

1
2
3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
4 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
5 (Fresno Division)
6

7 OCTAVIO ALVARADO, PABLO
8 MARTINEZ, OMAR GOMEZ, DANIEL
9 GOMEZ, JOSE DE JESUS GARCIA, on behalf
of themselves and all other similarly situated
individuals,

10 PLAINTIFF,

11 vs.

12 REX NEDEREND AND SHERI NEDEREND
13 (dba "Northstar Dairy," "Wildwood Farms,"
14 "Freeway Associates")

15 DEFENDANTS.
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

Case No. 1:08-cv-01099-OWW-MJS

ORDER AND JUDGMENT

- (1) CONFIRMING
CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT
CLASS;
- (2) GRANTING FINAL
APPROVAL TO CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT;
- (3) APPROVING CLASS
REPRESENTATIVES INCENTIVE
PAYMENTS;
- (4) APPROVING CLASS
COUNSEL FEES AND COSTS;
- (5) APPROVING SETTLEMENT
ADMINISTRATOR FEES;
- (6) APPROVING PAYMENT OF
PAGA PENALITIES
- (7) ENTERING FINAL
JUDGMENT

24 On May 16, 2011 a hearing was held on the motion by Plaintiffs and class representatives
25 Octavio Alvarado, Pablo Martinez, Omar Gomez, Daniel Gomez, and Jose De Jesus Garcia
26 ("Plaintiffs"), for Final Certification of a settlement class in this action, Final Approval of the parties'
27 proposed settlement, approval of Class Representative incentive payments, approval of attorney's fees
28

1 and costs, approving settlement administrator's fees, and ordering judgment in the case. Stan S.
2 Mallison appeared from Mallison & Martinez on behalf of Plaintiffs. Defendants did not appear. No
3 objectors appeared at the time of the hearing.

4 The Court having read and considered the papers on the motion, the arguments of counsel, and
5 the law, and good cause appearing therefore,

6 IT IS ORDERED:

7 1. The Court has jurisdiction over this action and the parties' proposed settlement under 28
8 U.S.C. sections 1331 and 1367, as plaintiffs' original complaint was brought under the Agricultural
9 Workers Protection Act, 29 U.S.C. § 1801 et seq.; and related California wage-and-hour law; the Court
10 has original jurisdiction over plaintiffs' federal law claims; and the Court has supplemental jurisdiction
11 over plaintiffs' state-law claims because they arise from the same alleged transactions and occurrences as
12 do plaintiffs' federal-law claims.
13

14 2. For the reasons stated in the Order Granting Preliminary Approval, the Court finds that
15 the action meets all the requirements for class certification, and it is hereby ordered that the Settlement
16 Class is finally approved and certified as a class for purposes of settlement of this action.
17

18 3. The parties' Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement") (attached as Ex. 1 to Declaration of
19 Stan S. Mallison in Support of Joint Motion for Final Approval of Settlement is granted as it meets the
20 criteria for final settlement approval. The Settlement falls within the range of possible approval as fair,
21 adequate and reasonable, and appears to be the product of arm's-length and informed negotiations and to
22 treat all Class Members fairly.
23

24 4. The parties' Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class Action, Conditional Certification of
25 Settlement Class, Preliminary Approval of Settlement, Hearing Date for Final Court Approval ("Class
26 Notice"), and proposed forms of Claim Form and Election Not to Participate in Settlement (collectively
27 the "Class Notice Packet") were sufficient to inform Class Members of the terms of the Settlement; their
28

1 rights under the Settlement; their rights to object to the settlement; their right to receive a Settlement
2 Share or elect not to participate in the Settlement; the processes for receiving a Settlement Share, electing
3 not to participate in the Settlement or Objecting to the Settlement; and the date and location of the final
4 approval hearing. Therefore, the Court finds and determines that the parties' notice procedures were
5 completed and were constitutionally sound, because individual notices were mailed to all class members
6 whose identities are known to the parties, and such notice was the best notice practicable.

7
8 5. The following class of persons are certified as the Class in this action solely for the
9 purposes of the Settlement: 138 current and former Dairy employees who worked between July 30, 2004
10 to September 7, 2010.

11 6. All Class Members who submitted a timely and valid Claim Form within thirty days after
12 the date the Settlement Administrator mailed the Class Notice Packet will receive a Settlement Share.

13 7. Class Members were provided with the opportunity to comment on, or object to, the
14 Settlement, as well as to elect not to participate in the Settlement. No Class Members filed written
15 objections to the Settlement as part of the parties' notice procedures nor stated intent to appear at the final
16 approval hearing.

17
18 8. Simpluris Inc. is awarded \$15,000 for their services as Settlement Administrator, pursuant
19 to the terms set forth in the Settlement.

20 9. Class Representatives Octavio Alvarado, Pablo Martinez, Omar Gomez, Daniel Gomez,
21 and Jose De Jesus Garcia are awarded \$7,500 as incentive payments pursuant to the terms set forth in the
22 settlement.

23 10. Class Counsel, Mallison & Martinez, are awarded \$165,523 of the gross recovery in
24 attorneys fees and \$10,000 in costs for their work and costs incurred in prosecuting this case.

25
26 11. The California Labor Code Private Attorney General Act payment of \$10,000 to the State
27 of California is approved.

