STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WHITESIDE COUNTY

MARY BOWSER, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Civil No. 2024LA18

Plaintiff,

v.

HALO BRANDED SOLUTIONS, INC.,

Defendant,

PLAINTIFFS' UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Pursuant to 735 ILSC 5/2-806 ("Section 2-806"), Plaintiff Mary Bowser, along with proposed Class Representatives Jennifer Tanaka and Kei Chibazakura ("Class Representatives"¹), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, hereby move this Court to:

1. Preliminarily approve the Class Action Settlement reached between Class Representatives and Defendant HALO Branded Solutions, Inc. ("HALO" or "Defendant"), as described in the Settlement Agreement between Class Representatives and Defendant (the "Parties"), and the attachments thereto, including the Claim Form, Short Form Notice, the Long Form Notice, and the [Proposed] Order Preliminarily Approving Class Action Settlement, (attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibits A through D) as fair, reasonable, and adequate and within the range of possible final approval.

2. Appoint Plaintiff Bowser and proposed Class Representatives Jennifer Tanaka and Kei Chibazakura as the Settlement Class Representatives;

Appoint Gary M. Klinger of Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, PLLC,
Terence R. Coates of Markovits, Stock & DeMarco, LLC, and M. Anderson Berry of Clayeo C.
Arnold, APC.as Settlement Class Counsel;

4. Appoint RG2 as the Claims Administrator;

5. Provisionally certify the Settlement Class under 735 ILSC 5/2-801 for settlement purposes only;

6. Approve the Parties' proposed Notice Program, including the Claim Form, Short Form Notice, and the Long Form Notice, and confirm that it is appropriate notice and that it satisfies due process and 735 ILSC 5/2-803;

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, the defined terms herein shall have the same definitions as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, attached as Exhibit 1 to the memorandum in support of this motion.

7. Direct Notice to be sent to the Settlement Class Members in the form and manner proposed as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and Exhibits A through C thereto;

8. Set deadlines for Settlement Class Members to submit claims for settlement benefits and to submit requests for exclusion or to object to the Settlement;

9. Set a date for consideration of Settlement Class Counsel's motion for award of fees, costs, and service awards; and

10. Set a date for a Final Fairness Hearing.

This Motion is based upon: (1) this Motion; (2) the Memorandum of Law in Support of Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement; (3) the Joint Declaration of Counsel, filed herewith; (4) the Settlement Agreement; (5) the Parties' proposed Notice Program (including the Claim Form, Short Form Notice, and the Long Form Notice); (6) the [Proposed] Order Preliminarily Approving Class Action Settlement; (7) the records, pleadings, and papers filed in this action; and (8) upon such other documentary and oral evidence or argument as may be presented to the Court at or prior to the hearing of this Motion.

Dated: January 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Gary M. Klinger</u> Gary M. Klinger (IL Bar No. 6303726) **MILBERG COLEMAN BRYSON PHILLIPS GROSSMAN, LLC** 227 W. Monroe Street, Suite 2100 Chicago, IL 60606 Telephone: 866-252-0878 <u>gklinger@milberg.com</u>

Terence R. Coates (*pro hac vice* forthcoming) **MARKOVITS, STOCK & DEMARCO, LLC** 119 East Court Street, Suite 530 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 651-3700 Fax: (513) 665-0219 tcoates@msdlegal.com M. Anderson Berry* CLAYEO C. ARNOLD A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 865 Howe Avenue Sacramento, CA 95825 Telephone: (916) 239-4778 Fax: (916) 924-1829 *aberry@justice4you.com*

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on January 7, 2025, the foregoing document was filed via the Court's Odyssey's ECF system, which will cause a true and correct copy of the same to be served electronically on all ECF-registered counsel of record.

<u>/s/ Gary M. Klinger</u> Gary M. Klinger