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10 Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Class
11

12 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
13 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT
14

15 BRIAN RALSTON, individually and on
behalf of all others situated,

16 Plaintiff,

17 v.

18 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
19 CALIFORNIA, a California Corporation; and
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
20 CALIFORNIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION,
form of entity unknown,

21 Defendants.
22

Case No. 22STCV18066

**NOTICE OF RULING GRANTING
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT AND
APPROVAL OF CLASS NOTICE**

Hearing Date: November 9, 2023

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Dept: SSC Dept. 12

Judge: Hon. Carolyn B. Kuhl

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TO THE HONORABLE COURT AND ALL PARTIES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on November 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., in Department 12 of the above-captioned Court, Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement and Approval of Class Notice (“Motion”) came on regularly for hearing, the Honorable Carolyn B. Kuhl presiding. Lizelle S. Brandt and Courtney Stuart-Alban appeared on behalf of Plaintiff who also attended the hearing. Mark Rackers appeared on behalf of Defendants. At this hearing the Court granted Plaintiff’s Motion.

A true and correct copy of the Court’s November 9, 2023 Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Dated: November 17, 2023

SINGIAN LAW and STUART ALBAN LAW

By  _____
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Counsel for Plaintiff and the Class

EXHIBIT A

Electronically Received 11/01/2023 09:40 PM

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Case No. 22STCV18066

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT AND
APPROVAL OF CLASS NOTICE**

Date: November 9, 2024
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Dept: SSC Dept. 12
Judge: Hon. Carolyn B. Kuhl

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

11/09/2023

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court

By: L. M'Greené Deputy

1 **TO ALL PARTIES AND ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:**

2 On November 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class
3 Action Settlement and Approval of Class Notice (“Motion”) was heard in Department 12 of the
4 above-captioned Court.

5 Upon consideration of all pleadings, papers, and evidence filed in support of the Motion,
6 the arguments of the parties, and good cause appearing, it appears to the satisfaction of the Court
7 that good cause exists for the granting of the Motion, and the Court issues the following Order
8 accordingly:

9 **ORDER**

- 10 (1) The Motion is granted.
- 11 (2) The Settlement Agreement attached as Exhibit 1 to the Supplemental Declaration
12 of Lizelle S. Brandt (“Settlement Agreement”) is preliminarily approved.
- 13 (3) The proposed forms and methods of class notice set forth in the Settlement
14 Agreement, including Exhibits A and B, are approved. With the change discussed at the hearing.
- 15 (4) The timeframe for disseminating Class Notices, for objecting to and opting out of
16 the Settlement, for the hearing for final approval, and for related matters are as follows:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Timing</u>	<u>Date</u> (Assuming November 9, 2023 Preliminary Approval Order)
a. Dissemination of notice to the Class:	Within fourteen (14) days of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, Defense Counsel shall provide to the Settlement Administrator the last known email and mailing addresses for the Class. Within thirty (30) days of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator will disseminate Email Notice to Class Members via email in a form substantially similar to that set forth in Exhibit A to the Agreement (or U.S. Mail Notice in a form substantially similar to that set forth in Exhibit B to the Agreement, to any Class Members for whom Defendants do not have an email address).	November 23, 2023 December 11, 2023 (30 days lands on December 9, a Saturday)

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	Within fourteen (14) days thereafter, the Settlement Administrator will disseminate U.S. Mail Notice to any Class Members for whom the Email Notice was returned as undeliverable.	December 22, 2023
b. Deadline to reinstate/instate membership in the USCAA to all 1,631 Class Members	Forty-five (45) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order	December 26, 2023
c. Deadline to request exclusion from Settlement Class:	Ninety (90) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order	February 7, 2024
d. Deadline to serve objections:	Ninety (90) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order	February 7, 2024
e. Deadline for Class Members to request a printed Bookstore Coupon	Sixty (60) days from the date of delivery of Email or Mail Notice	February 9, 2024
f. Deadline for the parties to respond to any objections	One hundred and four (104) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order	February 21, 2024
g. Deadline to email the Bookstore Coupon to each Settlement Class Member	One Hundred and Twenty (120) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order	March 8, 2024
h. Deadline for serving and filing Motion for Final Approval of Settlement, Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, and Incentive Awards	One hundred and twenty (150) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order	April 8, 2024 (150 days lands on April 7, 2023, a Sunday)
i. Final Approval Hearing on Settlement:	One Hundred and Eighty (180) days after entry of Preliminary Approval Order	May 8, 2024 (or May 14, if hearing is on Wednesday) 2024 at 10:30 am
j. Deadline to pay Class Counsel the Fee and Expense Award	Thirty (30) days after the Court's Final Approval Order (and receipt of all necessary payment and routing information – including receipt of signed, valid, current W-9 Forms	June 9, 2024 (assuming May 8 Final Approval Order, and 30 days falls on Saturday)

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	(revised as of October 2018) from both Class Counsel and Plaintiff)	(or June 13, assuming May 14 order)
k. Deadline to ensure that USC/USCAA's advertising relating to the GRCT Programs accurately describes the benefits available to GRCT graduates	Sixty (60) days after the Final Approval Order	July 7, 2024 (assuming May 8 order) (or June 14, assuming May 14 order, and 30 days falls on Sunday)

IT IS SO ORDERED

Dated: November _____, 2023
11/09/2023



Carolyn B. Kuhl

Carolyn B. Kuhl / Judge

HON. CAROLYN B. KUHL
SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE