UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

KEVIN MERRELL, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-1450-SSV-DPC

Plaintiff,

v.

1ST LAKE PROPERTIES, INC.,

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF KEVIN MERRELL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES, REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES, AND SERVICE AWARDS TO CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

- I, Kevin Merrell, declare:
- 1. I am the named plaintiff in the above-captioned action and have knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration. If called as a witness to testify, I could and would be competent to testify to these facts.
- 2. I am making this declaration in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Award of Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Expenses, and Service Award to the Class Representative.
- 3. I am a am of former tenant of 1st Lake Properties, Inc., and a member of the Settlement Class.
- 4. I understand that, as Settlement Class Representative, I am obligated to protect the interests of all Settlement Class Members.
- 5. My lawyers kept me informed of the progress of the case through email and telephone calls.
 - 6. I searched for documents and emails related to my relationship with Defendant.

7. I was prepared to take on the responsibilities of a class representative, including being deposed and testifying at trial.

- 8. I communicated with my attorneys before and after the settlement of this case.
- 9. I have reviewed the Settlement Agreement and exhibits. I approve the Settlement Agreement because I believe it is fair, adequate, and reasonable and in the best interests of the Class.
- 10. I have not been offered any preferential treatment to settle this dispute. I understand that, under the proposed Settlement Agreement, Class Counsel may seek a service award. I understand that the Court will have to approve any service award and that there is no assurance that I will receive a service award.

I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 1st day of August, 2025, at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Kevin Merrell

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Document ID 1353f932b9d6daa9cf7c07913de3ac71ed661854

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