Federal Court Grants Final Approval for Historic $162 Million Settlement for New York Home Care Workers

Brooklyn, N.Y. — A federal judge today granted final approval of the $162 million wage-and-hour class action settlement for downstate home care workers in New York's Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP). The settlement will benefit 200,000 personal assistants who were paid through Public Partnerships LLC (PPL), the statewide fiscal intermediary for New York's CDPAP, and provided services in New York City, Long Island, and Westchester County between March 1, 2025 and April 30, 2026.

Ruling from the bench in *Calderon v. Public Partnerships, LLC*, U.S. Magistrate Judge Lara K. Eshkenazi of the Eastern District of New York granted final approval to a settlement of a lawsuit led by four plaintiffs, Philip Calderon, Farshad Pinchasi, Allison Fields, and Dana Folgar. They alleged that PPL violated state and federal law by, among other things, failing to pay them accurately and on time, and by providing benefits that did not comply with the New York Home Care Worker Wage Parity Act. The settlement is, to Plaintiffs' knowledge, the first private class action settlement under the Home Care Worker Wage Parity Act, and the largest wage-and-hour class action settlement in a case brought by workers in New York.

Over 200,000 home care workers who perform demanding and essential work were not paid the wages they were owed. Today, they secured relief in court," said **Richard Blum, Staff Attorney in the Employment Law Unit at The Legal Aid Society.** "We hope this settlement sends a clear message that failing to pay these essential workers what they are owed is unacceptable. We are grateful to the Court and to the New Yorkers we represent for making today's settlement possible."

"Every home care company that does business in New York should be on notice: pay your workers accurately and on time," said **Hugh Baran, partner at Katz Banks Kumin LLP**. "We are proud of our clients, who bravely came forward on behalf their colleagues, and we are pleased that New York's Home Care Worker Wage Parity Act has brought CDPAP workers this landmark settlement."

"When paychecks came late or came up short, it was a real hardship for me and for other caregivers. We still had to show up every day because somebody depended on us," said **Allison Fields, a personal assistant and one of the named plaintiffs**. "I'm proud that we stood up together, and grateful that other personal assistants supported this lawsuit."

"We do this work because we care about the people we support," **said Farshad Pinchasi, a personal assistant and one of the named plaintiffs**. "This settlement shows that when home care workers speak up, we can be heard."

If there are no appeals, the settlement will be effective in 30 days. After that, PPL will have 30 days to send the total guaranteed recovery to the settlement administrator. Payments are accordingly expected to begin being made to Class members in early 2027. Class members should continue to check the settlement website for further updates about payments here: https://www.publicpartnershipssettlement.com/

Plaintiffs are represented by Hugh Baran, Emma Walters, Elena Rodriguez Anderson, and Avi Kumin at Katz Banks Kumin LLP and Richard Blum, Rebekah Cook-Mack, B. Franco Olshansky, Belkys Garcia, and Rebecca Antar at The Legal Aid Society.

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