Wehlage v. EmpRes Healthcare Inc et al

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Pursuant to the parties' stipulation, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows.

As referenced herein, the term "Class Counsel" means counsel of record for the Class Plaintiffs, specifically, Stebner and Associates; The Law Offices of Michael D. Thamer; The Arns Law Firm; Janssen Malloy LLC; Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP; McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP; The Law Office of Ed Dudensing; and Kershaw Cutter & Ratinoff.

As referenced herein, the term "Facilities" means the following skilled nursing facilities: Evergreen at Lakeport, L.L.C., dba Evergreen Lakeport Healthcare; Evergreen at Arvin, L.L.C., dba Evergreen Arvin Healthcare; Evergreen at Bakersfield, L.L.C., dba Evergreen Bakersfield Post Acute Care; Evergreen at Springs Road, L.L.C., dba Springs Road Healthcare; Evergreen at Chico, L.L.C., dba Twin Oaks Post Acute Rehab; Evergreen at Heartwood Avenue, L.L.C., dba Heartwood Avenue Healthcare; Evergreen at Tracy, L.L.C., dba New Hope Post Acute Care; Evergreen at Petaluma, L.L.C., dba Petaluma Health and Rehabilitation; Evergreen at Oroville, L.L.C., dba Olive Ridge Post Acute Care; Evergreen at Fullerton, L.L.C., dba Fullerton Post Acute Care; and Evergreen at Salinas, L.L.C., dba Katherine Healthcare.

This Court has jurisdiction over the parties and the claims asserted by the Class Plaintiffs in this action. The following injunction ("Injunction") shall be entered against each of the Facilities and EmpRes Healthcare Management, LLC (collectively "Defendants") and any and all predecessors, successors and/or assigns of any such entities.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

At all times, Defendants shall comply with Health and Safety Code section 1276.5 by providing a minimum of 3.2 actual nursing hours per patient day ("NHPPD") at any skilled nursing home owned or operated by the Defendants, or any of them, in California. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 1276.5(b), "nursing hours" means the number of hours of work performed per patient day by aides, nursing assistants, orderlies, registered nurses, and licensed vocational nurses (excluding Director of Nurses in facilities of 60 or larger capacity) who perform EVER-0112/124007.1

1337(d)(1) and 1337.5.

direct nursing services. Notwithstanding the foregoing, "nursing hours" includes the number of hours of work performed per patient day by Directors of Nurses who perform direct nursing services when such Directors of Nurses have worked more than 8 hours in one day or more than 40 hours in one week and properly document that such direct nursing services were provided to residents. In order to count for purposes of the 3.2 NHPPD requirement, an "aide" or "orderly" must qualify as a "nurse assistant" as that term is defined in Health and Safety Code sections

- At all times, Defendants shall comply with Health and Safety Code section 1599.1 by employing an adequate number of qualified personnel to carry out all of the functions of the facility at any skilled nursing home owned or operated by the Defendants, or any of them, in California. Without limitation, this paragraph shall require that Defendants employ¹ an adequate number of qualified nursing personnel to provide skilled nursing services (as that term is defined in 22 CCR section 72309) at the Facilities or any other skilled nursing facility owned or operated by the Defendants, or any of them, in California.
- 3. At all times, Defendants shall comply with all applicable nurse posting requirements, including without limitation, 42 C.F.R. § 483.30(e) by posting the following information in a prominent public place at the Facilities or any other skilled nursing facility owned or operated by the Defendants, or any of them, in California: (a) the actual nursing hours for each shift; and (b) the resident census for each day. In addition, Defendants shall retain the daily posted nurse staffing sheets for the term of this Injunction, or the period required under applicable law, whichever is longer.

THIRD PARTY MONITOR/COMPLIANCE REPORTS

4. A third party monitor ("Monitor") shall be appointed to review Compliance Reports (defined below) submitted by the Defendants and undertake all other necessary actions to monitor Defendants' compliance with the terms of this Injunction. All fees and costs of the Monitor shall

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¹ "Employ", for purposes of this Injunction, shall mean "to use on a daily basis"." EVER-0112/124007.1

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be paid by the Defendants. The parties shall meet and confer to select the Monitor; if no agreement is reached, the Court shall appoint the Monitor.

- 5. Commencing twenty-five (25) days following the end of the month in which this order is approved by the Court, and continuing each month thereafter for as long as this Injunction is in effect, Defendants shall provide the Monitor and one law firm designated by Class Counsel with a monthly report that contains all of the following information (herein, "Compliance Report") for each skilled nursing facility owned or operated by the Defendants, or any of them, in California: (a) The actual nursing hours for each day during the prior monthly period (the "reporting period"); (b) the resident census for each day during the reporting period²; (c) the NHPPD for each day during the reporting period; (d) the hire date, enrollment status, and training commencement date for each nurse assistant who is not yet certified, if any, whose hours have been included in the NHPPD calculation during the reporting period; (e) documentary evidence, such as time card correction forms signed by the employee and supervisor, for all Nursing Hours claimed for any personnel with primarily administrative and/or non-nursing titles or duties; (f) documentary evidence demonstrating actual dates, hours and assignments of all registry personnel providing direct nursing care and included in categories of "Nursing Staff" as defined above. This data shall not be used by the Monitor for any purposes other than overseeing compliance with this Injunction. Class Counsel may only use this data to enforce the Injunction in this litigation.
- 6. The Compliance Report shall be signed under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California by the Facility's Director of Nursing or the Facility's Administrator for each facility submitting a Compliance Report. In addition to the Compliance Report, Defendants shall provide the Monitor with all payroll data³, daily labor reports, and the census reports for each

² "Resident Census" means the average number of residents in the facility on any given calendar day as set forth on the Department of Public Health's All Facility Letter AFL 11-19. If the method of calculating the "Resident Census" is changed by the Department of Public Health during the existence of this Injunction, the "Resident Census" to be provided with the Compliance Report shall be calculated and reported as is then required by the Department's rules and regulations.

³ "Payroll data" means the electronic version of Defendants' daily staffing which contains the total hours of labor by employee, by Job Code, delivered at the facility on a daily basis. Daily labor reports means the electronic version of Defendants' staffing which contains the same intermetion including the actual NHPPD for each calendar day. Defendants shall use their best

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Facility for all pay periods during the previous month. The Compliance Reports and other documentation shall be delivered on or before the 25th day of each month.

- 7. In the event that a question is raised by the Class Counsel, the Monitor, or any of them, with respect to information contained in a Compliance Report, the Monitor shall request clarifying information or data from the Defendant or Defendants in question ("Backup Information"). The Monitor shall be authorized to receive and request information from Defendants concerning any staffing concerns raised by residents or family members. Defendants shall provide a full and complete response to any such request to both the Monitor and one law firm designated by Class Counsel not later than fifteen (15) calendar days after receiving the request.
- 8. Nothing stated in this Injunction shall relieve Defendants, or any of them, from complying with any other applicable federal or state law or regulation.
- 9. This Injunction shall be effective as of the date the Final Approval Order is signed by the Court and shall remain in full force and effect for 2.5 years from that date. If Defendants violate the terms of this Injunction, however, Plaintiffs may seek a Court order extending the Injunction duration, in addition to any other available remedy.

OTHER PROVISIONS

- 10. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6, the Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over all parties and over this action to enforce the terms of this Injunction.
- 11. Without limitation to Defendants' obligations to comply with applicable law and this stipulated injunction and for purposes of enforcement of this Injunction only, the parties agree that Plaintiffs will not seek to enforce the terms of this Injunction unless: (a) any of the Facilities fails to meet the 3.2 NHPPD requirement on more than one day in any Compliance Report; or (b) cumulatively, there are six or more days under 3.2 NHPPD reported in total in the Compliance Reports for all Facilities in a single month. If Plaintiffs seek to enforce the Injunction, Defendants

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good-faith efforts to access and produce the "electronic version" of the Kronos data and of the Daily Labor Reports, but may seek leave of the Court and/or of the Monitor to produce such data 27 and information in other mutually-acceptable formats upon determining that they will be unable to

produce the "electronic version." EVER-0112/124007.1

1	1 shall be entitled to argue (if applicable) that the non-compliance was caused by	fire, flood,
2	2 earthquake, disease outbreak or some other cause completely beyond the control of Def	endants.
3	3 12. If Nursing Hours Per Patient Day Standard set forth by Health and Safety C	ode section
4	4 1276.5 or Health and Safety Code section 1599.1 is changed, clarified and/or modified	l by statute
5	5 or regulation, either substantively or in the manner of state or federal enforcement, the l	Parties may
6	6 move the court for modification of this Stipulation consistent with such new state	ites and/or
7	7 regulations.	
8	8 IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.	
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11	The Tonorable Claudia Wilken United States District Court Judge	
12	12 SO STIPULATED:	
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14	Christopher J. Healey McKenna, Long & Aldridge, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
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	STIPULATED ORDER FOR INJUNCTION	