terms defined at various points within this Agreement, the following defined terms apply throughout this Agreement and the attached exhibits:

- 1. "Action" means the class action lawsuit, entitled *Jenna Novotny v. Massage Heights Franchising, LLC*, filed on behalf of Plaintiff and the Class in San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2020-00017688-CU-BT-CTL, which is currently pending before the Honorable Joel R. Wohlfeil.
 - 2. "Class" or "Class Members" means for purposes of this Settlement:

All individuals who enrolled in a Membership at a Retreat (defined below) at any time prior to July 19, 2016, and whose Membership terminated as a result of cancellation, nonrenewal, or nonpayment prior to [date of Preliminary Approval (defined below)] with one or more Unutilized Massages.

- 3. "Class Counsel" means the law firm of Johnson Fistel, LLP.
- 4. "Court" means the Superior Court of the State of California, San Diego County.
- 5. "Cy Pres Recipient" means the Legal Aid Association of California, subject to approval by the Court, which shall only be entitled to receive the amount, if any, by which the Fee and Expense Amount (defined below) may be reduced by the Court.
 - 6. "Defendant's Counsel" means the law firm of Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin PC.

- 7. "Effective Date" means the earliest of the following: (1) the date of entry of the Final Approval Order and Judgment if no objections are submitted to the Settlement or if all objections are withdrawn prior to the Court ruling on them; or (2) thirty-one (31) days after the entry of the Final Approval Order and Judgment if objections are submitted and overruled and no appeal is taken from the Final Approval Order and Judgment; or (3) if a timely appeal is made, three (3) business days after the date of the final resolution of that appeal and any subsequent appeals from Final Approval of the Settlement.
- 8. "Fee and Expense Amount" means an award of attorneys' fees and the reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses authorized by the Court to be paid to Class Counsel for the services rendered in representing Plaintiff and the Class in the prosecution of the Action, pursuant to the terms outlined in Section XI of this Agreement.
- 9. "Final Approval Date" means the date the Court enters an Order and Judgment granting final approval of the Settlement.
- 10. "Final Approval Hearing" means the hearing to be held by the Court to determine (a) whether the Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable; (b) whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (c) and whether to approve Class Counsel's application for their Fee and Expense Amount and for Plaintiff's Service Award.
- 11. "Final Approval Order and Judgment" means the order and judgment that the Court enters upon finally approving the Settlement.
- 12. "Home Retreat" means (i) the Retreat (defined below) where the Class Member executed his/her Membership Agreement (defined below), (ii) the Retreat where the Class Member may have transferred his/her Membership (defined below) prior to the conclusion of his/her Membership, *or* (iii) the Retreat where the Class Member may otherwise be required to redeem any Reinstated Massage Credits (defined below) as a result of this Settlement in order to provide the Class Member with the best means possible to redeem any Reinstated Massage Credits made available through the Settlement contemplated in this Agreement.
- 13. "ID Number" means a unique identification number that will be separately assigned to each Class Member. Each Class Member's unique ID Number will be provided in the Notice sent

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- to that Class Member. Class Members may also request their unique ID Number by contacting the Settlement Administrator
- 14. "July Members" means Class Members with one or more Unutilized Massages that expired after May 29, 2016.
- 15. "May Members" means Class Members with one or more Unutilized Massages that expired on or before May 29, 2016.
- 16. "Membership" means the membership that any Class Member had with a Retreat pursuant to an executed Membership Agreement.
- 17. "Membership Agreement" means the agreement utilized by the Retreats prior to July 19, 2016, to enroll the Class Members into the Membership.
- 18. "Notice" means the forms of Notice of the Settlement that the Parties shall request the Court to approve in connection with the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, substantially in the form of Exhibit 1 to the Preliminary Approval Order, Exhibit A hereto.
- 19. "Notice Deadline" means the date by which the Settlement Administrator shall be required to send out the Notice, which shall not be later than sixty (60) days before the Final Approval Hearing or as otherwise ordered by the Court.
- 20. "Notice Program" means the methods described in this Agreement and the attached exhibits for providing Notice to the Class Members, which is further described in Section IX of this Agreement.
- 21. "Preliminary Approval" means the date that the Court enters an order preliminarily approving the Settlement substantially in the form of Exhibit A hereto.
- 22. "Reinstated Massage Credits" means massage service credits that Class Members may elect to have reinstated for redemption at their Home Retreat and pursuant to the terms of the Settlement.
- 23. "Reinstatement Request" means a Class Member's timely request for reinstatement of Unutilized Massages in the form of Reinstated Massage Credits consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

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- 24. "Reinstatement Request Deadline" means the deadline by which the Class Members must submit a Reinstatement Request as provided for in this Agreement and is the date 14 calendar days after the Final Approval Hearing unless the Court orders otherwise.
- 25. "Released Claims" means all causes of action, purported causes of action, claims, and demands to be released as specified in Section XIII of this Agreement.
- 26. "Released Parties" means those individuals and entities released in paragraphs 77–79 of the Agreement.
- 27. "Releasing Parties" means Plaintiff and all Settlement Class Members, including each of their respective heirs, assigns, beneficiaries, and successors.
 - 28. "Retreat" means a California Massage Heights franchised massage clinic.
- 29. "Service Award" means an award authorized by the Court to be paid to Plaintiff in recognition of her participation and efforts in prosecuting the Action, pursuant to the terms outlined in paragraph 71 of this Agreement.
- "Settlement" means the settlement into which the Parties have entered to resolve the 30. Action. The terms of the Settlement are as set forth in their entirety in this Agreement and the attached exhibits.
- 31. "Settlement Administrator" means Phoenix Class Action Administration Solutions or other third-party agent or administrator appointed by the Court to provide services in the administration of this Agreement, including providing the Notice to Class Members, the processing, evaluation, and verification of Reinstatement Requests, and the processing of other documents or tasks as provided for in this Agreement or as otherwise agreed to by the Parties and the Settlement Administrator or ordered by the Court.
- 32. "Settlement Class Members" means all Class Members who do not timely and/or validly opt out of the Settlement (in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and Preliminary Approval Order).
- 33. "Settlement Website" means the website the Settlement Administrator shall create and establish as soon as practicable following Preliminary Approval, but prior to the commencement of the Notice Program, as a means for Class Members to obtain information concerning the Settlement,

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REINSTATED MASSAGE CREDITS TO BE ISSUED TO MAY MEMBERS		
Hours of Unutilized Massages When Membership Ended	Reinstated Massage Credits	
One	One 60-minute service	
Two	One 90-minute service	
Three	Two 60-minute services	
Four	One 60-minute massage and One 90-minute massage	
Five	Three 60-minute services	
Six	Two 60-minute services and One 90-minute service	
Seven	Four 60-minute massages	
Eight	Three 60-minute services and One 90-minute service	
Nine	Five 60-minute services	
Ten	Four 60-minute services and One 90-minute service	
Eleven or more	((Number of Unutilized Massages – 1) x 0.5) + 1	

REINSTATED MASSAGE CREDITS TO BE ISSUED TO JULY MEMBERS	
Hours of Unutilized Massages When Membership Ended	Reinstated Massage Credits
One	One 60-minute service
Two	One 90-minute service
Three	One 60-minute service and One 90-minute service
Four	Three 60-minute services
Five	Four 60-minute services
Six	Four 60-minute services
Seven	Four 60-minute services and One 90-minute service
Eight	Six 60-minute services
Nine	Seven 60-minute services
Ten	Six 60-minute services and One 90-minute service
Eleven or more	((Number of Unutilized Massages – 1) x .75) + 1

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- 36. This reinstatement formula/allocation is intended to cumulatively result in the May Members receiving approximately fifty percent (50%) and the July Members receiving approximately seventy-five percent (75%) of their Unutilized Massages available for reinstatement and redemption under the Settlement.
- 37. Consistent with each Class Member's Membership Agreement, each massage service includes ten (10) minutes of dressing and consultation time.
- Class Members shall have 180 days to redeem Reinstated Massage Credits (the 38. "Redemption Period"). If the Final Approval Date is on or before July 1, 2022, and there are no appeals, the Redemption Period shall commence on the first day the Class Member is provided confirmation of the award of Reinstated Massage Credits as described in paragraph 41, below. If the Final Approval Date is after July 1, 2022, and there are no appeals, the Redemption Period shall commence on March 1, 2023. Reinstated Massage Credits may only be redeemed in 60, 90, and 120minute intervals per session.
- 39. All Reinstated Massage Credits are non-transferrable and may only be redeemed at the Class Member's Home Retreat, unless at least one of the following exceptions applies to the Class Member, in which case the Class Member may make a one-time request for a new Home Retreat in order to redeem his/her Reinstated Massage Credits:
 - The Class Member has moved more than 25 miles from his/her Home Retreat since the termination of his/her Membership.
 - The Class Member's Home Retreat is no longer in operation, does not exist, or is otherwise exempt from participating in the redemption of Reinstated Massage Credits pursuant to the Settlement (in which case the Class Member will be notified of the same at the time Notice is sent to the Class).
- 40. To qualify for Reinstated Massage Credits, Class Members must submit a Reinstatement Request by the Reinstatement Request Deadline. Any Class Member who timely submits a valid Reinstatement Request shall automatically have at least one Reinstated Massage Credit of 60 minutes applied to his/her Membership account consistent with the above chart.
- 41. Within thirty (30) days after the Final Approval Date, the Settlement Administrator shall mail a separate notice to each Class Member who submits a Reinstatement Request confirming (or not) the timeliness and validity of the Reinstatement Request, and providing the Class Member

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- 42. Reinstatement Requests may be submitted on the Settlement Website, by email, or by mail to the Settlement Administrator no later than the Reinstatement Request Deadline. For submissions by mail, the Reinstatement Request must be postmarked by the Reinstatement Request Deadline.
- 43. Any Class Member who has moved more than 25 miles from his/her Home Retreat since his/her Membership ended may make a one-time request to designate a new Retreat as his/her Home Retreat where he/she can redeem any Reinstated Massage Credits. In such a circumstance, the Class Member must include this request in his/her Reinstatement Request and must also provide the Settlement Administrator with proof of the Class Member's current home address so as to enable the Settlement Administrator to confirm the validity of the request. Sufficient proof includes anything mailed to the Class Member by an independent unaffiliated third party—such as utilities, bills, etc. or a current deed or rental agreement showing the Class Member's current home address.
- 44. Any Class Member whose Home Retreat is no longer in operation, does not exist, or is identified as a Retreat exempt from participating in the redemption of Reinstated Massage Credits pursuant to the Settlement may make a one-time request to designate a new Retreat as his/her Home Retreat where he/she can redeem Reinstated Massage Credits. In such a circumstance, the Class Member must include this request in his/her Reinstatement Request and must also provide the Settlement Administrator with the name and location of his/her Home Retreat so as to enable the

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Settlement Administrator to confirm the validity of the request.

- 45. Class Members shall be treated the same as current/active members of a Retreat with respect to the availability and servicing of massages.
- 46. No person shall have any claims against Defendant, any Retreat, Defendant's Counsel, Plaintiff, Class Counsel, or the Settlement Administrator based on the mailings, distributions, or reinstatement process made in accordance with this Agreement or any order of the Court.

V. <u>CERTIFICATION OF THE CLASS</u>

47. Within sixty (60) days of execution of this Agreement, and through the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, Plaintiff and Class Counsel shall seek certification from the Court of a Class, for settlement purposes only, defined as follows:

All individuals who enrolled in a Membership at a MHF Retreat at any time prior to July 19, 2016, and whose Membership terminated as a result of cancellation, nonrenewal, or nonpayment prior to [date of Preliminary Approval] with one or more Unutilized Massages.

- 48. For purposes of this Settlement only, Defendant expressly agrees to the certification of the Class. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as an admission by Defendant or other Released Persons that the Action is suitable for class certification for purposes of a trial or contested proceeding. If the Court declines to approve the Settlement, or if the Court changes the Class composition or the terms of the Settlement in any material way not acceptable to Defendant after reasonable consultation with Class Counsel, or if certification of the Class or approval of the Settlement is reversed, or if certification of the Class or approval of the Settlement is changed upon appeal or review in any material way not acceptable to Defendant after reasonable consultation with Class Counsel, Defendant shall have the right to terminate the Settlement pursuant to Section XIV of this Agreement.
- 49. In the event Final Approval of this Settlement is not granted by the Court and/or the Settlement embodied herein does not become effective, the Parties shall be returned to the *status quo* ante, and the Action shall proceed as if this Agreement had never been negotiated or executed and no Class had been certified.

VI. PRELIMINARY APPROVAL

50. Within sixty (60) days of execution of this Agreement, Plaintiff and Class Counsel shall file with the Court a Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement seeking an order from the Court substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Preliminary Approval Order"). The motion for Preliminary Approval shall request that the Court: (i) approve the terms of the Settlement as within the range of fair, adequate, and reasonable; (ii) provisionally certify the Class pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1781, for purposes of this Settlement purposes only; (iii) approve the Notice Program set forth herein and approve the form and content of the Notice; (iv) approve the procedures set forth in and pursuant to this Agreement for Class Members to exclude themselves from or opt out of the Settlement, or to object to the Settlement; (v) stay the Action pending final approval of the Settlement; and (vi) schedule a Final Approval Hearing.

VII. <u>DISCOVERY & DISCLOSURE</u>

51. The Parties have engaged in substantial discovery over the course of the Action. Defendant has cooperated and will continue to cooperate with Class Counsel by providing reasonably available data to permit the Settlement Administrator and Class Counsel, if necessary, to ascertain and provide Notice to the Class Members and perform the distributions provided herein. Such information shall be provided no later than ten (10) calendar days after Preliminary Approval.

VIII. <u>SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR</u>

- 52. The Settlement Administrator shall administer various aspects of the Settlement as described in this Agreement and perform such other functions as are otherwise specified for the Settlement Administrator elsewhere in this Agreement, including, but not limited to (i) providing Notice, as described in Section IX of this Agreement, and (ii) administering the process and procedures relating to the reinstatement of Reinstated Massage Credits in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel will jointly oversee the performance of the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the administration of the Settlement pursuant to the terms of the Agreement.
- 53. All Settlement Administrator fees, charges, and expenses reasonably incurred in the administration of the Settlement shall be paid separately and directly by or on behalf of Defendant to

address, or otherwise be styled to appear to originate from Defendant.

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- 58. The Notice shall also inform the Class Members how to submit a Reinstatement
- 59. The Notice shall also include a procedure for Class Members to exclude themselves from or opt out of the Settlement. Any Class Member may opt out of the Settlement so long as he/she does so no later than nine (9) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court, and following the process set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order. Any Class Member who does not submit a timely or valid request for exclusion from the Settlement shall be considered a Settlement Class Member and be bound by the terms of this Agreement.
- 60. The Notice also shall include a procedure for Class Members to object to the Settlement, to Class Counsel's application for the Fee and Expense Amount, and/or to Plaintiff's Service Award. Any such objections must be mailed to the Clerk of the Court, Class Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator. For an objection to be considered by the Court, the objection must be received by the Court, Class Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator no later than nine (9) court days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order. For an objection to be considered by the Court, the objection must set forth:
 - (i) the name of the Action;
 - (ii) the objector's full name, address, and telephone number;
- an explanation of the basis upon which the objector claims to be a Class (iii) Member;
- (iv) all grounds for the objection, accompanied by any legal support for the objection known to the objector or the objector's counsel;
- the number of times in which the objector has objected to a class action (v) settlement within the five (5) years preceding the date that the objector submits the objection, the caption of each case in which the objector has made such objection, and a copy of any orders related to or ruling upon the objector's prior such objections that were issued by the trial and appellate courts in each listed case;

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the identity of all counsel who represent the objector, including any former or

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65. The Settlement Administrator shall provide Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel a declaration confirming that the Notice Program was completed in a timely manner and identifying any opt-outs that were timely received. Class Counsel shall file that declaration with the Court no less than five (5) court days prior to the commencement of the Final Approval Hearing.

X. FINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT

- 66. Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement shall include a request to the Court for a scheduled date on which the Final Approval Hearing will occur. Plaintiff and Class Counsel shall file their motion for entry of the Final Approval Order and Judgment in the form of Exhibit B hereto, not later than sixteen (16) court days before the Final Approval Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court.
- 67. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will determine whether to enter the Final Approval Order and Judgment granting final approval of the Settlement, and whether to approve Class Counsel's request for the Fee and Expense Amount and Plaintiff's Service Award.

XI. THE FEE AND EXPENSE AMOUNT AND SERVICE AWARD

68. After negotiating the principal terms of the Settlement concerning the benefits conferred to the Class, and with the assistance of an experienced and a highly-regarded mediator, Jeff Kichaven ("Kichaven"), the Parties, acting by and through their respective counsel, separately negotiated the Fee and Expense Amount in good faith and at arm's-length. After participating in a full-day mediation, the Parties were not able to reach a final agreement with respect to several material issues, including on the Fee and Expense Amount. Nonetheless, with Kichaven's continued assistance over a period of several weeks, the Parties continued their negotiations. To break the impasse, Kichaven ultimately made a mediator's recommendation based upon what he believed was fair, adequate, and reasonable to compensate Class Counsel for the benefits conferred upon the Class and the risk that Class Counsel took in pursuing the Action. After careful consideration with their clients, the Parties agreed to accept Kichaven's recommendation that Class Counsel should be awarded a Fee and Expense Amount of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000). Defendant has agreed to pay for/cause to be paid the Fee and Expense Amount of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) to Class Counsel, subject to approval of the Court.

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- 69. Payment of the Fee and Expense Amount shall be made into an escrow account controlled by Class Counsel within fifteen (15) business days after (i) the entry of an order from the Court preliminarily approving the Settlement, and (ii) the date on which Class Counsel provides sufficient written payment instructions to Defendant (including (a) bank name, (b) bank address, (c) account number, (d) account name, and (e) ABA routing number), which shall be immediately releasable upon the Final Approval Date, notwithstanding the existence of any collateral attacks on the Settlement, including without limitation, any objections or appeals. In the event the Settlement is not approved, or is terminated, cancelled, or fails to become effective for any reason, including, without limitation, in the event the Final Approval Order and Judgment is reversed or vacated or materially attacked, within ten (10) business days after written notification is sent by Defendant, Class Counsel shall refund the Fee and Expense Amount to Defendant.
- 70. The Fee and Expense Amount is non-reversionary. Defendant shall not be entitled to recover any of the Fee and Expense Amount payable to Class Counsel, or interest earned thereon, after the Effective Date of the Agreement. Thus, in the event the Court reduces the Fee and Expense Amount of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000), the amount by which the Fee and Expense Amount is reduced shall be paid to the Cy Pres Recipient as approved by the Court.
- 71. Class Counsel intends to request that the Court approve the Service Award in amount not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) payable to Plaintiff in consideration for her bringing and prosecuting the Action on behalf of the Class. The Service Award shall be paid to Plaintiff in addition to any other benefits afforded Plaintiff under the Settlement. Defendant shall not object to Class Counsel's Service Award request, provided that the Service Award payable does not exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) to Plaintiff. Defendant has agreed to separately pay for/cause to be paid the Service Award to Plaintiff, subject to approval of the Court. Payment of the Service Award shall be made to Class Counsel within five (5) days of the Final Approval Date and shall be immediately releasable at that time, notwithstanding the existence of any collateral attacks on the Settlement, including without limitation, any objections or appeals.
- 72. Payment of the Fee and Expense Amount not to exceed Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) and of the Service Award not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars

(\$7,500) to Class Counsel and Plaintiff respectively shall constitute full satisfaction by Defendant of any obligation to pay any amounts to any person, attorney, or law firm for attorneys' fees, expenses, or costs in the Action incurred by any attorney on behalf of Plaintiff or any other Class Member and shall relieve Defendant, Defendant's Counsel, and the Released Parties of any other claims or liability to any other attorney or law firm for any attorneys' fees, expenses, and/or costs to which any of them may claim to be entitled on behalf of Plaintiff and/or any other Class Member, or any Released Claims.

73. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Fee and Expense Amount to be awarded to Class Counsel and Service Award to be awarded to Plaintiff shall be considered by the Court separate and apart from its consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, and any order or proceeding relating to the Fee and Expense Amount, or any appeal of any order relating thereto or reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to, or be grounds to, terminate or cancel this Agreement or the Settlement, or affect or delay the finality of the Final Approval Order and Judgment approving this Settlement.

XII. <u>EFFECT OF TERMINATION</u>

- 74. The grounds upon which this Agreement may be terminated are set forth in Section XIV of this Agreement. In the event of a termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section XIV, this Agreement shall be considered null and void; all of Defendant's obligations under the Settlement shall cease to be of any force and effect; the amounts paid to Class Counsel shall be returned to Defendant with the terms of this Agreement; and the Parties shall return to the *status quo* ante in the Action as if the Parties had not entered into this Agreement. In addition, in the event of such a termination, the Parties' respective pre-Settlement claims and defenses will be preserved, including, but not limited to, Plaintiff's right to seek class certification and Defendant's right to seek summary judgment or adjudication of issues and oppose class certification.
- 75. This Settlement shall become effective on the Effective Date, unless earlier terminated in accordance with the provisions of Section XIV of this Agreement.
- 76. In the event the Settlement is terminated in accordance with the provisions of Section XIV of this Agreement, any discussions, offers, or negotiations associated with this

Settlement shall not be discoverable or offered into evidence or used in the Action or any other action or proceeding for any purpose, without prejudice to Plaintiff's right to seek discovery and class certification, and Defendant's right to seek dismissal and oppose class certification. In such event, all Parties to the Action shall stand in the same position as if this Agreement had not been negotiated, made or filed with the Court.

XIII. RELEASE

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- 77. As of the Effective Date, Plaintiff and each Settlement Class Member, each on behalf of himself or herself and on behalf of his or her respective heirs, assigns, beneficiaries, and successors, shall automatically be deemed to have fully and irrevocably released and forever discharged Defendant and each of its present and former parents, subsidiaries, divisions, affiliates, predecessors, successors, and assigns, and all others operating under the Defendant trade name in the State of California (including the Retreats), and their present and former directors, officers, employees, agents, insurers, shareholders, attorneys, advisors, consultants, representatives, partners, joint venturers, independent contractors, wholesalers, resellers, distributors, retailers, predecessors, successors, and assigns of each of them, of and from any and all liabilities, rights, claims, actions, causes of action, demands, damages, costs, attorneys' fees, losses, and remedies, whether known or unknown, existing or potential, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, legal, statutory or equitable, that result from, arise out of, are based upon, or relate to the conduct, omissions, duties, or matters during the time period at issue in the Action that were or could have been alleged in the Action on a class-wide basis, including, without limitation, any claims, actions, causes of action, demands, damages, losses, or remedies relating to, based upon, resulting from, or arising out of the Membership Agreement prior to July 19, 2016.
- 78. Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members expressly waive any and all rights under Section 1542 of the Civil Code of the State of California, which reads as follows:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

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Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members acknowledge that the waiver of Section 1542 is an essential and material term of the Agreement, without which the consideration relating hereto would not have been delivered by Defendant to Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members. In connection with such waiver and relinquishment, Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members acknowledge that, after entering into the Agreement, they may discover facts in addition to or different from those which they now know or believe to be true with respect to the matters related herein, and/or the Agreement and/or their understanding of those facts; and/or may discover law different from or in addition to the law that they know or believe to be applicable to the matters related herein, and/or the Agreement. Notwithstanding, it is Plaintiff's intention (on behalf of herself and the Class) to settle, and release fully, finally, and forever all civil actions, matters, and things relative to the Action that presently exist, may exist, or previously existed. In furtherance of such intention, the Releases contained in the Agreement herein given shall be and remain in effect as full and complete release of any such additional or different civil actions or facts or law relative to the Action. Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members expressly assume the risk that some facts and/or law may later be discovered to be different than they are now understood to be, but nevertheless agree that the Agreement shall, in all respects, be effective and shall not be subject to rescission, cancellation, or terminated by reason of any such different or additional facts and/or law.

79. As of the Effective Date, Defendant will be deemed to have completely released and forever discharged Plaintiff and her respective heirs, representatives, and assigns, and present and former attorneys, accountants, experts, consultants, insurers, and agents of each of them, from any and all liabilities, rights, claims, counterclaims, set-offs, actions, causes of action, demands, damages, penalties, costs, attorneys' fees, losses, and remedies, whether known or unknown, existing or potential, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, legal, statutory, or equitable, that are based upon, or relate to the institution, prosecution, and settlement of the Action.

80. The failure of any Class Member to participate in the Settlement or to receive actual notice of the Settlement, notwithstanding the good faith efforts of the Settlement Administrator, shall not affect the scope or binding nature of the Releases under this Agreement.

XIV. TERMINATION OF SETTLEMENT

- 81. This Settlement may be terminated by either Defendant or Plaintiff by serving on counsel for the other party and filing with the Court a written notice of termination within fourteen (14) days after any of the following occurrences:
- (i) the Court rejects, materially modifies, materially amends or changes the Settlement terms prior to or concurrent with its order to preliminarily approve the Settlement, or declines to preliminarily or finally approve the Settlement; or
- (ii) an appellate court reverses the Final Approval Order and Judgment, and the Settlement is not reinstated without material change by the Court on remand; or
 - (iii) the Effective Date does not occur.
- 82. In the event of a termination of the Settlement, and after payment of any invoices or other fees or expenses mentioned in this Agreement that have been incurred and are due to be paid, the balance of any amount paid by Defendant/cause to have been paid shall be refunded and remitted to Defendant.

XV. NO ADMISSION OF LIABILITY

- 83. Defendant denies the claims alleged in the Action and further denies the appropriateness of the Action being suitable for class treatment at trial. By entering into this Agreement, Defendant expressly denies any liability or wrongdoing of any kind, and has agreed to this Settlement and Agreement solely to avoid further time, expense, and inconvenience of burdensome and protracted litigation, and to be completely free of any further claims that were asserted or could have been asserted in the Action.
- 84. Class Counsel and Plaintiff believe the claims asserted in the Action have merit, and they have examined and considered the benefits to be obtained under the proposed Settlement set forth in this Agreement, the risks associated with the continued prosecution of this complex, costly, and time-consuming litigation, and the likelihood of success on the merits in the Action. Class Counsel has fully investigated the facts and law relevant to the merits of the claims, have conducted extensive formal and informal discovery, and have conducted an independent investigation of the challenged practices. Class Counsel and Plaintiff have concluded that the proposed Settlement set

forth in this Agreement is fair, adequate, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Class.

- 85. The Parties understand and acknowledge that this Agreement constitutes a compromise and settlement of disputed claims. No action taken by the Parties either previously or in connection with the negotiations or proceedings connected with this Agreement shall be deemed or construed to be an admission of the truth or falsity of any claims or defenses heretofore made, or an acknowledgment or admission by any party of any fault, liability or wrongdoing of any kind whatsoever.
- 86. Neither the Settlement, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of the Settlement: (i) is or may be deemed to be, or may be used as, an admission of, or evidence of, the validity of any claim made by Plaintiff or any Class Member, or of any wrongdoing or liability of the Released Parties; or (ii) is or may be deemed to be, or may be used as, an admission of, or evidence of, any fault or omission of any of the Released Parties, in the Action or in any proceeding in any court, administrative agency or other tribunal.
- 87. In addition to any other defenses Defendant may have at law, in equity, or otherwise, and to the extent permitted by law, this Agreement may be pleaded as a full and complete defense to, and may be used as the basis for an injunction against, any action, suit or other proceeding that may be instituted, prosecuted or attempted in breach of this Agreement or the Releases contained herein.

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 88. <u>Gender and Plurals</u>. As used in this Agreement, the masculine, feminine, or neutral gender, and the singular or plural number, shall each be deemed to include the others whenever the context so indicates.
- 89. <u>Binding Effect</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors and assigns of the Releasing Parties and the Released Parties.
- 90. <u>Cooperation of Parties</u>. The Parties agree to cooperate in good faith to prepare and execute all documents, to seek Court approval, defend Court approval, and to do all things reasonably necessary to complete and effectuate the Settlement described in this Agreement. This obligation of the Parties to support and complete the Settlement shall remain in full force and effect regardless of events that may occur, or court decisions that may be issued, in the San Diego Superior Court or in

any other case in any court.

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- Exhibits. Each and every exhibit to this Agreement is an integral and material part of this Agreement and is incorporated herein by this reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 92. Obligation to Meet and Confer. Before filing any motion with the Court raising a dispute arising out of or related to this Agreement, the Parties shall consult with each other and certify to the Court that they have consulted.
- 93. Non-disparagement. The Parties agree that they shall not engage in making or publishing written statements which are disparaging to the reputation of the other.
- 94. <u>Integration</u>. This Agreement and the exhibits referenced herein constitute a single, integrated written contract expressing the entire Agreement between the Parties relative to the subject matter hereof. No covenants, agreements, representations, or warranties of any kind whatsoever have been made by any Party hereto, except as provided for herein. This Agreement supersedes and replaces any prior agreements between the Parties, including the fully executed Settlement Agreement and Release by and between Defendant and Plaintiff, and their respective counsel, dated January 5, 2022.
- 95. No Conflict Intended. Any inconsistency between the headings used in this Agreement and the text of the paragraphs of this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of the text.
- 96. Statements to the Media. The Parties and their counsel agree not to assert in any statement made to any media representative (whether or not for attribution) that the Action was commenced or prosecuted by Plaintiff or defended by Defendant in bad faith or without a reasonable basis, nor will they deny that the Action was commenced and prosecuted and defended in good faith and is being settled voluntarily after consultation with competent legal counsel. In all events, the Parties and their counsel shall not make any accusations of wrongful or actionable conduct by any party concerning the prosecution, defenses, and resolution of this Action, and shall not otherwise suggest that the Settlement constitutes any admission of any claim or defense alleged. The Parties and their counsel reserve their right to rebut, in a manner that such party determines to be appropriate, any contention made in any public forum regarding the Action, including that the Action was brought or defended in bad faith or without a reasonable basis.

- 97. <u>Governing Law</u>. The Agreement shall be construed in accordance with, and be governed by, the laws of the State of California, without regard to the principles thereof regarding choice of law.
- 98. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument, even though all Parties do not sign the same counterparts. Original signatures are not required. Any signature submitted by facsimile or through email of an Adobe PDF shall be deemed an original.
- 99. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over the implementation, enforcement, and performance of this Agreement, and shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement that cannot be resolved by negotiation and agreement by counsel for the Parties. The Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to the administration, consummation, and enforcement of the Agreement and shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcing all terms of the Agreement pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 664.6. The Court shall also retain jurisdiction over all questions and/or disputes related to the Notice Program and performance of the Settlement Administrator. As part of its agreement to render services in connection with this Settlement, the Settlement Administrator shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court for this purpose.
- 100. <u>Notices</u>. All notices to counsel for the Parties shall be sent by email and by overnight mail in hard copy to:
- 21 | As to Plaintiff:
- 22 Frank J. Johnson Chase M. Stern
- 23 FrankJ@johnsonfistel.com chases@johnsonfistel.com
- 24 Johnson Fistel, LLP
 - | 501 West Broadway, Suite 800
- 25 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 230-0063

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As to Defendant: Thomas S. Ingrassia Christopher Reilly tingrassia@pettitkohn.com creilly@pettitkohn.com Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin PC 11622 El Camino Real, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92130 Tel: (858) 345-8513 6 7 The recipients and addresses designated above may be changed by written notice. Upon the request 8 of any of the Parties, the Parties agree to promptly provide each other with copies of objections, 9 requests for exclusion, or other filings received as a result of the Notice Program. 10 101. Modification and Amendment. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a written instrument signed by the Parties and their respective counsel and approved by the Court. 11 12 102. No Waiver. The waiver by any party of any breach of this Agreement by another 13 Party shall not be deemed or construed as a waiver of any other breach, whether prior, subsequent, or 14 contemporaneous, of this Agreement. 15 Authority. The Parties represent and warrant that the persons signing this Agreement 103. 16 on their behalf have full power and authority to bind every person, partnership, corporation, or entity 17 included within the definitions of Plaintiff and Defendant to all terms of this Agreement. Any person 18 executing this Agreement in a representative capacity represents and warrants that he or she is fully 19 authorized to do so and to bind the Party on whose behalf he or she signs this Agreement to all of the 20 terms and provisions of this Agreement. 21 Agreement Mutually Prepared. Neither Defendant nor Plaintiff, nor any of them, shall 104. 22 be considered to be the drafter of this Agreement or any of its provisions for the purpose of any 23 statute, case law, or rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to 24 be construed against the drafter of this Agreement. 25 105. Independent Investigation and Decision to Settle. The Parties understand and 26 acknowledge that they: (a) have performed an independent investigation of the allegations of fact and

addition to, or different from, those that they now know or believe to be true with respect to the

law made in connection with this Action; and (b) that even if they may hereafter discover facts in

subject matter of this Action as reflected in this Agreement, that will not affect or in any respect limit the binding nature of this Agreement. Defendant has provided and will provide information sufficient to identify and notify Class Members and determine the benefits to which they are entitled to under the terms of this Agreement. It is the Parties' intention to resolve their disputes in connection with this Action pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. Receipt of Advice of Counsel. Each Party acknowledges, agrees, and specifically 106. warrants that she or it has fully read this Agreement and the Releases contained in Section XIII of this Agreement, received independent legal advice with respect to the advisability of entering into this Agreement and the Releases, and the legal effects of this Agreement and the Releases, and fully understands the effect of this Agreement and the Releases.

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