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Mail: 8605 Santa Monica BI 26 PMB 42554 West Hollywood CA 90069 (213) 725-9094 Tel (213) 634-2485 Fax SpivakLaw.com

Office: 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl Los Angeles CA 90067 DAVID GLENN SPIVAK (SBN 179684)

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THE SPIVAK LAW FIRM

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Attorneys for Plaintiff(s),

CHARLES MIKICH, JONATHON GORDON, and all others similarly situated (Additional attorneys for Plaintiff(s) on following page)

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

(UNLIMITED JURISDICTION)

CHARLES MIKICH, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, and as an "aggrieved employee" on behalf of other "aggrieved employees" under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

SAYEH PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation; HEDIA PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation; HADAD ENTERPRISE, INC., a California corporation; HADAD PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation; BAY AREA AUTO CARE, INC., California corporation; HOUTAN PETROLEUM, INC. a California corporation; GREEN PLANET GAS, INC., a California corporation; ALI BOZORGHADAD (also known as ED BOZORGHADAD, also known as ED HADAD), an individual; and DOES 8-50, inclusive,

Defendant(s).

FILED
San Francisco County Superior Court

SEP 0 6 2024

CLERK OF THE COURT

Deputy Clerk

Case No. CGC-20-582385 consolidated with CGC-21-594289

[PROPOSED] JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS SETTLEMENT

Hearing Information

Action filed:

1/22/2020

Hearing Date: Hearing Time:

09/03/2024 9:30 a.m.

Hearing Dept:

302, The Honorable Richard B. Ulmer, Jr.

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JONATHON GORDON on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, and as an "aggrieved employee" on behalf of other "aggrieved employees" under the Labor Code Private Attorney General Act of 2004,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

SAYEH PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation; HEDIA PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation; HADAD ENTERPRISE, INC., California corporation; HADAD PETROLEUM, INC., a California corporation; BAY AREA AUTO CARE, INC., a California corporation; HOUTAN PETROLEUM, INC. a California corporation; GREEN PLANET GAS, INC., a California corporation; ALI BOZORGHADAD (also known as ED BOZORGHADAD, also known as ED HADAD), an individual; and DOES 1-50, inclusive,

Defendant(s).

Case No.: CGC-21-594289

Action Filed:

08/04/2021

Dept:

610, The Honorable

Garett L. Wong



PIVAK LAW

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ADDITIONAL ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF(S)

1 WALTER L. HAINES (SBN 71075) 2 walter@uelglaw.com 3 UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP 8605 Santa Monica Bl. 4 PMB 63354 West Hollywood, CA 90069 5 (562) 256-1047 Telephone: 6 Facsimile: (562) 256-1006 7 Attorneys for Plaintiff(s), CHARLES MIKICH, JONATHON GORDON, and all others similarly situated 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

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This matter came for hearing on September 3, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in Department 302 of the above-captioned court on Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 3.769, as set forth in the First Amended Joint Stipulation of Class Action Settlement and Release of Claims (the "Settlement") filed herewith, which provides for a Gross Settlement Amount ("GSA") of \$2,000,000.00 in compromise of all disputed claims on behalf of current and former hourly, non-exempt employees employed by Defendants Sayeh Petroleum, Inc., Hedia Petroleum, Inc., Hadad Enterprise, Inc., Hadad Petroleum, Inc., Bay Area Auto Care, Inc., Houtan Petroleum, Inc., Green Planet Gas, Inc., and Ali Bozorghadad (also known as Ed Bozorghadad, also known as Ed Hadad) (collectively "Defendants") who worked in California during the Class Period. All capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Settlement.

In accordance with the Court's prior ruling granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, Class Members have been given notice of the terms of the Settlement and the opportunity to request exclusion, comment upon or object to it or to any of its terms. Having received and considered the Settlement, the supporting papers filed by the Parties, and the evidence and argument received by the Court in conjunction with the motions for preliminary and final approval of the Settlement, the Court grants¹ final approval of the Settlement and HEREBY ORDERS, ADJUDGES, DECREES, AND MAKES THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATIONS:

1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action and over all Parties to the Action, including all Class Members who did not request to be excluded from the Settlement. Pursuant to this Court's ruling granting the Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement of April 29, 2024, the Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Court Approval was sent to each Class Member by First Class U.S. mail. The Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement and Hearing Date for Court Approval informed Class Members of the terms of the Settlement, their right to receive their proportional share of

¹ A true and correct copy of the Court's tentative ruling dated August 30, 2024 is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

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Mail: 8605 Santa Monica Bl 26 PMB 42554 West Hollywood CA 90069 (213) 725-9094 Tel 27 (213) 634-2485 Fax SpivakLaw.com 28

Office: 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl Los Angeles CA 90067 the Settlement, their right to request exclusion, their right to comment upon or object to the Settlement, and their right to appear in person or by counsel at the final approval hearing and be heard regarding final approval of the Settlement. Adequate periods of time were provided by each of these procedures. No member of the Class presented written objections to the proposed Settlement as part of this notice process, stated an intention to appear, or actually appeared at the final approval hearing.

- 2. For purposes of this Settlement, "Class," "Class Members," or "Settlement Class" means all persons Defendants employed in California as hourly, non-exempt employees during the Class Period. The "Class Period" means the period of time from January 16, 2016, through October 31, 2022. Settlement, ¶¶ I.B, I.F.
- 3. The Court finds and determines that the notice procedure afforded adequate protections to Class Members and provides the basis for the Court to make an informed decision regarding final approval of the Settlement based on the responses of Class Members. The Court finds and determines that the notice provided in this case was the best notice practicable, which satisfied the requirements of law and due process as to all persons entitled to such notice.
- 4. Release by Plaintiff and Class Members. The Parties agree that it is their intent that the resolution set forth in this Settlement will release and discharge the Released Claims by way of any further attempt, by lawsuit, administrative claim or action, arbitration, demand, or other action of any kind by each and all of the Settlement Class Members (including participation to any extent in any representative or collective action) against the Released Parties. This release will not take effect until Defendants have paid the Gross Settlement Amount in full per this Settlement Agreement. All PAGA Members, regardless of whether they submit timely and valid requests for exclusion from the Settlement, will release all Released Claims under PAGA against the Released Parties. The State of California will also release all Released Claims under PAGA against the Released Parties.

Upon the Effective Date, and only after Defendants pay the entirety of the Gross Settlement Amount, each Plaintiff will be deemed to have released the Released Parties of and from all of the Released Claims during the Class Period. These claims include all claims, rights,

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demands, liabilities, and causes of action that are alleged, or reasonably could have been alleged based on the facts and claims during the period of January 16, 2016 through October 31, 2022 asserted in the Operative Complaint and/or in the letter(s) sent by any Plaintiff to the LWDA concerning Defendants and the other Released Parties, whether sounding in law or equity, tort, contract, statute, or other applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation, including but not limited to the following claims: (1) failure to pay wages; (2) unauthorized and unlawful wage deductions; (3) failure to provide meal periods; (4) failure to authorize and permit rest periods; (5) failure to indemnify for business expenses; (6) failure to issue proper wage statements; (7) failure to timely pay wages; (8) failure to maintain required payroll records; (9) unfair business practices that could have been premised on the claims, causes of action, or legal theories of relief described above or any of the claims, causes of action, or legal theories of relief pleaded in the Action; (10) all claims under PAGA or for civil penalties that could have been premised on the claims, causes of action, or legal theories described above or any of the claims, causes of action, or legal theories of relief pleaded in the Action or Plaintiffs' letters to the LWDA, including but not limited to the California Code of Regulations and to Labor Code sections 201, 202, 203, 204, 210, 221, 225.5, 226, 226.3, 226.7, 510, 511, 512, 558, 1174, 1174.5, 1194, 1197, 1197.1, 1198, 2802, and 2699, and any and all damages, restitution, disgorgement, civil penalties, statutory penalties, taxes, interest, or attorneys' fees or costs resulting therefrom. Released Claims shall not apply to claims for workers' compensation benefits, unemployment in surance benefits, or any other claim or right that as a matter of law cannot be waived or released. Released Claims shall include any claims for penalties by a PAGA Member resulting from any LWDA investigation. Each Plaintiff's release set forth herein shall include a waiver of all rights under California Civil Code §1542, which includes a release of all known and unknown claims against the Released Parties during the Class Period. Civil Code section 1542 provides:

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

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Mail: 26 8605 Santa Monica Bl 26 PMB 42554 West Hollywood CA 90069 (213) 725-9094 Tel 27 (213) 634-2485 Fax SpivakLaw.com 28

Office: 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl Los Angeles CA 90067 RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

Upon the Effective Date, and only after Defendants pay the entirety of the Gross Settlement Amount, each Plaintiff will be deemed to have waived his rights under Civil Code §1542 during the Class Period, as set forth above. Each Plaintiff's release excludes any claim for worker's compensation. It also includes each Plaintiff's claims, if any, for harassment, discrimination, wrongful termination, negligent infliction of emotional distress, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and related prayers for compensatory and punitive damages, interest, attorney fees, and costs. Settlement ¶¶ I.U, V.A-B.

- 5. The Court further finds and determines that the terms of the Settlement are fair, reasonable, and adequate, that the Settlement is ordered finally approved, and that all terms and provisions of the Settlement, including the release of claims contained therein, should be and hereby are ordered to be consummated, and directs the Parties to effectuate the Settlement according to its terms. As of the Effective Date of Settlement, and only after Defendants pay the entirety of the Gross Settlement Amount, for the duration of the Class Period, all Class Members are hereby deemed to have waived and released all Released Claims and are forever barred and enjoined from prosecuting the Released Claims against the Releasees as fully set forth in the Settlement. No objections were received by the Parties or the Court through the date of this Final Order and Judgment. The Court finds that one (1) Class Member—Abraham Alarcon—submitted a request for exclusion from the Settlement as determined by the Settlement Administrator and therefore is not in the Settlement Class.
- 6. The Court finds and determines that (a) the Settlement Shares to be paid to Participating Class Members and (b) the \$37,500.00 payment to the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency ("LWDA") for the PAGA penalty under the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004, as amended, California Labor Code sections 2699 et seq., as provided for by the Settlement, are fair and reasonable. The Court hereby grants final

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Office: 1801 Century Park East, 25th Fl Los Angeles CA 90067 approval to, and orders the payment of, those amounts be made to the Participating Class Members and to the LWDA, in accordance with the terms of the Settlement.

- 7. The Court further grants final approval to and orders that the following payments be made in accordance with the terms of the Settlement:
- a. A Class Counsel Fees Payment in the amount of \$666,666.00 for attorney's fees and a Class Counsel Litigation Expenses Payment in the amount of \$28,803.78 to Class Counsel:
- b. \$25,000.00 as a Class Representative Payment payable to Plaintiff Charles Mikich for his service as the class representative and \$25,000.00 as a Class Representative Payment payable to Plaintiff Jonathon Gordon for his service as the class representative;
- c. \$20,000.00 in Settlement Administrator's fees payable to CPT Group, Inc. for its services as the Settlement Administrator;
- d. Payment of \$37,500.00 (75% of the \$50,000.00 PAGA penalty) to the LWDA; and
- e. Employer-side payroll taxes (to be paid in addition to the Gross Settlement Amount by Defendants).
- 8. The settlement administration shall proceed as directed in the Settlement, and no payments pursuant to the Settlement shall be distributed until after the Effective Date. Without affecting the finality of this Final Order and Judgment in any way, the Court retains jurisdiction of all matters relating to the interpretation, administration, implementation, effectuation, and enforcement of this Final Order and Judgment and the Settlement pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769(h).
- 9. Within seven (7) calendar days of the Effective Date, Defendants deposit one-half of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$1,000,000) in an account designated by the Settlement Administrator. Defendants shall deposit the remaining one-half of the Gross Settlement Amount (i.e., \$1,000,000) within 365 days of their having deposited the first half of the Gross Settlement Amount. From the amounts deposited by Defendants, the Settlement

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Office: 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl Los Angeles CA 90067 Administrator shall pay: (i) the total amount of all Settlement Shares to Participating Class Members, (ii) the Court approved Class Counsel fees & costs, (iii) the Court-approved Class Representative Payments, (iv) the Court-approved costs of the Settlement Administrator, and (v) the payment to the LWDA. Defendants shall also pay their share of the employer-side payroll taxes in addition to the GSA.

- 10. Defendants' payment of such sums shall be the sole financial obligation of Defendants under the Settlement, and shall be in full satisfaction of all claims released herein, including, without limitation, all claims for wages, penalties, interest, attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses.
- 11. Pursuant to CCP 384 and the Settlement, Participating Class Members shall have one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of each check's issuance to cash each Settlement Share check. After the expiration of the 180-day period, on Defendants' behalf, the Settlement Administrator shall remit any amounts from Voided Settlement Checks and otherwise unclaimed (the "Residue"), plus interest on the Residue at the legal rate of interest from the date of entry of the initial judgment, to the California Unclaimed Property Fund.
- 12. The Parties shall file a final accounting report by April 6, 2026. A nonappearance case review regarding submission of a final report is scheduled for April 20, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. or ______ at ______.m. in Department 302.
- 13. Nothing in this Final Order and Judgment shall preclude any action to enforce the Parties' obligations under the Settlement or hereunder, including the requirement that Defendants deposit funds for distribution by the Settlement Administrator to participating Class Members in accordance with the Settlement.
- 14. The Court hereby enters final Judgment in this case in accordance with the terms of the Settlement, Order Granting Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, and this Final Order and Judgment.
 - 15. The Parties are hereby ordered to comply with the terms of the Settlement.
- 16. The Parties shall bear their own costs and attorneys' fees except as otherwise provided by the Settlement and this Final Order and Judgment.

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17. The Settlement is not an admission by Defendants nor is this Final Order and Judgment a finding of the validity of any claims in the Action or of any wrongdoing by Defendants. Furthermore, the Settlement is not a concession by Defendants and shall not be used as an admission of any fault, omission, or wrongdoing by Defendants. Neither this Final Order and Judgment, Settlement, any document referred to herein, any exhibit to any document referred to herein, any action taken to carry out the Settlement, nor any negotiations or proceedings related to the Settlement are to be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, or an admission or concession with regard to, the denials or defenses of Defendants, and shall not be offered in evidence in any proceeding against the Parties hereto in any Court, administrative agency, or other tribunal for any purpose whatsoever other than to enforce the provisions of this Final Order and Judgment. This Final Order and Judgment, the Settlement and exhibits thereto, and any other papers and records on file in the Action may be filed in this Court or in any other litigation as evidence of the settlement by Defendants to support a defense of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, or other theory of claim or issue preclusion or similar defense as to the Released Claims.

18. This document shall constitute a Judgment for purposes of California Rule of Court 3.769(h).

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.

Date: The Honorable Richard B. Ulmer, Jr.

Judge of the Superior Court



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EXHIBIT A

Case Number: CGC20582385Case Title: CHARLES MIKICH VS. SAYEH PETROLEUM, INC. ET ALCOURT Date: 2024-09-03 09:30 AMCalendar Matter: FINAL APPROVAL HEARINGRulings: Matter on the Law & Motion calendar for Tuesday, September 3, 2024, Line 1.1 - FINAL APPROVAL HEARING Plaintiffs' unopposed motion for final approval of class action settlement is granted; hearing required. For the 9:30 a.m. Law & Motion calendar, all attorneys and parties may appear in Department 302 remotely. Remote hearings will be conducted by videoconference using Zoom. To appear remotely at the hearing, go to the court's website at sfsuperiorcourt.org under "Online Services," navigate to "Tentative Rulings," and click on the appropriate link, or dial the corresponding phone number. Any party who contests a tentative ruling must send an email to contestdept302tr@sftc.org with a copy to all other parties by 4pm stating, without argument, the portion(s) of the tentative ruling that the party contests. The subject line of the email shall include the line number, case name and case number. The text of the email shall include the name and contact information, including email address, of the attorney or party who will appear at the hearing. Counsel for the prevailing party is required to prepare a proposed order which repeats verbatim the substantive portion of the tentative ruling and must email it to contestdept302tr@sftc.org prior to the hearing even if the tentative ruling is not contested. The court no longer provides a court reporter in the Law & Motion Department. Parties may retain their own reporter, who may appear in the courtroom or remotely. A retained reporter must be a California certified court reporter (CSR), for only a CSR's transcript may be used in California courts. If a CSR is being retained, include in your email all of the following: their name, CSR and telephone numbers, and their individual work email address. =(302/RBU)

Case Number: CGC20582385Case Title: CHARLES MIKICH VS. SAYEH PETROLEUM, INC. ET ALCOURT Date: 2024-09-03 09:30 AMCalendar Matter: Motion For Final Approval Of Class Action SettlementRulings: Matter on the Law & Motion calendar for Tuesday, September 3, 2024, Line 1.2 -PLAINTIFF CHARLES MIKICH . ON BEHALF OF HIMSELF AND ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED, AND JONATHON GORDON'S Motion For Final Approval Of Class Action Settlement. Plaintiffs' unopposed motion for final approval of class action settlement is granted; hearing required. For the 9:30 a.m. Law & Motion calendar, all attorneys and parties may appear in Department 302 remotely. Remote hearings will be conducted by videoconference using Zoom. To appear remotely at the hearing, go to the court's website at sfsuperiorcourt.org under "Online Services," navigate to "Tentative Rulings," and click on the appropriate link, or dial the corresponding phone number. Any party who contests a tentative ruling must send an email to contestdept302tr@sftc.org with a copy to all other parties by 4pm stating, without argument, the portion(s) of the tentative ruling that the party contests. The subject line of the email shall include the line number, case name and case number. The text of the email shall include the name and contact information, including email address, of the attorney or party who will appear at the hearing. Counsel for the prevailing party is required to prepare a proposed order which repeats verbatim the substantive portion of the tentative ruling and must email it to contestdept302tr@sftc.org prior to the hearing even if the tentative ruling is not contested. The court no longer provides a court reporter in the Law & Motion Department. Parties may retain their own reporter, who may appear in the courtroom or remotely. A retained reporter must be a California certified court reporter (CSR), for only a CSR's transcript may be used in California courts. If a CSR is being retained, include in your email all of the following: their name, CSR and telephone numbers, and their individual work email address. =(302/RBU)

PROOF OF SERVICE

State of California, County of Los Angeles

- 1. I am a citizen of the United States and am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action. My business address is 1801 Century Park East, 25th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067.
- 2. I am familiar with the practice of The Spivak Law Firm, for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. It is the practice that correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service the same day it is submitted for mailing.

On Friday, September 06, 2024, I caused to have electronically served the following document described as NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER (JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS SETTLEMENT) on interested parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope, with postage fully prepaid, addressed as follows:

Lisa Lawson, Esq.
Cameron Van, Esq.
Lawson Lawson LLP
One Sansome Street, 35th Floor
San Francisco, California 94104
lisalawson@lawson2.com
cameronvan@lawson2.com

 $\overline{\text{XXXX}}$ (BY EMAIL) Based on a court order or an agreement of the parties to accept electronic service, I caused the documents to be sent to the persons at the electronic service addresses listed above from my electronic service address nora@spivaklaw.com.

EXECUTED on Friday, September 06, 2024, at Burbank, California.

 $\underline{\text{XXXX}}$ (State) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

____ (Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Journall

NORA GREEK